



A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

Designating May 11th – 17th, 2008 as “Arts Education Week” of the City of Kirkland

WHEREAS, the City of Kirkland recognizes that arts education, defined as dance, music, theatre and visual arts, is an essential part of a complete and balanced education for all students. Education in the arts develops imagination, empathy, and critical thinking, which in turn helps students reach their full potential for academic achievement and personal success; and

WHEREAS, participation in the arts helps keep students and educators more engaged in school by promoting creative and interdisciplinary instruction, providing an outlet for self-expression, and creating opportunities for individual achievement; and

WHEREAS, the imagination and creativity are seen as increasingly critical capacities needed for success in the 21st century, as evidenced by national reports and the Washington Learns report on educational reform in our state; and

WHEREAS, high quality school-based arts education involves a wide range of partners including educators, artists and arts organizations, community member, and local and statewide organizations; and

THEREFORE, I, James L. Lauinger, as mayor of the City of Kirkland, do hereby proclaim May 11-17, 2008 as *Arts Education Week* in the City of Kirkland and urge all citizens to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 6th Day of May, 2008

James L. Lauinger, Mayor