



Friends of Peoria County

Gerald M Brookhart
Board Member

Elizabeth Crider
Board Member

Randy Stueve
Board Member

To: Friends of the Arts in Education

From: The Gerald M. Brookhart Arts in Education Spring Celebration (GMB)

Re: Welcome to our 37th Year!

Welcome to the 37th Gerald M. Brookhart Arts in Education Spring Celebration! This year's celebration will be from April 11, 2023, through May 15, 2023, from 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM each weekday. As in the past, we will host over 100 schools from seven Central Illinois counties: Peoria, Tazewell, Woodford, Fulton, Marshall, Henry, and McLean. As we celebrate the work, preparation, and talent of our students, it is truly important and a joy to hear and experience the sounds of bands, choruses, choirs, performances, dance, visual arts, and jazz on the Peoria County Courthouse Plaza. My name is Dave Poehls, and I am excited to join the ROE as the GMB Project Director as we all celebrate what the students of central Illinois have accomplished!

As a recent administrator retiree of Peoria Public Schools, I have witnessed firsthand just how anticipated this celebration is for students, parents, and the communities as a whole. It is also important to continue and to grow this valuable experience. The showcasing of our wonderful students is one of the most important tasks we can undertake.

April 11th, 2023, will be the kickoff celebration of International Jazz Month, held at the Peoria Riverfront Museum. May 15th will be the Peace Plays in Peoria performance to wrap up another great season! Please join us in person on the grounds of the Peoria County Courthouse to witness firsthand the amazing talent of youth from all over Central Illinois!

We are hopeful that you will support this event for 2023. Any level of financial support is greatly appreciated! As you can imagine, the five weeks of showcasing our students can become a financial and logistical challenge. The support of our community is truly valued and appreciated! Please check our website at www.springcelebration.org for more information as we update this year's preparations. Thank you very much for considering this request. Please feel free to contact me at dpoecls@peoriaroe.org with any questions or input. Again, your support is truly appreciated!

Sincerely

Dave Poehls
Director of Special Projects, Peoria ROE #48