



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Youth Art Month is an annual nationwide celebration, established in 1961, that encourages support for quality art programs in our schools and recognizes the value of art education in a student's overall success, and

WHEREAS, art education develops students' creative potential and improves problem-solving and critical thinking skills by reinforcing and bringing to life what students learn in other subjects;

WHEREAS, experience in the arts cultivates valuable skills such as imagination, creative expression, effective collaboration, innovation, cross-cultural understanding, and adaptability, as well as personal growth outside the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Ridgefield Youth Arts Month is a collaborative effort between Ridgefield School District, Dance Fusion NW, Ridgefield Art Association, and the broader Ridgefield community, demonstrating Ridgefield's dedication to providing opportunities for students to explore and grow through artistic expression in visual, literary, musical and performing arts; and

WHEREAS, Ridgefield Youth Arts Month aims to increase community understanding and involvement in art and art education through the various activities, workshops and performances that take place during the month – beginning with The Ridge Association Color Run and festivities on March First Saturday.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MATT COLE, Mayor of the City of Ridgefield, do hereby proclaim March 2025 as

“RIDGEFIELD YOUTH ARTS MONTH”

and encourage students, community organizations and residents to make a commitment to artistic expression and to arts education.

Dated this 27th day of February 2025.

CITY OF RIDGEFIELD

Matt Cole, Mayor