





HONORARY CHAIRPERSONS Senator JOSÉ M. SERRANO Assemblymember KAREN McMAHON



March 2024

Dear Legislator,

It is my pleasure to inform you that artwork by students from your district has been selected to be in the 31st Annual NYSATA Legislative Student Art Exhibition. The Legislative Exhibit is the flagship event for Youth Art Month, celebrating the visual arts, encouraging support for quality art programs and promoting art material safety.

The New York State Art Teachers Association in partnership with NYSUT and in collaboration with our New York State Legislators organizes this exhibit annually. The goals of the exhibit are to showcase art programs and to give talented student artists grades k-12 an opportunity to receive statewide recognition.

The academic discipline of art is a critical component of a child's education. Skills developed through visual arts experiences are unlike any other academic subjects and include promoting problem-solving, creativity, observation and communication. The visual arts are also a therapeutic resource for releasing stress and an excellent means of self-expression for students.

The NYSATA Board of Trustees invites you to celebrate Youth Art Month and view the virtual edition of this exhibit on the NYSATA.org website at <u>www.nysata.org/legislative-exhibit</u>. The virtual exhibit will be concluding Youth Art Month, posting the last week of March 2024 and will remain accessible through February 2025. You are also welcome to contact participating art teachers, to deliver letters acknowledging the artworks of specific students within your district.

Thank you for appreciating the academic discipline of art as a critical component of a child's education and for supporting quality visual arts programs throughout NYS school districts.

Carol Ann Pinkans Legislative Student Art Exhibit Co-Chairperson NYSATA President

Christina Norris Legislative Student Art Exhibit Co-Chairperson NYSATA Board of Trustees