

Councilwoman Melissa Robinson

City of Kansas City Missouri USA

22 October 2025

Dear Councilwoman Robinson,

Adelaide's UNESCO City of Music designation reflects the diversity and essential role music plays in the cultural fabric of Adelaide, South Australia. The Adelaide City of Music Ltd (ACOM) office acts as the official UNESCO focal point, working to capture and celebrate the city's music culture and to promote and create opportunities across the UNESCO Creative Cities Network and beyond.

Jazz plays an important role in Adelaide's music culture, with an established jazz community, world-leading institutions and artists, and an annual international jazz festival. Adelaide regularly participates in the UNESCO International Jazz Day and was honoured to provide the composition that was performed by more than 20 cities across the UCCN in 2025.

As active members of the UCCN, Adelaide and Kansas City have been working closely to build relationships and pathways between our two music cities. Adelaide's General Manager visited Kansas City in 2023 and was taken by the living influence of the city's music heritage and the commitment to embedding it within its cultural and policy framework.

Creative City KC's Jacob Wagner and Anita Dixon have been important leaders within the UCCN Music subnetwork. Subnetwork coordinators, they regularly provide support to network cities and facilitate new partnerships and creative projects – including the Voyage of the Drum (2021) and the Jazz Day Relay (2023, 2024, 2025).

Adelaide was impressed by the development of Kansas City's Global Music Strategy, which provided further insight into KC's leadership within the UCCN and its commitment to embedding the UNESCO Sustainable Development Goals within the city's policy framework.

Adelaide has been in the process of developing new cultural policies and action plans. Many of Kansas City Strategy's key goals are shared by Adelaide, especially the links between education, audience enjoyment and engagement, career development and pathways, protecting music and cultural heritage, and the essential role music and culture play, impacts, and enhance a city's social, urban, and economic planning.

Adelaide is committed to developing integrated, cross-government policies to address the issues currently affecting music culture and commends your efforts to implement a Global Music Strategy in Kansas City that embodies the value of Kansas City as an important music city and the first UNESCO City of Music in the United States.

Sincerely,

**Joe Hay**

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