

## Senate Resolution 883

By: Senators Albers of the 56th, Dickerson of the 21st, Still of the 48th, Kirkpatrick of the 32nd and McLaurin of the 14th

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Roswell Arts Festival; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the Roswell Arts Festival was founded 60 years ago by a group of civic-minded  
3 residents, becoming the first arts festival in North Fulton County and establishing a tradition  
4 of community-led cultural engagement that continues to this day; and
- 5 WHEREAS, for six decades, the Roswell Arts Festival has been organized and operated by  
6 residents and volunteers, including multiple generations of service, reflecting a deep and  
7 enduring commitment to the cultural, civic, and recreational life of the City of Roswell; and
- 8 WHEREAS, the festival was created not only to celebrate art, music, and community but also  
9 to serve as an additional funding source for public recreation and park improvements,  
10 ensuring that proceeds generated by the event are reinvested directly into the community; and
- 11 WHEREAS, over its 60-year history, the Roswell Arts Festival has contributed more than  
12 \$1 million toward the development, expansion, and enhancement of Roswell's public parks,  
13 recreational facilities, cultural assets, and community spaces; and

14 WHEREAS, festival proceeds have supported foundational investments in Roswell's  
15 recreation system, including the installation of athletic field lighting at Woodstock Park,  
16 funding a portion of the City's first recreation director salary, and contributing to Roswell's  
17 first Recreation and Parks Master Plan; and

18 WHEREAS, the Roswell Arts Festival has played a significant role in the creation,  
19 expansion, and improvement of major parks, including Roswell Area Park, East Roswell  
20 Park, Don White Park, Grimes Bridge Park, Old Mill Park, Groveway Park, Riverside Park,  
21 Chattahoochee River Park, and Mill Park; and

22 WHEREAS, festival funding has helped acquire and preserve critical parkland, including  
23 contributions toward the purchase of 63 acres and an additional 9.37 acres for Roswell Area  
24 Park, the acquisition of property for Grimes Bridge Park, and the preservation of 38 acres  
25 along the Chattahoochee River through the Trust for Public Land; and

26 WHEREAS, the festival has funded or supported athletic and recreational facilities  
27 throughout Roswell, including ball fields, athletic fields, the Roswell Area Park Athletic  
28 Field, the Roswell High School athletic field, adaptive fields, outdoor fitness equipment,  
29 swimming and therapeutic pools, spraygrounds, playgrounds, shade structures, and  
30 equipment for recreation centers; and

31 WHEREAS, the Roswell Arts Festival has made substantial investments in community and  
32 cultural facilities, including contributions to the Visual Arts Center and its expansion, Arts  
33 Center West improvements such as blacksmith facilities and a train kiln, furnishings and  
34 equipment for the Community Activity Building and Adult Recreation Center, and updates  
35 to the Recreation and Parks Master Plan; and

36 WHEREAS, festival proceeds have supported community gathering spaces and special  
37 projects, including renovations at Town Square, the Vickery Creek Dam, Serenity Garden,  
38 Leita Thompson Memorial Garden, trail systems, and site planning for Old Mill Park; and

39 WHEREAS, the Roswell Arts Festival stands as a model of how resident leadership,  
40 volunteerism, and cultural programming can produce lasting public benefit, strengthening  
41 community identity while delivering tangible improvements enjoyed by generations of  
42 Roswell residents.

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
44 celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Roswell Arts Festival in honor of its immense and  
45 enduring impact on the City of Roswell as well as extend best wishes for continued success.

46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
47 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the  
48 press.