

WHEREAS; encompassing a wide range of topics and disciplines, the arts and humanities encourage collaborative, intergenerational, and cross-cultural learning, and enable individual expression through a variety of different media; and

WHEREAS; the arts and humanities build connections and understanding between diverse groups of people within our communities, enriching the lives of all Wisconsinites; and

WHEREAS; creative and cultural industries are important economic drivers in Wisconsin, with arts and cultural businesses employing more than 96,000 people and representing over three percent of our state's economy; and

WHEREAS; over the past year and a half, we have needed the arts and humanities more than ever to creatively deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, to provide cultural context for issues of racial equity and social justice, to foster cultural understanding and community healing, to combat the pandemic-exacerbated isolation and loneliness that many have experienced, and to successfully reopen and sustain our local and state economies; and

WHEREAS; the arts and humanities have been critical sources of comfort and means of expression throughout the pandemic, as Wisconsinites took up painting, wrote poetry, reconnected with a musical instrument from their past or learned to play a new one, read books, wrote books, watched movies, and danced in their homes; and

WHEREAS; even in the face of unprecedented challenges, our state's artists, humanities scholars, and arts and humanities organizations have found new and innovative ways to deliver exhibitions, performances, programs, and services to their fellow Wisconsinites and to the world; and

WHEREAS; this occasion provides an opportunity for all Wisconsinites to support and participate in the arts and humanities—whether in-person or virtually—at schools, museums, libraries, performing arts centers, universities, cultural festivals, and small businesses throughout our state; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins the thousands of organizations and individuals across our state who are dedicated to promoting the arts and humanities, including the Wisconsin Arts Board and Wisconsin Humanities, in enabling thoughtful engagement in civic life, celebrating cultural activities in our communities, and encouraging all Wisconsinites to find their own creative voice;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim October 2021 as

ARTS AND HUMANITIES MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance
to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 8 day of October 2021.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State