

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION OF THE LONGVIEW INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD SUPPORTING THE APPLICATION FOR THE CREATION OF THE LONGVIEW CULTURAL DISTRICT TO THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON THE ARTS.**

**WHEREAS**, the Texas Commission on the Arts administers the Cultural Districts Program as authorized by H.B. 2208 of the 79<sup>th</sup> Legislature; and

**WHEREAS**, TCA can designate cultural districts in cities across Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, TCA has developed a comprehensive application and screening process for communities interested in receiving a Cultural District designation; and

**WHEREAS**, the local Cultural Arts District Task Force: Arts! Longview was formed to coordinate Longview's application; and

**WHEREAS**, local community support for the creation of a Cultural District is imperative; and

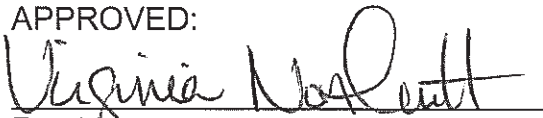
**WHEREAS**, the Longview Independent School District School Board wishes to support the application for the creation of a Cultural District in Longview, Texas.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD OF THE LONGVIEW INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT:**


1. That the members of Arts! Longview should develop and submit an application for the creation of a Cultural District in Longview, Texas.
2. That the School Board of the Longview Independent School District fully supports said application process and the creation of a Cultural District for the community.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** by the Longview ISD School Board on this the 20 day of May 2019.

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney



May 29, 2019

Cultural District Designation Program  
Attention: Jim Bob McMillan, Deputy Director  
Texas Commission on the Arts  
PO Box 13406  
Austin, TX 78711-3406

Dear Commissioners:

I speak for all of LeTourneau University's faculty, staff and students when I say we are fully supportive of Arts!Longview's application to the Texas Commission on the Arts for a Cultural District designation.

This university's commitment to education goes far beyond the classes and degrees we offer our students. We are heavily invested in bringing culture to the entire East Texas region through the programming in our 2,000-seat performance center, the curation of the R.G. LeTourneau Museum, the travelling historical exhibits that are open to all, and the pieces of public art displayed on our beautiful campus in south Longview.

The voters of Longview recently approved a bond package that includes infrastructure and aesthetic improvements to some of the area included in the proposed Cultural District boundary. The designation of a Cultural District will magnify the effects of those improvements and will encourage private development of the great potential that is in this area. We expect the establishment of a Cultural District to encourage more arts and culture-based businesses and activities to flourish in this community, but we know it will do so much more.

The Arts!Longview application for designation of the Cultural District includes more than art. LeTourneau University was established nearly 75 years ago, and we know the significance of the culture, arts and diversity in Longview and applaud this effort to formally celebrate that.

We thank the TCA commissioners for your consideration and support of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dale A. Lunsford'.

Dale A. Lunsford, PhD.  
President



1100 Broadway  
Kilgore, Texas  
75662-3204  
[www.kilgore.edu](http://www.kilgore.edu)

Arts!Longview  
Attention: Nancy Murray  
Chair, Arts!Longview  
PO Box 1952  
Longview, TX 75606

May 15, 2019

Dear Mrs. Murray and Arts!Longview Board:

It is my great pleasure to submit this letter in support of Arts!Longview's application to be recognized by the Texas Commission on the Arts as a designated cultural district.

Kilgore College's (KC) mission statement promotes its dual role in providing affordable student access to post-secondary educational opportunities and fostering economic cultivation/growth through workforce development. We recognize the value of collaborative partnerships for the advancement of student learning and success. The College is convinced that the arts both enhance educational outcomes for students and make a positive impact on communities. We believe that a cultural district designation will increase opportunities for KC students in Longview. Such designations are known to generate business which ultimately results in economic development and fosters local talent retention efforts! Help us underscore that Longview is a great place to invest, live, and work.

This effort has brought together the entire community with arts, commerce, educational, cultural and entrepreneurial entities all passionate about this project and excited about our future. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of Longview!Arts application. Kilgore College is in total support of the application and believes that Longview is very deserving of the designation.

Sincerely yours,

Brenda S. Kays, Ed.D.  
President-Kilgore College

**Dr. Brenda S. Kays**

President

(903) 983-8100  
[bkays@kilgore.edu](mailto:bkays@kilgore.edu)  
Twitter: KCBrendaKays

*Your Future Starts Here!*



April 22, 2019

Mr. Jim Bob McMillan, Deputy Director  
Texas Commission on the Arts  
PO Box 13406  
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Mr. McMillan,

On behalf of Pine Tree Independent School District, I am proud to support the application for Longview, Texas, becoming a Cultural District. Being just one of three public school districts in the city, Pine Tree ISD recognizes the value of such a prestigious distinction to our community.

Just recently our district began to provide free classes to our students through an after-school program called the Fine Arts Academy. This program was obtainable through Title IV funding providing a well-rounded education. We are currently in a pilot with students in grades 5-8 offering classes in guitar, piano, percussion, as well as gymnastics, dance, and twirling. We plan to expand opportunities this summer.

Pine Tree ISD is also dedicated to our community. We love to partner with local businesses and organizations to give our students more valuable experiences in the areas of fine arts. For example, Parkway Elementary students had the opportunity to perform with the Longview Symphony at Christmas. It was a memorable event that these children will remember for a lifetime.

Fine Arts allows our students the freedom to express themselves as well as learn to build social and critical thinking skills outside of the normal classroom setting. It is our hope that you will find Longview to be the perfect city to become a Cultural District so that our students can benefit even more in the future.

Sincerely,



Steve Clugston





Arts Longview  
PO Box 1952  
Longview, TX 75606

Dear Arts Longview,

I am extremely proud to support Arts Longview's grant application to the Texas Commission on the Arts for a Cultural District designation for our city. I believe that this project would be extremely beneficial for Longview. As a teacher, I am always searching for ways to get my students involved with the community. Designating Longview as a Cultural District, would help to increase and expand youth involvement within the area. Art integration within school districts is essential for student success. Art not only helps increase students' critical thinking and problem solving skills, but it also has been found to decrease the number of discipline issues and increase attendance and graduation rates as well as test scores.

As a member of the community, I greatly believe in Longview's potential to become a Culture Arts District. Longview already attracts many people, even outside of the community, with its amazing performing and fine arts. I have attended many of Longview's art walks with family and friends, and have never experienced such a sense of community. Longview is a town that I am proud to call home, and would be even more proud to call my cultural arts destination.

Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication. It does not go unnoticed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anneka Brown". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Anneka Brown