

CENTRAL CITY MANIFESTO



PREAMBLE

Culture and quality of life are central features to healthy communities. The connections of human life to history, folkways and rituals help a community develop a sense of roots, safety and belonging. Central City is a unique creative community possessing a vibrant culture that has provided generations of New Orleanians with unique cultural and human experiences that have helped make New Orleans the city it is today.

The Central City Renaissance Alliance is committed to the growth, prosperity and excellence of Central City and all who live and work here. This manifesto is the call to action of the Central City Renaissance Alliance,

- 1) To nurture and cultivate the unique culture and creativity of Central City;
- 2) To support members of the community toward empowerment and the ability to express and use the genius of their own creativity as responsible citizens;
- 3) To overcome the barriers of the neglect and injustice of the past that have prevented Central City from realizing its full potential and
- 4) To develop economic vitality and economic opportunity that can support the families and businesses of Central City.

PRINCIPLES

The Central City Renaissance Alliance, through a process of study, collaboration, inclusion, unity and community action is dedicated to the realization of Central City's full potential by encouraging these Principles:

- 1) The Central City Renaissance Alliance will ensure that every person, children and youth to adults and elders has access to a high quality of life that includes safety, opportunity, support, and fair and just recognition and compensation for efforts;
- 2) Recognize the unique and creative quality of each individual and the influence that culture and creativity plays in the development of a healthy community life;
- 3) The Central City Renaissance Alliance is dedicated to locating and developing resources and investments for the cultural, social, economic and creative systems of Central City. These resources will be used to improve the quality of neighborhoods, schools, and family life, increase the presence of culture and arts, a vibrant and thriving music and theater scene, restaurants, artists and innovators, entrepreneurs, affordable housing, lively neighborhoods, spirituality, public and green spaces;
- 4) The Central City Renaissance Alliance is dedicated to Central City's longstanding tradition of embracing diversity. People of different backgrounds and experiences contribute a diversity of ideas, expressions, talents and perspectives that will help Central City to grow, flourish and realize its full potential as a vital community with vigorous economic development and opportunities;
- 5) The Central City Renaissance Alliance is dedicated to inclusion, unity and community action. We are committed to collaboration and the practice of fairness and reciprocity. We will actively and diligently resist prejudice and racism in all forms;
- 6) The Central City Renaissance Alliance commits to the ethics of compassion and respect. We promote dialogue and mediation as the processes for resolving differences. We agree to listen to each other and to presume that communication can and will have the power to resolve differences;
- 7) The Central City Renaissance Alliance is dedicated to creating opportunities, not just problem-solving, through identifying, recognizing, encouraging and then tapping into the creative talent, technology and energy present within the Central City community of people;
- 8) The vast and growing network of The Central City Renaissance Alliance is dedicated to finding the ways and means to invest in and build on the unique quality of place that Central City offers, while recognizing that inherited features such as climate, natural

resources and population are important, other critical features such as culture and art, open and green spaces, mixed income neighborhoods, maximum housing stock in commerce can contribute to the strengthening of a vibrant Central City;

9) The Central City Renaissance Alliance is dedicated to removing barriers to the quality of life such as mediocrity, intolerance, sprawl. disconnectedness, poverty. bad schools, exclusivity, social and environmental deterioration;

10) The members of the Central City Renaissance Alliance, individually and collectively take responsibility for change in our community. We promise to improvise and to work to together too make positive and hopeful changes in Central City.

We the undersigned commit to Central City and each other that we will work to infuse the ideas of this Manifesto into our social lives and public policies. We will share the accomplishments with each other so that we all move forward and succeed together in a more creative existence and a more inclusive, unified, committed and proactive community that will provide a higher quality of life for all.

Name Printed:

Address:

Affiliation:

Phone:

Email:

Signature: