



## 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 Original Denton District's application for the Arts Respond – Cultural District Project. The project proposal is fully supported by the Public Art Committee and the City Council of the City of Denton.

The Original Denton District's application for funding to provide for an ongoing series of public performances is unique in that it represents a pivot move toward appreciating ephemeral forms of public art within the Original Denton District. The public performances that we seek to support by requesting \$12,000 in TCA grant funding will not be formal concert-hall or theatre-bound performances but will instead seek to bring art to the people in accessible, engaging, casual, and whimsical ways. The performances will be placed on a calendar of events and publicized, but will still maintain a feeling of spontaneity, providing artistic encounter as a delightful surprise for individuals navigating their day through our public spaces. The application seeks funding to support individual musicians or groups of actors, students, and other performers as they provide short performances of music, poetry, theatre, and other easily deployed artistic performances.

As members of the Public Art Committee and as the primary oversight committee of the Original Denton District, we will take an active role in all aspects of the project, including development, program design, determining performers and performances, funding, marketing, and celebration. As the project kicks off, we will help with marketing the new program to professional artists, university students, high schoolers, and even younger artists who may have particularly worthy talents. The Public Art Committee will also continue to rely on guidance from its district stakeholders, including the Greater Denton Arts Council, Tejas Storytelling Festival, and Denton Community Theatre, and the Denton Festival Foundation.

We are honored and pleased to submit this project for your consideration and hope that you will find it worthy of support. We hope that the City of Denton can provide a model for similar cities wishing to bring art, culture, and performance directly to the people.

Sincerely,

Monet Franklin  
Chair, City of Denton Public Art Committee