

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Since 1985, October has been recognized as National Arts and Humanities Month in towns and cities across the nation; and

WHEREAS: The arts and humanities play an important role within our communities and our schools, allowing people from all walks of life to find the collective wisdom and intellect of the American spirit, not only enriching our lives by teaching us about the past, but by creating an authentic spirit for the future; and

WHEREAS: Arkansas has a rich tapestry of talented individuals, groups and communities who contribute their creativity to the arts and humanities. From the folk music of the Ozark foothills to the blues of the Mississippi Delta, Arkansas artists have added their unique cultural experience to the greater national conversation--through the mastery of painters, musicians, professors and writers, and through generations of storytellers; and

WHEREAS: A flourishing arts presence transcends the boundaries and artificial divisions that so often separate us. Through the study of the arts and humanities, our ability to empathize and understand the perspective of others is deepened. By passing on an appreciation for the arts and humanities to our children, we give them a broader understanding of the world we live in and their own place in it; and

WHEREAS: The economic impact is also undeniable. The arts contribute \$166.2 billion a year to the U.S. economy;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim October, as

NATIONAL ARTS AND HUMANITIES MONTH

across the state, and I urge my fellow citizens to discover and celebrate the arts and humanities in Arkansas.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 5th day of October, in the year of our Lord 2015.



Asa Hutchinson
Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest: *Mark Martin*
Mark Martin, Secretary Of State