



A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

Designating May 14th – 20th, 2006 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, critical thinking, creative problem-solving, collaborative learning, communication skills, self confidence, and cultural awareness, 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, educators, artists and community members throughout the state are working together to support high quality arts education, supported by the efforts of statewide organizations including the Washington State Arts Commission, ArtsEd Washington (the Washington Alliance for Arts Education), and the Washington State Arts Alliance, as well as numerous local arts agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Legislature have worked to create systemic support for arts education through policies defining the arts as a core academic subject area; and

WHEREAS, we celebrate the efforts and dedication of arts educators around the area, and we encourage 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, I, James L. Lauinger, as mayor of the City of Kirkland, do hereby proclaim May 14-20, 2006 as *Arts Education Week* in the City of Kirkland and urge all citizens to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 2nd Day of May, 2006

James L. Lauinger, Mayor