

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.