

RESOLUTION ANNOUNCING SUPPORT FOR THE CREATION OF
THE NORTH CAROLINA FOLK FESTIVAL, SECURING A STATEWIDE CELEBRATION
OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE FOR GREENSBORO, AS THE NATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL
MOVES ON TO A NEW HOST CITY IN 2018

WHEREAS, the City of Greensboro was chosen by the National Council of the Traditional Arts in 2014 in competition with 32 other American cities to be the host for a historic first-ever three year residency by the National Folk Festival in North Carolina, 2015 – 2017;

WHEREAS, the Festival is one of America's longest-running free celebrations of our diverse national heritage and culture, and as such, drew the entire community together around the common language of artistic expression, sharing the many diverse traditions of our region, state and nation;

WHEREAS, the Festival is wildly popular, attracting more than 240,000 enthusiastic people – friends and family, young and old – in its first two years alone. Attendees enjoyed hundreds of incredible artists, including musicians, craft brew makers, dancers, puppeteers, crafters, weavers, storytellers, food makers and more, at outdoor stages across downtown Greensboro. The diversity of music presented was wide, from blues, funk, gospel, jazz and bluegrass, to country, old-time traditional, zydeco and many other styles.

WHEREAS, in addition to enriching and connecting the citizens of our community, a destination Festival of this scope and size brings other benefits with it, including cultural tourists, powerful economic impact, and excellent national media attention – giving all of us the opportunity to showcase Greensboro as a city on the move, and a vibrant place where people want to live work and play;

WHEREAS, the City, ArtsGreensboro, key stakeholders and the public wish to secure a continuing legacy festival to build on the National's success, as the National Folk Festival prepares for the third and final year of its three-year residency this coming September 8, 9 and 10;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENSBORO:

To support the creation of the **North Carolina Folk Festival** beginning in 2018, working in partnership with ArtsGreensboro and other public and private stakeholders, to secure a statewide event of national significance, building on the legacy of the National, and which embodies the spirit of North Carolina.