

April 9, 2024

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Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners

Re: FFTC's Letter of Support for Arts & Science Council

Dear Commissioners,

This letter is an acknowledgement of Foundation For The Carolinas' (FFTC) commitment to participate in securing a sustainable future for the Arts & Science Council of Charlotte/Mecklenburg (ASC). We are excited to have been asked to play a role in this work, including a structure that will expand the work of the ASC in making grants to the entire arts and culture sector in our community.

FFTC is a community foundation that serves as a catalyst for philanthropic activity in our 13-county region and is a driver for major civic efforts. Each year we facilitate tens of thousands of grants to nonprofits on behalf of our fundholders, and our volunteer boards thoughtfully award funding to nonprofits addressing local needs throughout our community. We also facilitate grant programs on behalf of community partners, such as the Infusion Fund for the Arts, the City of Charlotte's Open For Business program, the Wells Fargo Beyond Open small business program, and other similar initiatives. Operating under the strong governance of our board of directors and senior leadership, we are optimistic that this new structure with ASC will build upon our long track record of work with public-private partnerships, and will increase funding for individual artists, cultural organizations, grassroots organizations and neighborhood groups.

FFTC enthusiastically expresses our interest in helping the ASC, our longtime community partner, continue its mission by joining FFTC as a supporting organization. As a supporting organization, the ASC would leverage the benefits of joining a trusted, well-established and financially sound institution that will provide critical grant management services and back-office support — allowing the ASC to focus on its unique mission and vision of ensuring culture for all.

We are confident that this strategic partnership between FFTC and ASC will result in significant and important growth of the overall resources available for local arts and culture. We look forward to working with the ASC in these endeavors.

Sincerely,



Catherine P. Bessant
President & CEO
Foundation For The Carolinas