



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, Alabama School of Fine Arts is currently celebrating the 50th Anniversary of its founding serving our state and educating its students with distinction; and

WHEREAS, Alabama School of Fine Arts traces its humble beginnings to Governor Lurleen Wallace and her decision for the 1967-1968 school year to provide special funding to community arts leaders in Birmingham to support after-school instructional arts programs that eventually became what is now called Alabama School of Fine Arts; and

WHEREAS, Alabama School of Fine Arts provides a special opportunity for talented and passionate students in grades 7 through 12 from across the state to immerse themselves in a unique educational experience in six specialty disciplines; Creative Writing, Dance, Math & Science, Music, Theatre Arts and Visual Arts; and

WHEREAS, Alabama School of Fine Arts, also widely known simply as ASFA, is Alabama's only state public middle and high school, blending fine arts with math and science education. ASFA provides students with intensive professional inter-disciplinary study while also providing the core academic courses necessary to earn an Alabama high school diploma; and

WHEREAS, ASFA's 2017 class of 70 seniors earned an average ACT score of 26.8, were awarded \$13 million in merit scholarships averaging almost \$200,000 each, and were accepted at 124 colleges, universities, art schools and conservatories. Such accomplishments are generally representative of each Alabama School of Fine Arts graduating class; and

WHEREAS, ASFA students routinely achieve and are recognized as Presidential Scholars, National Merit Scholars, National Achievement Scholars, Intel International Science and Engineering Finalists, YoungArts winners, and Scholastic Art & Writing Awards gold medalists; and

WHEREAS, ASFA student accomplishments include performances with the National Youth Orchestra, competing in the American Computer Science League All-Star International Competition, spending summers at Dance Theatre of Harlem and American Ballet Theatre, having artwork professionally commissioned, starring in major television shows, and publishing entire books all while attending as full-time students at ASFA; and

WHEREAS, alumni of the Alabama School of Fine Arts have received global recognition, fame and industry awards, won Emmy Awards, authored The Hunger Games trilogy, are NASA engineers, editors of national publications, have their work prominently displayed in museums, are Billboard music artists, renowned teachers, dance company founders, television writers, film producers, and CEOs of successful businesses and world-changing and community serving non-profits. Over its 50-year history, the Alabama School of Fine Arts has positively impacted thousands and thousands of students, alumni, faculty and staff and enriched, empowered, enlightened and advanced the state by educating these individuals who shared their special God-given talents through the arts, the sciences, community service and commerce; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama School of Fine Arts is a state treasure and example of the state's enduring commitment to educational excellence;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim March 8, 2018, as

Alabama School of Fine Arts Day

in the State of Alabama.



*Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the
Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City
of Montgomery on the 2nd day of March 2018.*

Kay Ivey
Kay Ivey, Governor