

UTSA Institute of Texan Cultures

April 8, 2024

Dear Supporters of the Institute of Texan Cultures:

As many of you know, last week UTSA announced its plans to advance the [ITC Centennial 2068](#) initiative. The [full update](#) is available on the university's newsroom.

As ambassadors for the ITC, our council is aligned with the university's commitment to ensure the museum's sustainability as the premier venue for sharing the stories of all Texans. We, too, are stewards of the ITC's mission and look forward to future opportunities to provide our community with more accessible, engaging, and educational connections to our state's past, present, and future.

We're writing today to affirm our trust in the university's thoughtful path forward to advance the museum of the future. While we understand the complexities of moving out of the museum's original home—the Texas Pavilion—we also understand the critical need to make a change that will serve and educate visitors for decades to come.

As the associate vice provost for the museum, Dr. Monica Perales, mentioned in UTSA's announcement, "The ITC's collections are central to our ability to tell the rich stories of Texas." Our advisory council deeply agrees with this sentiment.

If we want to honor the past while building a legacy for the future, we must work to advance those rich stories. Moving the museum and its collections out of the current building and into a temporary, curated space will give old and new visitors alike a preview of what the new museum can be—a place for community, connection and storytelling.

Current collections are being carefully assessed and documented for the interim period between the closing of the museum and moving into a temporary home, and we have full confidence in the university's responsible stewardship.

Together, as we make way for the new ITC museum, please know we all play a key role in its advancement. Our collective support for the ITC museum is support for the entire city in creating a beloved space where the stories of our individual experiences and collective cultures can come to life.

We stand in support alongside UTSA to create a brighter future for the ITC museum to more fully engage our communities and share Texan culture with the world.

Respectfully,



Sabrina Avila
Chair, ITC Advisory Council