

DENVER CITY COUNCIL



Proclamation No. 26-0433

Honoring Denver Arts and Venues During Colorado Arts Education Month

WHEREAS the Colorado General Assembly adopted SR26003 designating the month of March as Arts Education Month statewide, affirming that dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts are essential elements of a complete education for Colorado students; and that better data, access, and support are needed to ensure equitable arts learning across the state; and

WHEREAS Colorado's inaugural Arts Education Month was championed by Colorado Business Committee for the Arts (CBCA) and Think 360 Arts for Learning, with bipartisan sponsorship in the Senate and a statewide toolkit inviting schools and communities to activate arts learning throughout March; and

WHEREAS Denver Arts & Venues (DAV) is the City and County of Denver agency responsible for operating some of the region's most renowned facilities, including Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Denver Performing Arts Complex, Colorado Convention Center, Denver Coliseum, McNichols Civic Center Building and Theatre at Loretto Heights in addition to supporting local artists and arts organizations; and

WHEREAS Denver's renewed cultural roadmap stewarded by DAV, called *DENVER CREATES: A Collective Commitment to the Arts*, underscores the city's commitment to broaden youth access to arts learning, cultivate the cultural community, and strengthen the economic vitality of the creative sector through coordinated, data informed action; and

WHEREAS since spring 2023, Denver Arts & Venues has supported the Equity in Arts Learning for Colorado Youth Grant, contributing over \$400,000 in funding to increase access to arts education for historically marginalized youth in Denver; and

WHEREAS Denver Arts & Venues also supports out-of-school-time arts programming at recreation centers in historically under-resourced communities for youth 12-years and older through a partnership with Denver Parks & Recreation; and

WHEREAS DAV's 1% for Public Art program has created a collection of more than 500 artworks across the city forming an accessible, open art classroom for all, offering daily opportunities for learning, reflection, and creative exploration; and

WHEREAS Denver's public art collection and free public art tours enriches arts education by turning civic spaces into open, inclusive learning environments where students, educators, and families can experience creativity and the diverse stories that shape our city.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE DENVER CITY COUNCIL:

Section 1. That the Denver City Council do hereby proclaim March as "Arts Education Month" in Denver and call upon schools, educators, artists, cultural organizations, families, and community leaders to champion arts learning, participate in and support community arts initiatives, take a public art tour and explore public art in your neighborhood.

Section 2. That the Clerk and Recorder of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to Gretchen Hollrah, Executive Director, Tariana Navas-Nieves, Brooke Dilling and Jeannene Bragg.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL March 31, 2026

PRESIDENT

