HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 99-4611, by Representatives Skinner, Dunn, Santos, Talcott, Kessler, Ogden, Conway, D. Schmidt, Fortunato, Ruderman, Campbell, Thomas, Lantz and Regala

WHEREAS, The literary, performing, and visual arts are vibrant threads weaving through the tapestry of life in the State of Washington; and

WHEREAS, The arts inspire creativity and innovation, foster communication and understanding across the cultures, knit our communities and our state together with a common understanding of our humanity, and transmit core values to future generations; and

WHEREAS, The arts accelerate students' mastery of history, math, and science, enhance problem-solving skills, and increase the self-esteem of youth at risk; and

WHEREAS, The arts industry throughout Washington state generates millions of dollars annually through performances, exhibitions, festivals, art walks, craft fairs, and concerts in the parks; and

WHEREAS, The arts industry informs and educates the public and its leadership about cultural opportunities, and encourages artistic and economic growth; and

WHEREAS, The arts industry provides assistance in long-range community and educational planning in an effort to secure a place for the arts as a vital component of Washington state's environment; and

WHEREAS, The arts industry provides forums for discussion and collaboration between the cultural community at large to implement ways and means to meet the identified cultural goals of the area, and supports efforts to meet those needs; and

WHEREAS, Our state has received international acclaim for the quality of its artists and arts institutions, drawing audiences from across the nation and the world to the Northwest, and making cultural tourism a vital part of our economy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize and honor arts and artists in Washington state.

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of Resolution 4611 adopted by the House of Representatives February 1, 1999.

Timothy A. Martin, Co-Chief Clerk