



Massachusetts Department of Youth Services

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DYS Youth Highlight Importance of Arts Education During Visit to Beacon Hill, Meet with Secretary of State William Galvin

BOSTON – On April 11, 2018, 13 DYS youth met with state leaders, including Secretary of State William Galvin, during the Massachusetts Department of Youth Services' (DYS) 3rd Annual "Statehouse Youth Arts Rally" to highlight the role of arts education in DYS' curriculum.

"DYS is committed to effective and creative engagement strategies with youth in our care and custody," said DYS Commissioner Peter Forbes. "Arts education has been a proven motivator for our youth and has supported their investment in education."

As part of the day on Beacon Hill, DYS youth also promoted the May 15 "[Share Your Art, Share Your Voice](#)" Youth Arts Showcase. The sixth annual Showcase will include spoken word poetry, drumming, singing, and theatre performances. Approximately 270 pieces of artwork, all made by DYS youth, are expected to be available for sale with proceeds supporting youth artists.

The showcase is made possible through a partnership between DYS, Commonwealth Corporation and the Collaborative for Educational Services. Kim McLarin, Co-host of WGBH's "Basic Black", is an honorary "Arts Ambassador." The May 15th event is at WGBH Studios in Boston and will feature opening remarks from Commissioner Forbes.



As the juvenile justice agency for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, DYS promotes positive change in the lives of the hundreds of youth in its care and custody by investing in strategies that support positive youth development and give DYS youth the knowledge, skills, and confidence they need to build a better future. [Click here](#) for more information.

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