

**PROCLAMATION CELEBRATING SEPTEMBER 10-16, 2017 AS**  
**NATIONAL ARTS IN EDUCATION WEEK**

**WHEREAS, arts education – including dance, music, theatre, visual arts, media arts, literature, design and more – is an essential element of a complete and well-rounded education for all students; and**

**WHEREAS authentic experiences in the arts provide avenues for students to cultivate imagination and creativity while also building other skills and abilities such as personal identity, positive self-esteem, life satisfaction and giving students a sense of meaning and purpose; and**

**WHEREAS, through the arts, students develop discipline and collaboration, explore alternative ways to express feelings and ideas, and build cross-cultural understanding; and**

**WHEREAS exposure to the arts has proven to help level the learning field across socio-economic boundaries and is associated with increased academic engagement and attainment, better attendance and graduation rates, higher academic aspirations, greater involvement in community service and enhanced leadership skill development; and**

**WHEREAS arts education contributes to a school environment of high expectations, discipline, and academic rigor, strengthens student problem-solving and critical thinking skills and provides another opportunity for family, community, and business involvement with schools.**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the members of the Fayette County Board of Education hereby join the rest of the country in celebrating September 10-16, 2017 as National Arts in Education Week.**

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that this proclamation be spread on the official minutes of the Board of Education.**