

September 15, 2016

Exhibit 1



City Council, City of Denton, Texas

Re: 32nd Annual Texas Storytelling Festival

For thirty-one years, the Denton community has been home to the Texas Storytelling Festival. On the weekend of March 9-12, 2017, the Tejas Storytelling Association will hold its 32nd festival in its "hometown" of Denton. The Festival Managing Director, the volunteer board of the Tejas Storytelling Association, the membership, and myself have been working hand-in-hand with representatives of the Civic Center, the Parks and Recreation Department, the Emily Fowler Library, the Denton Woman's Club, and a variety of Denton-based businesses to make this year's festival the most exciting, best-attended festival yet!

Tejas Storytelling Association requests that the City of Denton name the Texas Storytelling Festival a co-sponsored event. As a co-sponsored event, the festival will be given a discounted rental rate for the Civic Center as well as discounted police overtime costs for the festival security.

Tejas Storytelling Association will continue to support our long-standing agreement to provide tellers throughout the year for various activities sponsored by the Denton Parks and Recreation. These professional tellers provide their service pro bono in order to offset the cost of the co-sponsorship.

Tejas Storytelling Association is funded by a combination of grants, membership dues, and donations. The Greater Denton Arts Council, The Denton Benefit League, the City of Denton, Denton Parks and Recreation, and the Texas Commission on the Arts have traditionally sponsored the Texas Storytelling Festival. The Tejas Storytelling Association Board and the membership they represent appreciate the ongoing support of these entities. Your underwriting allows us to make the festival weekend available to participants for very low registration fees and ticket prices. Additionally, there are several events throughout the festival that are offered to the public free of charge. Festival participants are diverse in age and background, from our youngest listeners who participate in the special kids' activities on Saturday to teachers, librarians, counselors, ministers, attorneys, performing artists and all folks who love a good story. We make a specific effort to reach out to the hearing-impaired community by providing ASL signers for our concerts and advertising on the DeafNetwork.com website. In the past, we shared the festival with the North Texas Radio for the Blind.

The Texas Storytelling Festival attracts top-tier national tellers and attendees from across the nation. Thanks to the Denton Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) funds, we are able to market the festival to a national audience, and each year, we fill our reserved block at a Denton hotel.

We appreciate the support given by the City of Denton, its business owners, and the community as we work together to provide a unique festival experience, the stuff of which stories will be told.

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