

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction



**Arts Education Month Proclamation**

**WHEREAS**, The arts are included in the Basic Education Goals of Washington State (RCW28A.150.210), and the arts are required for high school graduation (WAC180-51-061), and the arts are defined as dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts;

**WHEREAS**, Washington State has created arts learning standards and performance assessments to support high quality teaching and learning in all arts disciplines, for all students, K-12;

**WHEREAS**, Learning done in and through the arts contributes to the development of critical thinking, problem-solving, imagination, and creativity skills that are necessary for success in life in the 21st century;

**WHEREAS**, The arts can bring every academic subject to life and can enhance student engagement and extend student learning in all subjects;

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

**WHEREAS**, The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction reaffirms the importance of the arts as an essential part of a complete and basic education for all students;

**THEREFORE**, I, Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction, do hereby support May as Arts Education Month in Washington State and encourage all communities to give full support to quality school arts programs.

**Proclamation for May 2017 as Arts Education Month**

Signed and adopted on May 1, 2017.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Reykdal".

Chris Reykdal  
Superintendent  
of Public Instruction

