

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 supporting more than 83,000 jobs and accounting for more than \$9.6 billion of our state's economy in 2020, according to the U.S. Department of Commerce; and

WHEREAS; while the coronavirus pandemic has had a profound impact on the creative and cultural industries in our state and across our country, we have needed the arts and humanities more than ever over the past few years, which is why our state invested \$15 million in federal pandemic relief aid towards the COVID-19 Cultural Organization Grant Program and millions more to support live performance venues, theatres, and other cultural venues and organizations since March 2020; 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; as people continue to return to schools, universities, museums, libraries, performing arts centers, and other public spaces across our state, this occasion provides an opportunity for all Wisconsinites to support and participate in the arts and humanities, whether in-person or virtually; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin Humanities, an independent non-profit affiliate organization of the National Endowment for the Humanities, celebrates its 50th anniversary this year, and the Wisconsin Arts Board anticipates its 50th anniversary in 2023; 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 supporting the arts in education, promoting thoughtful engagement with history, culture, and ideas, 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 2022 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 16<sup>th</sup> day of September 2022.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State