



# State of New York

## Executive Chamber

### Proclamation

**Whereas**, music is a universal language that speaks to people through the medium of sound and its distinctive creation, structure, and performance; the ability of music to affect us both emotionally and intellectually makes it one of the most remarkable and compelling means of artistic expression by human beings; and

**Whereas**, the study of music is a core educational component and required subject in the New York State Learning Standards, which encourages students to create, perform, participate, and learn about music – from playing an instrument and singing, to composing original music, to expanding their capacity to listen and respond to various types of music; and

**Whereas**, an important part of a school's Arts program, music education not only benefits students by engaging them in the creative and critical thought process, but can help them tap and develop their own potential, skills, knowledge, and lifelong appreciation of music; and

**Whereas**, Music Education is recognized as part of a well-rounded sequential curriculum that includes performance, coursework, and integrated music opportunities that help develop artistic and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills beneficial to students and all New Yorkers; and

**Whereas**, "Music Inspires," the theme of the National Association for Music Education, and "Music: Success for All," the theme of the New York State School Music Association, reflect the importance of music education in our schools and highlight the cultural significance of music; and

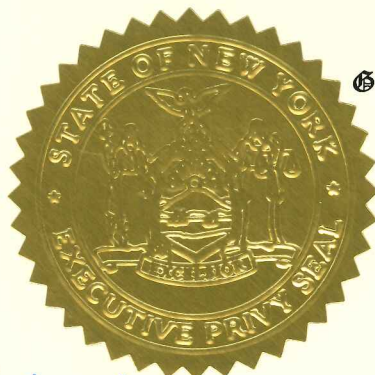
**Whereas**, 2017 marks the 44<sup>th</sup> year of New York State's celebration of *Music in Our Schools Month*, which originated here as *Music in Our Schools Day* on March 14, 1973, and has since expanded into a national program to raise awareness of the importance of music education and of its accessibility to all children; this annual observance also presents an excellent opportunity for music teachers to highlight the benefits and results of their music education programs to their schools, to parents, and to their communities; and

**Whereas**, the New York State School Music Association – in collaboration with the National Association for Music Education, school administrators, teachers, parents, students, and musicians across the nation – will emphasize the many significant benefits of music instruction by participating in activities that celebrate *Music in Our Schools Month* throughout March, and it is fitting that all New Yorkers participate in this observance at the national, state, and local levels, further expressing our support for music education in schools;

**Now, Therefore**, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim March 2017 as

## MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH

in the Empire State.



**G i v e n** under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State  
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-fourth  
day of February in the year two thousand seventeen.

*William T. Malrow*  
Secretary to the Governor

*Andrew M. Cuomo*  
Governor