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Oklahoma City

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Ardmore

Dear Recipient:

As Executive Director of the official state government agency that leverages the transformative power of the arts to improve lives and communities across Oklahoma, I am pleased to offer this letter in support of individuals wishing to apply for the Oklahoma Arts Council Leadership Arts program.

Designed to equip 30 individuals from across the state each year with essential knowledge, skills, and networks needed to unleash the full potential of the arts in their communities, Leadership Arts requires an appreciable investment of personal time and resources. Program participants commit to attending four two-day sessions in the spring and the two-day Oklahoma Arts Conference in the fall. Their devotion of financial resources and time demonstrates the value they place on the program.

In addition to the return on investment participants gain from the program, there is residual value for organizations and communities represented by participants. Graduates of the program have cited Leadership Arts as benefiting their fundraising efforts, inspiring their pursuit of cross-community initiatives, providing them with models of innovative projects, and motivating them to achieve new roles in leadership and public service.

For Leadership Arts participants to maximize their time in the program, it is crucial for them to have backing from their employers, co-workers, professional colleagues, friends, and family members. I ask that you lend your full support for their participation in this valuable professional development opportunity through the provision of financial assistance, schedule accommodation, and other means as needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amber Sharples". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over the printed name.

Amber Sharples  
Executive Director