

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of September 13 through 19, 2015, as "Arts
2 in Education Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Arts education comprises a rich array of
4 disciplines, including dance, media arts, music, theater, visual
5 arts and similar areas of study; and

6 WHEREAS, Arts education is a core academic component and an
7 essential element of a complete and well-rounded education for
8 all students; and

9 WHEREAS, Arts education enables students to develop critical
10 thinking and problem-solving skills, imagination, creativity,
11 discipline, collaboration, cross-cultural understanding and
12 alternate ways to communicate and express feelings and ideas,
13 all of which support success across the curriculum; and

14 WHEREAS, Arts education contributes to increased attendance
15 and graduation rates, elevates academic achievement and prepares
16 students for college, a career and citizenship readiness; and

17 WHEREAS, Arts education contributes to personal growth

1 outside the classroom, including an increase in a student's
2 likelihood to participate in civic life, volunteerism, altruism
3 and community engagement; and

4 WHEREAS, To succeed in today's economy, students must
5 masterfully develop traits that business leaders demand in a
6 21st century workforce, such as communicating through words,
7 images, sounds and movement; and

8 WHEREAS, There is widespread concern that high-stakes
9 testing, accountability measures for educators and reduced
10 funding are leading to the reduction of access to arts education
11 for students in this Commonwealth; and

12 WHEREAS, The arts are an integral part of life in the United
13 States and this Commonwealth, as well as an integral part of a
14 complete educational experience that contributes to the vibrancy
15 and vitality of communities and the nation; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
17 week of September 13 through 19, 2015, as "Arts in Education
18 Week" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives call on all
20 employees and families throughout this Commonwealth to observe
21 "Arts in Education Week" with appropriate activities.