

**A RESOLUTION OF THE DEKALB COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TO CREATE THE DEKALB ARTS AND CULTURE COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, arts and culture are essential to the enrichment of community life, fostering creativity, diversity, and economic vitality; and,

WHEREAS, a dedicated arts and culture council is necessary to provide strategic direction, oversight, and advocacy for arts and culture initiatives within DeKalb County; and,

WHEREAS, the establishment of such a council will promote collaboration among local artists, cultural organizations, municipalities, other county-based organizations, and the community at large; and,

WHEREAS, the creation of such a council will expand and foster increased funding opportunities for DeKalb artists and arts organizations; and,

WHEREAS, arts and culture enhance the appeal of communities, attracting tourists and visitors who contribute to local economies; and,

WHEREAS, investment in arts and culture creates jobs for artists, designers, and construction workers, and generates revenue for local businesses such as restaurants, hotels, and retail stores; and,

WHEREAS, vibrant arts and culture initiatives increase property values and stimulate economic development by making neighborhoods more desirable places to live and work; and,

WHEREAS, cultural tourism driven by arts installations and events has been shown to significantly boost local economies by increasing foot traffic and consumer spending; and,

WHEREAS, art fosters community pride and identity, encourages civic engagement, and creates spaces that attract businesses, entrepreneurs, and investors; and,

WHEREAS, numerous studies have shown that communities with strong arts and culture programs experience higher levels of economic growth and cultural vitality; and,

WHEREAS, arts and culture are recognized as a powerful economic driver that strengthens local economies, enhance community well-being, and support sustainable development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners hereby establishes the DeKalb Arts and Culture Council (“the DACC”) as outlined herein:

1. The DACC is hereby created as an official advisory body to DeKalb County Government. The DACC shall:

- a. Advise the Board of Commissioners and the Chief Executive Officer on matters related to public arts and culture, including recommending policies and programs that enhance public arts and cultural experiences;
 - b. Develop a comprehensive strategy for enhancing arts and culture in DeKalb County for presentation to the Board of Commissioners and the Chief Executive Officer;
 - c. Develop an annual work plan outlining goals and priorities;
 - d. Submit an annual report detailing DACC's activities, progress, and recommendations to the Board of Commissioners and the Chief Executive Officer;
 - e. Advocate for equitable access to arts and cultural opportunities across the County;
 - f. Serve as a liaison between the public, artists, and cultural organizations;
 - g. Support initiatives that drive economic development and arts workforce opportunities through cultural sectors;
 - h. Celebrate and preserve the cultural heritage and artistic identity of the County and its cities;
 - i. Collaborate with other interested groups on arts-related opportunities; and
 - j. Assist with attracting and retaining funding, and other resources, for the County related to public arts and culture from local, state, and federal sources.
2. The DACC shall consist of 11-15 members. Members must be residents of DeKalb County, own a business located in DeKalb County, or serve as an arts leader within the county. Membership shall aim to reflect the diversity of the community in terms of geography, interests, ethnicity, gender, age, and discipline and may include:
 - a. Local artists and cultural practitioners;
 - b. Representatives of arts and cultural organizations;
 - c. Professionals from the creative industries;
 - d. Community leaders and residents with an interest in arts and culture;
 - e. Representatives from the DeKalb Municipal Association and the cities; and
 - f. Representatives from diverse, international organizations in DeKalb.
3. Each Commissioner shall appoint one member, the Chief Executive Officer shall appoint two members, and Discover DeKalb and Decide DeKalb shall each appoint one member as follows:
 - a. Post 1: The District 1 Commissioner shall appoint one member to Post 1.
 - b. Post 2: The District 2 Commissioner shall appoint one member to Post 2.
 - c. Post 3: The District 3 Commissioner shall appoint one member to Post 3.
 - d. Post 4: The District 4 Commissioner shall appoint one member to Post 4.
 - e. Post 5: The District 5 Commissioner shall appoint one member to Post 5.

- f. Post 6: The Super District 6 Commissioner shall appoint one member to Post 6.
- g. Post 7: The Super District 7 Commissioner shall appoint one member to Post 7.
- h. Post 8: The Chief Executive Officer shall appoint one member to Post 8.
- i. Post 9: The Chief Executive Officer shall appoint one member to Post 9.
- j. Post 10: Discover DeKalb shall appoint one member to Post 10.
- k. Post 11: Decide DeKalb shall appoint one member to Post 11.

4. Additional members may be appointed as deemed necessary.

5. Members shall serve for staggered terms of two years and members may serve a maximum of two (2) consecutive terms. Certain posts may have an initial term of one year to allow for the stagger.

6. The DACC shall hold regular meetings, at least quarterly, and additional meetings as necessary. The DACC shall convene its first meeting within three (3) months of the completion of the DeKalb County Arts and Culture Master Plan.

a. Subject to the provisions of any by-laws that may be adopted by the DACC, the members shall elect a chairperson, vice-chair, secretary and treasurer at the first meeting of each year.

b. The DACC may establish subcommittees to focus on specific areas of arts and culture.

6. The Board of Commissioners and/or CEO may, through future budget allocations, provide funding and administrative support necessary for the DACC's operations, including, but not limited to, staffing, project funding, and meeting resources.

7. The Board of Commissioners may adopt a public art ordinance that identifies a funding source to support the success of the DACC.

ADOPTED by the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, this ____ day of _____, _____.

Michelle Long Spears
Presiding Officer
Board of Commissioners
DeKalb County, Georgia

APPROVED by the Chief Executive Officer, this ____ day of _____, _____.

Lorraine Cochran-Johnson

Chief Executive Officer
DeKalb County, Georgia

ATTEST:

Barbara Sanders

Clerk to the BOC and CEO

APPROVED AS TO SUBSTANCE:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Zachary L. Williams

Chief Operating Officer
DeKalb County, Georgia

Matthew C. Welch

Interim County Attorney
DeKalb County, Georgia