

D E C L A R A T I O N
 OF *Raleigh Arts*

We, the representatives of the cultural organizations of the Capital City of the State of North Carolina, hold these truths to be self-evident, that all Arts are created equal, that they are endowed by their creators with certain unalienable rights, that among these are the right to have Beauty, Freedom of Expression, and the Pursuit of Happiness grace the lives of Raleigh residents.

We, the representatives of the cultural organizations of the Capital City of the State of North Carolina, hereby declare that the Arts rank with Science, Industry, and Law as historic pillars of Society and mutually pledge to each other and to the citizens of Raleigh our commitment to building a world-class City of the Arts.

We, the representatives of the cultural organizations of the Capital City of the State of North Carolina, offer our shared belief that the Arts are important to our community and invite the public to engage in an ongoing dialogue about how we may embrace and integrate creative opportunities in the lives of all the citizens of this great city.

THEREFORE....

We, the representatives of the cultural organizations of the Capital City of the State of North Carolina, in support of this pledge of allegiance to the Arts, do hereby proclaim, in one unified voice, that **WE BELIEVE THE ARTS IN RALEIGH:**

Entertain our community by offering exciting performances, festivals, readings, exhibitions, and arts-related events for the public's enjoyment;

Educate our community by fostering a deeper understanding of what it means to be human;

Enrich our community by fueling economic growth and attracting tourists and new business to the area;

Empower our community by establishing a dynamic environment for artists to create, learn, and grow;

Elevate our community by inspiring meaningful arts experiences that encourage connection among individuals, groups, and the city at large;

Enlighten our community by embracing a multitude of opinions and viewpoints, the cornerstones of a democratic society;

Enliven our community by providing culturally diverse experiences for residents and visitors;

Engage our community by developing cultural opportunities for personal growth and strengthened family bonds;

Enhance our community by increasing understanding, appreciation, and communication among global citizens;

Energize our community by shaping a positive city identity in the local, regional, national, and international arenas; and

Envision our community by supporting the building of a livable and attractive city, and a revitalized downtown.

We, the representatives of the cultural organizations of the Capital City of the State of North Carolina, by the Authority vested in us to create and support the Arts in Raleigh, and in celebration of the City of Raleigh Arts Commission's thirty years fostering the arts, do hereby proudly sign the Raleigh Arts Declaration, this 11th day of October, 2007:

ORGANIZATIONS

- Actors Comedy Lab
- African American Cultural Complex
- Arts Access
- ARTS NC STATE
- Artspace
- Artsposure
- Arts Together
- Burning Coal Theatre Company
- Capital Opera Raleigh
- Carolina Ballet
- City of Raleigh Arts Commission
- Classical Voice of North Carolina
- Community Music School
- Contemporary Art Museum
- El Pueblo
- Even Exchange Dance Theater
- International Focus
- Moore Square Art District Alliance
- North Carolina Master Chorale
- North Carolina Museum of Art
- North Carolina Museum of History
- North Carolina Symphony
- North Carolina Theatre
- North Carolina Wind Orchestra
- North Raleigh Arts & Creative Theatre
- Nue Yug Cultural Organization
- PineCone
- Pullen Arts Center
- Raleigh Area Flute Association
- Raleigh Chamber Music Guild
- Raleigh City Museum
- Raleigh Civic Symphony Association
- Raleigh Ensemble Players
- Raleigh Fine Arts Society
- Raleigh Little Theatre
- Raleigh Symphony Orchestra
- Sertoma Arts Center
- Shaw Players and Company
- The Justice Theater Project
- The Opera Company of North Carolina
- The Raleigh Boychoir
- The Raleigh Ringers
- Theatre In The Park
- United Arts Council of Raleigh & Wake County
- Visual Art Exchange