

Notice of Meeting of the Arts and Culture Advisory Board of the City of Georgetown, Texas April 21, 2026

The Georgetown Arts and Culture Advisory Board will meet on April 21, 2026 at 4:30 PM at City Hall, 808 Martin Luther King Jr Street, Georgetown, TX 78626.

The City of Georgetown is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you require assistance in participating at a public meeting due to a disability, as defined under the ADA, reasonable assistance, adaptations, or accommodations will be provided upon request. Please contact the City Secretary's Office, at least three (3) days prior to the scheduled meeting date, at (512) 930-3652 or City Hall at 808 Martin Luther King Jr. Street, Georgetown, TX 78626 for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.

Regular Session

- 1.A **Call to order**
Call to order - Lynn Kessel, Board Chair
- 1.B **Arts & Culture Announcements**
Announcements - Lynn Kessel, Board Chair
- 1.C **Approval of minutes**
Consideration and approval of the February 17, 2026 minutes - Lynn Kessel, Board Chair
- 1.D **Manager Report**
Presentation of Arts & Culture Report - Amanda Still, Arts & Culture Program Manager
- 1.E **Cultural District Strategic Assessment Activity**
Discussion and walking review of the Georgetown Cultural District - Amanda Still, Arts and Culture Program Manager

Adjournment

The board members are invited to attend an Artist Reception at City Hall after the meeting has ended.

Certificate of Posting

I, Robyn Densmore, City Secretary for the City of Georgetown, Texas, do hereby certify that this Notice of Meeting was posted at City Hall, 808 Martin Luther King Jr. Street, Georgetown, TX 78626, a place readily accessible to the general public as required by law, on the _____ day of _____, 2026, at _____, and remained so posted for at least three business days preceding the scheduled time of said meeting.

Robyn Densmore, City Secretary

City of Georgetown, Texas
Arts and Culture Advisory Board
April 21, 2026

SUBJECT:

Call to order

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Call to order - Lynn Kessel, Board Chair

ITEM SUMMARY:

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

SUBMITTED BY:

Shelly Sommerfeld, Economic Development plus

ATTACHMENTS:

N/A

City of Georgetown, Texas
Arts and Culture Advisory Board
April 21, 2026

SUBJECT:

Arts & Culture Announcements

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Announcements - Lynn Kessel, Board Chair

ITEM SUMMARY:

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

SUBMITTED BY:

Shelly Sommerfeld, Economic Development plus

ATTACHMENTS:

N/A

City of Georgetown, Texas
Arts and Culture Advisory Board
April 21, 2026

SUBJECT:

Approval of minutes

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Consideration and approval of the February 17, 2026 minutes - Lynn Kessel, Board Chair

ITEM SUMMARY:

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

SUBMITTED BY:

Shelly Sommerfeld, Economic Development plus

ATTACHMENTS:

[2.17.2026 Arts & Culture Minute - draft.pdf](#)

Minutes of the Arts and Culture Advisory Board City of Georgetown, Texas Tuesday, February 17, 2026

The Georgetown Arts and Culture Advisory Board met on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 4:30 PM at City Hall, 808 Martin Luther King Jr Street, Georgetown, TX 78626.

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The following Members were in attendance:

Present were: Lynn A Kessel, Stacy M Reed, Jessica Meurer Sobhani, Diane N. Sandlin, Morgan T Myers

1. Regular Session

1.A Call to order

Call to order - Lynn Kessel, Board Chair
@ 4:30pm

1.B Arts & Culture Announcements

Announcements - Lynn Kessel, Board Chair

- Palace Theater - Swing! performances have been canceled due to the flooding damage. Oklahoma! has been postponed for the time being as well. There is a seat campaign going on to raise funds for the repairs.
- Preservation Georgetown Town - the grant awarded to the Palace Theater has been put on hold at this time due to the damages. Spring Talk series will be held in March, April, and May.
- GISD hosted the 2026 Region 13 North Visual Arts Scholastic Event on February 14th. There were over 2,000 pieces of artwork on display for this event.
- Wilco Art Guild - 4 juried exhibits are currently on display. In March, they plan to have a "March Madness" event where artists can bring in their pieces to sell.
- Art Center - Neo Geo art exhibit is currently on display at the Art Center until March 13. The call for artists to participate in the 2027 series will close on February 28th, and then the review process will begin.

1.C Approval of minutes

Consideration and approval of the January 20, 2026 minutes - Lynn Kessel, Board Chair

Moved by Diane N. Sandlin; seconded by Morgan T Myers to Approve .

Motion Approved: 5- 0

Voting For: Lynn A Kessel, Stacy M Reed, Jessica Meurer Sobhani, Diane N. Sandlin, Morgan T Myers

Voting Against: None

1.D **Call for Artist Entries for Downtown Utility Boxes**

Consideration and possible action to approve the Call for Artist Entries for Downtown Utility Boxes – Amanda Still, Arts and Culture Program Manager

No action was taken. Amanda will bring this item back to the board at a later date.

1.E **Strategic Goals for Georgetown Arts & Culture**

Consideration and discussion of strategic goals for Georgetown Arts and Culture – Amanda Still, Arts and Culture Program Manager

Amanda presented the Strategic Goals to the board, and they discussed the materials.

1.F **Manager Report**

Presentation of Arts & Culture Report - Amanda Still, Arts & Culture Program Manager

Amanda presented her report to the board and answered their questions.

Adjournment

Moved by Jessica Meurer Sobhani; seconded by Stacy M Reed to Adjourn @ 5:42pm.

Motion Adjourn: 5 - 0

Voting For: Lynn A Kessel, Stacy M Reed, Jessica Meurer Sobhani, Diane N. Sandlin, Morgan T Myers

Voting Against: None

These minutes were approved at the meeting of _____

Chair

Attest

City of Georgetown, Texas
Arts and Culture Advisory Board
April 21, 2026

SUBJECT:

Manager Report

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Presentation of Arts & Culture Report - Amanda Still, Arts & Culture Program Manager

ITEM SUMMARY:

Presentation of Arts & Culture Coordinator Report.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

SUBMITTED BY:

Shelly Sommerfeld, Economic Development plus

ATTACHMENTS:

[April Program Manager Report.pdf](#)

Georgetown Arts and Culture Program Report

March 17, 2026

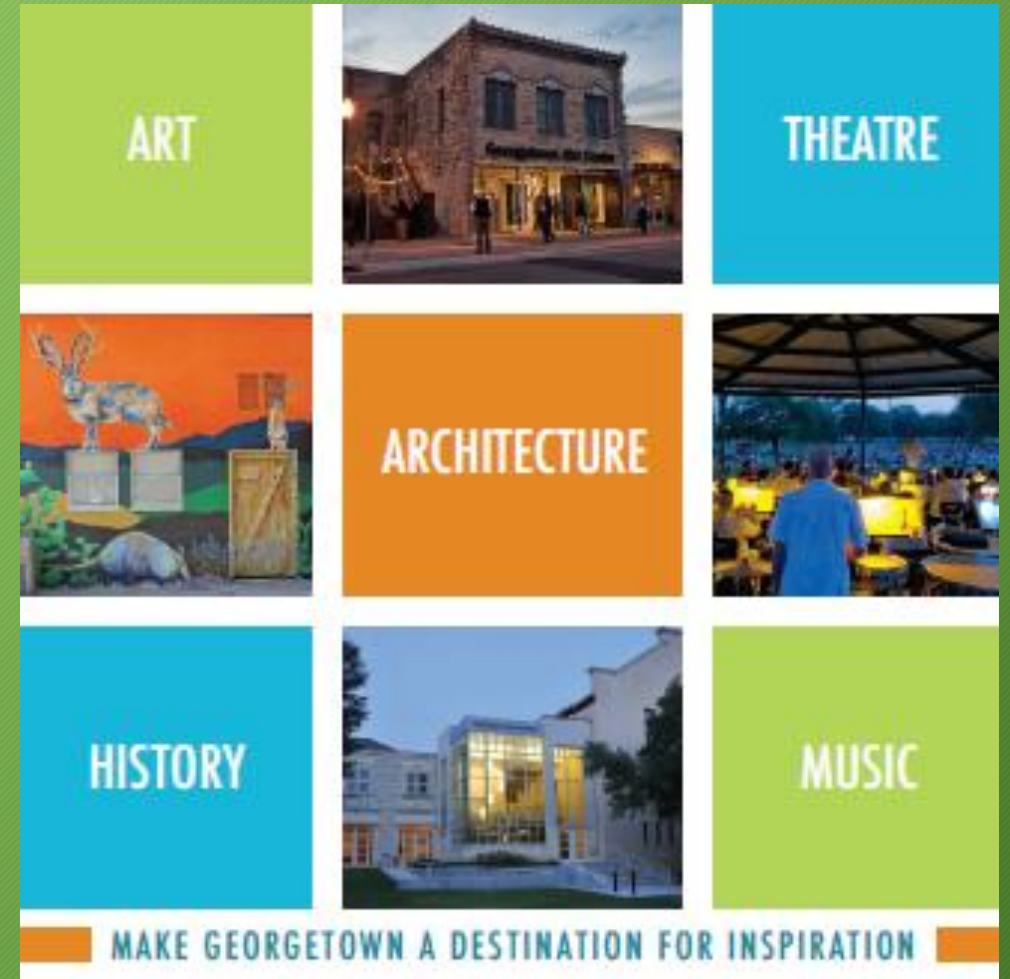
Public Art Program

- Utility Box Art Update
 - Call Open
- GISD Student Mural Project Title and 6th installment 2026
 - Installation May 14
- Art Center Mural
 - Installed



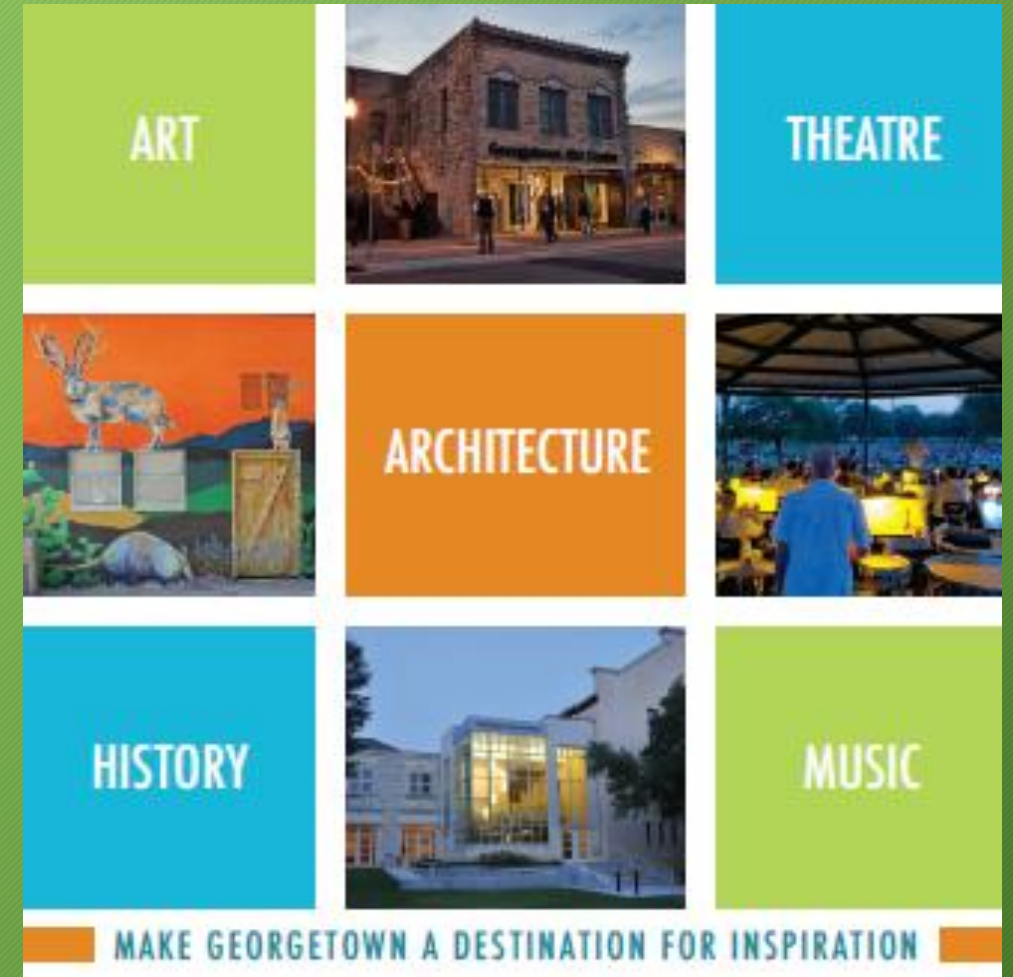
Cultural District Programming

- Strategic Plan Update
 - May 2026 Board Retreat
 - SWOT
 - Finalize Goals
 - Consider additional research to formulate strategies
 - June: consider strategies
 - July: Finalize strategies/begin workplan
 - August: Finalize workplan



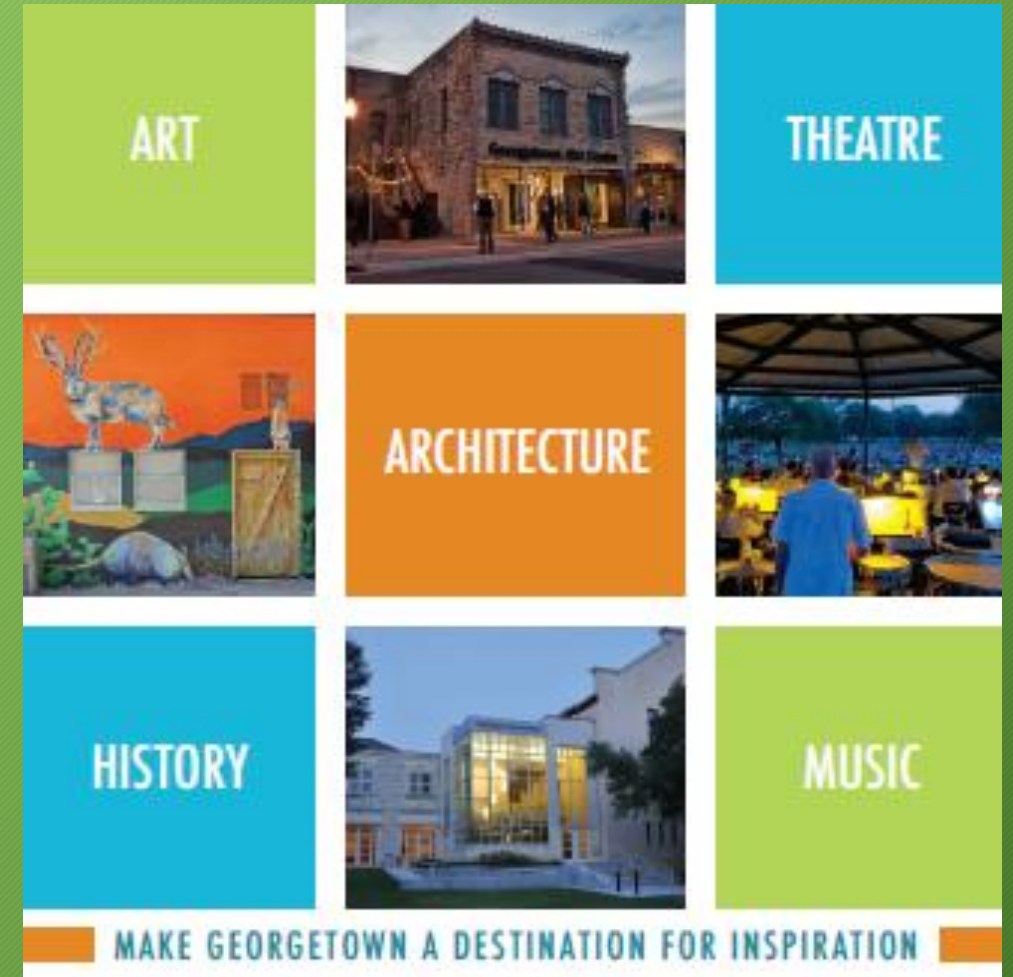
Cultural District Programming

- Georgetown Art Center
 - Finalizing 2027 Exhibits
 - Spring Workshop Series
 - Exhibit Masterclasses
 - Member Open Studio Sessions
 - Gallery lighting replacement



Cultural District Programming

- Cultural Facilities Study
 - Architectural firm selected
 - Upcoming stakeholder meeting: Grace Heritage Center/Georgetown Art Center/Shotgun House Museum
 - Recommendations/conceptuals/cost projections in late summer 2026
 - Facility improvements in 2028



Future Meeting Timeline

May 19

- Board Retreat for strategic planning - 3-6pm

June 16

- Select utility box artwork
- Strategic planning cont'd

July 21

- Award grants
- Strategic planning cont'd

City of Georgetown, Texas
Arts and Culture Advisory Board
April 21, 2026

SUBJECT:

Cultural District Strategic Assessment Activity

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Discussion and walking review of the Georgetown Cultural District - Amanda Still, Arts and Culture Program Manager

ITEM SUMMARY:

The board will participate in a Fresh Eyes on the Square activity, which will involve them walking around downtown.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

SUBMITTED BY:

Shelly Sommerfeld, Economic Development plus

ATTACHMENTS:

[Item D Attachement_Cultural Ditsrict Strategic Assessment.pdf](#)

Downtown Georgetown Cultural District Strategic Assessment

Purpose

To give board members permission and a framework to step back, observe the district with “fresh eyes,” and identify strengths, gaps, and opportunities for improvement across **Art & Design; Promotion and Visitor Experience**.

Outcome

- Honest, on-the-ground insights
- Shared understanding of current conditions
- Actionable ideas to inform the Arts and Culture Board’s 5-year Strategic Plan update

Total Time: ~45 minutes

1. Kickoff & Framing (10 minutes)

Set the tone

Explain that this is:

- A **constructive** and **forward-looking** exercise
- Not a complaint session—but a chance to see downtown as:
 - **A first-time visitor**
 - **A business owner**
 - **A resident on a random weekday**

Ground rules

- Be candid, but respectful
- Focus on **conditions**, not individuals
- Pair each challenge with at least one **opportunity or idea**

Cultural District WALKABOUT WORKSHEET: ART & DESIGN

Name: _____ Date / Time: _____

1. What's Working Well?

(Visual appeal, comfort, accessibility, character)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

2. What Needs Attention?

Check all that apply and add notes:

- ☐ Artwork condition
- ☐ Sidewalks / crossings
- ☐ Lighting
- ☐ Shade / seating
- ☐ Landscaping
- ☐ Wayfinding / signage
- ☐ Blank or underutilized spaces

Notes:

- Where does downtown feel most welcoming?

- Where does it feel uncomfortable, confusing, or unfinished?

4. Opportunities

Quick Win (0–12 months): _____

Longer-Term Investment or Policy Opportunity: _____

Cultural District WALKABOUT WORKSHEET: *PROMOTION & VISITOR EXPERIENCE*

Name: _____ Date / Time: _____

1. First-Time Visitor Lens

- Can you tell what's happening downtown today?
- Is downtown telling a clear, compelling story?

Observations:

2. Energy & Visibility

Where does downtown feel active and inviting?

Where does it feel quiet or under-promoted?

3. Missed Opportunities

- ☐ Event visibility
- ☐ Branding consistency
- ☐ Business cross-promotion
- ☐ Wayfinding to experiences
- ☐ Social-media-worthy moments

Notes:

4. Opportunities

Quick Win (0–12 months): _____

Longer-Term Investment or Policy Opportunity: _____

Notes: