

Dallas Holocaust Museum Nominates Former Texas State Senator Florence Shapiro as Board Chair-Elect

Museum board adds business leader Dr. Nicholas Pournader

DALLAS – July 13, 2015 – The [Dallas Holocaust Museum/Center for Education and Tolerance](http://dallasholocaustmuseum.org) announced it has made three changes to its Board of Directors. Former Texas State Senator Florence Shapiro has been nominated as Chair-Elect of the Board and Dr. Nicholas Pournader has been named as its newest Board Member.

"We are so pleased to welcome these changes to our Board, and we look forward to the leadership and insights Senator Shapiro and Dr. Pournader will bring to the Museum," said President and CEO Mary Pat Higgins. "Their backgrounds and breadth of knowledge regarding our mission will be invaluable as we grow the Museum and build a new permanent home."

Former Texas State Senator Shapiro served from 1993 to 2013 as a member of the Texas Senate, where she was an accomplished advocate for the rights of sexual assault victims and a strong voice for education as chair of the Texas Senate Education Committee. Prior to her time with the Texas Senate, Shapiro served as the Mayor of Plano from 1990 to 1992. The daughter of two Holocaust survivors, Shapiro graduated from the University of Texas at Austin, where she earned a B.S. in Secondary Education. Shapiro is dedicated to volunteerism in the community and currently serves on a number of boards, including the Communities Foundation of Texas and TexProtects, The Texas Association for the Protection of Children, ATT Performing Arts, Commit!, Simmons School of Education and Human Development at SMU, Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Engagement at University of Texas and Texans for Education Reform.

Shapiro will succeed Stephen Waldman, the current Chair-Elect of the Board, in 2017. Waldman served as Chair-Elect since 2013. Prior to being nominated as Chair-Elect, Shapiro served as the Vice President of the Museum's Board since 2013.

Dr. Pournader is a corporate strategist, turnaround specialist, and technology expert with over 15 years of senior leadership experience in prominent Fortune 500 companies and technology startups. He is the founder and Managing Director of Pournader & Company, a boutique turnaround and strategy consultancy serving some of the largest companies and private equity firms in the country. Previously, he served as Chief Operating Officer and CFO of Grant & Eisenhofer, where he led the global securities litigation firm from 2003 to 2011 – representing top global institutional investors. Prior to 2003, Dr. Pournader served as SVP of Operations at Oracle Corporation and SVP Corporate Strategy at SunGard.

Dr. Pournader graduated with a B.A. in English and an Executive MBA from Oklahoma City University, a M.S. Accountancy from Southern Methodist University, and holds a Ph.D. in Management from University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business. Dr. Pournader completed his undergraduate studies through a full scholarship from one of the top five performing arts universities in the U.S. He is a classically trained concert violinist, fan of the performing arts, and also serves on the Foundation Board of The Free Library of Philadelphia – one of the oldest and largest public library systems in the world. Also, as a mentor and investor for multiple startups such as MedZed and Campus Bubble, Dr. Pournader is committed to entrepreneurship and the advancement of innovative tech-focused companies.

For more information on the Museum or its Board, visit dallasholocaustmuseum.org or call Paula Nourse at (214) 741-7500.

About the Dallas Holocaust Museum/Center for Education and Tolerance

The Dallas Holocaust Museum/Center for Education and Tolerance is committed to teaching the moral and ethical response to prejudice, hatred and indifference for the benefit of all humanity. The Museum's education programs have had a profound effect on people of all ages. In 2014, 65,031 visitors toured the Museum and many wrote, emailed or posted notes that their lives had been transformed by the experience. Through its exhibits and programs, they learn about the humiliating discrimination, deep-rooted hatred and the near annihilation of the Jewish people and the systematic enslavement of others. The Museum is located at 211 N. Record Street, Dallas, Texas 75202. Hours are Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information, please visit dallasholocaustmuseum.org or call (214) 741-7500.

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