MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Bellingham recognizes that arts education, defined as dance, music, theatre and visual arts, is an essential component of the complete education for all students; and

WHEREAS, learning in and through the arts promotes cross-cultural understanding and enables students to develop critical thinking, imagination, creativity, discipline and alternative ways to communicate and express feelings and ideas, thereby supporting academic success across the curriculum and personal growth outside the classroom; and

WHEREAS, imagination and creativity are increasingly understood as critical capacities needed for success in the 21st century workforce; and

WHEREAS, high quality arts education involves a wide range of partners, including educators, parents, artists and arts organizations, community members and local organizations, whose collective endeavors we celebrate and promote;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dan Pike, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, do hereby proclaim May 2010 as:

“ARTS EDUCATION MONTH”

In the City of Bellingham, Washington, and urge all citizens to celebrate and join in the special recognition of the value of arts education in our community.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 7th day of May 2010

Signed this 7th day of May 2010.

Dan Pike, Mayor
City of Bellingham