WASHINGTON ART EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

YOUTH ART MONTH®
COUNCIL FOR ART EDUCATION®

YOUTH ART MONTH
2026
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Youth Art Month is an annual celebration, established in 1961, that recognizes the value of visual art education in a student's overall success and encourages support for quality art programs in our schools; and

WHEREAS, experience in the visual arts cultivates valuable skills, such as imagination, creative expression, effective collaboration, innovation, resourcefulness, and adaptability, that are not the focus of other subjects in the K-12 curriculum; and

WHEREAS, visual art education develops students' creative potential and improves problem-solving and critical thinking skills by reinforcing and bringing to life what students learn in other subjects; and

WHEREAS, the 2025-2026 theme for Youth Art Month is The World Needs Art; and

WHEREAS, in support of Youth Art Month, the Washington Art Education Association coordinates a contest in which students create a design based on the annual theme; the winning designs are made into flags, which are displayed and recognized at the National Art Education Association Convention; and

WHEREAS, Youth Art Month aims to increase community understanding and interest in art and visual art education through involvement in art exhibits, workshops, and other creative ventures; and

WHEREAS, multiple national leaders have acknowledged the necessity of including visual art experiences in all students' education; and

WHEREAS, I/We commend all those who advocate for youth art and educators throughout our state and encourage people to support visual art programs in our schools;

NOW, THEREFORE, I/We, (NAME OF GOVERNOR/MAYOR/SCHOOL DISTRICT), GOVERNOR/MAYOR OF THE STATE/CITY OF (ENTER STATE/CITY), do hereby proclaim March 2026 as "**YOUTH ART MONTH"** and commend its observance to all citizens.

Dated this (ENTER DATE)