

By: Darby

H.C.R. No. 24

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The city of San Angelo has become a vibrant showcase  
2 for the visual arts, featuring a variety of engaging public  
3 artworks as well as a diverse mix of outstanding museums,  
4 galleries, and studios; and

5 WHEREAS, The hub of the city's arts community is a 200-acre  
6 cultural district along the south bank of the Concho River, which is  
7 anchored by the San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts; the recipient of a  
8 number of prestigious national awards, SAMFA includes an extensive  
9 permanent collection and also serves as the headquarters of the  
10 Center for the Advancement and Study of Early Texas Art; in  
11 addition, the museum sponsors an arts education program that draws  
12 over 33,000 children each year, and it hosts several prominent arts  
13 events: the San Angelo National Ceramic Competition,  
14 EnPleinAirTEXAS, and the Richard and Pam Salmon Sculpture  
15 Competition, which brings large-scale works to Sunken Garden Park;  
16 other attractions in the cultural district include the Fort Concho  
17 National Historic Landmark, which has served as the site of the  
18 American Plains Artists juried exhibition; and

19 WHEREAS, San Angelo also boasts the Pop Art Open Air Museum,  
20 which features free public works by Texas artists; the display is  
21 organized by the Art in Uncommon Places organization, and that  
22 group has partnered with Downtown San Angelo, Inc., to create  
23 another outdoor site, Paintbrush Alley, to exhibit paintings  
24 inspired by Texas culture and the classic motion picture *Giant*;

1 other public art projects include some 100 colorful sheep  
2 sculptures found throughout town that have been painted by local  
3 artists and the Historic Murals of San Angelo, which depict iconic  
4 scenes related to the area's past; moreover, the city is one of only  
5 three in Texas to have a permanent "Don't Mess with Texas" mural;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, The dynamic arts community in San Angelo encompasses  
8 nearly three dozen galleries and studios; more than 250 sculptures  
9 and statues are displayed at local businesses, schools, parks, and  
10 other locations, and the city is the site of such popular events as  
11 the Chicken Farm Art Center Open House, which has taken place each  
12 year for nearly a half century; and

13 WHEREAS, San Angelo's art scene has drawn statewide and  
14 national attention from media outlets, including *Western Art &*  
15 *Architecture*, *Texas Highways*, and *True West* magazines; a further  
16 tribute to the city's cultural riches came in 2019, when the  
17 European Union ambassador to the United States selected 32 pieces  
18 of art on loan from the San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts for display in  
19 his home in Washington, D.C.; and

20 WHEREAS, The city of San Angelo has become an epicenter for  
21 art lovers from across the state and around the nation, and its  
22 unique concentration of talented artists, imaginative exhibits,  
23 and an enthusiastic arts community make it truly deserving of  
24 special recognition; now, therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, That the 87th Legislature of the State of Texas  
26 hereby designate the city of San Angelo as the official Visual Arts  
27 Capital of Texas; and, be it further

1           RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of Section  
2 391.003(e), Government Code, this designation remain in effect  
3 until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is finally  
4 passed by the legislature.