

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The 16 participants in the 2021 Texas Folklife
2 Apprenticeships in the Folk and Traditional Arts Program have
3 demonstrated an exceptional commitment to the preservation of our
4 state's outstanding cultural heritage; and

5 WHEREAS, Since 1987, the program has supported extended,
6 intensive training in a wide range of traditional art forms
7 practiced by cultural communities across Texas; grant awards
8 provide skilled artists and their apprentices with the time and
9 resources necessary to immerse themselves in their craft; and

10 WHEREAS, The 2021 artist teams reflect the richness of the
11 state's cultural diversity; Dr. Sreedhara Akkihebbalu of Shavano
12 Park is mentoring Aruna Kharod of Schertz in the art of
13 bharatanatyam, a classical Indian dance form; mentor Sonny Mehta of
14 Houston is teaching Danish Parbtani of Rosenberg the intricacies of
15 qawwali, a Sufi devotional music genre; and

16 WHEREAS, Advancing the art of conjunto, bajo sexto master Max
17 Baca of San Antonio is mentoring Hunter Chavez of Schertz, while
18 "Queen of the Accordion" Eva Ybarra, also of the Alamo City, is
19 pairing for a second time with her protégé and 2016 apprentice,
20 Iliana Vasquez of Rio Grande City, to study the bajo sexto; and

21 WHEREAS, Cajun/Creole accordion builder Ed Poullard of
22 Beaumont, a former apprentice who has served the program multiple
23 times as a mentor, is now helping Craig Jones of Houston learn the
24 craft; sharing Louisiana Creole roots, mentor Mona Wilson and her

1 apprentice, Lindsay Gary, both of the Bayou City, are dedicating
2 themselves to the history and practice of zydeco dance; and

3 WHEREAS, A former apprentice of a 2017 program mentor, Mario
4 Ramirez, is now a mentor to fellow San Marcos resident José
5 Dominguez-Leal in danza Azteca, a kinesthetic approach to prayer
6 practiced by indigenous communities in both Texas and Mexico; two
7 Wichita Falls residents, metalworker Dan Shores and apprentice
8 Joshua Bradley, share a fascination with the "cowboy way of life"
9 and are exploring silversmithing together; and

10 WHEREAS, By further developing expertise in these unique
11 realms, the participants in the 2021 apprenticeships program are
12 contributing to the vitality of a wide range of creative
13 disciplines and to the cultural enrichment of communities across
14 the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
16 Legislature hereby honor the participants in the 2021 Texas
17 Folklife Apprenticeships in the Folk and Traditional Arts Program
18 and extend sincere best wishes for continued success in their
19 endeavors; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for the program participants as an expression of high
22 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

Hinojosa

H.R. No. 1034

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1034 was adopted by the House on May 31, 2021, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House