



Dance Educators Association of Washington Board Resolution

WHEREAS, the arts, including dance, music, theatre, and visual arts, are defined as a core content area in Washington State's definition of basic education, and considered an essential component of the complete education that should be provided for all students; and

WHEREAS, learning in and through the arts enables students to develop critical thinking and problem solving skills, imagination and creativity, discipline, alternative ways to communicate and express feelings and ideas, and cross-cultural understanding, which supports academic success across the curriculum as well as personal growth outside the classroom; and

WHEREAS, imagination and creativity are increasingly understood as critical capacities needed for success in the 21st century workforce; and

WHEREAS, the arts can transform our schools into havens of creativity and exploration – places where students want to learn, teachers want to teach, and all members of the learning community are more engaged and motivated; and

WHEREAS, high quality school-based arts education involves a wide range of partners, including educators, parents, artists and arts organizations, community members, and local organizations, whose collective endeavors we celebrate and promote; and

WHEREAS, we applaud the efforts and dedication of all arts educators and advocates around the state, and we call for school and community leaders to continue to broaden and strengthen their arts education focus in order to meet the goal of "Arts for Every Student."

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that we, the Dance Educators Association of Washington do hereby proclaim May 2009 as Arts Education Month in the state of Washington, and call on our members to celebrate and promote the arts in our schools and to take action to provide equitable access to arts learning for all students in our learning community.

Signed, this 17th day of April, 2009

Terry Goetz, DEAW President

Dance Educators Association of Washington • www.deawa.org • info@deawa.org

DEAW Board of Directors: Terry Goetz, Meg Mahoney, Krissa Englebright, Liz Law, Shannon Barnes, Anne Hundley, Rebecca Schroeder, Carla Barragan, Anne Maertens, Danielle Payton