

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 391**

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the Texas Coalition for Quality Arts Education, an organization dedicated to the advancement of arts education in this state; and

**WHEREAS**, Texas is a state with a rich supply of natural resources, and one of the greatest among those resources is the artistic talent and creativity of our citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, More than 1.3 million middle school and high school students are enrolled in fine arts courses and more than 2.3 million elementary school students are receiving fine arts instruction; and

**WHEREAS**, Hundreds of students from across our great state are coming to Austin on March 9 and 10, 2009, to share their talents through performances and displays throughout the Capitol in celebration of Arts Education Days at the Capitol; and

**WHEREAS**, Art, music, theater, and dance offer unsurpassed opportunities for self-expression, and early exposure to the arts through educational programs greatly increases the quality of a child's education and development; and

**WHEREAS**, Studying fine arts gives students a unique opportunity to learn about our cultural heritage and the culture of others; and

**WHEREAS**, Countless studies have found that students who participate in fine arts courses in school perform better in other academic courses, especially math and science, and achieve higher scores on standardized tests; and

**WHEREAS,** Fine arts education promotes creativity and innovative thinking that benefits all students, regardless of their field of study, and provides all students with the skills that make them better prepared for college and for the 21st century workforce; and

**WHEREAS,** Businesses and industries have identified creativity and innovation as the keys to our nation's continued success and leadership in the world economy; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby commend the students enrolled in fine arts courses in Texas public schools and the more than 10,000 fine arts educators in Texas for their dedication and their contributions to the quality of life and future prosperity of our state; and, be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the Texas Coalition for Quality Arts Education as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Shapiro

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 9, 2009.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate