Date: April 17, 2024

To: Local Educational Agency Leads, Administrators of Approved Private Schools for Students

with Disabilities

Route To: District Directors of Special Education and Pupil Services Administrators, Principals, Nonpublic School

Administrators, Teachers, Child Study Team

From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner

Division of Educational Services

Autism Acceptance Virtual Art Expo

Every April, schools throughout New Jersey participate in schoolwide and community activities to commemorate Autism Acceptance Month. In support and recognition of students with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), the New Jersey Department of Education's (NJDOE) Office of Special Education (OSE) promotes acceptance and awareness of ASD during April as an opportunity for educators, students, and parents to celebrate students on the spectrum.

The OSE has curated over 200 original artworks from students across New Jersey with autism and their allies for a virtual art expo. This year's theme is "What's in a Dream?" Please help the NJDOE celebrate students on the spectrum by visiting the virtual art expo throughout the month of April.

Accessing the Virtual Art Expo

To access the virtual art expo, please click on this <u>link</u>. The art show is interactive, and visitors are encouraged to explore the exhibit and interact with each piece of art by clicking on the picture.

c: Members, State Board of Education NJDOE Staff Statewide Parent Advocacy Network Garden Garden State Coalition of Schools NJ LEE Group