



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 42nd 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