

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Arts Education Month continues to celebrate and amplify the innovative work of arts educators in service of students and families in communities across the state; and

WHEREAS, the state of Washington recognizes arts learning as an as a fundamental part of basic education for all PreK-12 students regardless of race, geography, ability, identities, and socioeconomic status; and

WHEREAS, statewide and national data reveal persistent regional and demographic inequities in student and family access to community-based arts learning opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the arts are for everyone and students benefit most when arts learning is designed to be accessible to all, and when curriculum is culturally relevant; and

WHEREAS, arts education includes a range of benefits for youth including increased confidence, academic achievement, understanding of cultures and histories, innovation, school engagement, critical thinking; and

WHEREAS, as communities navigate the many stressors of our time, access to arts learning is more important than ever for healing, brain health, and the social-emotional development of young people, their families, and the communities that surround them; and

WHEREAS, integrating the arts in early learning classrooms fosters joyful classrooms and supports our state's youngest students with the development of motor skills, literacy, social skills, a sense of belonging; and

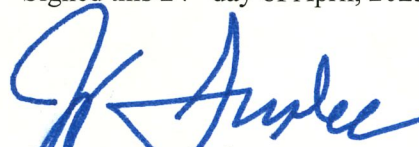
WHEREAS, the state of Washington recognizes the professional expertise of arts educators and advocates around the state, and invites community leaders to continue to strengthen efforts that increase access to arts education for every student, regardless of geographic location;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim May 2023 as

Arts Education Month

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 24th day of April, 2023


Governor Jay Inslee

