

By: Cyrier

H.R. No. 903

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Texas Commission on the Arts has announced the
2 2019 appointments for the positions of State Poet Laureate,
3 State Musician, State Two-Dimensional Artist, and State
4 Three-Dimensional Artist; and

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

10 WHEREAS, The 2019 State Poet Laureate is Carrie Fountain,
11 whose poems have been printed in *Tin House*, *Poetry*, and *The New*
12 *Yorker*; she has published two poetry collections, *Burn Lake*, which
13 won a National Poetry Series prize, and *Instant Winner*, as well as a
14 novel, *I'm Not Missing*; she has also written a forthcoming
15 children's book on poet W. S. Merwin; a native of New Mexico, she
16 holds a master of fine arts degree from The University of Texas at
17 Austin, and she currently serves as writer-in-residence at
18 St. Edward's University and as host of the KUT radio show and
19 podcast *This Is Just to Say*; and

20 WHEREAS, Known as the "King of the Brown Sound," Little Joe
21 Hernandez of popular Tex-Mex band Little Joe y La Familia has been
22 named the 2019 State Musician; this pioneering Tejano artist began
23 his career at just 13 years old, when he joined his cousin's band,
24 David Coronado & The Latinaires, as a guitarist; Mr. Hernandez and

1 his band have received five Grammy Awards, including Best Tejano
2 Album, Best Mexican-American Album, and Best Tejano Music
3 Performance, and he continues to tour after more than six decades in
4 the industry; and

5 WHEREAS, Mary McCleary, the 2019 State Two-Dimensional
6 Artist, creates elaborate collages that incorporate themes drawn
7 from science, history, religion, and literature; over the years,
8 she has participated in exhibitions across the United States and in
9 Mexico, Canada, and Russia, and her pieces have been collected by
10 the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, the Crystal Bridges Museum of
11 American Art, and the San Antonio Museum of Art, among others; she
12 was named the 2011 Texas Artist of the Year by Art League Houston,
13 and she is a Regents Professor of Art Emeritus at Stephen F. Austin
14 State University, where she taught for three decades; and

15 WHEREAS, The 2019 State Three-Dimensional Artist is Houston
16 resident Rick Lowe; his works have been exhibited at museums in the
17 United States and abroad, and his "social sculptures" include the
18 Anyang Public Art Program 2010 in Korea, the Victoria Square
19 Project in Greece, and Project Row Houses in Houston, for which he
20 was named a MacArthur Foundation Fellow; he has also been honored
21 with a Rudy Bruner Award in Urban Excellence and the American
22 Institute of Architects Keystone Award; he currently serves as a
23 professor of art at the University of Houston; and

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

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1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
2 Legislature hereby congratulate the 2019 Texas Commission on the
3 Arts honorees and extend to them sincere best wishes for continued
4 fulfillment in their creative endeavors.