MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents
FROM: Jacob Oliva
DATE: February 14, 2020

SUBJECT: Arts Education Month

The arts provide a means for students to authentically engage with their community and participate in integrated lesson experiences. March is celebrated by Florida and national arts associations as Music in Our Schools Month, Theatre in Our Schools Month, Dance in Our Schools Month and Youth Art Month. The department encourages all schools to use this month as an opportunity to provide students with meaningful, well-rounded arts education experiences.

Arts integrated lessons provide equitable and accessible arts education for all students. Through the arts, students develop knowledge, skills and dispositions that can support academic success across all content areas. Music, theater, dance and visual arts are an integral, multifaceted part of life and have the power to inspire and transform the lives of our students.

The department thanks the teachers, administrators and arts education stakeholders who continue to provide excellence and equity in arts education throughout the state of Florida. The Bureau of Standards and Instructional Support, Arts Education Specialist, will be hosting a webinar on methods for teaching the study of women’s contributions to the United States through the arts. Women’s contributions to the United States is included in the required instruction statute (s. 1003.42(q), Florida Statutes); aligned webinar topics will include Women’s History Month and the Women’s Suffrage Centennial. The webinar is open to all content areas and will take place on Wednesday, February 26, 2020, at 3:00 pm Eastern Time. Please register at https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/504767500692510475.

JO/eo

cc: School District Principals
School District Fine Arts Supervisors
Florida Teachers