

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-fifth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

ENGROSSED

LLS NO. R26-0682.01 Olivia Nesselroade x2670

SR26-003

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

**Snyder and Baisley**, Amabile, Ball, Benavidez, Bridges, Bright, Carson, Catlin, Coleman, Cutter, Danielson, Daugherty, Exum, Frizell, Gonzales J., Hinrichsen, Jodeh, Kipp, Kirkmeyer, Kolker, Lindstedt, Liston, Marchman, Mullica, Pelton B., Pelton R., Rich, Roberts, Rodriguez, Simpson, Sullivan, Wallace, Weissman, Zamora Wilson

Senate Committees

SENATE RESOLUTION 26-003

101 CONCERNING DESIGNATING MARCH AS "ARTS EDUCATION MONTH"  
102 IN COLORADO.

1 WHEREAS, Arts education, which comprises a rich array of  
2 disciplines such as dance, media arts, music, film and theatre arts, visual  
3 arts, and more, is a well-rounded subject and is an essential element of a  
4 complete education for all students; and

5 WHEREAS, A substantive and sequential visual and performing  
6 arts curriculum enables students to develop critical thinking and  
7 problem-solving skills, imagination and creativity, discipline and  
8 collaboration, alternative ways to communicate and express feelings and  
9 ideas, and cross-cultural understanding, which support academic success  
10 across the curriculum; and

11 WHEREAS, Arts education contributes to increased attendance  
12 and graduation rates; elevates academic achievement; enhances social and  
13 emotional learning; and paves the way for students to achieve college,  
14 career, and citizenship readiness; and

15 WHEREAS, To succeed in today's economy, students must

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.*  
*Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.*

SENATE  
Final Reading  
March 2, 2026

1 masterfully develop skills that business leaders demand in a 21st century  
2 workforce, including the ability to be creative, communicate effectively,  
3 collaborate with peers, think critically, and innovate; and

4 WHEREAS, Although arts education is part of a well-rounded  
5 education according to federal statute, access to quality arts education is  
6 not widely available or consistent across Colorado; and

7 WHEREAS, Standards for dance; drama, film, and theatre arts;  
8 music; and visual arts have been fully embedded in the Colorado  
9 academic standards and are updated every six years, but there is no  
10 statewide instructional requirement for elementary schools, middle  
11 schools, or high schools; and

12 WHEREAS, Colorado is one of only two states that does not  
13 collect data on course-level offerings in the arts across all districts or data  
14 on student participation in specific forms of art, such as dance, music,  
15 theatre, or visual arts, which leads to difficulty in evaluating the equitable  
16 access to arts education for Colorado students, schools, and districts; and

17 WHEREAS, The arts are a valued and integral part of life in the  
18 United States and in Colorado, are essential for a complete education, and  
19 contribute immensely to the vibrancy and vitality of communities and the  
20 nation; now, therefore,

21 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-fifth General Assembly*  
22 *of the State of Colorado:*

23 (1) That, to align with Music in Our Schools Month, Theatre in  
24 Our Schools Month, Dance in Your Schools Month, and Youth Art  
25 Month, all of which are celebrated nationally in March each year, the  
26 Colorado General Assembly designates March as "Arts Education Month"  
27 to commemorate, celebrate, and advance the vital role that arts learning  
28 plays in a complete and comprehensive education; and

29 (2) That the state of Colorado recognizes the need to expand  
30 equitable access to quality arts education across the state to serve all  
31 students.

32 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Resolution be sent to  
33 Governor Jared Polis and the members of the Colorado State Board of  
34 Education.