



# 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 1, 2023

### **SUBJECT**

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the Original Denton District's support for Tejas Storytelling Association's application for the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) Arts Respond - Cultural District Project grant program.

### **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, 2023.

TSA is seeking a \$7,000 grant through TCA to aid in support of the planned 2024 Denton Texas Storytelling Festival, which will be held on March 9-12 at the Civic Center. These funds will help defray the costs of renting the Civic Center for the duration of the Festival. 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 attendees from all over Texas, the nation, and internationally. Since its inception in 1985, it has been produced annually by the Tejas Storytelling Association (TSA). The 2024 event will be the thirty-ninth consecutive year for the festival.

The planned lineup of featured storytellers for 2024 will showcase Texas, regional, and national storytellers who collectively represent a myriad of cultural backgrounds and approaches to narrative performance. Additional partners for the festival include the City of Denton Parks and Recreation Department, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Texas Commission on the Arts, and the Denton Benefit League, along with other local businesses and individual sponsors.

A letter of support from the Original Denton District Committee Chair (PAC Chair) expressing the cultural district support of the project is required as part of the grant application. The request is attached as Exhibit 2 and a letter of support is attached as Exhibit 3.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval for letter of support from the Original Denton District Committee Chair (PAC Chair) expressing the cultural district's support for the project.

### **EXHIBITS**

Exhibit 1- Agenda Information Sheet

Exhibit 2- Letter of Request

Exhibit 3- Letter of Support

Respectfully submitted:

Gary Packan

Director, Parks and Recreation

Prepared by:

Omar Siddiqi, Mgmt. Analyst, Parks and Recreation Department