

1 [Affirming the Historical Legacy and Future of the Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts]

2 **Resolution recognizing the historical legacy of the Mission Cultural Center for Latino**  
3 **Arts (MCCLA), and the importance of its preservation throughout and after the retrofit**  
4 **of the building at 2868 Mission Street and affirming MCCLA’s right to return upon the**  
5 **completion of construction.**  
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7 WHEREAS, In honor of Latin@ Heritage Month, 2025, the Board of Supervisors  
8 recognizes the historical significance of the Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts (MCCLA)  
9 for the Mission District in San Francisco, and for its City-wide importance; and

10 WHEREAS, MCCLA has been a beloved institution since 1977, celebrating and  
11 representing the vital contributions of the Latine community to culture, art, music, dance,  
12 poetry, printmaking, graphic arts, mural arts, theater, and more; and

13 WHEREAS, MCCLA has always stood firm in the belief that culture is not something  
14 static, but rather linked to an every-changing future that is reflected by contemporary actions  
15 and activities, and as such has been at the cutting edge of artistic expression in San  
16 Francisco, since its inception; and

17 WHEREAS, MCCLA continues to host, organize, and participate in the most iconic and  
18 world-renowned annual celebrations in San Francisco, including Latine Heritage Community  
19 Celebration, el Día de los Muertos/The Day of the Dead Community Celebration in the fall,  
20 “Solo Mujeres” annual art exhibition and Carnaval in the Spring, along with daily programming  
21 and expositions featuring local legends and Latine artists from the community; and

22 WHEREAS, The building where MCCLA is located, at 2868 Mission Street, is owned  
23 by the San Francisco Arts Commission (SFAC) with the express intent of providing an  
24 adequate space for this cultural arts institution to safely operate and offer its broad array of  
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1 classes and workshops for adults and kids, art exhibits, events, podcast and recording studio,  
2 Mission Gráfica print studio, where graphic arts are printed using beautifully preserved,  
3 antique print machines, and below market rate studio rentals that the community of artists rely  
4 on to practice and share their craft with the public; and

5 WHEREAS, The SFAC has long supported MCCLA, one of the vital community-based  
6 cultural centers in San Francisco that provide accessible arts opportunities to all San  
7 Franciscans and visitors, alongside three other site-based cultural centers on city-owned  
8 properties, and two virtual cultural centers, all operated by non-profit arts organizations; and

9 WHEREAS, On March 2, 2022 the Board of Supervisors passed an Ordinance  
10 amending the San Francisco Planning Code to designate 2868 Mission Street (“Mission  
11 Cultural Center for Latino Arts”), Assessor’s Parcel Block No. 6516, Lot No.007, as a San  
12 Francisco Landmark under Article 10 of the Planning Code, precisely because of the historical  
13 significance, “special character and special historical, architectural, and aesthetic interest and  
14 value,” and need for future protection of the cultural center; and

15 WHEREAS, The 2868 Mission Street building is in dire need of earthquake retrofit and  
16 other identified renovations within the scope of the retrofit project, for which the San Francisco  
17 Arts Commission has procured funding to conduct extensive construction, that is expected to  
18 begin in 2026; and

19 WHEREAS, Due to this major construction project, MCCLA must move out of the  
20 building for the duration, anticipated to take as much as three years to complete; and

21 WHEREAS, MCCLA has continued to demonstrate its artistic creativity by finding ways  
22 to operate during their temporary move out to ensure they are able to offer a continuation of  
23 robust programming and signature events, with adaptations to meet the circumstances, while  
24 maintaining a commitment to providing the public with access to quality arts celebrations,  
25 education and expositions; and

1           WHEREAS, MCCLA is painstakingly preserving the historical archives to protect the  
2 treasure trove of artistic works for future generations; and

3           WHEREAS, Not only is the historical legacy of this organization a central thread in the  
4 cultural fabric of San Francisco, but the guarantee of its future is also equally important to the  
5 identify and artistic expression of the City; now therefore be it

6           RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors recognizes and celebrates MCCLA during  
7 Latin@ Heritage Month, and assures the organization of our intent to continue supporting the  
8 future of this beloved institution; and be it further

9           RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors urges the San Francisco Arts Commission to  
10 protect the legacy of this legacy cultural institution and provide MCCLA a right to return upon  
11 completion of the retrofit construction project.

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