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**City of Granbury
Convention & Visitors Bureau**

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October 20, 2023

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Visit Granbury & Granbury Cultural Arts Commission invite you to attend the Cultural Art District Designation Ceremony

Granbury, Texas (PRESS RELEASE) – City of Granbury Convention & Visitors Bureau – Visit Granbury along with the Granbury Cultural Arts Commission invite the community to celebrate the Cultural District Designation presentation during the Harvest Moon Festival of the Arts, Saturday, October 28, 2023, at 5:15pm on the main stage on the Historic Granbury Square.

The City of Granbury and the Granbury Cultural Arts Commission recently announced that the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) had approved the designation of the new Granbury Cultural District in Granbury, Texas. Cultural districts are special zones that harness the power of cultural resources to stimulate economic development and community vitality. These districts can be focal points for generating business, attracting tourists, stimulating cultural development, and fostering civic pride. This designation brings the total number of cultural districts in Texas to 54.

The Texas Commission on the Arts is the only body able to officially designate cultural districts on behalf of the State. Cultural districts are marketable tourism assets that highlight the distinct identity of a community and encourage in-state, out-of-state, and international visitors. Cultural district development helps a community boost its economy while realizing other cultural and civic benefits. The outcomes of cultural districts extend beyond the arts and benefit all members of a community. Official designation allows cultural districts and qualifying resident arts organizations to be eligible to apply for significant Cultural District Project funding through TCA.

The mission of the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) is to advance our state economically and culturally by investing in a creative Texas. TCA supports a diverse and innovative arts community in Texas, throughout the nation and internationally by providing resources to enhance economic development, arts education, cultural tourism, and artist sustainability initiatives. For more information on TCA and its programs, please visit www.arts.texas.gov.

The Granbury Cultural District is centered around Granbury's historic downtown square and is the home of many of Granbury's best amenities, including museums, restaurants, wineries, live theater, live music venues, retail shopping, art galleries, art studios and pop-up art spaces, parks, the trolley and Segway rides, the public beach with lake access, deluxe and affordable accommodations, Lake Granbury Conference Center & Langdon Complex, Granbury's Visitor Center, and abundant free public parking. The Cultural District is the hub of virtually all the festivals and major events in Granbury. Granbury has been voted the Best Historic Small Town in America three separate times by USA Today Readers' Choice and recently was designated "The Celebration Capital of Texas" by the State Legislature. For complete information on the Cultural Districts Designation Program, please visit <https://www.arts.texas.gov/initiatives/cultural-districts/>.

The Granbury Cultural Arts Commission will host the Executive Director of the Texas Commission on the Arts, Mr. Gary Gibbs, on Saturday, October 28, 2023, at 5:15 pm, on the main stage of the Harvest Moon Festival of the Arts on the historic Granbury Square to provide a proclamation marking the official designation. The Commission and all of Granbury look forward to this opportunity to honor all those whose efforts over the last many years have led to this designation and to welcome Mr. Gibbs to the 45th year of our preeminent juried arts festival for the weekend and



thank him for the opportunity represented by the Cultural District designation. We look forward to years of collaboration as we increase the vision for appreciation of all the arts in Granbury and surrounding Hood County. The Harvest Moon Festival is an annual Historic Granbury Merchants Association HGMA.

“Events like the Harvest Moon Festival power Granbury’s tourism economy. Tourism is Granbury’s number-one industry. The added benefit of the festival, also being an art event, really propels it to another level. The City of Granbury supports new events, and the growth of existing events by providing support through Visit Granbury. As the official ‘*Celebration Capital of Texas*’ and now the Cultural District Designation, it really showcases the level of commitment to art and our community provided from the City of Granbury, via Visit Granbury.” – Tammy Dooley – Director Visit Granbury.

“Additionally, art events have tremendous opportunities to grow and provide quality of life for our community. Art and Events are powerful tourism dollar generators into the city.” Dooley continued.

For additional information on the Cultural Arts Commission or the Cultural District contact Cora Werley, CAC Chair: <https://www.visitgranbury.com/granburyarts/> or call Visit Granbury 817-573-5548.

For Media and Interview Request:

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OUR MISSION

To promote and market Granbury as a premier leisure and meeting destination for the purpose of positively impacting the Cities economy.