



A MESSAGE TO THE COMMUNITY  
FROM NOELLE RHODES SCOTT, PRESIDENT AND CEO  
UPON RETIREMENT

On September 15, 2021 I will have served as the Cabarrus Arts Council's President and CEO for 21 years. The privilege of being part of this organization has been deeply rewarding, and now it is time for me to enter an exciting new adventure. On December 31 I will retire from Cabarrus Arts Council with a heart filled with gratitude.

I have had the good fortune to work in the non-profit arts world my entire professional life. Even so, I never could have imagined the satisfaction of nurturing this once tiny arts council and watching the community transform as it touched more and more lives with the arts. My life has been changed forever by individuals who care about community, leaders who demonstrate their love through hard work and compromise, talented souls who absolutely must create and perform, and people who understand that the arts are undeniably essential.

I am forever woven into the fabric of this wonderful place I call home. I plan to be an avid consumer of the arts. I hope to continue helping non-profits develop strong business plans and navigate the confusing waters of the non-profit world. I will remain active on the boards I serve. And I will always work with my friends who are devoted to equality, justice and opportunity for all who are marginalized. And I look forward to time...time to visit our daughter and wife in Mexico City, to enjoy our son's company, and to travel and explore with my husband.

Perhaps the Cabarrus Arts Council's greatest initiative is the quietest and deepest, and that is its commitment to serving everyone. The arts council has intentionally brought together our diverse communities with its board representation, visual artists that are chosen to exhibit, performers selected for the Davis, shows and performers presented in the schools and projects it supports with Grassroots grants. Diversity of ethnicity, age, gender, LGBTQ, economic level, and primary language are actively invited through the doors and into the leadership. The Cabarrus Arts Council demonstrates through its actions that the arts and the arts council are indeed for all.

My hope is that the arts council continues this commitment to doors flung wide open and actively seeks those who are not showing up. My hope is that the reputation of the Davis Theatre and The Galleries as spaces for inspiring art and amazing performances continues to spread. My hope is that the arts council continues to work with each part of Cabarrus County, helping cities create their unique vision for the arts. My hope is that arts council programs are known far and wide as engaging cultural creatives who celebrate our diverse world.

You, my friends, are already making this happen. The team and board are making this happen. And the new director is currently somewhere unaware that he or she is preparing to embark on a new adventure with an arts council that is highly respected, in excellent financial condition, with a committed board, a fantastic professional staff, and in a community that is poised for the arts to re-ignite after the long cold Covid winter.

Thank you for the wonderful years. The arts council is ready. And I am ready.

With great appreciation for your support, friendship and hope for the future,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Noelle', written in a cursive style.