

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA EXPRESSING ITS
STAUNCH SUPPORT FOR PURE ARTISTIC FREEDOM IN ALL FORMS OF CREATIVE
EXPRESSION

§ 1. WHEREAS, art, as the expression or application of human creativity and imagination, serves to capture ideas, conveys emotions, and display perspectives of an individual or the collective; and

§ 2. WHEREAS, artistic expression is protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, regardless of viewpoint and conformance to norms; and

§ 3. WHEREAS, artistic expression is accessible to people of backgrounds and abilities, providing countless opportunities and outlets to express oneself; and

§ 4. WHEREAS, artistic expression provides children and adults alike an avenue to express and cope with their feelings; and

§ 5. WHEREAS, a review done for the World Health Organization in 2019 of over 3,000 studies identified a major role of the arts in the prevention of ill health, promotion of health, and management and treatment of illness across the lifespan (Fancourt, Daisy & Finn, Saoirse. (2019). What is the evidence on the role of the arts in improving health and well-being? A scoping review. World Health Organization. Regional Office for Europe. <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/329834>); and

§ 6. WHEREAS, art is a binding force for good that allows artists to broadcast their ideas to the world through creative expression; and

§ 7. WHEREAS, Norman is strongest when its residents can freely express themselves without fear of persecution; and

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

§ 8. That, artistic freedom in all forms of creative expression are welcome, valued and supported in Norman.

Approved by Council on this ____ day of June, 2023.

Mayor Larry Heikkila