

WHEREAS, historically, the State of Maine has been a leader in supporting the Arts in public education; and

WHEREAS, the Arts are an essential component of a basic education and are one of the core subjects as designated by the Maine State Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the Arts include Music, Visual Art, Theatre, and Dance; and

WHEREAS, Arts Education reaches different types of learners and fosters creativity and self-expression in all students, not only those with a special interest or talent, by helping them discover and value their unique voice, and respect the voice of others; and

WHEREAS, the Arts encourage all students, both those who are struggling as well as high-achieving students, to trust their ideas and to creatively engage with curriculum in all content areas; and

WHEREAS, the Arts develop self-discipline, cross-cultural understanding, artistic expression, teamwork, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills required for success in school, college, and the 21st century workforce; and

WHEREAS, Maine Arts Educators are committed to developing and maintaining comprehensive, sequential Arts curricula and programming that follow the highest local, state, and national standards;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim the month of March

Arts Education and Advocacy Month

throughout the State of Maine, and I urge all citizens to recognize this observance.

Ch O.O.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the State to be hereunto affixed GIVEN under my hand at Augusta this third day of February Two Thousand Twenty-One

> Janet T. Mills Governor

Shenna Bellows Secretary of State