



March 28, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my unreserved support for the Flora Lofts project, which would provide long-needed artist residences in the Dallas Arts District.

The proposed development is important, and deserves support, for several reasons. Among them, Flora Lofts:

- Further strengthens the growing arts community in Dallas, an important cultural asset for the city, by fulfilling the long-recognized need to provide an affordable way for artists to live and develop in the creative environment of the Dallas Arts District;
- Strengthens the Arts District itself, economically as well as culturally, since the development will enhance Arts District ambiance by replacing a block-long surface parking lot with an attractively landscaped building that also adds more public parking spaces and retail services to the District.
- Strengthens downtown Dallas by adding more badly needed affordable housing.

This is the development the Dallas Arts District, downtown Dallas and the Dallas arts community have needed for many years. Many people, including the late architecture critic David Dillon, have frequently expressed the need to fulfill the last critical element of the Sasaki Plan -- affordable housing for artists. The involvement of La Reunion TX only enhances its appeal.

As an advocate for the arts in Dallas, I strongly in support of Flora Lofts and request that you put it at the top of your action list and move it forward to become a reality as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Corris".

Michael Corris, PhD  
Professor and Chair,  
Meadows School for the Arts/SMU  
Dallas, TX 75205

cc: Professor José Bowen, Dean, Meadows School for the Arts/SMU