

THE
Original
DENTON
DISTRICT

**Required Attachments:
Letters of Support
County Government**



Andy Eads
Denton County Judge

May 16, 2019

Dr. Gary Gibbs
Executive Director
Texas Commission on the Arts
PO Box 13406
Austin, TX 78711-3406

Subject: The Original Denton District

Dear Dr. Gibbs,

The Original Denton District, a cultural district centered in downtown Denton, is applying to the Texas Commission on the Arts for Cultural District designation. This vibrant, thriving area is at the center of Denton's unique culture, overflowing with art, music, and history. This area is also home to numerous heritage sites, including the Denton County Courthouse Square Historic District, which is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The effort to achieve the Cultural District designation reflects hundreds of hours of work by City staff, stakeholders, and the public to engage the community in thinking about the future of the arts and culture in Denton. Denton County supports the efforts already undertaken and believes that the vision for the Original Denton District will further enhance Denton's celebrated and innovative creative sector, increase local support and tourism related to the arts, and further bolster an area rich with history and community pride.

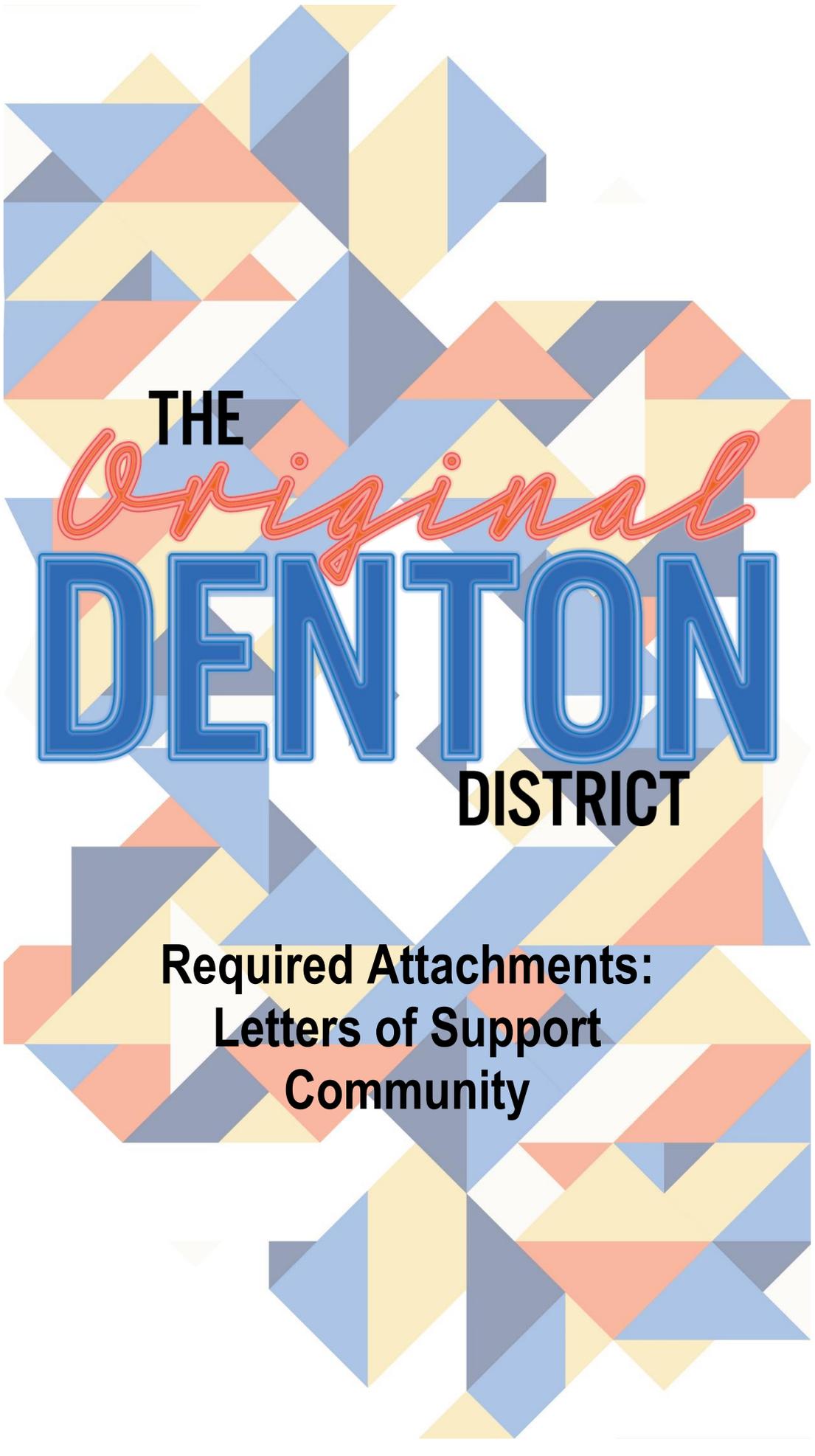
The Original Denton District represents the best that Denton has to offer: a unique creative culture, a wealth of world-class art and music, dozens of events that celebrate our shared and diverse history, and a sense of our vibrancy, resiliency, and history. Through the official state Cultural District designation, this area can be recognized for the amenities and assets we already know and enjoy.

Thank you for your consideration and please consider this letter as a symbol of Denton County's full support for the Original Denton District receiving the Cultural District designation.

Sincerely,

Andy Eads

Denton County Judge



THE
Original
DENTON
DISTRICT

**Required Attachments:
Letters of Support
Community**

GREATER DENTON ARTS COUNCIL

May 15, 2019

Dr. Gary Gibbs
Executive Director
Texas Commission on the Arts
PO Box 13406
Austin, TX 78711-3406

Subject: The Original Denton District

Dear Dr. Gibbs,

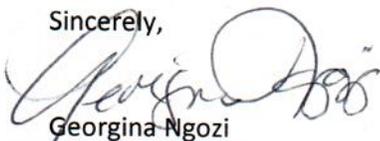
The Original Denton District, a cultural district centered in downtown Denton, is applying to the Texas Commission on the Arts for Cultural District designation. This vibrant, thriving area is at the center of Denton's unique culture, overflowing with art, music, and history. This area is also home to numerous heritage sites, including the Denton County Courthouse Square Historic District, which is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The effort to achieve the Cultural District designation reflects hundreds of hours of work by City staff, stakeholders, and the public to engage the community in thinking about the future of the arts and culture in Denton. Greater Denton Arts Council (GDAC) supports the efforts already undertaken and believes that the vision for the Original Denton District will further enhance Denton's celebrated and innovative creative sector, increase local support and tourism related to the arts, and further bolster an area rich with history and community pride.

The Original Denton District represents the best that Denton has to offer: a unique creative culture, a wealth of world-class art and music, dozens of events that celebrate our shared and diverse history, and a sense of our vibrancy, resiliency, and history. Through the official state Cultural District designation, this area can be recognized for the amenities and assets we already know and enjoy.

Thank you for your consideration and please consider this letter as a symbol of Greater Denton Arts Council full support for the Original Denton District receiving the Cultural District designation.

Sincerely,



Georgina Ngozi
Executive Director
Greater Denton Arts Council
400 E. Hickory Street
Denton, Texas 76201



May 16, 2019

Dr. Gary Gibbs
Executive Director
Texas Commission on the Arts
PO Box 13406
Austin, TX 78711-3406

Subject: The Original Denton District

Dear Dr. Gibbs,

The Original Denton District, a cultural district centered in downtown Denton, is applying to the Texas Commission on the Arts for Cultural District designation. This vibrant, thriving area is at the center of Denton's unique culture, overflowing with art, music, and history. This area is also home to numerous heritage sites, including the Denton County Courthouse Square Historic District, which is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The effort to achieve the Cultural District designation reflects hundreds of hours of work by City staff, stakeholders, and the public to engage the community in thinking about the future of the arts and culture in Denton. The Denton Chamber of Commerce supports the efforts already undertaken and believes that the vision for the Original Denton District will further enhance Denton's celebrated and innovative creative sector, increase local support and tourism related to the arts, and further bolster an area rich with history and community pride.

The Original Denton District represents the best that Denton has to offer: a unique creative culture, a wealth of world-class art and music, dozens of events that celebrate our shared and diverse history, and a sense of our vibrancy, resiliency, and history. Through the official state Cultural District designation, this area can be recognized for the amenities and assets we already know and enjoy.

Thank you for your consideration and please consider this letter as a symbol of The Denton Chamber's full support for the Original Denton District receiving the Cultural District designation.

Sincerely,

Erica Pangburn
President/ CEO
Denton Chamber of Commerce



Dr. Gary Gibbs
Executive Director
Texas Commission on the Arts
PO Box 13406
Austin, TX 78711-3406

May 15, 2019

Subject: The Original Denton District

Dear Dr. Gibbs,

The Original Denton District, a cultural district centered in downtown Denton, is applying to the Texas Commission on the Arts for Cultural District designation. This vibrant, thriving area is at the center of Denton's unique culture, overflowing with art, music, and history. The Denton Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) is a strong supporter of this effort and the arts. The Denton CVB operates DentonRadio.com an internet radio station broadcasting live from the Discover Denton Welcome Center located in the heart of the cultural district. The station's primary focus is to provide a platform for local musicians. The Discover Denton Welcome Center also houses "Art Alley", an area of the center where rotating artwork created by local artists are on display. Lastly, the retail aspect of the welcome center includes merchandise handcrafted by many local artisans.

The effort to achieve the Cultural District designation reflects hundreds of hours of work by City staff, stakeholders, and the public to engage the community in thinking about the future of the arts and culture in Denton. The Denton CVB believes that the vision for the Original Denton District will further the tourism effort and reach for our community.

We describe the Original Denton District area as the living room of our community offering a unique creative culture, a wealth of world-class art, music, dozens of festivals and events all that celebrate the Original and Independent spirit of Denton.

Thank you for your consideration and please accept this letter of support from the Denton Convention and Visitors Bureau for the Original Denton District receiving the Cultural District designation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dana Lodge". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dana Lodge
Interim Vice President
Denton Convention and Visitors Bureau
414 W. Parkway
Denton, TX 76208
(940) 382-7895



May 21, 2019

Dr. Gary Gibbs
Executive Director
Texas Commission on the Arts
PO Box 13406
Austin, TX 78711-3406

Subject: The Original Denton District

Dear Dr. Gibbs,

The Original Denton District, a cultural district centered in downtown Denton, is applying to the Texas Commission on the Arts for Cultural District designation. This vibrant, thriving area is at the center of Denton's unique culture, overflowing with art, music and history.

North Texas nonprofit Artists Enclave of Denton County supports the efforts by City staff, small businesses and our growing population to realize this designation as very significant in enhancing Denton's celebrated and innovative creative sector, increasing local support and tourism related to the arts, and bolstering an area rich history and community pride.

The Original Denton District represents world-class art and music and promotes dozens of events that celebrate our shared and diverse history. Through the official state Cultural District designation, this area can be recognized for the amenities and assets we already know and enjoy. The designation will also promote our Original Denton District as a true "destination for the arts" which is integral to Artists Enclave's mission.

Thank you for your consideration. Please consider this letter as a symbol of Artists Enclave's full support for the Original Denton District receiving the Cultural District designation.

Sincerely,

Susan Carol Davis

Susan Carol Davis
President, Artists Enclave of Denton County
940-382-3710
dentonenclave@gmail.com
artistsenclavedenton.com

Artists Enclave of Denton County
P.O. Box 2674
Denton, Texas 76202

May 18, 2019

Dr. Gary Gibbs
Executive Director
Texas Commission on the Arts
PO Box 13406
Austin, TX 78711-3406

Subject: The Original Denton District

I am writing to support the request of the Original Denton District, an arts area, located in downtown Denton, in their application to the Texas Commission on the Arts for Cultural District designation. As a long-time working/traveling Texas-proud musician, who has benefitted greatly from the work you guys do in helping Brave Combo reach all corners of the state, I feel my hometown, Denton, deserves this recognition and designation. It is astounding, to me, to see how the downtown area has exploded into a mecca for anyone interested in music, art, theater and/or a vibrant street scene. I'm not exaggerating when I say I am impressed on a regular basis at the incredible work which has gone into creating a truly special and unique place.

Denton is an unusual mix of original inhabitants, country folk, college kids, seriously progressive thinkers and people who make art. Brave Combo has remained in Denton for our 40 years of existence largely because we felt at home around people who accepted our eccentric twist on music. This has always been a town where creativity is encouraged and rewarded, and it seems like the right time to push Denton to the next level. Also, I know many of the people who are responsible for envisioning and crafting the cultural district as it is today and am absolutely sure they will work tirelessly to achieve the goals expected from such a designation.

In the early days of Brave Combo, when we performed outside of Texas most people thought we were from Austin. Even a lot of the newspaper and magazine articles incorrectly stated that we were from Austin. So, at every show, no matter where we were, we'd always scream, from the stage, "We are Brave Combo, from Denton, Texas!" It wasn't just because we were from Denton, it was also to express the specialness of Denton and recognize a deserving community.

Thank you for all the Texas Commission on the Arts does for artistic expression in Texas and for your consideration of my recommendation that the Original Denton District receive the Cultural District designation.

Sincerely,
Carl Finch
Brave Combo
Box 233
Denton, TX 76202

May 21, 2019

Dr. Gary Gibbs
Executive Director
Texas Commission on the Arts
PO Box 13406
Austin, TX 78711-3406

Subject: The Original Denton District

Dear Gary,

It's been a while since we have visited and I hope this letter finds you well. The arts space I manage, UNT on the Square (University of North Texas) is part of this proposed district and I am glad to endorse this application. The Original Denton District, a cultural district centered in downtown Denton, is applying to the Texas Commission on the Arts for Cultural District designation. This vibrant, thriving area is at the center of Denton's unique culture, overflowing with art, music, and history. This area is also home to numerous heritage sites, including the Denton County Courthouse Square Historic District, which is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The effort to achieve the Cultural District designation reflects hundreds of hours of work by City staff, stakeholders, and the public to engage the community in thinking about the future of the arts and culture in Denton. The Original Denton District will further enhance Denton's celebrated and innovative creative sector, increase local support and tourism related to the arts, and further bolster an area rich with history and community pride.

The Original Denton District represents the best that Denton has to offer: a unique creative culture, a wealth of world-class art and music, dozens of events that celebrate our shared and diverse history, and a sense of our vibrancy, resiliency, and history. Through the official state Cultural District designation, this area can be recognized for the amenities and assets we already know and enjoy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Herbert Holl', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Herbert Holl, PhD
Director, UNT on the Square
University of North Texas

Herbert.Holl@unt.edu