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 students' creativity and self-expression by developing 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.

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

Janet T. Mills
Governor