



Robert Amerman Succeeds Estela Avery as Executive Director

On March 2, 2017, the San Antonio River Foundation announced the retirement of Estela Avery as its Executive Director and introduced her successor, Robert Amerman.

Philanthropist, community volunteer, and fundraiser, Estela has dedicated her time over the past twenty years to the non-profit sector as a board member, capital campaign manager, and through chairing special events in San Antonio and Fredericksburg, Texas.

In July 2010, Estela resigned from the San Antonio River Foundation Board to assume the position of Executive Director. Her years of leadership included overseeing the completion of several dynamic portal art projects along the Mission Reach and building the most ambitious single project undertaken by the Foundation to date, Confluence Park, which will become a physical reality at the end of this year. Estela and her husband, Jim, have been major contributors to the Confluence Park effort, creating its \$1,000,000 Educational Endowment to ensure the park's educational programs will be funded into perpetuity.



Robert Amerman

The Foundation's new leader, Robert Amerman, is an experienced Executive / Architect / Sculptor who has held a number of professional, founder and board positions throughout his career. Creative complex problem solving exemplifies his diverse range of experiences, from fabrication technologies to business development to digital media and design.

Robert was raised on the coast of South Carolina and has lived full time in San Antonio for the last eight years. He has been volunteering for the Foundation for the last five years. More recently, Robert has served as a Foundation Director and chaired the Foundation's Art & Architecture Committee. He has served for the last four years as a member of the Confluence Park organizational team and currently serves on the Board of Confluence Park.



Robert's story overlays beautifully with the Foundation's Mission and Vision:

"I was raised on rivers. I have sought out rivers with each new city in my career. My background spans architecture, sculpture, and education careers as well as founding a technology firm in New York City. My passion for ecological restoration and the natural world are a great fit to the Foundation's mission. I could not be more excited to continue to be a part of this organization and its bright future for both San Antonio, Bexar County, and for our downstream counties. I look forward to the unveiling of Confluence Park at the end of this year and the completion of our Mission Reach portals. Continuing to sync our vision to our partnership charter with the San Antonio River Authority, 'from the Blue Hole to the Gulf,' brings such rewards for the Foundation's bright future."

During this transition, Robert emphasized that there could never be a replacement for Estela Avery. Her dedication to the Foundation as a volunteer, Board Member, and Executive Director has made a positive impactful difference in the direction and effectiveness of the organization. As the San Antonio River Foundation moves forward with new leadership, our Mission to enhance the San Antonio River Basin as a vibrant cultural, educational, ecological, and recreational experience will drive our motives and efforts as it has for years past and years to come.