



# City of Denton

City Hall  
215 E. McKinney St.  
Denton, Texas 76201  
[www.cityofdenton.com](http://www.cityofdenton.com)

## Meeting Agenda Public Art Committee

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Thursday, June 4, 2026

4:00 PM

Civic Center Community Room

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After determining that a quorum is present, the Public Art Committee of the City of Denton, Texas will convene in a Regular Meeting on Thursday, June 4, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. in the Civic Center Community Room at 321 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas, at which the following items will be considered:

### 1. PRESENTATION FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

This section of the agenda permits a person to make comments regarding public business on items not listed on the agenda. This is limited to two speakers per meeting with each speaker allowed a maximum of four (4) minutes. Such person(s) shall have filed a "Blue Card" requesting to speak during this period prior to the calling of this agenda item.

### 2. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- A. [PAC26-005](#) Consider approval of the minutes of April 2, 2026.

Attachments: [Exhibit 1- April 2, 2026 Minutes](#)

- B. [PAC26-006](#) Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the Original Denton District's (ODD) support for Denton's Day of the Dead Festival's application for the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) Arts Respond - Cultural District Project grant program seeking \$75,000.00 to support various operational and programming expenses; and to provide a letter of support to the TCA.

Attachments: [Exhibit 1- Agenda Information Sheet](#)

[Exhibit 2- Letter of Request](#)

[Exhibit 3- DOD FY25-26 Income Statement](#)

[Exhibit 4 - Letter of Support](#)

- C. [PAC26-007](#) Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the Original Denton District's support for the Greater Denton Arts Council's application for a \$25,000 grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) Arts Respond - Cultural District Project grant program.

Attachments: [Exhibit 1- Agenda Information Sheet](#)

[Exhibit 2- Letter of Request](#)

[Exhibit 3- 2024 TCA Closeout Report](#)

[Exhibit 4- Letter of Support](#)

- D. [PAC26-008](#) Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the Original Denton District's support for Theatre Denton's application for the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) Arts Respond - Cultural District Project grant program in the amount of \$5,000 to support their May 2027 event, "Voices Together;" and to provide a letter of support to the TCA.

Attachments:      [Exhibit 1- Agenda Information Sheet](#)  
[Exhibit 2- Letter of Request](#)  
[Exhibit 3- 2025 TCA Closeout Report](#)  
[Exhibit 4- Letter of Support](#)

- E. [PAC26-009](#) Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the Original Denton District's application to the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) Arts Respond - Cultural District Project grant program in the amount of \$106,000; and supporting a letter on behalf of the Original Denton District signed by the City Manager or their designee.

Attachments:      [Exhibit 1- Agenda Information Sheet](#)  
[Exhibit 2- Letter of Support](#)

- F. [PAC26-010](#) Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the Original Denton District's support for Tejas Storytelling Association's application to the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) Arts Respond Cultural District Project grant program seeking \$5,000.00 to support the partial cost of renting the Civic Center for the 2027 Tejas Storytelling Festival; and to provide a letter of support to the TCA.

Attachments:      [Exhibit 1- Agenda Information Sheet](#)  
[Exhibit 2- Letter of Request](#)  
[Exhibit 3- 2025 TCA Closeout Report](#)  
[Exhibit 4- Letter of Support](#)

- G. [PAC26-011](#) Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the Original Denton District's support for Texas Filmmakers Corporation's application for a \$50,000.00 grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) Arts Respond - Cultural District Project grant program; and to provide a letter of support to the TCA.

Attachments:      [Exhibit 1- Agenda Information Sheet](#)  
[Exhibit 2- Letter of Request](#)  
[Exhibit 3- 2025 TCA Closeout Report](#)  
[Exhibit 4- Letter of Support](#)

### 3. CONCLUDING ITEMS

A. Under Section 551.042 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, respond to inquiries from the Public Art Committee or the public with specific factual information or recitation of policy, or accept a proposal to place the matter on the agenda for an upcoming meeting AND Under Section 551.0415 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, provide reports about items of community interest regarding which no action will be taken, to include: expressions of thanks, congratulations, or condolence; information regarding holiday schedules; an honorary or salutary recognition of a public official, public employee, or other citizen; a reminder about an upcoming event organized or sponsored by the governing body; information regarding a social, ceremonial, or community event organized or sponsored by an entity other than the governing body that was attended or is scheduled to be attended by a member of the governing body or an official or employee of the municipality; or an announcement involving an imminent threat to the public health and safety of people in the municipality that has arisen after the posting of the agenda.

NOTE: The Public Art Committee reserves the right to adjourn into a Closed Meeting on any item on its Open Meeting agenda consistent with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, as amended, or as otherwise allowed by law.

CERTIFICATE

I certify that the above notice of meeting was posted on the official website (<https://tx-denton.civicplus.com/242/Public-Meetings-Agendas>) and bulletin board at City Hall, 215 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas, on May 28, 2026, in advance of the three (3) business day posting deadline, as applicable, and in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

\_\_\_\_\_  
OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY

NOTE: THE CITY OF DENTON'S DESIGNATED PUBLIC MEETING FACILITIES ARE ACCESSIBLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. THE CITY WILL PROVIDE ACCOMMODATION, SUCH AS SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED, IF REQUESTED AT LEAST TWO (2) BUSINESS DAYS IN ADVANCE OF THE SCHEDULED MEETING. PLEASE CALL THE CITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE AT 940-349-8309 OR USE TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVICES FOR THE DEAF (TDD) BY CALLING 1-800-RELAY-TX SO THAT REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION CAN BE ARRANGED.

## City of Denton Parks, Public Art Committee

### Minutes

April 2, 2026

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After determining that a quorum of the City of Denton, Texas, Public Art Committee was present, the Committee convened in a Regular Meeting on Thursday, April 2, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. in the Civic Center Community Room at 321 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas.

**Present:** Vice-Chair Adam Chamberlain, Members Susan Thornton, Will Milne, Travis Veselka, Connor Bradford and Andrew Beck.

**Absent:** Chair Jennifer Lane, Member Francesca Romano,

#### 1. PRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- None

#### 2. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Items are listed in the order they were considered.

##### A. PAC26-003: Consider approval of the minutes of February 5, 2026.

Following discussion, Member Beck moved to approve the minutes; Member Milne seconded. Motion carried.

AYES (6): Vice-Chair Chamberlain, Members Thornton, Milne, Beck, Bradford, and Veselka

NAYS (0):

ABSENT (2): Chair Lane, Member Romano.

##### B. PAC25-027: Receive nominations and elect a Chair and Vice-Chair for the Public Art Committee.

Item was presented; and discussion followed.

Following discussion, Vice Chair Chamberlain nominated themselves for Chair; Member Milne seconded. Motion carried.

AYES (6): Vice-Chair Chamberlain, Members Thornton, Milne, Beck, Bradford, and Veselka

NAYS (0):

ABSENT (2): Chair Lane, and Member Romano.

Following discussion, Member Beck nominated themselves for Vice-Chair; Chair Chamberlain seconded. Motion carried.

AYES (6): Chair Chamberlain, Members Thornton, Milne, Bradford, Beck, and Veselka

NAYS (0):

ABSENT (2): Members Lane and Romano.

##### C. PAC26-002: Receive a report, hold a discussion, regarding the roles and responsibilities of the Public Art Committee.

Item was presented; and discussion followed.

Following discussion, staff provided no direction.

- D. PAC26-002: Receive a report, hold a discussion, and provide input to staff regarding the status of the following Public Art Committee projects:
1. Current Projects
    - a. Traffic Box Wraps
    - b. Fire Stations #5 and #6
    - c. MLK Jr. Recreation Center Mural
  2. Future Public Art Projects
    - a. Linda McNatt Animal Shelter Expansion (Bond-Funded)

Item was presented; and discussion followed.

Following discussion, staff was provided no direction.

### 3. CONCLUDING ITEMS

- Halloween Boo Team has met. A call for artists will go out soon.
- Park Tour invitation- June 1<sup>st</sup> at 4pm.
- Beck to miss meetings in June.

The meeting adjourned at 4:48pm

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ADAM CHAMBERLAIN  
CHAIR  
CITY OF DENTON, TEXAS

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ROBIN HILL  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
CITY OF DENTON, TEXAS

MINUTES APPROVED ON: \_\_\_\_\_



# City of Denton

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Denton, Texas  
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## AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Parks and Recreation

**ACM:** Christine Taylor, Assistant City Manager

**DATE:** June 4, 2026

### **SUBJECT**

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the Original Denton District's (ODD) support for Denton's Day of the Dead Festival's application for the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) Arts Respond - Cultural District Project grant program seeking \$75,000.00 to support various operational and programming expenses; and to provide a letter of support to the TCA.

### **BACKGROUND**

David Pierce, Executive Director of Denton's Day of the Dead Festival requested a letter of support from the Original Denton District in support of his application to the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) for the Arts Respond - Cultural District Project grant. The Grant application is due June 15, 2026.

Pierce and Denton's Day of the Dead Foundation are seeking \$75,000 to support various areas of operational expenses including:

- General marketing support in the amount of \$10,000
- Digital content creation support in the amount of \$20,000
- Live stream coverage costs in the amount of \$7,500
- Production enhancements and digital projections for *Cirque du Horror* in the amount of \$7,500
- And \$30,000 to support hiring high-quality artistic talent to include live music and performance programming.

The Day of the Dead Festival is attuned to the Mexican American traditions of the Día de los Muertos, while giving those traditions a respectful Denton take. The festival itself began in 2011 and now incorporates Cirque du Horror and the Day of the Dead Coffin Races. Denton's Day of the Dead Festival brings around 20,000 to 25,000 attendees to the Original Denton District during October. Since 2024, Denton's Day of The Dead Festival's major elements have been included in the City of Denton's *31 Days of Halloween* Calendar of Events.

A letter of support from the Original Denton District expressing the cultural district's support of the project is required as part of the TCA Cultural District grant application.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approving a letter of support from the Original Denton District, signed by the City Manager or their designee, expressing the cultural district's support for the project.

**EXHIBITS**

Exhibit 1- Agenda Information Sheet

Exhibit 2- Letter of Request

Exhibit 3- DOD FY25-26 Income Statement

Exhibit 4- Letter of Support

Respectfully submitted:  
Allison Wing, Interim Director  
Parks and Recreation

Prepared by:  
Megan Thomas,  
Interim Business Administration Manager  
Parks and Recreation Department



David J Anzaldúa Pierce  
Creator/Executive Director  
Denton's Day of the Dead Festival  
PO Box 157  
Denton TX, 76202

Omar Siddiqi  
Administrative Analyst  
City of Denton Parks and Recreation  
215 E McKinney St.  
Denton TX 76201

Dear Mr. Siddiqi and members of the Original Denton District,

Denton's Day of the Dead Festival is an annual, community-driven celebration of art, culture, and heritage that honors the beauty of fall, the traditions of Día de los Muertos, and the spirited fun of Halloween. Held in Denton's officially designated Downtown Cultural District, the festival brings together thousands of residents and visitors for a weekend of immersive programming featuring visual art, live music, original theater, dance, culinary offerings, and culturally rich traditions.

In 2026, the festival will take place October 23, 24, and 25 on E. Hickory Street, E. Oak Street, Industrial Street, and at the Patterson-Appleton Arts Center, all in the heart of downtown Denton.

Since its inception in 2011, Denton's Day of the Dead Festival has grown from a grassroots community event into a regional destination, now attracting more than 30,000 attendees annually. The festival also serves as the cornerstone event of Denton's city-wide "31 Days of Denton Halloween" initiative, developed in partnership with the City of Denton and the downtown business community.

In just three years, the "31 Days" initiative has significantly expanded October tourism and economic activity in Denton's Downtown District, helping drive more than 883,000 visitors in 2025, an increase of more than 368,000 visitors over prior years. This growth has translated into measurable economic impact, including substantial increases in retail food, big box retail, and mixed beverage sales tax collections. Overall sales were up 86% from 2024, helping establish October as one of the most economically impactful months of the year for downtown businesses and the broader Denton community.

Denton's Day of the Dead Festival is proud to anchor this remarkable month. As the most highly attended event during the 31 Days campaign, the festival serves as a

catalyst for creative placemaking, tourism, and economic development in the Cultural District. Our programming includes beloved community events such as the Twilight Lantern Parade, Pine Box Derby and Coffin Races, the Community Ofrenda and “Flight of Souls” blessing, children’s activities in the Pumpkin Patch Theatre, a district-wide art project with students from Denton ISD, and *Cirque du Horror*, our original Halloween musical performed in a vintage big top circus tent. The festival showcases artists, performers, vendors, and musicians from across the state and nation, and consistently draws visitors from throughout Texas and beyond, including Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado, and California.

We are seeking support from the TCA Cultural District Grant to strengthen the economic and cultural impact of this event through the following initiatives:

### **High-Quality Arts Programming That Drives Tourism and Revenue**

We will expand festival programming with new installations, regional performance premieres, and family-friendly arts experiences designed to attract visitors and encourage overnight stays. By deepening the festival’s artistic offerings, we create increased opportunities for lodging, dining, retail activity, and local spending, all rooted in cultural tourism.

### **Strategic Branding and Marketing of the Cultural District**

We will promote Denton as a cultural destination through regional advertising campaigns, refreshed branding, and digital content that highlights the Cultural District’s role in arts-based economic development.

### **Improved Signage and Digital Wayfinding**

A coordinated system of maps, directional signage, and mobile guides will help visitors better navigate festival activities, discover local businesses, and extend their time in the district.

Denton’s Day of the Dead Festival also maintains a strong philanthropic mission. A portion of proceeds supports Cumberland Youth and Family Services, Serve Denton, and G.O.A.L. Our commitment to youth engagement includes robust participation from Denton ISD schools through music, dance, and student art showcases. This community impact is reflected in personal stories as well. One G.O.A.L. grant recipient wrote that Denton’s Day of the Dead Twilight Lantern Parade was one of the most memorable ways she connected with the Denton community, underscoring the festival’s ability to create a lasting sense of belonging through arts, culture, and shared public celebration.

Support from the TCA Cultural District Grant will allow us to continue scaling the event responsibly, meet the demands of growing attendance, and ensure that Denton remains a leader in using the arts to diversify the local economy, attract visitors, and drive cultural investment.

# 2026 Funding Request and Allocation

For 2026, Denton's Day of the Dead Festival is respectfully requesting **\$75,000** in funding from the TCA Cultural District Grant. These funds will support key initiatives that strengthen arts-based tourism, enhance cultural programming, and promote the vitality of Denton's Downtown Cultural District. Funding will be allocated as follows:

## **Total Marketing: \$10,000**

Printed promotional materials, including banners, signage, and flyers, along with online and print advertising and ongoing website maintenance. These efforts are designed to increase regional visibility, attract out-of-town visitors, and reinforce Denton as a premier cultural tourism destination.

## **Marketing Team and Digital Content Creation: \$20,000**

A dedicated marketing team will provide year-round services including SEO, content creation, social media management, newsletters, and promotional videos. These campaigns will spotlight festival events, Cultural District businesses, and related community programming, ensuring strong engagement before, during, and after the event weekend.

## **Live Stream Coverage of Festival Events: \$7,500**

A professional video team will provide live coverage of the Coffin Races and other Saturday events, with broadcasts available to participating businesses and online viewers. The stream will feature promotional segments highlighting local businesses, the festival schedule, and related "31 Days of Denton Halloween" programming.

## **Production Enhancements for *Cirque du Horror*: \$7,500**

Funding will support the technical and visual production needs of *Cirque du Horror*, Denton's original Halloween musical and one of the festival's signature arts experiences. Support will help cover immersive digital backgrounds, PA rental and operation, trussing, lighting equipment, and other essential production elements that contribute to a more professional, theatrical, and engaging audience experience. These enhancements will elevate the overall production value of the show, expand its creative possibilities, and further spotlight the local artists, musicians, technicians, and performers who bring this homegrown Denton production to life each year.

## **Artistic Talent: \$30,000**

Denton's Day of the Dead Festival now features five stages: the Main Stage, the Community Stage, the Pumpkin Patch Theatre, the *Cirque du Horror* Big Top Tent stage, and the GDAC Trunk or Treat stage. Across these venues, the festival presents high-quality live music and performance programming that draws large, diverse crowds throughout the weekend.

From Grammy Award-winning local legends like Cenobio "Bubba" Hernandez of Denton's own Brave Combo, to high-energy Austin favorites like Grupo Fantasma, and crowd-pleasing tribute acts such as *Dreaming of You: The Selena Experience*, Denton

has a strong history of producing and attracting exceptional talent. Our musical lineup showcases the best of Texas' rich and eclectic sound while celebrating cultural diversity and serving as a major tourism and economic draw.

Together, these initiatives will deepen the cultural and economic impact of Denton's Day of the Dead Festival, helping it continue to serve as a flagship event in the state's creative tourism landscape.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized, overlapping loops and lines that form the initials 'DJP'.

**David J Anzaldúa Pierce**  
*Creator/Executive Director*  
*Denton's Day of the Dead Festival*

# Denton Day of the Dead Festival

## Statement of Activity

February 1, 2025-January 31, 2026

	TOTAL
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Revenue	
CIRQUE SALES	
Cirque Merch	3,685.65
Cirque Tickets	42,432.04
<b>Total for CIRQUE SALES</b>	<b>\$46,117.69</b>
COFFIN RACE SALES	
Coffin Race Entry Fees	10,500.00
Finish Line	5,000.00
Pit Row Sponsor	5,000.00
Race Announcer Stand	7,500.00
Starting Line	5,000.00
<b>Total for COFFIN RACE SALES</b>	<b>\$33,000.00</b>
COMMUNITY STAGE SALES	5,000.00
COSTUME CONTEST SALES	260.00
FESTIVAL SALES	
Beer Sales	15,000.00
Festival Sponsorship	\$200.00
Catrina 1000	16,500.00
Donations	99.00
Harvest Moon 450	3,700.00
Monarch 650	1,950.00
Ringleader 2500	27,000.00
The Racer 150	1,350.00
Title Sponsor	20,000.00
<b>Total for Festival Sponsorship</b>	<b>\$70,799.00</b>
Footprint Businesses Sponsor	7,200.00
<b>Total for FESTIVAL SALES</b>	<b>\$92,999.00</b>
GRANTS and GOVERNMENT FUNDING	
City of Denton	27,500.00
Grants Other	54,400.00
Hot Funds	65,100.00
<b>Total for GRANTS and GOVERNMENT FUNDING</b>	<b>\$147,000.00</b>
MAIN STAGE SALES	10,000.00
PINEBOX DERBY SALES	3,280.00
VENDOR SALES	15,775.00
<b>Total for Revenue</b>	<b>\$353,431.69</b>
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<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>\$353,431.69</b>
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Expenditures	
ADMIN FESTIVAL	
31 Days of Halloween	16,239.54
Accounting	3,093.04
Bank Charges	9.34
Barricades	3,000.00
Bike Rack	4,751.25

# Denton Day of the Dead Festival

## Statement of Activity

February 1, 2025-January 31, 2026

	TOTAL
Charity	20,500.00
City Services Exceeds of Grant	1,405.08
Credit Card Fees	1,907.99
Electricity	16,472.86
Ice	722.50
Insurance	20,048.66
Mapping Software	539.55
MARKETING	
Printing and Production	18,095.98
Promotional	435.99
Website	889.78
<b>Total for MARKETING</b>	<b>\$19,421.75</b>
Meetings / Meals	127.57
Operations and Equipment	2,031.10
Other Types of Expenses	0.00
Permits	831.00
Portalets	6,172.43
Rent	296.00
Security	2,899.00
Sponsorship Banners	3,689.28
Stage Rentals	6,946.00
Storage	3,885.30
Tent Rental	10,497.96
Trash	2,008.75
<b>Total for ADMIN FESTIVAL</b>	<b>\$147,495.95</b>
CIRQUE	
Cirque Lights	10,535.74
Cirque Media Production	5,000.00
Cirque Other	1,009.61
Cirque Props	3,730.76
Cirque Security	4,057.25
Cirque Sound	4,550.00
Cirque Talent	32,050.00
Cirque Tents, Stage, Chairs	8,803.53
<b>Total for CIRQUE</b>	<b>\$69,736.89</b>
COFFIN RACE	\$3,273.15
Streaming	3,175.00
<b>Total for COFFIN RACE</b>	<b>\$6,448.15</b>
COMMUNITY STAGE	5,922.00
COSTUME CONTEST	647.77
MAIN STAGE	
Main Stage Sound	1,800.00
Main Stage Talent	12,100.00
<b>Total for MAIN STAGE</b>	<b>\$13,900.00</b>
PARADE	1,561.87

# Denton Day of the Dead Festival

## Statement of Activity

February 1, 2025-January 31, 2026

	TOTAL
Payroll Expenses	
Taxes	3,779.09
Wages	49,400.04
<b>Total for Payroll Expenses</b>	<b>\$53,179.13</b>
PINEBOX DERBY	359.06
PUMPKIN PATCH	5,393.33
VOLUNTEER	1,532.42
<b>Total for Expenditures</b>	<b>\$306,176.57</b>
<b>Net Operating Revenue</b>	<b>\$47,255.12</b>
Other Expenditures	
Depreciation Expense	9,167.00
<b>Total for Other Expenditures</b>	<b>\$9,167.00</b>
<b>Net Other Revenue</b>	<b>-\$9,167.00</b>
<b>Net Revenue</b>	<b>\$38,088.12</b>



## The Original Denton District

215 E. McKinney St., Denton, TX 76201 ■ (940) 349-7776

June 15, 2026

Gary Gibbs, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
Texas Commission on the Arts  
Cultural District Grant Program  
PO Box 13406  
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Dr. Gibbs:

This letter is to express the full support of the Original Denton District for Denton's Day of the Dead Festival's application for the Arts Respond – Cultural District Project grant. Under the direction of David Pierce the Day of the Dead Festival and the events under its umbrella – the Day of the Dead Coffin Races and the Cirque du Horror – have become deeply loved fixtures in Denton's calendar of annual festivities.

In the present grant application, Denton's Day of the Dead Festival staff are requesting \$75,000 in programming support that would be divided among several functions supporting the festival – marketing, digital content creation, live stream coverage, production enhancements at the Cirque du Horror, and hiring high-quality artistic talent.

The Day of the Dead Festival is attuned to the Mexican American traditions of the Día de los Muertos, while giving those traditions a respectful Denton take. The festival initially began as an organic outgrowth of creator David Pierce's annual Cirque du Horror, a Halloween-themed cabaret show that he started performing in Denton in 2009. The festival itself began in 2011 and now incorporates Cirque du Horror as one of its key elements alongside the Day of the Dead Coffin Races. Denton's Day of the Dead Festival has quickly become a deeply popular fixture in our Halloween-season calendar.

The Day of the Dead Festival brings around 20,000 to 25,000 attendees to the Original Denton District during the Halloween season. Beginning last year, the Day of the Dead Festival was also incorporated as part of the City's extended calendar of events for Halloween. As such, all Day of the Dead events will be promoted on the City's consolidated Halloween calendar. Other promotions will include social media mentions and inclusion in print signage and Halloween-related brochures.

The Day of the Dead Festival reflects the deep artistic originality of the Denton community and provides high-quality art performances for an audience of Dentonites and for visitors to our community from the DFW metroplex and farther afield. We hope that you will agree that Denton's Day of the Dead Festival is a valuable cultural asset and one that is deserving of TCA support. This funding would help the festival grow significantly in capacity and reach.

We thank you for your time and consideration.

Warm regards,

Matthew Hamilton  
Chief Financial Officer  
City of Denton  
on Behalf of the Original Denton District



# City of Denton

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www.cityofdenton.com

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## AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Parks and Recreation

**ACM:** Christine Taylor, Assistant City Manager

**DATE:** June 4, 2026

### **SUBJECT**

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the Original Denton District's support for the Greater Denton Arts Council's application for a \$25,000 grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) Arts Respond - Cultural District Project grant program.

### **BACKGROUND**

Krissi Oden, Executive Director, with the Greater Denton Arts Council (GDAC), contacted the City of Denton requesting a letter of support from the Original Denton District (ODD) for an application being made to the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) Arts Respond – Cultural District Project grant program, which is due by June 15, 2026.

GDAC is requesting the \$25,000 from the TCA to support their Video Art Night exhibition which transforms the landscape of the downtown area into an immersive digital experience. Through projection mapping, LED installations, and live music, Video Art Night celebrates innovation, inclusion, and creativity.

For 2027, GDAC plans to expand on this event by adding live music throughout the day as well as live painting by artists and the community. In the evening, the murals created by artists and a community art work will be brought to life through projection mapping, adding yet another layer of art making, community engagement, and entertainment. The event hosted in Downtown Denton will be free and open to the public.

The Greater Denton Arts Council has supported arts and culture in Denton for more than five decades. Their exhibitions and programs at the Patterson-Appleton Arts center continue to attract attendees. In FY24-2025 GDAC was awarded \$1,600 from the Texas Commission on the Arts to support their "Arts Respond Health & Human Services" project which provided fiber arts workshops for victims of sex trafficking, helping them to process their experiences through art creation. With the work of 3 artists, and 7 volunteers and staff, the workshops engaged 23 individuals by providing the space, knowledge, expertise, and supplies needed to give those victims the opportunity to create art based upon their personal stories of trauma. It allowed other organizations to view us as a resource in this way and will open avenues for future partnerships that will focus on healing through the arts. GDAC has a long history of bringing successful art programming to Denton.

The exhibits below include a draft letter of support from the Original Denton District, which is a TCA requirement for applying for this grant opportunity.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval for the letter of support from the Original Denton District, signed by the City Manager's or her Designee expressing the cultural district's support for the grant application.

### **EXHIBITS**

Exhibit 1 - Agenda Information Sheet  
Exhibit 2 - Letter of Request  
Exhibit 3 - 2024 TCA Closeout Report  
Exhibit 4 - Letter of Support

Respectfully submitted:  
Allison Wing, Interim Director  
Parks and Recreation

Prepared by:  
Megan Thomas,  
Interim Business Administration Manager  
Parks and Recreation Department

## DIRECTORS

### President

Mark Smith

### Vice President

Karen Hutzel, Ph.D.

### Secretary

Lucas Holl

### Treasurer

Travis Veselka

### Members

Matt Anzak

Mike Munywoki

Shannon Mantaro

John Bramblitt

Nicole Sprowl

Sheli Petersen

Rob Parton

### Executive Director

Krissi Oden

## Request for Letter of Support

The Greater Denton Arts Council is seeking a letter of support for a \$25,000.00 grant to create a Video Art Night in downtown Denton.

Video Art Night is an initiative that was created by an arts non profit called Aurora and began in downtown Dallas. Aurora is a 501c3 whose mission is to create large scale public art experiences, primarily focusing on digital art. Video Art Night (VAN) was created two years ago with the goal of fostering a more accessible future for art and technology. It proved to be a huge success, bringing in over 5,000 spectators at its inaugural launch.

In 2026, the Greater Denton Arts Council partnered with Aurora to bring this engaging, unique, and awe inspiring public art experience to Denton. This exhibition transformed the landscape of the downtown area into an immersive digital experience. Through projection mapping, LED installations, and live music, we celebrated innovation, inclusion, and creativity. This project featured works from local, regional, and national artists with a strong focus on community participation. We also partnered with TWU to bring a special digital representation of the history of Quakertown Park to be a part of the experience.

In addition, this project fostered the goals of the Greater Denton Arts Council by providing equitable access to the arts, promoting dialogue through the arts, and initiating strong community impact with public art. It also allowed for partnerships with Denton's schools and universities to promote art education and opportunities for student artists to display their work.

For 2027, we want to expand on this event even more by adding live music throughout the day as well as live painting by artists and the community. In the evening, the murals created by artists and a community art work will be brought to life through projection mapping, adding yet another layer of art making, community engagement, and entertainment.

Free and open to the public, Video Art Night redefines artistic presentation, providing increased accessibility and fostering a deeper comprehension of the intersection between art, technology, community, and the urban landscape. Denton is defined by the arts. It's a city full of creatives, and we take immense pride in the art scene that we have created here. Video Art Night not only highlights our place in the public art realm, but also brings in thousands more to our city, boosting economic development as well as elevating our status as a true destination for the arts.

**REPORT**

Arts Respond Project  
Priority: Health & Human Services

Report ID: 5670 Greater Denton Arts Council  
Tax ID: 75-1326458

Fiscal Year: 2024  
Period of Support: 7/1/2024 - 8/31/2024  
Grant ID: 77759983  
Report Due: 9/30/2024

Report Status: Approved

<b>Due At:</b>	9/30/2024
<b>Submitted At:</b>	9/30/2024
<b>Approved On:</b>	10/18/2024
<b>Status</b>	Approved

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- [Personnel Information](#)
- [Narrative Information](#)
- [Budget Information](#)
- [Report Verification](#)
- [Documents](#)

**▼ Report Information**

**Organization Name:** Greater Denton Arts Council

**Grant Number:** 77759983

**Grant Program:** Arts Respond Project

**Priority Area:** Health & Human Services

**Project Title:** Arts Respond Health & Human Services

**Award Amount:** \$1,600.00

**Grant Summary:** To support fiber arts workshops for victims of sex trafficking, helping them to process their experiences through art creation.

**Authorizing Official:**  
(indicated on Grant)

Is the **Authorized Official** listed on the Grant Application **up to date?** Yes

**▼ Audience Information**

How many adults (over age 18) were engaged in **"in person"** arts experiences?  
**Adults:** 20

How many children/youth (0-18 years) were engaged in **"in person"** arts experiences?  
**Children/Youth:** 3

*For the next set of questions, select all categories that, by your best estimate, make up 25% or more of the population served directly by this performance.*

**Population Served by Race/Ethnicity:** (H) Hispanic/Latino

**Population Served by Age:** (02) Young Adults (19-24 years)

**Distinct Groups Served:** (G) No single group made up 25%

**▼ Activity Location**

*Click on the PLUS SIGN to add a new venue.*

*Please provide the physical location where your activities occurred. If you conducted activities in more than one location, please provide information for each venue.*

**Venue**

**Greater Denton Arts Council** [Edit](#)  
400 East Hickory  
Denton, Texas 76201  
Days at Venue: 1

**▼ Cultural Tourism**

**Did this project promote cultural and/or heritage tourism?** No

**▼ Personnel Information**

How many artists were **directly involved?**

**Artists directly involved:** 3

**How many artists received a fee?** 2

**How many volunteers were directly involved?** 4

**How many full-time staff were directly involved?** 3

**How many part-time staff were directly involved?** 0

**▼ Narrative Information**

How did this grant benefit your organization and/or community?

The arts provide an avenue for healing through trauma for many people. However, it can also be very difficult to create work based on events that are highly personal and extremely triggering. Being able to partner with an organization like Refuge for Women gave GDAC the opportunity to provide that very avenue for victims of sex trafficking in an environment that was guided by trusted people that they knew, and in a space that was safe and private. This grant allowed us to provide the space, knowledge, expertise, and supplies needed to give those victims the opportunity to create art based upon their personal stories of trauma. It allowed other organizations to view us as a resource in this way, and will open avenues for future partnerships that will focus on healing through the arts.

Describe any notable results of this grant, including human interest stories.

Throughout the process of this workshop, the conversations that we were able to have with the residents from Refuge for Women were invaluable. The residents were given the option of taking their work with them, or leaving it to become part of a "community" work that would be displayed at a later date to the community. Most chose to have their work, which reflected part of their story, displayed. One resident that I spoke with was emotional as she created her piece, stating that she was excited to share it with her little girl so that she could show her that mommy was an artist too. Another resident chose to write her feelings and her story on a paper that she then sewed to the inside of the pocket of her work so that she was able to write it down and get it out, but wasn't ready for anyone to be able to read it yet. The experience was very powerful for both the participants as well as staff, and we hope to do more of this type of partnering in the future.

**▼ Budget Information**

**TCA Award:** \$1,600.00

*Please show the source(s) of your matching funding. This should be exactly equal to TCA award amount.*

**Matching fund sources**

Income from programs (revenues from box office, admissions, memberships, tuition, class/workshop fees).

**Program income:** \$0.00

Net proceeds from gala / fundraiser / concessions / art sales / space rentals.

**Fundraising proceeds:** \$0.00

Revenue derived from interest on investments and/or endowment.

**Investments / endowment:** \$0.00

Direct cash contributions from individuals.

**Cash contributions:** \$1,600.00

Income or financial support from businesses and/or corporations.

**Business / corporate support:** \$0.00

Income or financial support from foundations.

**Foundation support:** \$0.00

Income or financial support from local, county, state, and/or federal governments. (Do NOT include TCA funds.)

**Government support:** \$0.00

Any additional income, revenue, and/or financial support derived from a source not listed above.

**Other support:** \$0.00

**Details - Other support:**

**Total Matching Income:** \$1,600.00

**Total Income (Total Matching Income + TCA Award):** \$3,200.00

*Please show the expense(s) paid with your matching funding and the TCA funding. These figures should match the supporting expense ledger you submit.*

**Grant Closeout Budget - Expenditures (award + match only)**

Budget Expense Category	Closeout Budget: Matching	Closeout Budget: TCA Award
Administrative salaries, contracts, benefits	\$575.00	\$575.00
Artistic salaries, contracts, benefits	\$475.00	\$475.00
Facility Costs		
Marketing & Promotion		
Program/Exhibit production costs	\$550.00	\$550.00
Capital expenditures		
Other expenses		
<b>Budget Totals</b>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>

*\* Please be sure to utilize the categories and totals shown in the budget table above when filling out the Expense Ledger attached to this report.*

**Please affirm that these amounts are still correct:** Yes

**▼ All-Inclusive Budget**

The closeout budget on these reports often does not reflect the full costs of the overall grant activities. TCA wants to understand the actual total costs incurred by your organization to realize this project (TCA grant + your match + other funds you dedicated to this project).

**Actual total cash expenses for this entire project:** \$3,300.00

**Actual total cash income for project:** \$3,200.00

**Actual total in-kind (pro-bono services, volunteer contributions) for project:** \$0.00

**▼ Report Verification**

I certify that the information reported here is true and correct. I agree

*I understand that TCA may perform a site visit on my organization. At that time our organization will produce documentation to support the answers on this report form. Our organization will keep all documentation related to this grant for an additional 3 years, during which time I can expect to receive at least one fiscal site visit from TCA staff.*

**Acknowledgement:** I agree

**▼ Documents**

*Please upload the following documents:*

- Copy of the Expense Ledger documenting all of the grant expenditures. Expense\_Ledger\_2 template found here.

*Please Note: If you click on the document name the file will download to your local instance. Hover over the document and click the magnifying glass on the right to preview the document before downloading.*

**REPORT ATTACHMENTS**

Revised Ledger.pdf <b>Other Document   Revised Ledger</b> Added by Krissi Oden at 11:55 AM on October 16, 2024	
TCA Refuge Expense Ledger 3.pdf <b>Financial Documentation</b> Added by Krissi Oden at 11:44 AM on October 16, 2024	
TCA Refuge Expense Ledger.xlsx <b>Financial Documentation</b> Added by Krissi Oden at 10:48 AM on September 30, 2024	



## The Original Denton District

215 E. McKinney St., Denton, TX 76201 ■ (940) 349-7776

June 15, 2026

Gary Gibbs, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
Texas Commission on the Arts  
Cultural District Grant Program  
PO Box 13406  
Austin, TX 78711-3406

Dear Dr. Gibbs:

This letter is to express the full support of the City of Denton and the Original Denton District for the Greater Denton Arts Council's (GDAC) application for the Arts Respond – Cultural District Project grant.

GDAC is requesting the \$25,000 from the TCA to support their Video Art Night exhibition which transforms the landscape of the downtown area into an immersive digital experience. Through projection mapping, LED installations, and live music, Video Art Night celebrates innovation, inclusion, and creativity. The event hosted in Downtown Denton will be free and open to the public.

The Greater Denton Arts Council has supported arts and culture in Denton for more than five decades. Their exhibitions and programs at the Patterson-Appleton Arts center (PAAC, 400 E. Hickory Street) continue to attract attendees. The PAAC is an excellent, light-filled venue in the Original Denton district that dates from 1929 and initially served as the City's steam powerplant. The PAAC has served as an arts and culture venue since the 1980s. GDAC programming at the Patterson-Appleton Arts Center attracts over half a million visitors to the Original Denton District on an annual basis, providing a critical boost to the district's economic health and viability.

The City of Denton promotes events in the ODD with the help of our nonprofit partners at the Denton Main Street Association. The Association maintains a website of events occurring within Downtown Denton and the Original Denton District. We will encourage the Denton Main Street Association to promote the "Video Art Night" exhibition, as it does other events occurring within Downtown Denton and the Original Denton District.

We are honored and pleased to support this project for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Matthew Hamilton  
Chief Financial Officer  
City of Denton  
on Behalf of the Original Denton District



# City of Denton

City Hall  
215 E. McKinney Street  
Denton, Texas  
www.cityofdenton.com

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## AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Parks and Recreation  
**ACM:** Christine Taylor, Assistant City Manager  
**DATE:** June 04, 2026

### **SUBJECT**

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the Original Denton District's support for Theatre Denton's application for the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) Arts Respond - Cultural District Project grant program in the amount of \$5,000 to support their May 2027 event, "Voices Together,"; and to provide a letter of support to the TCA.

### **BACKGROUND**

Mike Barrow, Managing Director of Theatre Denton, contacted the City of Denton requesting a letter of support from the Original Denton District (ODD) for an application being made to the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) Arts Respond – Cultural District Project grant program, which is due by June 15, 2026.

Theatre Denton asks that the ODD support the TCA grant application requesting funding for their "Voices Together" 2027 production, "The Wizard of Oz," which aims to bring together Theatre Denton Theatre School students and experienced adult performers for a shared, intergenerational musical production. Theater Denton is requesting \$5,000 in support of their May 2027 event, "Voices Together," which represents 50% of the project's total cost.

Theatre Denton has operated out of the Original Denton District since moving all operations to the historic Campus Theatre in 1995. Between each season's eight major performances (4 musicals and 4 state plays) and Theatre Denton's 2-3 children's production every year, Theatre Denton brings more than 16,000 visitors to the Campus Theatre.

A letter of support from the Original Denton District Committee Chair (PAC Chair) expressing the cultural district's support for the project is required as part of the grant application.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends approval for a letter of support on behalf of the Original Denton District signed by the City Manager or their designee.

### **EXHIBITS**

Exhibit 1- Agenda Information Sheet  
Exhibit 2- Letter of Request  
Exhibit 3- 2025 TCA Closeout Report  
Exhibit 4- Letter of Support

Respectfully submitted:

Allison Wing, Interim Director  
Parks and Recreation

Prepared by:  
Megan Thomas,  
Interim Business Administration Manager  
Parks and Recreation Department



Campus Theatre  
214 West Hickory Street  
Denton, Texas 76201

(940) 382-7014 Business Office  
www.theatredenton.com

TD is a 501 ( c ) ( 3 )  
organization

Theatre Denton Annex  
Golden Triangle Mall  
Denton, TX

Governing Board  
of Directors

Norm Pomerance  
President

Rudy Menn  
Treasurer

Susan McGuire Cooksey  
Secretary

Mindy Arendt  
Nina Nichols Austin  
Tanya Blixt  
Kristen Deal  
Nancy Murphy-Chadwick  
Terry Nobles  
Caleb Norris  
Nicole Probst  
Linda Rubin  
Denise Stephens  
Jeffrey Watson  
Crystal Wood

Staff

Mike Barrow  
Managing Director

Mike Strecher  
Facility Services Director

Les Deal  
Technical Director

Kyla Welch  
Office Manager

David Pierce  
Public Liaison

Amanda Carson Green  
Education Director

May 08, 2026

Request for Letter of Support from ODD for TCA Cultural District Grant

Theatre Denton is requesting \$5,000 in support of our May 2027 event, “Voices Together,” which represents 50% of the project’s total cost.

On May 1 of this year, Theatre Denton launched the inaugural *Voices Together* with a special event production of *Annie*. This new annual initiative brought together our Theatre Denton Theatre School students and experienced adult performers for a shared, intergenerational musical production. More than 1,000 patrons attended the event in the Original Denton District (ODD), demonstrating strong community enthusiasm and meaningful cultural impact.

The 2027 production—*The Wizard of Oz*—will follow the same successful criteria used for *Annie*:

- broad, family-friendly audience appeal
- roles suitable for both adults and youth ages 10–18
- intentional opportunities for adult performers to mentor developing student artists

We are seeking the District’s support because this event draws significant numbers of visitors whose presence directly benefits the ODD. Attendees frequently dine, shop, and explore nearby businesses before and after performances. Cast members, crew, and families also support local establishments throughout rehearsals and multiple performance weekends. Many of our audience members travel from outside Denton and choose to stay overnight, further contributing to the local economy.

Across *Voices Together* and Theatre Denton’s eight annual mainstage productions, we expect to bring over 16,000 visitors to the Denton Cultural District in the coming year—alongside hundreds of volunteer actors, technicians, directors, and musicians who work with us throughout each season. Additionally, the Campus Theatre continues to serve as the home venue for the Denton Black Film Festival, Thin Line Film Festival, and City Contemporary Dance Collective, welcoming several thousand more arts patrons to downtown and the ODD.

Your support will help us continue offering a high-impact, intergenerational production that strengthens the cultural vitality of the Denton Cultural District while driving meaningful economic activity for local businesses.

## REPORT

Cultural District Project  
Cultural District: The Original Denton District  
App Type: High Quality Arts Programming

Report ID: 6456

Denton Community Theatre  
Tax ID: 23-7112511

Fiscal Year 2025  
Period of Support: 9/1/2024 - 8/31/2025  
Grant ID: 77760976  
Report Due: 9/30/2025  
Report Status: Approved

<b>Due At:</b>	9/30/2025
<b>Submitted At:</b>	9/18/2025
<b>Approved On:</b>	9/23/2025
<b>Status</b>	Approved

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- Audience Information
- Activity Location
- Cultural Tourism
- Personnel Information
- Narrative Information
- Budget Information
- Report Verification
- Documents

### ▼ Report Information

<b>Organization Name:</b>	Denton Community Theatre
<b>Grant Number:</b>	77760976
<b>Grant Program:</b>	Cultural District Project
<b>Priority Area:</b>	Economic Development
<b>Project Title:</b>	Cultural District Project - High Quality Arts Programming
<b>Award Amount:</b>	\$11,088.00
<b>Grant Summary:</b>	To support the work of live musicians performing as part of mainstage musicals in the Original Denton District.
<b>Authorizing Official:</b> <i>(indicated on Grant)</i>	

Is the Authorized Official listed on the Grant Application  
up to date? Yes

▼ Audience Information

How many adults (over age 18) were engaged in "in person" arts experiences?

Adults: 9100

How many children/youth (0-18 years) were engaged in "in person" arts experiences?

Children/Youth: 1550

*For the next set of questions, select all categories that, by your best estimate, make up 25% or more of the population served directly by this performance.*

Population Served by Race/Ethnicity: (W) White

Population Served by Age: (03) Adults (25-64 years)

Distinct Groups Served: (G) No single group made up 25%

▼ Activity Location

*Click on the PLUS SIGN to add a new venue.*

*Please provide the physical location where your activities occurred. If you conducted activities in more than one location, please provide information for each venue.*

Venue

- **Campus Theatre**  
214 W Hickory  
Denton, Texas 76201  
Days at Venue: 250

Edit  Delete

▼ Cultural Tourism

Did this project promote cultural and/or heritage tourism? Yes

Did you capture zip codes of attendees? Yes

Estimate number of state tourists (Texans traveling at least 50 miles from home): 1001 - 3000

Estimate number of national tourists: 101 - 250

Estimate number of international tourists: 26 - 100

▼ Personnel Information

How many artists were directly involved?

Artists directly involved: 160

How many artists received a fee?	60
How many volunteers were directly involved?	400
How many full-time staff were directly involved?	4
How many part-time staff were directly involved?	3

### ▼ Narrative Information

How did this grant benefit your organization and/or community?

This grant allowed Theatre Denton to secure top musicians in the area for our 2024/2025 Musical Series. This benefits the organization by attracting high quality stage performers and gives those performers the best possible environment to perform. The high quality production values keep long-time audience members coming to Theatre Denton shows, as well as enticing new audience members to attend. Often, these new attendees become regular patrons that purchase tickets to both musical and non-musical productions that Theatre Denton produces. The high quality productions provide the community with theatrical experiences that are often not available without traveling outside of the community. Local businesses benefit from the increased traffic created by the 10,000+ patrons that also dine, and/or shop as a part of their outing.

Describe any notable results of this grant, including human interest stories.

Many of the 40 performances that happened during the 2024/2025 Musical Series were for sold out crowds. The challenge of having a live orchestra in a completely separate part of the venue was met with results above all expectations. Through the use of closed circuit camera technology the orchestra could see in real time what was occurring on the stage and the actors could see the conductor. The success of this was particularly evident during the scene in *Jesus Christ Superstar* where Jesus is receiving lashes from the Romans and the timing of the sound effect provided by the percussion section of the orchestra had to be perfectly synced. This level of performance would not be possible without the high quality of musicians that Theatre Denton is able to attract.

### ▼ Budget Information

**TCA Award:** \$11,088.00

*Please show the source(s) of your matching funding. This should be exactly equal to TCA award amount.*

#### Matching fund sources

Income from programs (revenues from box office, admissions, memberships, tuition, class/workshop fees).

**Program income:** \$11,088.00

Net proceeds from gala / fundraiser / concessions / art sales / space rentals.

**Fundraising proceeds:**

Revenue derived from interest on investments and/or endowment.

**Investments / endowment:**

Direct cash contributions from individuals

**Cash contributions:**

Income or financial support from businesses and/or corporations.

**Business / corporate support:**

Income or financial support from foundations.

**Foundation support:**

Income or financial support from local, county, state, and/or federal governments. (Do NOT include TCA funds.)

**Government support:**

Any additional income, revenue, and/or financial support derived from a source not listed above.

**Other support:**

**Details - Other support:**

**Total Matching Income:** \$11,088.00

**Total Income (Total Matching Income + TCA Award):** \$22,176.00

*Please show the expense(s) paid with your matching funding and the TCA funding. These figures should match the supporting expense ledger you submit.*

**Grant Closeout Budget - Expenditures (award + match only)**

Budget Expense Category	Closeout Budget: Matching	Closeout Budget: TCA Award
Administrative salaries, contracts, benefits		
Artistic salaries, contracts, benefits	\$11,088.00	\$11,088.00
Facility Costs		
Marketing & Promotion		
Program/Exhibit production costs		
Capital expenditures		
Other expenses		
<b>Budget Totals</b>	<b>\$11,088.00</b>	<b>\$11,088.00</b>

*\* Please be sure to utilize the categories and totals shown in the budget table above when filling out the Expense Ledger attached to this report.*

Please affirm that these amounts are still correct: Yes

### ▼ All-Inclusive Budget

The closeout budget on these reports often does not reflect the full costs of the overall grant activities. TCA wants to understand the actual total costs incurred by your organization to realize this project (TCA grant + your match + other funds you dedicated to this project).

**Actual total cash expenses for this entire project:** \$94,954.00

**Actual total cash income for project:** \$190,063.00

**Actual total in-kind (pro-bono services, volunteer contributions) for project:** \$0.00

### ▼ Report Verification

I certify that the information reported here is true and correct. I agree

*I understand that TCA may perform a site visit on my organization. At that time our organization will produce documentation to support the answers on this report form. Our organization will keep all documentation related to this grant for an additional 3 years, during which time I can expect to receive at least one fiscal site visit from TCA staff.*

**Acknowledgement:** I agree

### ▼ Documents

For help, see [TCA Expense Ledger Tips found HERE](#).

Please upload the following documents:


- Copy of the Expense Ledger spreadsheet documenting all of the grant expenditures. [Expense\\_Ledger\\_2 template found HERE](#).
- Additional statistical information on Cultural District Projects

Other Document

Please Note: If you click on the document name the file will download to your local instance. Hover over the document and click the magnifying glass on the right to preview the document before downloading.

#### REPORT ATTACHMENTS


Zip Codes - Jesus Christ Superstar.xlsx

 Page white magnify

**Statistical Information**

Added by Mike Barrow at 12:29 PM on September 18, 2025


Zip Codes - Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.xlsx

 Page white magnify

**Statistical Information**

Added by Mike Barrow at 12:28 PM on September 18, 2025

TCA Cultural Dist Expense\_Ledger\_ERF (7).xls

 Page white magnify

**Financial Documentation**

Added by Mike Barrow at 1:51 PM on September 17, 2025



SEARCH

REPORT

Denton Community Theatre  
Cultural District Project  
Cultural District: The Original Denton District  
App Type: High Quality Arts Programming  
Report ID: 6456  
Due: September 30, 2025

REPORT ID: 6456 Status: Approved

Cultural District Project  
Cultural District: The Original Denton District  
App Type: High Quality Arts Programming  
Report ID: 6456

Denton Community Theatre  
Tax ID: 23-712511

Fiscal Year: 2025  
Period of Support: 9/1/2024 - 8/31/2025  
Grant ID: 77760976  
Report Due: 9/30/2025  
Report Status: Approved

Due At:

9/30/2025

Submitted At:

9/18/2025

Approved On:

9/23/2025

Status:

Approved

Denton Community Theatre

Getting Started

Grantee Portal Overview

Managing Your Account

TCA Grant Programs

Managing Your Grant

APPLICATIONS (1)

In Progress

Submitted Requests (1)

Panel Results

Revised Budgets to Edit

AWARDED GRANTS (3)

Active (2)

Closed (31)

REPORTS (0)

Cessout Reports Due (2)

Submitted Reports (0)

AMENDMENTS

Verification Needed

Approved

FLUXX

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Denton Community Theatre

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Grantee Portal Overview

Managing Your Account

TCA Grant Programs

Managing Your Grant

APPLICATIONS (1)

In Progress

Submitted Requests: (1)

Panel Resurus

Reviewed Subjects to Edit

AWARDED GRANTS (3)

Active (2)

Closed (1)

REPORTS (10)

Closed Reports Due: (2)

Submitted Reports: (8)

AMENDMENTS

Verification Needed

Approved

FLUXX

Search

App Type: High Quality Arts Programming

Report ID: 4819

Due: September 30, 2024

REPORT Status: Approved

Denton Community Theatre

Arts Create

App Year: Year 1 of 2

Report ID: 4541

Due: September 30, 2024

REPORT Status: Approved

Denton Community Theatre

Cultural District Project

Cultural District: The Original Denton District

App Type: Signage and Wayfinding

Report ID: 3415

Due: September 30, 2023

REPORT Status: Approved

Denton Community Theatre

Arts Create

App Year: Year 4

Report ID: 2922

Due: September 30, 2023

REPORT Status: Approved

Denton Community Theatre

Arts Create

App Year: Year 3

Report ID: 1404

Due: September 30, 2022

REPORT Status: Approved

Denton Community Theatre

Arts Create

App Year: Year 2 of 2

Report ID: 895

Due: September 30, 2021

REPORT Status: Approved

REPORT

Cultural District Project

Cultural District: The Original Denton District

App Type: High Quality Arts Programming

Report ID: 6456

Fiscal Year: 2025

Period of Support: 9/1/2024 - 8/31/2025

Grant ID: 77769376

Report Due: 9/30/2025

Report Status: Approved

Denton Community Theatre  
Tax ID: 23-7112511

Due At:

9/30/2025

Submitted At:

9/18/2025

Approved On:

9/23/2025

Status:

Approved

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- Budget Information
- Report Verification
- Documents



## The Original Denton District

215 E. McKinney St., Denton, TX 76201 ■ (940) 349-7776

June 14, 2026

Gary Gibbs, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
Texas Commission on the Arts  
Cultural District Grant Program  
PO Box 13406  
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Dr. Gibbs:

This letter is to express the full support of the Original Denton District (ODD) for Theatre Denton's application for the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) Arts Respond - Cultural District Project grant program in the amount of \$5,000 to support the "Voices Together" 2027 production, "The Wizard of Oz," which aims to bring together Theatre Denton Theatre School students and experienced adult performers for a shared, intergenerational musical production. The total production cost will be \$10,000. The grant application requests \$5,000 to support 50% of the productions expenses.

Theatre Denton has made its home in the Original Denton District at the historic Campus Theatre since 1995. Each year, Theatre Denton provides very high-quality musical and non-musical dramatic performances. In total, these performances bring more than 10,000 people to the Original Denton District each year. The musicals draw more the lion's share of performance visitors and if it were not for the honoraria that Theatre Denton provides to vocalists and musicians, the musicals would suffer deeply in quality or prove entirely untenable.

In addition to the 4 musicals and 4 dramatic performances provided by Theatre Denton each theatrical season, the organization also provides 2-3 children's performances. Considered all together, the mainstage performance and the children's performances bring almost 16,000 people to the Original Denton District annually.

The Original Denton District intends to promote Theatre Denton and its performances on our Original Denton District calendar and to feature the organization and its work on other City social media accounts.

We are honored and pleased to offer our support to Theatre Denton and its current grant application. We hope that you will help them to provide a wonderful season of events and to provide artists a compelling opportunity with whatever funding you can provide. Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

Matthew Hamilton  
Chief Financial Officer  
City of Denton  
on Behalf of the Original Denton District



# City of Denton

City Hall  
215 E. McKinney Street  
Denton, Texas  
www.cityofdenton.com

## AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Parks and Recreation  
**ACM:** Christine Taylor, Assistant City Manager  
**DATE:** June 4, 2026

### SUBJECT

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the Original Denton District's application to the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) Arts Respond - Cultural District Project grant program in the amount of \$106,000; and supporting a letter on behalf of the Original Denton District signed by the City Manager or their designee.

### BACKGROUND

The Original Denton District (ODD) was named an official state-designated cultural arts district by the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) on September 5, 2019. This designation allowed the ODD to apply for Cultural District grant programs from the Texas Commission on the Arts and to help support local organizations within the Cultural District that were also apply for Cultural District Project grant support from the TCA.

In 2024, the City of Denton launched a pilot project designed to consolidate Denton’s existing and extensive Halloween calendar, while adding meaningful programmatic additions (the Pumpkin Drop, Scary Chairy Orchard, e.g.) to the calendar and providing delightful and frightful placemaking opportunities throughout the ODD (City Hall Cemetery, Dr. Frankenstein’s Laboratory, Halloween Phonebooths, etc.).

In 2025, the City of Denton and ODD was awarded \$62,400 to expand its placemaking and programmatic offerings across the Original Denton District.

This year, the ODD will seek funding from the TCA to support the continuation and addition of various elements of our *31 Days of Halloween* Festival which will be celebrating its third year.

### **TCA Ask by Programmatic Area:**

Equipment	\$5,500.00
Haunted Hotlines	\$3,500.00
Live Performances	\$25,000.00
Marketing (in and outside of the region, partial)	\$15,000.00
Placemaking	\$42,500.00
Signage	\$4,500.00
Storytelling	\$2,000.00
Strolling Artists	\$3,000.00
Temporary Mural development	\$5,000.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$106,000.00</b>

The present funding request follows the guidelines for the Texas Commission on the Art's Arts Respond – Cultural District Project Grant Program. The TCA's guidelines for this funding source require an organizational match for the amount requested and put a ceiling on the amount that can be requested at 50% of a program's cost. Furthermore, the TCA indicates that it will not fund projects that exceed 25% of an organization's previous years' cash operating revenues. The current amount requested from the TCA meets all these requirements, with the total costs approaching \$250,000.00.

A draft letter of support from the Original Denton signed by the City Manager or their designee is required as part of the TCA Grant application.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the PAC approve the letter in support of the ODD's grant application with the Texas Commission on the Arts. The letter will be signed by the City Manager or their designee and will be included with the grant application to the TCA.

**FISCAL INFORMATION**

The required TCA grant match will be met by HOT funds already allocated to Halloween expenditures.

**EXHIBITS**

Exhibit 1- Agenda Information Sheet

Exhibit 2- Letter of Support

Respectfully submitted:  
Allison Wing, Interim Director  
Parks and Recreation

Prepared by:  
Megan Thomas, Interim Administration Manager  
Parks and Recreation Department



## The Original Denton District

215 E. McKinney St., Denton, TX 76201 ■ (940) 349-7776

June 14, 2026

Gary Gibbs, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
Texas Commission on the Arts  
Cultural District Grant Program  
PO Box 13406  
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Dr. Gibbs:

The purpose of this letter is to express the considered support of the City of Denton's Public Art Committee for the Original Denton District's current application requesting funding under your organization's Arts Respond – Cultural District Grant program. In the present application, the Original Denton District is requesting funding in the amount of \$106,000.00 to support various aspects of the City's third-annual *31 Days of Denton Halloween*. In 2024, The City of Denton Parks and Recreation Department worked together with community stakeholders, small business owners, and local artists and musicians to leverage, consolidate, and enhance Denton's already considerable calendar of Halloween events and transform it into a singular month-long Halloween festival.

In its first year *31 Days of Denton Halloween* attracted over 140,000 additional visitors to the Denton Square, increased mixed beverage and alcohol sales in the Original Denton District by almost 25%, and had an estimated overall economic impact of over \$15 million.

In 2025, Denton Parks and Recreation staff focused on enhancing current offerings and adding additional, exciting, placemaking features and interactive programming. In October 2025, Denton saw over 883,000 visitors in downtown, an increase of 110,110 visitors over 2024, with 76% being visitors to the area. Over 67,000 people visited the Haunted Maze and the Frankenstein Exhibit & Diorama at the UNTCoLab, along with over 4,500 volunteer hours on various placemaking and programmatic activities.

For 2026, Denton Parks and Recreation staff are focused on activating vacant businesses, involving even more artists, expanding placemaking and increasing activities beyond the square, and improving mobility and access through additional parking, walkability, and transit.

The City of Denton, its Marketing and Communications Team, and Denton Parks and Recreation Special Events team continue working collaboratively to market the *31 Days of Denton Halloween* to a local, regional, statewide, and even national audience. The goal of *31 Days* is to make Denton a top-tier national destination for Halloween-related tourism. By increasing the number of tourists to Denton, *31 Days of Denton Halloween* aims to buttress local businesses all while raising additional Hotel and Motel tax revenues to further support arts and culture in Denton

We are honored and pleased to submit this project for consideration and hope that you will find it worthy of support.

Sincerely,

Matthew Hamilton  
Chief Financial Officer  
City of Denton



# City of Denton

City Hall  
215 E. McKinney Street  
Denton, Texas  
www.cityofdenton.com

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## AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Parks and Recreation

**ACM:** Christine Taylor, Assistant City Manager

**DATE:** June 4, 2026

### **SUBJECT**

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the Original Denton District's support for Tejas Storytelling Association's application to the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) Arts Respond Cultural District Project grant program seeking \$5,000.00 to support the partial cost of renting the Civic Center for the 2027 Tejas Storytelling Festival; and to provide a letter of support to the TCA.

### **BACKGROUND**

Valerie Kimble, Tejas Storytelling Association (TSA) Grants Committee member, contacted the City of Denton requesting a letter of support from the Original Denton District (ODD) for an application being made to the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) Arts Respond – Cultural District Project grant program, which is due by June 15, 2026.

The Tejas Storytelling Association is requesting \$5,000.00 in support to help offset the cost of renting the Denton Civic Center for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Texas Storytelling Festival to be held March 11-14, 2027.

The festival is celebrating its 42<sup>nd</sup> year of bringing world-class storytellers from all over the world to Denton. Each year, the festival brings almost 2000 attendees to Downtown Denton. What is particularly significant about the Texas Storytelling Festival is its impact on local tourism and hotel occupancy. Many of its attendees come to Denton from outside of the DFW Metroplex. This results in an increase in hotel room bookings for their stay, which has a positive impact on our local economy.

A letter of support from the Original Denton District expressing the cultural district's support of the project is required as part of the TCA Cultural District grant application.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommend approval for a letter of support for inclusion in the Tejas Storytelling Association's TCA Arts Respond Cultural District signed by the City Manager or their designee on behalf of the Original Denton District.

### **EXHIBITS**

- Exhibit 1- Agenda Information Sheet
- Exhibit 2- Letter of Request
- Exhibit 3- 2025 TCA Closeout Report
- Exhibit 4- Letter of Support

Respectfully submitted:

Allison Wing, Interim Director  
Parks and Recreation

Prepared by:  
Megan Thomas,  
Interim Business Administration Manager  
Parks and Recreation Department



May 11, 2026

Omar Siddiqi  
Administrative Analyst  
City of Denton  
Parks and Recreation Department  
Omar.Siddiqi@CityofDenton.com

Re: Request for Letter of Support from the Denton City Staff for the Tejas Storytelling Association's Application to the Texas Commission on the Arts for an Arts Respond—Cultural District Project Grant for the City of Denton Texas Storytelling Festival in the amount of \$5,000

Dear Mr. Siddiqi:

The City of Denton Texas Storytelling Festival is a destination event for cultural tourism in North Texas. It is a major storytelling festival in the southwest, and attracts storytellers and story listeners from all over Texas, the nation, and internationally. Since its inception in 1985, it has been produced annually by the Tejas Storytelling Association (TSA). 2027 will be the forty-second consecutive year. The City of Denton has been a partner of this event since inception, and the Texas Storytelling Festival has been an Original Cultural District Project since that designation was received by the City of Denton.

In-person festivals over the years have the direct economic benefit of bringing over 200 or more registrants to Denton. There were 230 registrants in 2026 who attended the 4-day festival. One 2026 attendee from Oklahoma tracked personal spending over just 2 days of the festival at over \$418.85, including gas, food, and lodging. The festival hotel typically reports approximately \$10,000 in room nights annually, while two local restaurants, who cater meal functions benefit directly through registrations, earning approximately \$1,000 per meal. Total festival attendance at all face-to-face events was approximately 1667. The festival brings people into Denton from the surrounding communities as well to attend the workshops and concerts, the ghost tales and Liars' Contest, Kids' Day, and story swaps. These are college students, families with children and nursing home residents, while non-resident storytellers and retirees make up a larger percentage. The festival also attracts the Deaf community due to the superb sign language interpreters who interpret all concerts.

**Tejas Storytelling Association • 214 West Hickory • Denton, TX 76201 • 940-382-7014 • [tsa@tejasstorytelling.com](mailto:tsa@tejasstorytelling.com)**

To be held at the Quakertown Civic Center in the Original Denton Cultural District on March 11-14, 2027, the Texas Storytelling Festival attracts performing artists, teachers, librarians, clergy, attorneys, counselors, and all those who use storytelling in their work. Tejas Storytelling Association is a nonprofit, 501 (c) 3 organization, headquartered in Denton, with a world-wide membership of approximately 280. Festival evaluations always report that people return year after year. As one participant commented, "Everything was inspiring!"

The planned line up of new and returning featured storytellers for 2027 will showcase both nationally known and Texas storytellers, representing many heritages. Typically, 65 storytellers, 85 volunteers, and community partners, who include the City of Denton Parks and Recreation Department, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Texas Commission on the Arts come together annually, with the Denton Benefit League and other local sponsors and individual donors. Recycled Books in Denton and the Texas Folklore Society have been especially supportive the last few years, with TFS manning a table throughout the whole festival.

In all ways, the City of Denton Texas Storytelling Festival benefits the Denton community culturally and economically.

TSA seeks assistance with the partial rental cost of the Quakertown Civic Center for the 2027 festival in the amount of \$5,000, and hopes to apply to the Texas Commission on the Arts through the Cultural District Project grants for this help. We would respectfully request a letter of support from the City of Denton for this application.

Thank you very much for your help in referring this proposal to the City of Denton for its consideration.

Warm regards,

*Valerie Kimble*

Valerie Kimble  
TSA Grants Committee

Enclosure: 2025 Close-out report for TCA Cultural District Grant

Cc: Allison Wing, Interim Director of Parks and Recreation, [allison.wing@cityofdenton.com](mailto:allison.wing@cityofdenton.com)  
Ron Carter, TSA Grants Committee Chair  
Michael Brundy, TSA President  
John Hale, TSA President-Elect  
Dalton Gregory, TSA Treasurer Emeritus

**REPORT**

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Cultural District Project  
Cultural District: The Original Denton District  
App Type: High Quality Arts Programming

**Report ID:** 6483

Tejas Storytelling Association  
Tax ID: 75-2231093

Fiscal Year 2025  
Period of Support: 9/1/2024 - 8/31/2025  
Grant ID: 77761110  
Report Due: 9/30/2025

Report Status: Approved

<b>Due At:</b>	9/30/2025
<b>Submitted At:</b>	8/9/2025
<b>Approved On:</b>	8/14/2025
<b>Status</b>	Approved

▼ Table Of Contents

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- Report Information
- Audience Information
- Activity Location
- Cultural Tourism
- Personnel Information
- Narrative Information
- Budget Information
- Report Verification
- Documents

▼ Report Information

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<b>Organization Name:</b>	Tejas Storytelling Association
<b>Grant Number:</b>	77761110
<b>Grant Program:</b>	Cultural District Project
<b>Priority Area:</b>	Economic Development
<b>Project Title:</b>	Cultural District Project - High Quality Arts Programming
<b>Award Amount:</b>	\$3,500.00
<b>Grant Summary:</b>	To support venue rental for the Texas Storytelling Festival in the Original Denton District.
<b>Authorizing Official:</b> <i>(indicated on Grant)</i>	
<b>Is the <a href="#">Authorized Official</a> listed on the Grant Application up to date?</b>	
	Yes

▼ Audience Information

---

**How many adults (over age 18) were engaged in ["in person"](#) arts experiences?**

**Adults:** 2668

**How many children/youth (0-18 years) were engaged in ["in person"](#) arts experiences?**

**Children/Youth:** 45

---

*For the next set of questions, select all categories that, by your best estimate, make up 25% or more of the population served directly by this performance.*

**Population Served by Race/Ethnicity:** (W) White

**Population Served by Age:** (04) Older Adults (65+ years)

**Distinct Groups Served:** (G) No single group made up 25%

▼ Activity Location


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*Click on the PLUS SIGN to add a new venue.*


*Please provide the physical location where your activities occurred. If you conducted activities in more than one location, please provide information for each venue.*

Venue

---

- Denton Civic Center** Edit   
 321 E. McKinney  
 Denton, Texas 76201  
 Days at Venue: 4

---

- Emily Fowler Public Library** Edit   
 502 Oakland St.

Denton, Texas 76201  
Days at Venue: 1

- **Woman's Building**

Edit 

610 Oakland St.  
Denton, Texas 76201  
Days at Venue: 3

#### ▼ Cultural Tourism

**Did this project promote cultural and/or heritage tourism?** Yes

**Did you capture zip codes of attendees?** Yes

**Estimate number of state tourists (Texans traveling at least 50 miles from home):** 101 - 250

**Estimate number of national tourists:** 101 - 250

**Estimate number of international tourists:** 1 - 25

#### ▼ Personnel Information

**How many artists were [directly involved?](#)**

**Artists directly involved:** 124

**How many artists received a fee?** 60

**How many volunteers were directly involved?** 87

**How many full-time staff were directly involved?** 0

**How many part-time staff were directly involved?** 4

#### ▼ Narrative Information

**How did this grant benefit your organization and/or community?**

This grant which supported the Texas Storytelling Festival benefited the Denton organization and community educationally, culturally, and economically.

The 2025 Texas Storytelling Festival benefited the organization educationally by providing workshops, a master class, and performance opportunities to members. It benefited the Denton community by showcasing the art form of storytelling at a level of excellence for both adults and children, which also benefited it culturally. A total of 2713 people, 2668 adults and 45 children attended over 4 days, which required hotel stays. One Festival registrant reported that his expenses totaled \$747.29, over and above Festival registration. The festival hotels reported approximately \$22,000 in room nights, while local restaurants who catered Festival meals realized a profit of \$1,000 per meal. In addition to these community benefits, the festival provided paid employment to self-employed artists.

This grant helped keep the ticket costs down, which increased attendance. This meant more people came to Denton, which increased cultural tourism.

**Describe any notable results of this grant, including human interest stories.**

This grant contributed to the success of the Texas Storytelling Festival by subsidizing a portion of the Civic Center rental. This helped TSA keep ticket prices down, which helped maintain and increase attendance, which contributed to an increase in income for the event. It supported TSA's mission of supporting an oral tradition, performance, and education through the workshops and to storytellers by example. People from twelve states came to this festival, validating marketing efforts and the claim that this festival supports cultural tourism.

It contributed to the festival experience that attendees commented on in the festival evaluations, as follows:

"The openness, friendliness and acceptance of the fellow audience and storytellers that I met made the effort to go out in the cold, wet morning definitely worthwhile. And your volunteers at each of your booths were delightful and helpful. Thank you."

"I reconnected with a friend I hadn't seen in 30 years."

"People manning the reception desk were professional, courteous, and knowledgeable. Old-timers made newbies feel welcome and were extremely helpful."

"I loved the display from the last forty years and the memorial to those who passed recently. Really enhances the community feel."

"I like keeping our old traditions - cow skull, banjo player who introduces final concert, etc. I've attended 35 years and prize these memorable things."

"I love the connection and reconnection with other tellers. I have been gone from storytelling for about 25 years but was welcomed back with open arms."

"It was an OUTSTANDING line up of featured storytellers! Can't say enough good things about it!"

"The tellers were absolutely amazing this year. It's good every year but there are certain years that really knocked it out of the park and this was one of them. Thank you so much."

"Stellar Performances, Invaluable Workshops, Wonderful People"

"It was great to see old friends and to make new ones. A wonderful festival!"

"Attending the Texas Storytelling Festival is like coming home for a family reunion !

Storytelling is an art that showcases personal communication. This grant helped create an effective atmosphere for an authentic storytelling experience.

**▼ Budget Information**

**TCA Award:** \$3,500.00

*Please show the source(s) of your matching funding. This should be exactly equal to TCA award amount.*

**Matching fund sources**

Income from programs (revenues from box office, admissions, memberships, tuition, class/workshop fees).

**Program income:** \$0.00

Net proceeds from gala / fundraiser / concessions / art sales / space rentals.

**Fundraising proceeds:** \$0.00

Revenue derived from interest on investments and/or endowment.

**Investments / endowment:** \$0.00

Direct cash contributions from individuals

**Cash contributions:** \$2,500.00

Income or financial support from businesses and/or corporations.

**Business / corporate support:** \$0.00

Income or financial support from foundations.

**Foundation support:** \$0.00

Income or financial support from local, county, state, and/or federal governments. (Do NOT include TCA funds.)

**Government support:** \$1,000.00

Any additional income, revenue, and/or financial support derived from a source not listed above.

**Other support:** \$0.00

**Details - Other support:**

---

**Total Matching Income:** \$3,500.00

**Total Income (Total Matching Income + TCA Award):** \$7,000.00

*Please show the expense(s) paid with your matching funding and the TCA funding. These figures should match the supporting expense ledger you submit.*

**Grant Closeout Budget - Expenditures (award + match only)**

Budget Expense Category	Closeout Budget: Matching	Closeout Budget: TCA Award
Administrative salaries, contracts, benefits		
Artistic salaries, contracts, benefits		
Facility Costs	\$2,500.00	\$3,500.00
Marketing & Promotion	\$1,000.00	
Program/Exhibit production costs		
Capital expenditures		
Other expenses		

<b>Budget Totals</b>	<b>\$3,500.00</b>	<b>\$3,500.00</b>
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*\* Please be sure to utilize the categories and totals shown in the budget table above when filling out the Expense Ledger attached to this report.*

**Please affirm that these amounts are still correct:**      Yes

▼ All-Inclusive Budget

The closeout budget on these reports often does not reflect the full costs of the overall grant activities. TCA wants to understand the actual total costs incurred by your organization to realize this project (TCA grant + your match + other funds you dedicated to this project).

**Actual total cash expenses for this entire project:**      \$7,000.00  
**Actual total cash income for project:**      \$7,000.00  
**Actual total in-kind (pro-bono services, volunteer contributions) for project:**      \$630.00

▼ Report Verification

**I certify that the information reported here is true and correct.**      I agree

*I understand that TCA may perform a site visit on my organization. At that time our organization will produce documentation to support the answers on this report form. Our organization will keep all documentation related to this grant for an additional 3 years, during which time I can expect to receive at least one fiscal site visit from TCA staff.*

**Acknowledgement:**      I agree

▼ Documents

*Please upload the following documents:*

- *Copy of the Expense Ledger spreadsheet documenting all of the grant expenditures. Expense\_Ledger\_2 template found here.*
- *Additional statistical information on Cultural District Projects*

Other Document

*Please Note: If you click on the document name the file will download to your local instance. Hover over the document and click the magnifying glass on the right to preview the document before downloading.*

REPORT ATTACHMENTS

Expense\_Ledger\_ERF\_77761110.xls



**Financial Documentation**

Added by Valerie Kimble at 10:29 AM on August 8, 2025

TSF Attendees by Zip Code.xls



**Statistical Information**

Added by Valerie Kimble at 2:24 PM on July 12, 2025

Zip reduced	City	State
76209	Denton	Tx
76209	Denton	TX
76209	Denton	TX
76209	Denton	TX
76209	Denton	Texas
76209	Denton	TX
<b>76209 Count</b>		6
76051	Grapevine	Texas
76051	Grapevine	Texas
76051	Grapevine	TX
76051	Grapevine	TX
<b>76051 Count</b>		4
76207	Denton	Texas
76207	Denton	TX
76207	Denton	Texas
76207	Denton	TX
<b>76207 Count</b>		4
77381	The Woodlandss	Texas
77381	The Woodlands	Texas
77381	The Woodlands	Texas
77381	The Woodlands	Texas
<b>77381 Count</b>		4
78676	Wimberley	TX
78676	Wimberley	TX
78676	Wimberley	Texas
78676	Wimberley	Texas
<b>78676 Count</b>		4
74820	Ada	Oklahoma
74820	Ada	Oklahoma
74820	Ada	Oklahoma
<b>74820 Count</b>		3
75048	Sachse	Texas
75048	Sachse	Texas
75048	Sachse	Texas
<b>75048 Count</b>		3
75228	Dallas	TX
75228	Dallas	TX
75228	Dallas	TX
<b>75228 Count</b>		3
75287	Dallas	Texas
75287	Dallas	Texas
75287	Dallas	TX
<b>75287 Count</b>		3
76208	Denton	Texas
76208	Denton	TX
76208	Denton	TX
<b>76208 Count</b>		3
76655	Lorena	Texas
76655	Lorena	Tx
76655	Lorena	Tx
<b>76655 Count</b>		3
78132	New Braunfels	Tx
78132	New Braunfels	Tx
78132	New Braunfels	Tx

<b>78132 Count</b>		3
34695	Safety Harbor	FL
34695	Safety Harbor	FL
<b>34695 Count</b>		2
55403	Minneapolis	MN
55403	Minneapolis	MN
<b>55403 Count</b>		2
63132	Olivette	MO
63132	Olivette	MO
<b>63132 Count</b>		2
64015	Blue Springs	MO
64015	Blue Springs	MO
<b>64015 Count</b>		2
75022	Flower Mound	TX
75022	FLOWER MOUND	TX
<b>75022 Count</b>		2
75074	PLANO	Texas
75074	Plano	Texas
<b>75074 Count</b>		2
75110	CORSICANA	TX
75110	CORSICANA	TX
<b>75110 Count</b>		2
76058	JOSHUA	TX
76058	JOSHUA	TX
<b>76058 Count</b>		2
76107	Fort Worth	TX
76107	Fort Worth	TX
<b>76107 Count</b>		2
76131	Fort Worth	Texas
76131	Saginaw	TX
<b>76131 Count</b>		2
76205	Denton	TX
76205	Denton	TX
<b>76205 Count</b>		2
76266	Sanger	Tx
76266	Sanger	Tx
<b>76266 Count</b>		2
76380	Seymour	TX
76380	Seymour	TX
<b>76380 Count</b>		2
76502	Temple	TX
76502	Temple	Texas
<b>76502 Count</b>		2
77004	Houston	TX
77004	Houston	TX
<b>77004 Count</b>		2
77339	Kingwood	TX
77339	Kingwood	TX
<b>77339 Count</b>		2
77355	Magnolia	Tx
77355	Magnolia	Tx
<b>77355 Count</b>		2
78070	Spring Branch	TX
78070	Spring Branch	Tx
<b>78070 Count</b>		2

78253	San antonio	Texas
78253	San Antonio	Texas
<b>78253 Count</b>		2
78259	San Antonio	TX
78259	San Antonio	TX
<b>78259 Count</b>		2
78724	Austin	Texas
78724	Austin	Texas
<b>78724 Count</b>		2
78759	Austin	TX
78759	AUSTIN	TX
<b>78759 Count</b>		2
78957	Smithville	TX
78957	Smithville	TX
<b>78957 Count</b>		2
77705	Beaumont	TX
77705	Beaumont	TX
<b>77705 Count</b>		2
23188	Williamsburg	Virginia
<b>23188 Count</b>		1
28904	Hayesville	NC
<b>28904 Count</b>		1
34119	Naples	FL
<b>34119 Count</b>		1
48248	Clarkston	Michigan
<b>48248 Count</b>		1
60402	Berwyn	IL
<b>60402 Count</b>		1
64114	Kansas City	MO
<b>64114 Count</b>		1
66085	Stillwell	KS
<b>66085 Count</b>		1
66213	Overland park	KS
<b>66213 Count</b>		1
71973	Wickes	Arkansas
<b>71973 Count</b>		1
73063	Mulhall	OK
<b>73063 Count</b>		1
73065	New Castle	OK
<b>73065 Count</b>		1
73099	Yukon	OK
<b>73099 Count</b>		1
73942	Guymon	OK
<b>73942 Count</b>		1
75024	PLANO	TX
<b>75024 Count</b>		1
75025	Plano	TX
<b>75025 Count</b>		1
75042	garland	tx
<b>75042 Count</b>		1
75056	The Colony	TX
<b>75056 Count</b>		1
75060	Irving	TX
<b>75060 Count</b>		1
75067	Lewisville	TX

<b>75067 Count</b>		1
75068	Oak Point	TX
<b>75068 Count</b>		1
75070	McKinney	TX
<b>75070 Count</b>		1
75071	Mckinney	TX
<b>75071 Count</b>		1
75081	Richardson	TX
<b>75081 Count</b>		1
75104	Cedar Hill	Tx
<b>75104 Count</b>		1
75115	Desoto	Tx
<b>75115 Count</b>		1
75134	LANCASTER	TX
<b>75134 Count</b>		1
75149	Mesquite	TX
<b>75149 Count</b>		1
75189	Royse City	Texas
<b>75189 Count</b>		1
75211	Dallas	TX
<b>75211 Count</b>		1
75218	Dallas	Texas
<b>75218 Count</b>		1
75229	Dallas	TEXAS
<b>75229 Count</b>		1
75234	Farmers Branch	TX
<b>75234 Count</b>		1
75380	Dallas	Texas
<b>75380 Count</b>		1
75563	LINDEN	TX
<b>75563 Count</b>		1
75640	Diana	TX
<b>75640 Count</b>		1
75662	Kilgore	TX
<b>75662 Count</b>		1
75701	Tyler	TX
<b>75701 Count</b>		1
75785	Rusk	TEXAS
<b>75785 Count</b>		1
76001	Arlington	Tx
<b>76001 Count</b>		1
76008	Aledo	TX
<b>76008 Count</b>		1
76015	Arlington	TX
<b>76015 Count</b>		1
76033	Cleburne	Tx
<b>76033 Count</b>		1
76063	Mansfield	Texas
<b>76063 Count</b>		1
76065	Midlothian	Tx
<b>76065 Count</b>		1
76066	Milsap	Tx
<b>76066 Count</b>		1
76108	Lakeside	Texas
<b>76108 Count</b>		1

76116	Fort Worth	Texas
<b>76116 Count</b>		1
76123	Ft Worth	Tx
<b>76123 Count</b>		1
76201	Denton	TX
<b>76201 Count</b>		1
76202	DENTON	Texas
<b>76202 Count</b>		1
76244	Keller	Texas
<b>76244 Count</b>		1
76247	Justin	Texas
<b>76247 Count</b>		1
76262	Westlake	TX
<b>76262 Count</b>		1
76549	Killeen	TX
<b>76549 Count</b>		1
76633	China Spring	TX
<b>76633 Count</b>		1
76704	Waco	Tx
<b>76704 Count</b>		1
76707	Waco	TX
<b>76707 Count</b>		1
77036	Houston	TX
<b>77036 Count</b>		1
77059	Houston	TX
<b>77059 Count</b>		1
77070	Houston	TX
<b>77070 Count</b>		1
77095	Houston	Tx
<b>77095 Count</b>		1
77433	Cypress	TX
<b>77433 Count</b>		1
77449	Katy	Tx.
<b>77449 Count</b>		1
77478	Sugar Land	Texas
<b>77478 Count</b>		1
77573	League City	TX
<b>77573 Count</b>		1
77581	Pearland	Texas
<b>77581 Count</b>		1
77586	Seabrook	Texas
<b>77586 Count</b>		1
77707	BEAUMONT	TX
<b>77707 Count</b>		1
77845	College Station	Tx
<b>77845 Count</b>		1
78024	Hunt	Texas
<b>78024 Count</b>		1
78028	Kerrville	Tx
<b>78028 Count</b>		1
78029	Kerrville	Tx
<b>78029 Count</b>		1
78155	Seguin	TX
<b>78155 Count</b>		1
78232	Sn Antonio	Tx

<b>78232 Count</b>		1
78247	San Antonio	TX
<b>78247 Count</b>		1
78605	Bertram	TX
<b>78605 Count</b>		1
78613	Cedar Park	TX
<b>78613 Count</b>		1
78621	Elgin	TX
<b>78621 Count</b>		1
78704	Austin	TX
<b>78704 Count</b>		1
78732	Austin	TX
<b>78732 Count</b>		1
78744	Austin	Texas
<b>78744 Count</b>		1
80247	Denver	CO
<b>80247 Count</b>		1
87192	Albuquerque	New Mexico
<b>87192 Count</b>		1
92627	Costa Mesa	CA
<b>92627 Count</b>		1
39117	MORTON	MS
<b>39117 Count</b>		1
73072	Norman	OK
<b>73072 Count</b>		1
73131	Oklahoma City	Oklahoma
<b>73131 Count</b>		1
74006	Bartlesville	OK
<b>74006 Count</b>		1
75002	ALLEN	TX
<b>75002 Count</b>		1
75010	Carrollton	TX
<b>75010 Count</b>		1
75023	Plano	TX
<b>75023 Count</b>		1
75068	Oak Point	TX
<b>75068 Count</b>		1
75071	McKinney	TX
<b>75071 Count</b>		1
75074	Plano	TX
<b>75074 Count</b>		1
75080	Richardson	TX
<b>75080 Count</b>		1
75081	Richardson	TX
<b>75081 Count</b>		1
75219	Dallas	TX
<b>75219 Count</b>		1
75227	Dallas	TX
<b>75227 Count</b>		1
75228	Dallas	TX
<b>75228 Count</b>		1
75229	Dallas	TX
<b>75229 Count</b>		1
75243	Dallas	TX
<b>75243 Count</b>		1

75662	Kilgore	TX
<b>75662 Count</b>		1
76013	Arlington	TX
<b>76013 Count</b>		1
76201	Denton	TX
<b>76201 Count</b>		1
76202	Denton	TX
<b>76202 Count</b>		1
76209	Denton	TX
<b>76209 Count</b>		1
76655	Lorena	TX
<b>76655 Count</b>		1
76901	San Angelo	TX
<b>76901 Count</b>		1
77007	Houston	TX
<b>77007 Count</b>		1
77036	Houston	TX
<b>77036 Count</b>		1
77062	Houston	TX
<b>77062 Count</b>		1
77087	Houston	TX
<b>77087 Count</b>		1
77345	Kingwood	TX
<b>77345 Count</b>		1
77660	Dallas	TX
<b>77660 Count</b>		1
77845	College Station	TX
<b>77845 Count</b>		1
78108	Schertz	TX
<b>78108 Count</b>		1
78163	Bulverde	TX
<b>78163 Count</b>		1
78247	San Antonio	TX
<b>78247 Count</b>		1
79015	Canyon	TX
<b>79015 Count</b>		1
79912	El Paso	TX
<b>79912 Count</b>		1
<b>Grand Count</b>		211

TCA Grant Number:		77761110				Organization: Tejas Storytelling Association	
Expense Categories:	Check Number	Date	Payee	Total Check Amount	Portion Attributed to Grant + Match		
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE</b>							
(salaries, contracts, benefits)							
<b>Total Administrative</b>				\$0.00	<b>\$0.00</b>		
<b>ARTISTIC</b>							
(salaries, contracts, benefits)							
<b>Total Artistic</b>				\$0.00	<b>\$0.00</b>		
<b>FACILITY COSTS</b>							
	01/22/2025	Debit Card	City of Denton Parks & Recreation (Civic Center rental)	2800.00	\$2,500.00		
	01/22/2025	Debit Card	City of Denton Parks & Recreation (Civic Center rental)	3710.00	\$3,500.00		
<b>Total Facilities</b>				\$6,510.00	<b>\$6,000.00</b>		
<b>MARKETING &amp; PROMOTION</b>							
	3/31/2025	11320*	North Texas Pulic Broadcasting (Radio & TV)	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00		
			*Payment from separate bank account for HOT Funds.				
<b>Total Marketing</b>				\$2,000.00	<b>\$1,000.00</b>		
<b>PROGRAM/EXHIBITION</b>							
(production costs)							
<b>Total Programming</b>				\$0.00	<b>\$0.00</b>		
<b>SUBGRANTING</b>							
(can be used only for match)							
<b>Total Subgranting</b>				\$0.00	<b>\$0.00</b>		
<b>OTHER EXPENSES</b>							
(detail each item individually)							
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>				\$0.00	<b>\$0.00</b>		
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>				\$8,510.00	<b>\$7,000.00</b>		
					PORTION TOTAL should be 2 times your award		
<b>NOTES TO TCA STAFF:</b> (check variances; percentage breakdown of salaries when partial; description of how services, materials, costs apply to grant; etc.)	*Payment for match from separate bank account for HOT Funds. Debits from General Fund checking account.						



## The Original Denton District

215 E. McKinney St., Denton, TX 76201 ■ (940) 349-7776

June 14, 2026

Gary Gibbs, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
Texas Commission on the Arts  
Cultural District Grant Program  
PO Box 13406  
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Dr. Gibbs:

This letter is to express the full support of the Original Denton district for the Tejas Storytelling Association's (TSA) present grant application under the Arts Respond – Cultural District Project grant program. The TSA are requesting a modest \$5,000 to partially offset the cost of renting the Denton Civic Center during their annual Texas Storytelling Festival.

This festival is celebrating a signal achievement in 202 – this will be the 42<sup>nd</sup> consecutive year that the Tejas Storytelling Association has offered the festival at Denton's Civic Center. The Texas Storytelling Festival is a mainstay in Denton's cultural calendar and one of the most prominent storytelling events in the American Southwest. Every year, the festival attracts talented performers from around the world and down the street.

Festival storytellers bring to Denton a variety of oral traditions. The planned line up of new and returning featured storytellers for 2027 will showcase both nationally known and Texas storytellers, representing many heritages. The festival also attracts the Deaf community due to the superb sign language interpreters who interpret all concerts. The depth and breadth of the Texas Storytelling Festival is formidable.

The Original Denton District and the City of Denton intends to promote the Texas Storytelling Festival on our existing social media avenues. The Festival is very well-known locally and has a good turnout of attendees who come every year.

We are honored and pleased to offer our support for this grant application. We hope that you will find it worthy of support. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Matthew Hamilton  
Chief Financial Officer  
City of Denton  
on Behalf of the Original Denton District



# City of Denton

City Hall  
215 E. McKinney Street  
Denton, Texas  
[www.cityofdenton.com](http://www.cityofdenton.com)

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## AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Parks and Recreation

**ACM:** Christine Taylor, Assistant City Manager

**DATE:** June 4, 2026

### **SUBJECT**

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the Original Denton District's support for Texas Filmmakers Corporation's application for a \$50,000.00 grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) Arts Respond - Cultural District Project grant program; and to provide a letter of support to the TCA.

### **BACKGROUND**

Joshua Butler, President of Texas Filmmakers Corporation, the producers of Denton's Thin Line Film Festival, contacted the City of Denton requesting a letter of support from the Original Denton District (ODD) for an application made to the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) Arts Respond – Cultural District Project grants program, which is due June 15, 2026.

Texas Filmmakers Corporation is requesting \$50,000.00 of grant funding from the TCA to support the continued growth and sustainability of the Thin Line Fest, specifically for artist salaries. As it enters its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, the Thin Line Festival is Texas's longest running film festival specifically dedicated to the art and science of documentary film making. Almost all elements of the Thin Line Festival take place within the Original Denton District. The Texas Filmmakers Corporation metrics show over 60% of festival attendees come to the festival from zip codes outside of Denton.

The Texas Filmmakers Corporation received TCA funding in FY 25-26 in the amount of \$12,000.00 to support artist salaries.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval for the letter of support from the Original Denton District, signed by the City Manager or her Designee expressing the cultural district's support for the grant application.

**EXHIBITS**

- Exhibit 1 - Agenda Information Sheet
- Exhibit 2 - Letter of Request
- Exhibit 3 - 2025 TCA Closeout Report
- Exhibit 4 - Letter of Support

Respectfully submitted:  
Allison Wing, Interim Director  
Parks and Recreation

Prepared by:  
Megan Thomas,  
Interim Business Administration Manager  
Parks and Recreation Department

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May 14, 2026

Dear Mr. Siddiqi,

On behalf of Texas Filmmakers Corporation (dba Thin Line Fest), I am writing to request a Letter of Support from the City of Denton for our upcoming grant application through the Texas Commission on the Arts.

Texas Filmmakers Corporation is seeking \$50,000 in grant support during this application cycle to support the continued growth and sustainability of Thin Line Fest as it enters its 20th anniversary year.

Thin Line Fest is a multi-disciplinary cultural festival based in Denton that brings together documentary film, music, and photography to create meaningful community engagement through the arts. Since launching in 2007, the festival has become a recognized cultural platform for independent artists, filmmakers, musicians, photographers, and audiences from across Texas and beyond. The festival activates venues and public spaces throughout Denton's Cultural District while contributing to the city's creative economy, tourism activity, and cultural identity.

For nearly two decades, Thin Line Fest has worked within Denton's Cultural District to create accessible arts programming that supports both emerging and established artists. Thin Line Fest has consistently partnered with local businesses, arts organizations, educational institutions, and community stakeholders to strengthen Denton's reputation as a destination for independent arts and culture.

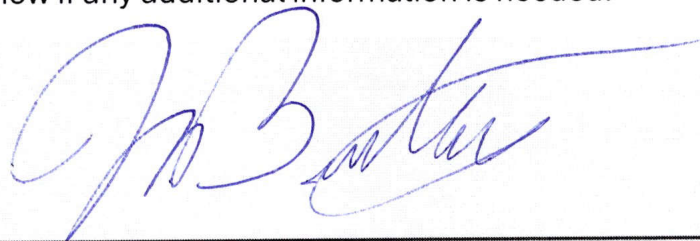
Thin Line Fest has previously received funding from Texas Commission on the Arts programs including the Cultural District and other Arts Respond programs. We remain committed to producing programming that aligns with the goals of cultural accessibility, artistic development, and community impact.

We appreciate the City of Denton's continued support of arts and culture initiatives and would be grateful for your consideration of a Letter of Support for this grant application.

Please let me know if any additional information is needed.

Sincerely,

Joshua Butler  
President



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**2026 Board of Directors**

Joshua Butler, President  
Katie Rose Crosswhite, Vice President  
Charlie DeBolt, Music  
Claire DeJarnett, Film

Chuck Crosswhite  
Matt Farmer  
Louis Watts, Art & Design  
Michael Fraga, Operations

## REPORT

Cultural District Project  
Cultural District: The Original Denton District  
App Type: High Quality Arts Programming

**Report ID:** 6522

Texas Filmmakers  
Tax ID: 27-0098133

Fiscal Year 2025  
Period of Support: 10/1/2024 - 5/31/2025  
Grant ID: 77760930  
Report Due: 6/30/2025

Report Status: Approved

<b>Due At:</b>	6/30/2025
<b>Submitted At:</b>	7/1/2025
<b>Approved On:</b>	10/22/2025
<b>Status</b>	Approved

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Report Information  
Audience Information  
Activity Location  
Cultural Tourism  
Personnel Information  
Narrative Information  
Budget Information  
Report Verification  
Documents

### ▼ Report Information

<b>Organization Name:</b>	Texas Filmmakers
<b>Grant Number:</b>	77760930
<b>Grant Program:</b>	Cultural District Project
<b>Priority Area:</b>	Economic Development
<b>Project Title:</b>	Cultural District Project - High Quality Arts Programming
<b>Award Amount:</b>	\$12,000.00
<b>Grant Summary:</b>	To support the Thin Line Fest, a free five-day arts festival with a focus on documentary films, live music, and photography in the Original Denton District.
<b>Authorizing Official:</b> <i>(indicated on Grant)</i>	

Is the [Authorized Official](#) listed on the Grant Application up to date? Yes

▼ Audience Information

How many adults (over age 18) were engaged in ["in person"](#) arts experiences?

Adults: 15000

How many children/youth (0-18 years) were engaged in ["in person"](#) arts experiences?

Children/Youth: 50

*For the next set of questions, select all categories that, by your best estimate, make up 25% or more of the population served directly by this performance.*

Population Served by Race/Ethnicity: (W) White

Population Served by Age: (03) Adults (25-64 years)






Distinct Groups Served: (G) No single group made up 25%

▼ Activity Location

*Click on the PLUS SIGN to add a new venue.*

*Please provide the physical location where your activities occurred. If you conducted activities in more than one location, please provide information for each venue.*

Venue

- **Campus Theatre** Edit   
214 W Hickory St  
Denton, Texas 76201  
Days at Venue: 5
- **UNT CoLab** Edit   
207 N Elm St  
Denton, Texas 76201  
Days at Venue: 32
- **Dan's Silverleaf** Edit   
103 Industrial  
Denton, Texas 76201  
Days at Venue: 4
- **Greater Denton Arts Council** Edit   
400 E Hickory  
Denton, Texas 76201  
Days at Venue: 4
- **Eastside Denton** Edit   
117 E Oak St  
Denton, Texas 76201  
Days at Venue: 2

• **Harvest House**  
331 E Hickory  
Denton, Texas 76201  
Days at Venue: 3

Edit 

▼ Cultural Tourism

<b>Did this project promote cultural and/or heritage tourism?</b>	Yes
<b>Did you capture zip codes of attendees?</b>	Yes
<b>Estimate number of state tourists (Texans traveling at least 50 miles from home):</b>	1001 - 3000
<b>Estimate number of national tourists:</b>	26 - 100
<b>Estimate number of international tourists:</b>	1 - 25

▼ Personnel Information

How many artists were [directly involved?](#)

<b>Artists directly involved:</b>	205
<b>How many artists received a fee?</b>	150
<b>How many volunteers were directly involved?</b>	115
<b>How many full-time staff were directly involved?</b>	0
<b>How many part-time staff were directly involved?</b>	0

▼ Narrative Information

**How did this grant benefit your organization and/or community?**

This grant had a significant impact on Thin Line Fest and the wider Denton community, reinforcing the festival's mission to celebrate and cultivate the arts while driving economic and cultural vitality. As Texas' only festival that uniquely combines documentary film, live music, and photography, Thin Line Fest has long served as a catalyst for creative expression and community engagement. The TCA grant enabled the festival to expand its programming, attract high-caliber artists, and make events more accessible to diverse audiences — all while maintaining free admission for attendees.

With this funding, Thin Line Fest was able to bring in acclaimed filmmakers, emerging musicians, and celebrated photographers, providing Denton residents and visitors with rare opportunities to interact with artists from across the state and beyond. Workshops, Q&A sessions, and pop-up exhibitions supported by the grant deepened community participation, fostering a vibrant exchange of ideas between artists and audiences. For creatives, the grant helped fund stipends and honoraria that made participation feasible, ensuring that artists are fairly compensated for their work.

Beyond the arts, the grant's impact is felt throughout Denton's local economy. By attracting thousands of visitors, Thin Line Fest generated increased foot traffic for nearby restaurants, hotels, and shops during the festival weekend. Local businesses, many of which sponsor or partner with the festival, benefited directly from this boost in tourism.

Perhaps most importantly, the TCA grant empowered Thin Line Fest to continue its commitment to accessibility and inclusivity. By keeping festival admission free, the grant ensured that residents from all walks of life could experience high-quality arts programming without barriers. This openness fosters community connections, enriches civic life, and inspires the next generation of artists and arts appreciators.

This TCA grant was an investment not only in Thin Line Fest but in the cultural and economic fabric of Denton itself, amplifying the festival's capacity to build community, support local talent, and elevate the arts in North Texas.

**Describe any notable results of this grant, including human interest stories.**

London-based sisters Pollie and Sophia Duniam brought an unforgettable burst of energy and creativity to Thin Line Fest with their short documentary *My Bad Sisters* — and their visit turned into a true Denton highlight. Known for their fearless storytelling and genre-bending art, the sisters arrived ready to share more than just their film. *My Bad Sisters* — an intimate, irreverent look at sisterhood, rebellion, and self-discovery — drew an engaged audience, but it was what came next that really made waves.

After the screening, Pollie and Sophia surprised festival-goers with an impromptu live performance at Harvest House Denton. What started as a modest gathering quickly turned electric. Their high-energy set, blending raw vocals, beats, and a playful punk attitude, pulled in anyone within earshot. By the end, Harvest House was packed wall-to-wall with festival attendees and curious locals, all swept up in the sisters' infectious spirit and riotous sound. Their performance embodied what Thin Line Fest does best — breaking down barriers between film, music, and community.

But they didn't stop there. Later in the weekend, Pollie and Sophia turned their festival trip into a creative adventure. They teamed up with another festival artist, DJ Meng, and a local Denton tattoo artist to dream up a collaborative pop-up, blending music, live art, and storytelling into content for their growing Instagram following. They filmed behind-the-scenes snippets, impromptu jam sessions, and even tattoo sketches inspired by their Denton experience, giving both the local artists and the sisters new audiences to connect with.

Their presence reminded everyone how art thrives on spontaneity and connection. For Denton, their visit was more than a festival booking — it was a moment of cultural cross-pollination. Pollie and Sophia left with new fans, fresh content, and a story about a little Texas town that welcomed two fearless sisters with open arms. And for everyone at Thin Line Fest, their performance and collaboration became one of those legendary festival memories: the night a London sister act rocked a backyard stage and turned a film screening into an all-out celebration of creative freedom.

▼ **Budget Information**

**TCA Award:** \$12,000.00

*Please show the source(s) of your matching funding. This should be exactly equal to TCA award amount.*

**Matching fund sources**

Income from programs (revenues from box office, admissions, memberships, tuition, class/workshop fees).

**Program income:**

Net proceeds from gala / fundraiser / concessions / art sales / space rentals.

**Fundraising proceeds:**

Revenue derived from interest on investments and/or endowment.

**Investments / endowment:**

Direct cash contributions from individuals

**Cash contributions:**

Income or financial support from businesses and/or corporations.

**Business / corporate support:** \$12,000.00

Income or financial support from foundations.

**Foundation support:**

Income or financial support from local, county, state, and/or federal governments. (Do NOT include TCA funds.)

**Government support:**

Any additional income, revenue, and/or financial support derived from a source not listed above.

**Other support:**

**Details - Other support:**

---

**Total Matching Income:** \$12,000.00

**Total Income (Total Matching Income + TCA Award):** \$24,000.00

*Please show the expense(s) paid with your matching funding and the TCA funding. These figures should match the supporting expense ledger you submit.*

**Grant Closeout Budget - Expenditures (award + match only)**

Budget Expense Category	Closeout Budget: Matching	Closeout Budget: TCA Award
Administrative salaries, contracts, benefits		
Artistic salaries, contracts, benefits	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
Facility Costs		
Marketing & Promotion		
Program/Exhibit production costs		
Capital expenditures		
Other expenses		
<b>Budget Totals</b>	<b>\$12,000.00</b>	<b>\$12,000.00</b>

*\* Please be sure to utilize the categories and totals shown in the budget table above when filling out the Expense Ledger attached to this report.*

Please affirm that these amounts are still correct: Yes

### ▼ All-Inclusive Budget

The closeout budget on these reports often does not reflect the full costs of the overall grant activities. TCA wants to understand the actual total costs incurred by your organization to realize this project (TCA grant + your match + other funds you dedicated to this project).

Actual total cash expenses for this entire project: \$125,000.00

Actual total cash income for project: \$100,000.00

Actual total in-kind (pro-bono services, volunteer contributions) for project: \$88,850.00

### ▼ Report Verification

I certify that the information reported here is true and correct. I agree

*I understand that TCA may perform a site visit on my organization. At that time our organization will produce documentation to support the answers on this report form. Our organization will keep all documentation related to this grant for an additional 3 years, during which time I can expect to receive at least one fiscal site visit from TCA staff.*

Acknowledgement: I agree

### ▼ Documents

For help, see [TCA Expense Ledger Tips found HERE](#).

Please upload the following documents:

- Copy of the Expense Ledger spreadsheet documenting all of the grant expenditures. [Expense\\_Ledger\\_2 template found HERE](#).
- Additional statistical information on Cultural District Projects

Please Note: If you click on the document name the file will download to your local instance. Hover over the document and click the magnifying glass on the right to preview the document before downloading.

#### REPORT ATTACHMENTS



Statistical Report for the 2025 Thin Line Fest.docx



**Statistical Information**

Added by Kenneth Williams at 11:28 AM on October 22, 2025



Expense\_Ledger\_ERF\_20251021\_Revised.xls



**Other Document | Revised Ledger**

Added by Kenneth Williams at 11:28 AM on October 22, 2025



Statistical Data.docx



**Statistical Information**

Added by Joshua Butler at 12:16 AM on July 1, 2025



Expense\_Ledger\_ERF.xls



**Financial Documentation**

Added by Joshua Butler at 12:13 AM on July 1, 2025



## The Original Denton District

215 E. McKinney St., Denton, TX 76201 ■ (940) 349-7776

June 14, 2026

Gary Gibbs, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
Texas Commission on the Arts  
Cultural District Grant Program  
PO Box 13406  
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Dr. Gibbs:

This letter is to express the full support of the Original Denton District (ODD) for Texas Filmmaker Corporation's application for the Arts Respond – Cultural District Project grant.

Texas Filmmakers Corporation is requesting \$50,000.00 of grant funding from the TCA to support the continued growth and sustainability of the Thin Line Fest, specifically for artist salaries. As it enters its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, the Thin Line Festival is Texas's longest running film festival specifically dedicated to the art and science of documentary film making.

Almost every element of the Thin Line Festival takes place within the Original Denton District. The Texas Filmmakers Corporation metrics show that around 60% of attendees come to the festival from zip codes outside of Denton, making the festival a particularly robust economic development boon.

We are honored and pleased to support this application for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Matthew Hamilton  
Chief Financial Officer  
City of Denton  
on Behalf of the Original Denton District