



City of Omaha  
Jean Stothert, Mayor

**Office of the Mayor**  
1819 Farnam Street, Suite 300  
Omaha, Nebraska 68183-0300  
(402) 444-5000  
FAX: (402) 444-6059

June 28, 2019

UNESCO Creative Cities Network

Dear Committee Members,

Creativity is a strategic element in sustainable urban development. The City Government of Xalapa, Omaha's Sister City since 2005, has turned culture as a means to further this end. As the Mayor of Omaha, Nebraska, I endorse without hesitation, Xalapa's application to join UNESCO Creative Cities Network as a Creative City of Music.

The City of Xalapa possesses all the features to be considered a Creative City of Music: a historic and deeply embedded music tradition expressed through composers, musicians, maestros and institutions dedicated to music, education and festivals; and organizations that are engaged in a diverse set of music genres. Since signing our sister cities agreement in 2005, Omaha has witnessed and enjoyed Xalapa's rich cultural scene.

The capital of the state of Veracruz is widely recognized for being the seat of the Xalapa Symphony Orchestra, the School of Music of Universidad Veracruzana, the Higher Institute of Music of the State of Veracruz, the Center for Children's Music Initiation, the International Jazz Festival and numerous music bands that are recognized throughout Mexico. These institutions, along with the City Government, are committed to advancing social development through the arts, especially music.

I am certain that Xalapa will be successful with its commitment to being a Creative City of Music.

Sincerely,

Jean Stothert  
Mayor, City of Omaha