

Mayor Sylvester Turner
Houston City Hall
901 Bagby Street
Houston, TX 77002

November 12, 2019

Dear Mayor Turner:

We are writing to express our thanks and continued support for the new Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) contract proposal that will soon be presented to city council. The dedicated funding pool of 36% for the large arts organizations is a significant and welcome step forward in allowing those organizations some degree of ongoing financial security. And we also believe that the second pool of 36% for the smaller arts organizations is essential to maintain the proper balance of arts offerings within the City of Houston.

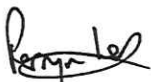
Both the Theater District and the Museum District Association unanimously endorsed the proposed contract earlier this year; since the funding parameters for both grant pools remain the same as initially proposed, we continue to endorse this contract and its formulas. We look forward to working with your Office of Cultural Affairs and the Houston Arts Alliance to the new grant procedures and target allocations within the funding pools.

That ongoing financial support is vital—it allows us to keep providing Houstonians and visitors from all over the city, the state, the country, and indeed the world the highest quality of visual and performing arts programming available anywhere.

Houston has a strong and vibrant cultural heartbeat, and we will keep reminding visitors old and new that there are great things happening here in Houston, Texas. Your belief and ongoing support of the arts in this city inspires us all and contributes greatly to making this city great.

We are committed to continue to serve this wonderful city in as many inclusive and collaborative ways as we can.


With gratitude,



Perryn Leech
Board Chairman, Theater District Houston
Managing Director, Houston Grand Opera



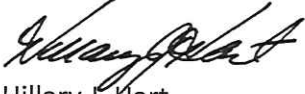
Gary Tinterow
President, Houston Museum District
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston



Dean R. Gladden
Managing Director, Alley Theatre



Joel Bartsch
President, Houston Museum of Natural Science



Hillary J. Hart
Executive Director, Theater Under the Stars



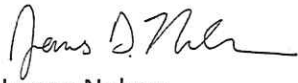
Lee Ehmke
Chief Executive Officer, Houston Zoo



John Mangum
Executive Director, Houston Symphony



Tammie Kahn
Executive Director, Children's Museum of Houston



James Nelson
Executive Director, Houston Ballet



Rebecca Rabinow
Director, The Menil Collection

cc: Deborah McNulty
Director, Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs
901 Bagby Street
Houston, TX 77002