

By: King of Hemphill

H.R. No. 1221

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Texas Commission on the Arts has announced the
2 2022 appointments for State Poet Laureate, State Musician, State
3 Two-Dimensional Artist, and State Three-Dimensional Artist; and

4 WHEREAS, The state's highest accolade for excellence in the
5 arts, designation as a Texas State Artist is conferred on those
6 individuals who represent the best of our rich and diverse artistic
7 community and who inspire others through their unique creative
8 expression; and

9 WHEREAS, The 2022 State Poet Laureate is writer and educator
10 Lupe Mendez; his 2019 book, *Why I Am Like Tequila*, won the John A.
11 Robertson Award from the Texas Institute of Letters, and his work
12 can also be seen in a variety of publications, including *Aster(ix)*,
13 the *Kenyon Review*, *Gulf Coast*, and the Academy of American Poets
14 *Poem-a-Day* series; holding a master's degree in creative writing
15 from The University of Texas at El Paso, he has been awarded
16 fellowships by CantoMundo, the Macondo Foundation, and the
17 Crescendo Literary/Poetry Foundation Emerging Poet Incubator;
18 moreover, he is an activist and the founder of Tintero Projects,
19 which works with Latinx writers and other writers of color; and

20 WHEREAS, Known as the "Queen of the Accordion," Eva Ybarra
21 has been named the 2022 Texas State Musician; the leader of Eva
22 Ybarra y Su Conjunto, she specializes in writing and composing
23 original conjunto music, and she is known for pushing the
24 boundaries of the genre by exploring nonstandard chord

1 progressions; she began playing the accordion at four years old and
2 received her first record deal, with Rosina Records, at just 14; in
3 the 1990s, she released a number of records that further raised her
4 profile, and she has taught at the University of Washington, Palo
5 Alto College, and the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center; she is the
6 recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award from the South Texas
7 Conjunto Association and a National Heritage Fellowship from the
8 National Endowment for the Arts; and

9 WHEREAS, Celia Álvarez Muñoz is the 2022 State
10 Two-Dimensional Artist; a conceptual multimedia artist known for
11 her photography, installations, and public art, she is represented
12 in many public and private collections, and her work has been
13 included in the Whitney Biennial and, more recently, in an
14 internationally touring exhibition called "Radical Women: Latin
15 American Art, 1960-1985"; she is the recipient of two National
16 Endowment for the Arts Fellowships, a CAA Committee on Women in the
17 Arts Recognition Award, and a Lifetime Achievement Award in the
18 Visual Arts from Art League Houston; and

19 WHEREAS, African American sculptor Jesse Lott has been chosen
20 as the 2022 State Three-Dimensional Artist; inspired by collecting
21 and recycling discarded items, he works with a variety of
22 materials, including paper, metal, wood, and wire; his solo
23 exhibition, "Jesse Lott: Urban Frontier Artist," was presented by
24 the Museum of Contemporary Art in Washington, D.C., and the Houston
25 Art Car Museum, and his pieces have also been shown at the Studio
26 Museum and Alternative Museum in New York; he has held an all-ages
27 workshop in his studio for many years, and he helped motivate the

1 creation of the Project Row Houses in Houston; he was recognized
2 with a Lifetime Achievement Award in the Visual Arts by Art League
3 Houston in 2016; and

4 WHEREAS, The artists who have been selected to hold these
5 prestigious posts have all greatly contributed to the vibrant
6 cultural life of the Lone Star State, and Texas is indeed fortunate
7 to be home to these talented individuals; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
9 Legislature hereby congratulate the 2022 Texas Commission on the
10 Arts honorees and extend to them sincere best wishes for continued
11 fulfillment in their creative endeavors.