



Fiesta® San Antonio Commission
THE ORDER OF THE CASCARÓN 2020 NOMINATION FORM

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Name of Nominee: LAURENCE S. KURTH
 Address: 2806 URBAN CREST City: SA State: TX Zip: 78209
 Phone #: (210) 391-5500 Cell #: SAME Work #: (210) 582-0220
 E-mail: LAURENCE.KURTH@AKERMAN.COM
 Affiliated PMO's _____

NOMINATOR INFORMATION

Name of Person Making Nomination: NICK GARZA
 Address: 3710 HUNTERS BOW City: SA State: TX Zip: 78230
 Phone #: (210) 559-1372 Cell #: (210) 559-1372 Work #: _____
 E-mail: NICKGARZA.M@GMAIL.COM

On a separate sheet:

In 400 words or less, please describe the volunteer contributions that your nominee has made to Fiesta®.
 Please include:

- 1) Detailed information on the volunteer role that your nominee has played in the Fiesta® celebration. Give specific details on how your nominee's efforts have had an impact on the Fiesta® celebration in a positive and long lasting way. Elaborate on specific volunteer duties and responsibilities nominee has undertaken.
- 2) The length of time that your nominee has been involved in these volunteer activities. Give specific years nominee was active in these activities.
- 3) If your nominee served in a specific leadership role during Fiesta®, i.e., Fiesta® royalty, president of a Fiesta® organization, chairman of a Fiesta® event, etc., indicate how their volunteer involvement has gone beyond the normal responsibilities of that role.

Please submit your Nomination Form and essay by noon on February 13, 2020 in person or by email to:

Fiesta® San Antonio Commission
 2611 Broadway, San Antonio, Texas 78215
amy@fiestasanantonio.org

Nick Garza
3710 Hunters Bow
San Antonio, Tx 78230

February 13, 2020

Order of the Cascaron Nominating Committee
Fiesta San Antonio Commission, Inc.
2611 Broadway
San Antonio, Tx 78215-1022

Dear Committee,

How many Fiesta volunteers can say they have started a total of 6 Fiesta events? How many Fiesta volunteers can say they have held every position on the Fiesta Commission Board, including Presidential Appointee? How many Fiesta volunteers can say their service has lasted for 30 active years and counting?

Larry's Fiesta contribution started in 1989 during my reign as Rey Feo when he offered to me, a stranger, free legal support for a conflict that arose with national LULAC. This followed with his participation in the Fiesta Centennial celebration in 1990 and continued with his serving as my Presidential Appointee. He then held the positions of Treasurer, Secretary, Vice-President and finally President of the Fiesta Commission in 2005.

To highlight his service to the Fiesta Commission:

- * Exceeded the budget goal for memberships as Secretary, breaking a long-held record.
- * As Vice-President in 2002 he assisted with the Corporate Sponsors committee and formed a special committee for security, devising a strategy with police and fire authorities to lessen risk in a post 9-11 era. Larry handled an insurance crisis securing coverage just in time for Fiesta.
- * During his tenure as Treasurer he noted problems with accountability, especially the audit requirements, suggesting a variety of ways to ease the costs and still satisfy the duties of the by-laws. As a result the by-laws were changed to help the PMO's.
- * Utilized his legal expertise to resolve by-law concerns that resulted in better representation of the PMO and governing body of Fiesta.

To highlight some of his innovations as Fiesta Commission President in 2004 - 2005:

- * Earned the most money from sponsorships and memberships up to that date that allowed PMO's to receive record allocations.
- * Started the PMO Education Seminar Series, recognizing that the Commission was created to support and further the PMO's.
- * Started free "seller-server" training for all PMO's.
- * Opened the carnival family and children only area.
- * Expanded the Fiestas Ambassador Exchange Program to include the St. Paul Winter Festival.
- * Advocated the "pay-as-you-go" purchase of tickets by his family and entourage during Fiesta visits to PMO's.
- * Accomplished incurred fees for concessions and rides for the carnival, obtaining approval from the San Antonio City Council.

In addition to the Commission, Larry has been actively involved in starting new PMO's, and Fiesta events. Here is where the count begins! He:

- * Helped produce The Colonial Hills Family Fiesta (#1) and helped it become an official Fiesta event and PMO. At that time there were few, if any, Fiesta events on the north side of town and not many events geared toward children.
- * He assisted Lo Bello Women's Association in forming by-laws and obtaining non-profit status. He gave the group the idea for holding a Champagne and Diamonds event (#2), and helped Lo Bello make that an official Fiesta event and to become a PMO. He continues to provide free legal advice to the organization as needed and his wife participates as a member (emeritus).
- * The Rey Feo organization has benefited from his participation first as a minister on the court of Henry Munoz, Rey Feo 50, and as the Prime Minister for Charlie Garza, Rey Feo 62. He was one of the founding members of the Consejos of Rey Feos. He wrote the original proposal for the Market Square festival (#3) and thus gave birth to another new Fiesta event. Military Monday at the Market Square was another of Larry's innovations (#4) as was the public crowning ceremony of Rey Fey at San Fernando (#5). Thirty years later, he continues to support the Rey Feos and the organization financially and legally.
- * Larry had the idea for a motorcycle event that would be part of Fiesta and thus founded The Circle for Life (#6), which is now in its 11th year of supporting organ donation and National Donate Life month in April.

Larry has supported many other Fiesta organizations in other ways:

- * Daughter Dana was La Reina de la Feria de las Flores in 2007 with the support of her parents in raising money for the LULAC Scholarship Fund.

- * Helped host the Miss Fiesta fashion show for many years, consenting to dress as Elvis, Tom Jones and Elwood Blues in the name of raising funds for the cause.
- * Has held memberships in many PMO's including St. Mary's University Alumni Association, Guadalupe Cultural Center, Beethoven Maennerchor, San Antonio Museum of Art, Witte Museum, San Antonio Zoo, and the Society for the Preservation of Historic Fort Sam Houston.

In the business community, for those of you who do not know Larry Kurth, he is an attorney. He is one of less than one percent of the lawyers in Texas who are Board-certified civil trial lawyers by the State Bar of Texas. He is a member of several State Bar committees, including being the multi-year elected President of the Texas Indian Bar Association. He is an equity partner and managing partner in the San Antonio office of Akerman, LLP.

Personally, Larry has been married to his college sweetheart and partner for life, Abby Wilson Kurth for 39 years. Besides raising twin daughters, he is also active in his church.

I strongly urge the committee to consider Larry Kurth for Order of the Cascaron!

If you have any questions, please feel free to call.

Sincerely,

Nick

Nick Garza

LAURENCE S. KURTH FIESTA RESUME 2020

Prior Fiesta Experience:

1990	Volunteer for Fiesta Centennial
1990-1994	Colonial Hills Family Fiesta Commissioner and President
1996-1997	Presidential Appointee of Nick Garza
1997-1998	Member of the Royal Court of Rey Feo 50
1997-1999	Committee Chairperson and assisted on the Host Committee
1999-2000	Chairperson of the Membership Committee - broke the all-time record
1999-2000	Executive Committee - Secretary
2000-2001	Executive Committee - Treasurer
2001-2002	Chairperson of the Risk Management and Insurance Committee
2001-2002	Executive Committee - Vice-President
2002-2003	Elected Commissioner - Chairperson of the Host Committee, Sponsors Committee and By-Laws Committee
2003-2004	President-Elect of Fiesta San Antonio Commission
2004-2005	President of Fiesta San Antonio Commission
2006-2007	Father of La Reina Dana, La Feria de las Flores
2008-2009	Prime Minister to Rey Feo 61
2009-now	Founded the Circle for Life motorcycle event and future PMO
2010-now	Fiesta de los Reyes at Market Square - wrote proposal for event
2016-now	Initiated Military Monday at Fiesta de los Reyes
2017-2018	Executive Board Representative Rey Feo Consejo

Committee Responsibilities:

- Appointed as the Chairperson of new Risk Management Committee due to 9/11 concerns
- Appointed as Chairperson of Emergency Insurance Committee due to crisis- it was solved
- Assisted on committee for renegotiation of carnival contract
- Served on committee for selection of new carnival operator
- Served on committee for the permanent building fund
- Extensive work on the 100th Anniversary Committee
- Served on the following Fiesta Commission "Standing Committees" over the years: Host, By-Laws, Television, Accreditation, Budget & Finance, Compliance, Insurance, Personnel, Merchandise
- Chairperson of Host Committee for visiting dignitaries

Fiesta Philosophies:

I believe that visibility by the Executive Board is very important. I always tried to attend a high number of PMO events, as well as meetings.

PMO's need to know the Executive Committee is behind everyone's effort and as President I tried to visit lesser know events during the ten days of Fiesta.

Sponsors are important and I worked to maintain current sponsors as well as developing new ones.

I believe that Fiesta and the Fiesta Commission should be all about fun. While the mission is important, we need to work with levity.

I always try to bring professionalism to everything I do, and I always get the job done right.

Occupation:

1990-2005	Partner in Jones, Kurth, Andrews & Ortiz law firm
2005-2010	Partner in the San Antonio office of Clark, Thomas & Winters, P.C.
2010-2015	Partner in Bierne, Maynard Parsons
2015-Present	San Antonio Managing Partner Akerman, LLP