Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, the West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History, the West Virginia Arts Office, and the West Virginia Commission, on the Arts support programs, organizations, and individual artists in all 55 counties of the state; and

Whereas, the arts are the embodiment of all things beautiful and entertaining in the world -- the enduring record of human achievement; and

Whereas, the arts enhance every aspect of life in West Virginia - growing our creative economy, enriching our civic life, enhancing tourism, and exerting a profound positive influence on the education of our children; and

Whereas, support for the arts advances, fosters, and promotes the traditional and contemporary creativity of our residents through music, theatre, literature, dance, and fine arts; and

Whereas, arts education research shows that the arts help to foster discipline, imagination, creativity, self-expression, and problem-solving skills while also helping to develop a heightened appreciation of beauty and cross-cultural understanding; and

Whereas, the Governor and Legislature have worked to support, foster, and expand access to the arts for all West Virginians, regardless of age, income and geographic location; and

Whereas, the arts play a unique and intrinsically valuable role in the lives of our families, our communities, and our state.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *February 29, 2024* as:

West Virginia Arts Day

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to celebrate and promote the arts and culture in the Mountain State.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Twenty-Ninth Day of February, in the Year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Four and in the One Hundred Sixty-First Year of the State.

TO THE SERVER LINE SERVER LINE

Jim Justice

Governor

By the Governor:

Mac Warner Secretary of State