

EDITOR'S PICK

El Paso philanthropists Paul and Alejandra Foster make \$10 million donation to La Nube

By Sara Sanchez / El Paso Inc. staff writer Aug 9, 2024 Updated Aug 12, 2024 1



El Paso businessman Josh Hunt, left, with Paul and Alejandra De La Vega Foster at a private event Thursday at La Nube science and discovery center. The Fosters announced a \$10 million donation. Photo provided by La Nube

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Paul Foster and Alejandra De La Vega Foster are helping La Nube have a fantastic opening weekend. The El Paso business couple donated \$10 million to La Nube, the science and discovery center announced on Friday. The Snøhetta-designed, cloud-shaped building opens its doors to the public on Saturday.

"As one of the signature projects of the 2012 bond election, we know how important this effort is to the quality of life for all residents of the region, as well as for tourism and economic development," Paul Foster said in a news release. "We wanted to do our part to help make sure this science and discovery center is as promised: world class. Just seeing it tonight, I think La Nube's guests will feel that. This is really an amazing place."

The long-awaited project was first approved as part of the city's 2012 quality of life bond and broke ground in 2020. La Nube faced setbacks, including pandemic ripples and a fire on the roof in 2023.

The \$70 million center's funding grew through a public-private partnership between the city and the El Paso Community Foundation, and continues to look for more donations and funding opportunities.

Alejandra De La Vega Foster said in a news release that the science, technology, engineering, art and math, or STEAM, focused museum is welcome to all.

"Everything in here celebrates El Paso's ties to our neighbors in Mexico, our dual cultures and language, and especially through the Connected Sky with La Rodadora (children's museum) in Juárez," she said. "We are excited to help make this possible for everyone in the borderplex for generations to come."

The \$10 million donation will support La Nube programming, outreach, installations and more, said Stephanie Otero, La Nube's interim CEO.

The grand foyer of La Nube will be named for the Foster family.



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