



Bud Franks has had a distinguished and varied career spanning three decades of leadership level involvement in both commercial and not-for-profit sectors. The depth and breadth of his experience reflect broad-based expertise in management, producing, strategic planning, fundraising, institution building and project development. As the leader of one commercial and three not-for-profit performing arts organizations, Mr. Franks has been recognized for his business acumen, professionalism, dynamic and principled leadership abilities, vision, creativity, incisive thinking and comprehension of big picture issues. A committed leader in the national theatrical producing industry, he was a founding member and President of the National Alliance for Musical Theatre. Throughout his career as a producer in the performing arts industry, he left his imprint on more than 300 professional productions.

Recently, Mr. Franks served for three years as consultant to and eight years as the President and CEO of the Houston Music Hall Foundation, the umbrella organization that conceived and built the Hobby Center for the Performing Arts. Franks was first engaged in Houston in 1994 as a consultant when the project was in its early conceptual stage. He established the Houston Music Hall Foundation in the spring of that year and guided the project through all of its early challenges.

In 1997, at the request of the Houston Music Hall Foundation's Chairman and Board of Directors, he became the full-time President & CEO of the project and set consulting activities aside. As the Hobby Center's Chief Executive, he was responsible for all aspects of the project's development including the creation of a strategic business plan with comprehensive financials, financial management, negotiation of all contracts, capital campaign plan, campaign management, project design and construction, operational model, occupancy model, stakeholder relations, media and governmental relations, staffing model, and the Center's opening, initial operation and installation of permanent management.

Beginning in September, 2005, Mr. Franks reestablished his consulting practice and is currently President of Franks & Associates. The firm is focused on institutional growth and development, performing arts center and other capital project development and fundraising counsel. It is dedicated to helping establish the underpinnings of success for organizations engaged in community services, the performing arts, education, health, capital project development and capital, annual and endowment campaign activities.