

**Archdiocese of Philadelphia
Secondary School System
Music, Dance, Theater Standards**

The Catholic school community strives to make its faith commitment a complement to academic excellence by developing a curriculum that leads all students to Christ as it prepares them for a successful life in the twenty-first century. It is a curriculum that recognizes the sanctity of each human life while affirming the dignity of each person as a unique creation of God. It is a curriculum that is intended to offer all students the opportunity to study the world at many levels of complexity, through a variety of courses.

Vision Statement

The arts are essential to the human spirit. They inspire, they elevate, they bring out the potential to create. They are a binding force in a world separated by distrust and prejudice. We firmly believe that every child has a right to an arts education, be it through music, visual art, theater or dance. Through the arts students can experience that which is basic to their humanity: the ability to create, to express, and to appreciate the beauty of God's creation, the masterpiece of which is themselves.

General Standards

Schools of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia shall teach, challenge, and support every student to realize his/her maximum potential and to acquire the knowledge and skill to:

- ◆ Recognize and express the Christian and Catholic identity through the creation of the arts
- ◆ Communicate ideas, feelings and attitudes of the creative process through one or more arts disciplines
- ◆ Develop critical thinking skills through the study and the application of the arts
- ◆ Make qualified judgments about the value of different forms of artistic expression
- ◆ Recognize various cultures and civilizations through knowledge of their arts
- ◆ Make connections between the arts and other disciplines
- ◆ Utilize various technologies analogous to arts education

SECONDARY FINE ARTS MUSIC, DANCE AND THEATER

1. Students will recognize and express the Catholic Christian identity through the arts.

Content Standards

- 1.1 Value self and others through creative accomplishments.
- 1.2 Develop self-confidence through artistic achievements.
- 1.3 Recognize the spiritual influence in works of art.
- 1.4 Appreciate and participate in community worship.
- 1.5 Minister to school and community through artistic performance.

Competency Standards

- 1.1.1 Take an active role in worship through planning, lectoring, cantoring, and participating in music ensembles, other liturgical ministries and worship environment.
- 1.2.1 Recognize and appreciate the works of the masters as a form of their spiritual expression.

2. Students will communicate ideas, feelings and attitudes of the creative process through one or more arts disciplines.

Content Standards

- 2.1 Create original works that reflect a body of knowledge, skills and design issues using appropriate media, tools, techniques, instruments, processes, and technology.
- 2.2 Present written and oral assessments of one's own work and the work of others using appropriate vocabularies.
- 2.3 Assess and explain technical skills needed to produce a quality product.

Competency Standards

- 2.1.1. Read and notate music.
- 2.2.1 Perform alone and with others a varied repertoire to include concepts of musicality: rhythm, intonation, tone quality, expression and technical skill.
- 2.3.1. Improvise melodies, variations and accompaniments.
- 2.3.2. Compose and arrange music within specified guidelines.
- 2.3.3 Create, perform, view, analyze and respond to dance in a variety of styles and techniques appropriate for skill and age level.
- 2.3.4. Assume, at various times, the roles of actor, set designer, director, playwright in dramatic presentations.
- 2.3.5. Analyze and evaluate theatrical performances.

3. Students will develop critical thinking skills through the study and application of the arts.

Content Standards

- 3.1. Create musical compositions, choreography and dramas using knowledge of artistic elements.
- 3.2. Analyze works of art from a variety of cultures, time periods and ethnic groups to formulate valid opinions about their value as art forms.
- 3.3 Develop an understanding of the relationships among the arts and other disciplines.

Competency Standards

- 3.1.1. Evaluate music and music performances and apply appropriate terminology to these evaluations.
- 3.2.1 Understand the relationships between works of art and history and culture through identification of distinguishing characteristics of representative arts genres and styles from a variety of cultures.
- 3.3.1 Improvise melodies, variations, accompaniments, choreography and dramatic presentations in the context of historical and cultural perspectives.

4. Students will make qualified judgments about the value of different forms of artistic expression.

Content Standards

- 4.1. Critique art works and performances for quality and effectiveness using knowledge-based evaluation criteria.
- 4.2. Critique art works and performances through the utilization of aesthetic qualities and artistic knowledge.
- 4.3. Analyze works of art to assess the structural elements and compositional devices.
- 4.4. Research cultural and historical information to evaluate arts works.

Competency Standards

- 4.1.1. Apply technical criteria to music, dance and theatrical performances.
- 4.2.1 Attend professional performances.
- 4.3.1 Understand relationships between music, dance and theater and history and culture as well as the evolution of various genres and artists associated with them.

5. Students will recognize various cultures and civilizations through knowledge of their arts.

Content Standards

- 5.1. Identify the impact of history on the arts and arts on history.
- 5.2. Identify and compare the characteristics of works of art in various histories and cultures.

Competency Standards

- 5.1.1 Compare characteristics of two or more arts within a particular historical period or style.
- 5.2.1 Identify and explain the stylistic features of a given work that serves to define its aesthetic tradition and its historical or cultural context.
- 5.2.2. Explain, discuss and demonstrate appropriate behaviors in varied arts settings.

6. Students will make connections between the arts and other disciplines.

Content Standards

- 6.1. Analyze and explain how the arts are interrelated.
- 6.2. Analyze, assess and explain similarities and difference among the arts forms and other disciplines.
- 6.3. Analyze and apply knowledge of connections between the arts and other disciplines in the curriculum.
- 6.4. Demonstrate cooperative techniques in interdisciplinary (cross-curricular) practices.

Competency Standards

- 6.1.1 Relate connections among the various art forms and other disciplines: theology, social studies, science, math, languages, English, physical education and technology).
- 6.2.1 Explain ways in which the principles and subject matter of various disciplines outside the arts are interrelated with those of music, dance and theater.
- 6.3.1 Compare and contrast the creative roles in the various arts to the creative roles in other disciplines.

7. Students will have access to and utilize various technologies analogous to arts education.

Content Standards

- 7.1. Create original works using multimedia technology.
- 7.2. Enhance musical concepts using technology.
- 7.3. Perform music on electronic instruments.

Competency Standards

- 7.1.1 Be able to compose, arrange and publish music using appropriate software.
- 7.2.1 Learn music theory, aural concepts and related academic studies using computer assisted instruction.
- 7.3.1 Incorporate synthesizers, sequencers and MIDI in the classroom and performance ensembles.