

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-0403

July 25, 2023

Charter School Authorizing Panel  
Arkansas Department of Education  
4 Capitol Mall  
Little Rock, AR 72201-1013

To Whom It May Concern,

I am pleased to submit this letter expressing support for the open-enrollment charter school application for the Institute for the Creative Arts (ICA). I understand that the ICA application enjoys the support of many local and state elected officials who represent the community served by the school, and I am pleased to add my endorsement to those already expressed. Western Arkansas enjoys a wide variety of education options for families to consider, and if approved the ICA open-enrollment charter would enhance those offerings.

ICA is seeking to become a first-of-its-kind Performing and Visual Arts high school in Arkansas. Distinguished from an arts-integration school, ICA proposes to operate according to an arts-immersive model based on a Master-Teacher/Apprentice approach. Students will refine their creative abilities in a learning environment designed to attain mastery while completing state academic requirements to prepare for college and career opportunities. Of particular interest to me are the extensive and comprehensive arts education opportunities this school would provide to underserved rural populations.

It is for these reasons that I respectfully request all due consideration of the open-enrollment charter school application for ICA. If I can be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Steve Womack  
Member of Congress