

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 643

WHEREAS, The Texas Commission on the Arts has announced the 2025 appointments for State Poet Laureate, State Classical Musician, State Nonclassical Musician, State Two-Dimensional Artist, and State Three-Dimensional Artist; and

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

WHEREAS, Octavio Quintanilla, the 2025 State Poet Laureate, has authored three poetry collections, including *The Book of Wounded Sparrows*, which was on the longlist for the National Book Award, and *Las Horas Imposibles / The Impossible Hours*, the winner of the 2024 Ambroggio Prize of the Academy of American Poets; he is also known for his *Frontextos* visual poem series; a former poet laureate of San Antonio, he is the founder and director of the VersoFrontera Literature and Arts Festival and publisher of Alabrava Press; he serves as a professor at Our Lady of the Lake University and was recently inducted into the Texas Institute of Letters; and

WHEREAS, The 2025 State Classical Musician is Alecia Lawyer, the founder, artistic director, and principal oboist of ROCO, the trailblazing music ensemble in Houston; named by *Musical America Worldwide* as one of classical music's top 30 influencers for 2015, she has recorded for John Cage, soloed with Mstislav Rostropovich, given a recital at Carnegie Hall, recorded with the Sorbonne Orchestra, and performed with various orchestras and chamber groups in France and Germany; over the years, she has also been recognized as the Outstanding Chamber Orchestra Founder by the *Houston Chronicle* and as the Sigma Alpha Iota Musician of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Texas native Miranda Lambert was named the State Nonclassical Musician for 2025; this acclaimed artist received Grammy Awards for Best Country Album for her releases *Platinum* and *Wildcard*, and she has earned numerous honors from the Academy of Country Music and the Country Music Association; she was listed as one of the 100 Most Influential People by *Time* magazine in 2022, and in 2024, she received the Country Icon Award at the People's Choice Country Awards; and

WHEREAS, Angelbert Metoyer, the State Two-Dimensional Artist, explores memory and social history through the lenses of science, philosophy, and religion, incorporating nontraditional materials that include coal, glass, debris, oil, tar, mirrors, and gold dust; since 1994, he has exhibited his art at the Venice Biennale and Art Basel in Miami Beach and in many solo exhibitions and group shows; in addition, he has works in the permanent collections at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, as well as the U.S. Department of State, Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, and Museum of Fine Arts in Leipzig, Germany; and

WHEREAS, The 2025 State Three-Dimensional Artist, Steve Parker, is an Austin-based artist and musician who creates sculptural ecosystems that transform spaces into large-scale collaborative performances; he is the recipient of a Creative Capital Award and Rome Prize, as well as grants from the Pollock-Krasner Foundation, Fulbright Scholar Program, and National Endowment for the Arts; an associate professor at The University of Texas at San Antonio, he is the artistic

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director of Collide Arts and has showcased his work at the American Academy in Rome, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, the Fusebox Festival, the Lincoln Center Festival, and South by Southwest; and

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

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 89th Legislature, hereby congratulate the 2025 Texas Commission on the Arts honorees and extend to them sincere best wishes for continued fulfillment in their creative endeavors.

Menéndez

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 31, 2025.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate