

2024 -- H 8034

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

HOUSE RESOLUTION

CELEBRATING MARCH OF 2024, AS "ARTS IN THE SCHOOLS MONTH" IN THE STATE
OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Carson, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Kennedy,
Ajello, Tanzi, Fellela, Shallcross Smith, and Henries

Date Introduced: March 07, 2024

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, The arts enhance and enrich the lives of every Rhode Islander; and

2 WHEREAS, The State of Rhode Island has clear evidence that the arts contribute
3 significantly to our quality of life, the education of our citizens and the economy of our State; and

4 WHEREAS, Arts learning fosters teamwork and collaboration, critical thinking, problem-
5 solving, public speaking, cultural competency, flexibility and attention to detail, all essential
6 skills that employers require in a 21st century economy; and

7 WHEREAS, With our R.I. Arts Education Data Dashboard, arts education in our schools
8 can be quantified to present a full picture of arts education in the Ocean State; and

9 WHEREAS, The Dashboard now allows us to track and monitor if students are getting
10 access to Rhode Island's required arts education as specified in our Basic Education Plan and
11 education statutes; and

12 WHEREAS, The R.I. State Council on the Arts overhauled the Project Grants in
13 Education to be more accessible, equitable and transparent to deliver better support and services
14 to arts education in the schools, arts educators and teaching artists; and

15 WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Department of Education has published an Arts
16 Curriculum Framework to support high-quality, standards-based arts instruction for all students;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Arts education in the schools provides substantial and unique educational
19 benefits to all elementary, middle and secondary students, helping them to stay engaged in

1 school, and graduate with proficiency, ready to enter Rhode Island's workforce; and

2 WHEREAS, The National Art Education Association, the American Alliance for Theatre
3 and Education, the Educational Theatre Association, the National Association for Music
4 Education, and the National Dance Education Organization designate the month of March as
5 "Youth Arts Month"; now, therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
7 proclaims March 2024 to be "Arts in the Schools Month" in our State. We furthermore urge all
8 the citizens of the State to join us in the observance of this month, and to recognize and applaud
9 the efforts of arts educators, artists and administrators, who work diligently to ensure that all
10 young people have access to the arts in their school throughout the school year; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
12 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts.

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