tention to this quiet crisis. And across America, we encourage victims
and their families to call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1–
800–799–SAFE. Together, we must ensure that, in America, no victim
of domestic violence ever struggles alone.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United
States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Con-
stitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October
2009, as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. I ask all Amer-
icans to do their part to end domestic violence in this country by sup-
pporting their communities’ efforts to assist victims in finding the help
and healing they need.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this first day
of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand nine, and of the Inde-
pendence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-
fourth.

BARACK OBAMA

Proclamation 8429 of October 1, 2009

National Information Literacy Awareness Month, 2009

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

Every day, we are inundated with vast amounts of information. A 24-
hour news cycle and thousands of global television and radio net-
works, coupled with an immense array of online resources, have chal-
lenged our long-held perceptions of information management. Rather
than merely possessing data, we must also learn the skills necessary
to acquire, collate, and evaluate information for any situation. This
new type of literacy also requires competency with communication
technologies, including computers and mobile devices that can help in
our day-to-day decisionmaking. National Information Literacy Aware-
ness Month highlights the need for all Americans to be adept in the
skills necessary to effectively navigate the Information Age.

Though we may know how to find the information we need, we must
also know how to evaluate it. Over the past decade, we have seen a
crisis of authenticity emerge. We now live in a world where anyone
can publish an opinion or perspective, whether true or not, and have
that opinion amplified within the information marketplace. At the
same time, Americans have unprecedented access to the diverse and
independent sources of information, as well as institutions such as li-
braries and universities, that can help separate truth from fiction and
signal from noise.

Our Nation’s educators and institutions of learning must be aware of—
and adjust to—these new realities. In addition to the basic skills of
reading, writing, and arithmetic, it is equally important that our stu-
dents are given the tools required to take advantage of the information
available to them. The ability to seek, find, and decipher information
can be applied to countless life decisions, whether financial, medical,
educational, or technical.
This month, we dedicate ourselves to increasing information literacy awareness so that all citizens understand its vital importance. An informed and educated citizenry is essential to the functioning of our modern democratic society, and I encourage educational and community institutions across the country to help Americans find and evaluate the information they seek, in all its forms.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 2009 as National Information Literacy Awareness Month. I call upon the people of the United States to recognize the important role information plays in our daily lives, and appreciate the need for a greater understanding of its impact.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-fourth.

BARACK OBAMA

Proclamation 8430 of October 2, 2009

National Arts and Humanities Month, 2009

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Throughout our Nation’s history, the power of the arts and humanities to move people has built bridges and enriched lives, bringing individuals and communities together through the resonance of creative expression. It is the painter, the author, the musician, and the historian whose work inspires us to action, drives us to contemplation, stirs joy in our hearts, and calls upon us to consider our world anew. The arts and humanities contribute to the vibrancy of our society and the strength of our democracy, and during National Arts and Humanities Month, we recommit ourselves to ensuring all Americans can access and enjoy them.

Our Nation’s cultural assets tell the story of America’s diversity and reveal our common humanity. Countless American artists develop unique styles by infusing their work with cultural elements from across the country and the world, and in turn, have an impact on the global arts community. Through history and philosophy, we learn the heritage of fellow Americans and appreciate the arc of their narrative as an integral part of our own. Cultural exchanges, collaborative projects, and continuing education programs help us to share and preserve a mosaic of rich traditions and provide future generations with opportunities for artistic expression.

The arts and humanities also bring our economy untold benefits. Millions of Americans take part in the non-profit and for-profit arts industries. Cultural and arts activities not only contribute tens of billions of dollars to our economy, but also inspire innovation. In neighborhoods and communities across the Nation, the arts and humanities lie at the