

Washington State Arts Commission Board

RESOLUTION 17-002

2017 Arts Education Month



WASHINGTON STATE
ARTS COMMISSION

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WHEREAS, the Washington State Arts Commission is committed to supporting and advancing projects and collaborations that bring high-quality, standards-based arts education into the lives of public school students throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, the state of Washington recognizes the arts, defined as dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts, as a core academic subject and an essential element of a complete and balanced education; and

WHEREAS, learning in and through the arts enables students to develop critical thinking and problem solving skills, imagination and creativity, perseverance, alternative ways to communicate and express feelings and ideas, and cross-cultural understanding and empathy, which supports academic success across the curriculum as well as personal growth outside of the classroom; and

WHEREAS, imagination and creativity are increasingly understood as critical capacities needed for success in the 21st century workforce; and

WHEREAS, the arts can transform our schools into havens of creativity and exploration—places where students want to learn, teachers want to teach, and all members of the learning community are more engaged, included, and motivated; and

WHEREAS, high-quality school-based arts education involves a wide range of partners, including educators, parents, artists and arts organizations, community members, and local and statewide organizations; and

WHEREAS, ArtsWA's Arts in Education programs support sustainable arts education practices through collaborations of committed schools, districts, and arts education partners; and

WHEREAS, Governor Jay Inslee has proclaimed May as Arts Education Month in the state of Washington;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, that we, the Board of the Washington State Arts Commission join with the Governor and the many partners and friends of arts in education in the state of Washington, proclaiming May

Arts Education Month

We applaud the efforts and dedication of arts educators and advocates around the state, and call for school and community leaders to continue to broaden and strengthen their commitment to provide arts education for every student, in every school, every year.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Board of the Washington State Arts Commission, at a regular open public meeting on this 2nd day of May, 2017.

Bassem Bejjani, MD, Board Chair