



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, CITY OF GREENVILLE

Proclamation

WHEREAS, arts education, comprising a rich array of disciplines including dance, music, theatre, media arts, literature, design, and visual arts, is a core academic subject and an essential element of a complete and balanced education for all students;

WHEREAS, according to Albert Einstein, "After a certain high level of technical skill is achieved, science and art tend to coalesce in esthetics, plasticity, and form. The greatest scientists are artists as well.";

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

WHEREAS, to succeed in today's economy, students must masterfully use words, images, sounds and movement to communicate;

WHEREAS, as the Nation works to strengthen its foothold in the 21st century global economy, the arts equip students with a creative, competitive edge;

WHEREAS, where schools and communities are delivering high quality learning opportunities in, through, and about the arts for children, extraordinary results occur. Studies have shown that schools with large populations of students in poverty can be transformed into vibrant hubs of learning through arts education. Also, studies have found that eighth graders from under resourced environments who are highly involved in the arts have better grades, less likelihood of dropping out by grade ten, have more positive attitudes about school, and are more likely to go on to college;

WHEREAS, attracting and retaining the best teachers is vital and can be achieved by ensuring that schools embrace the arts, becoming havens for creativity and innovation;

WHEREAS, arts education has the power to make students want to learn not just within the arts, but other areas of study; and

WHEREAS, art is integral to the lives of many United States citizens and can improve the vitality of communities and the Nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the week beginning the second Sunday of September as

ARTS IN EDUCATION WEEK

in Greenville, Pitt County, North Carolina.

FURTHER, I recognize the importance of the Arts in maintaining a vibrant community, contributing to the economic health of the community, to equip its youth with the skills necessary to be successful in a creative and competitive 21st century workforce, and keeping youth engaged and motivated to stay in school and become productive citizens.

This 13th day of September, 2010.

Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor