



STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the arts of music, dance, drama, and visual art continue to be humanity’s first and most enduring forms of communication, serving as universal languages that connect humans across time, place, and cultures; and

WHEREAS, arts education provides fundamental forms of expression and literacy, enabling students to make meaning, develop artistic and performance skills, express their experiences and cultures, understand global histories, and make sense of the world around them; and

WHEREAS, the arts contribute significantly to the vibrancy of New Mexico’s arts economy by contributing \$3.4 billion and 26,215 jobs in 2022, an arts education equips students with the skills, creativity, and adaptability to participate in an innovative workforce; and

WHEREAS, arts education is a cornerstone to providing high-quality, culturally-responsive educational opportunities and contributes to the vital and cherished role that the arts play in the cultural expression and heritage of New Mexico’s students, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS, research shows that when teachers integrate the arts with other school subjects or add more arts, many students’ scores on standardized tests improve, such as APS’s Elevated Arts Schools, which improved 18% in ELA, 20% in math, and 71.4% in science in 2023/2024, including Emergent Bi/Multilingual Learners; and

WHEREAS, participation in arts education has been shown to improve school attendance, nurture social-emotional learning among students, and raise graduation rates and college completion, especially for students whose families are economically disadvantaged; and

WHEREAS, engagement in arts education has been shown to promote brain development for all students, including students with learning challenges; and

WHEREAS, many arts educators play a transformative role in the lives of their students by fostering self-expression, confidence, collaboration, and resiliency, thus, contributing to the creation of positive school cultures.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim 2025-2026 Academic Year as:

“New Mexico Year of the Arts in Education”

Attest:

Maggie Toulouse Oliver
Secretary of State

Done at the Executive Office this
17th day of February 2025.

Witness my hand and the Great
Seal of the State of New Mexico.

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

