

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, HONORING AND RECOGNIZING JENNIFER BAKER FOR HER EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO ARTS EDUCATION AND HER RECEIPT OF THE ARTS IN EDUCATION AWARD AT THE FORTY-SIXTH GOVERNOR'S ARTS AWARDS.

- § 1. WHEREAS, Jennifer Baker was honored with the Arts in Education Award at the Forty-Sixth Governor's Arts Awards presented at the Oklahoma State Capitol on January 20, 2026, a prestigious recognition presented by the Oklahoma Arts Council to individuals who demonstrate outstanding leadership in advancing arts education for youth statewide; and
- § 2. WHEREAS, the Governor's Arts Awards, recognize individuals whose work has made a lasting impact on Oklahoma's cultural landscape, with the Arts in Education Award honoring efforts to expand meaningful access to the arts for the next generation; and
- § 3. WHEREAS, Jennifer Baker has devoted more than two decades to advancing the mission and impact of The Sooner Theatre in Norman, Oklahoma, transforming it from a primarily rental-based venue into a vibrant center for professional programming, comprehensive arts education, and broad community access; and
- § 4. Whereas, under her visionary leadership as Executive Director, Baker developed The Studio of The Sooner Theatre now offering more than 70 year-round classes and camps serving over 1,300 students annually, while ensuring accessibility through significant scholarship support and providing students with exceptional educational opportunities recognized at the state and national level.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA:

- § 5. That Jennifer Baker is hereby honored and celebrated for her extraordinary leadership, her unwavering commitment to arts accessibility, and her profound and lasting impact on generations of young performers and the cultural vitality of our community.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 24TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026.

Mayor, Stephen T. Holman

ATTEST:

City Clerk, Jamie Meyer

