



Administrator

NEED-TO-KNOW



What is the purpose of the New York State P-12 Learning Standards for the Arts?

The Standards support NYSED's objective to provide all New York State P-12 students with access to learning in Dance, Music, Theater, Visual and Media Arts; delivered by certified teachers employing instruction reflective of research and best practices; using sequential, standards-based arts curricula; along with quality resources and support from community stakeholders at large.

The Standards allow students to develop and eventually attain their creative potential while fostering a deeper understanding of what connects us as human beings artistically, culturally, socially, and emotionally.

Why New Arts Standards?

Beyond grade bands, there are specific grade levels with performance indicators allowing teachers to differentiate instruction for student needs within a progressive, sequential learning plan.

21st Century Skills (creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, and communication) foster creative problem solvers and innovative thinkers that engage in global learning and civic engagement.

Media Arts, added as a fifth Arts Discipline, addresses traditional, changing, and emerging technologies as contemporary vehicles for artistic work, with an emphasis on communication skills, collaborative interactions, and creative problem solving.

What is the implementation timeline for the Standards?

The Arts Learning Standards were developed through a collaborative process between the State Education Department and partners including school district teacher and administrative representatives, BOCES representatives, and state and regional professional arts organizations (e.g., NYSSMA, NYSATA, NYSTEAA, NYSDEA).

The Arts Learning Standards were published in 2017; professional development resources were made available in 2018; and an Individual Arts Assessment Pathway (IAAP) to High School Graduation was approved by the Regents in 2019. The Standards will be in full implementation by Fall 2021.

How are the Standards organized?

- **Artistic Processes and Anchor Standards** organize the content of the Standards. The eleven Anchor Standards (common goals) and four Artistic Processes (Creating, Performing/Presenting/Producing, Responding, and Connecting) are shared by all arts disciplines.
- **Enduring Understandings** are discipline-specific statements summarizing BIG Ideas that have lasting value beyond the classroom, producing transferable lifelong skills.
- **Essential Questions** are questions aiming to simulate thought, to provoke inquiry, and to spark more questions. They can span multiple lessons and experiences.
- **Performance Indicators** identify key outcomes by grade level within the specific arts disciplines.

Why does it matter to you?

This framework provides guidance to understand and implement the philosophy, goals, processes, structures, and outcomes that shape student learning and achievement in the arts. New approaches to teaching in the arts are not linear. The student art experience encompasses multiple processes; entry into arts experiences can occur at many points.

How do the Standards promote Artistic Literacy?

The Arts

- Foster connections between the arts and other disciplines
- Provide opportunities to innovate and create new ideas; and to access, develop, express, and integrate meaning across a variety of content areas.
- Provide value to the education of the whole child as a place of free expression.
- Emphasize the importance of observing and participating in the social, political, spiritual, economic, and aesthetic aspects of our communities.
- Equip all to live a rich, meaningful life, and to join with others in expanding such opportunities for all to share.
- Lay a foundation for ongoing creative capacity, and remain and grow as a nation of innovators and creators.

Why is it important to be artistically literate?

The arts provide unparalleled access to:

- Knowledge and culture.
- Multiple modes of learning and expression.
- Creating, performing, responding, and connecting of meaningful experiences.
- Knowledge constructs about the world.

In addition, the Arts

- Build a more integrated understanding of self and community.
- Directly engage students in independent and collaborative goal-seeking choices and critical decisions.
- Inspire, engage, challenge, and focus the mind.
- Build collaboration and problem-solving skills.

LINKS

STANDARDS & RESOURCES

Standards Implementation Resources, Standards at a Glance, Glossaries, and Posters may be accessed at <http://www.nysed.gov/curriculum-instruction/arts-standards-implementation-resources>

The Standards Implementation Guide may be accessed at <http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/programs/curriculum-instruction/2017-implementation-guide-9.2-.pdf>