



The Original Denton District

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

June 15, 2023

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 City of Denton Public Art Committee for the Denton Festival Foundation's request for funding under the Arts Respond – Cultural District Project grant. The Foundation seeks \$15,000 to support musician salaries. The application for this funding is fully supported by the City of Denton Public Art Committee.

The Denton Arts and Jazz Festival is a celebration of the arts and music. With an annual attendance of over 225,000, the event features more than 2,500 performances on six stages representing almost every genre of music, dance, theatre, and art. Artists and craftspeople come from all over the country to display and sell their unique wares. There is a children's art area where the youngsters can create their artistic masterpieces or try their hands at various musical instruments. The fun is rounded out by food vendors around every corner. Most importantly, the event is free and open to the public so that there are no barriers to any Denton resident's full appreciating of truly world class jazz and cultural arts.

The Denton Arts and Jazz Festival is perhaps the best loved public event in Denton's significant annual calendar of cultural offerings. As such it is critical that the Festival maintain its very high standard of historical excellence. We hope that the TCA will be able to help fund this important legacy of cultural nurturing that the Festival represents.

We are honored to support the Denton Festival Foundation's present application. We thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Monet Franklin
Chair, City of Denton Public Art Committee