

# **Music Composition and Theory**

## **Introduction**

### **Philosophy and Rationale for the Arts**

The arts are essential in education and they provide students with a means to think, feel, and understand the world in unique ways. The meta-cognitive skills learned through instruction in the arts fosters effective work habits, creativity and innovation, critical thinking and problem solving, communication, and collaboration, each of which transfers across content areas preparing students for life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

These revised Nevada Academic Content Standards for Fine Arts encompass five disciplines: Visual Arts, Music, Theater, Dance, and Media Arts, and are predicated on a belief that Artistic Literacy provides students with an ability to create, present, critique, and connect art to their academic studies, lives, and the world around them.

The 2017-2018 Nevada Academic Content Standards for Fine Arts have substantive changes from those previously adopted to better respond to the needs of the field, including the following:

1. Creating four (4) strands to better represent the idea of artistic literacy. The four strands are: Creating, Performing, Responding, and Connecting.
2. The creation of Anchor standards under each of the strands to provide consistency across the disciplines and the presentation of standards across content, disciplines, and grade levels.
3. Grade by grade level standards for each discipline, including three (3) levels at high school to allow for greater differentiation of instruction and support student learning.
4. The inclusion of media arts standards to support the integration of artistic literacy in the areas of film, animation, gaming and computational artmaking (e.g., writing software code) to supplement existing standards in the area of digital communications across the curriculum.

**Interpretation Guide to Reading the Standards:**

<p><b>Strand: Creating-</b> Conceiving and developing new artistic work and ideas.</p>	<p><b>Strand: Performing-</b> Realizing artistic ideas and work through interpretation and presentation.</p>	<p><b>Strand: Responding-</b> Understanding and evaluating how the arts convey meaning.</p>	<p><b>Strand: Connecting-</b> Relating artistic ideas and work with personal meaning and external context.</p>
<p><b>Anchor Standard 1.</b> Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.</p>	<p><b>Anchor Standard 4.</b> Analyze, interpret and select artistic work for presentation.</p>	<p><b>Anchor Standard 7.</b> Perceive and analyze artistic work.</p>	<p><b>Anchor Standard 10.</b> Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.</p>
<p><b>Anchor Standard 2.</b> Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.</p>	<p><b>Anchor Standard 5.</b> Develop and refine artistic work for presentation.</p>	<p><b>Anchor Standard 8.</b> Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.</p>	<p><b>Anchor Standard 11.</b> Relate artistic ideas and work with societal, cultural, and historical context to deepen understanding.</p>
<p><b>Anchor Standard 3.</b> Refine and complete artistic work.</p>	<p><b>Anchor Standard 6.</b> Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work.</p>	<p><b>Anchor Standard 9.</b> Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.</p>	

## Composition and Theory: Proficient

<b>Strand</b>	<b>Anchor</b>	<b>Standard</b>
Creating: Conceiving and developing new artistic ideas and work.	1. Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.	MU:Cr1.1.CI Describe how sounds and short musical ideas can be used to represent personal experiences, moods, visual images, and/or storylines.
	2. Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.	<p>MU:Cr2.1.CI Identify and describe the development of sounds or short musical ideas in drafts of music within simple forms (such as one-part, cyclical, or binary).</p> <p>MU:Cr2.2.CI Assemble and organize sounds or short musical ideas to create initial expressions of selected experiences, moods, images, or storylines.</p>
	3. Refine and complete artistic work; Present culminating presentation of completed work.	<p>MU:Cr3.1.CI Identify, describe, and apply teacher-provided criteria to assess and refine the technical and expressive aspects of evolving drafts leading to final versions.</p> <p>(MU:Cr3.2.CI Describe the given context and performance medium for presenting personal works, and how they impact the final composition and presentation.</p> <p>MU:Cr3.3.CI Share music through the use of notation, performance, or technology, and demonstrate how the elements of music have been employed to realize expressive intent.</p>
Performing: Realizing artistic work through interpretation and presentation.	4. Select, analyze, and interpret artistic work for presentation	<p>MU:Pr4.1.CI Identify and select specific excerpts, passages, or sections in musical works that express a personal experience, mood, visual image, or storyline in simple forms (such as one-part, cyclical, binary).</p> <p>MU:Pr4.2.CI Analyze how the elements of music (including form) of selected works relate to style and mood, and explain the implications for rehearsal or performance.</p> <p>MU:Pr4.3.CI Develop interpretations of works based on an understanding of the use of elements of music, style, and mood, explaining how the interpretive choices reflect the creators' intent.</p>
	Rehearse, Evaluate, and Refine: 5. Develop and refine artistic	MU:Pr5.1.CI Create rehearsal plans for works, identifying repetition and variation within the form.

Strand	Anchor	Standard
	techniques and work for presentation.	<p>MU:Pr5.2.CI Using established criteria and feedback, identify the way(s) in which performances convey the elements of music, style, and mood.</p> <p>MU:Pr5.3.CI Identify and implement strategies for improving the technical and expressive aspects of multiple works.</p>
	6. Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work.	<p>MU:Pr6.1.CI Share live or recorded performances of works (both personal and others'), and explain how the elements of music are used to convey intent.</p> <p>MU:Pr6.2.CI Identify how compositions are appropriate for an audience or context, and how this will shape future compositions.</p>
Responding: Understanding and evaluating how the arts convey meaning.	7. Perceive and analyze work.	<p>MU:Re7.1.CI Apply teacher-provided criteria to select music that expresses a personal experience, mood, visual image, or storyline in simple forms (such as one-part, cyclical, binary), and describe the choices as models for composition.</p> <p>MU:Re7.2.CI Analyze aurally the elements of music (including form) of musical works, relating them to style, mood, and context, and describe how the analysis provides models for personal growth as composer, performer, and/or listener.</p>
	8. Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work	<p>MU:Re8.1.CI Develop and explain interpretations of varied works, demonstrating an understanding of the composers' intent by citing technical and expressive aspects as well as the style/genre of each work.</p>
	9. Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.	<p>MU:Re9.1.CI Develop and explain interpretations of varied works, demonstrating an understanding of the composers' intent by citing technical and expressive aspects as well as the style/genre of each work.</p> <p>MU:Re9.2.CI Describe the way(s) in which critiquing others' work and receiving feedback from others can be applied in the personal creative process.</p>
Connecting: Relating artistic ideas and work with personal meaning and external context.	10. Apply and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.	<p>MU:Cn10.1.CI Demonstrate how interests, knowledge, and skills relate to personal choices and intent when creating, performing, and responding to music.</p> <p>Embedded within: MU:Cr1.1.CI MU:Cr3.2.CI, MU:Pr4.1.CI,</p>

<b>Strand</b>	<b>Anchor</b>	<b>Standard</b>
		MU:Re8.1.CI
	11. Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical context to deepen understanding.	MU:Cn11.1.CI Demonstrate understanding of relationships between music and the other arts, other disciplines, varied contexts, and daily life.  Embedded within: MU:Cr2.1.CI, MU:Pr4.2.CI, MU:Pr6.1.CI, MU:Re7.2.CI

## Composition and Theory: Accomplished

Strand	Anchor	Standard
Creating: Conceiving and developing new artistic ideas and work.	1. Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.	MU:Cr1.1.CII Describe and demonstrate how sounds and musical ideas can be used to represent sonic events, memories, visual images, concepts, texts, or storylines.
	2. Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.	<p>MU:Cr2.1.CII a. Assemble and organize multiple sounds or musical ideas to create initial expressive statements of selected sonic events, memories, images, concepts, texts, or storylines.</p> <p>MU:Cr2.2.CII Describe and explain the development of sounds and musical ideas in drafts of music within a variety of simple or moderately complex forms (such as binary, rondo, or ternary).</p>
	3. Refine and complete artistic work; Present culminating presentation of completed work.	<p>MU:Cr3.1.CII Identify, describe, and apply selected teacher-provided or personally-developed criteria to assess and refine the technical and expressive aspects of evolving drafts leading to final versions.</p> <p>MU:Cr3.2.CII Describe the selected contexts and performance mediums for presenting personal works, and explain why they successfully impact the final composition and presentation</p> <p>MU:Cr3.3.CII Share music through the use of notation, solo or group performance, or technology, and demonstrate and describe how the elements of music and compositional techniques have been employed to realize expressive intent.</p>
Performing: Realizing artistic work through interpretation and presentation.	4. Select, analyze, and interpret artistic work for presentation	<p>MU:Pr4.1.CII Identify and select specific passages, sections, or movements in musical works that express personal experiences and interests, moods, visual images, concepts, texts, or storylines in simple forms (such as binary, ternary, rondo) or moderately complex forms.</p> <p>MU:Pr4.2.CII Analyze how the elements of music (including form) of selected works relate to the style, function, and context, and explain the implications for rehearsal and performance.</p> <p>MU:Pr4.3.CII Develop interpretations of works based on an understanding of the use of elements of music, style, mood, function, and context, explaining and</p>

Strand	Anchor	Standard
		supporting how the interpretive choices reflect the creators' intent.
	5. Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for presentation.	<p>MU:Pr5.1.CII Create rehearsal plans for works, identifying the form, repetition and variation within the form, and the style and historical or cultural context of the work.</p> <p>MU:Pr5.2.CII Using established criteria and feedback, identify the ways in which performances convey the formal design, style, and historical/cultural context of the works.</p> <p>MU:Pr5.3.CII Identify and implement strategies for improving the technical and expressive aspects of varied works.</p>
	6. Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work.	<p>MU:Pr6.1.CII Share live or recorded performances of works (both personal and others'), and explain how the elements of music and compositional techniques are used to convey intent.</p> <p>MU:Pr6.2.CII Explain how compositions are appropriate for both audience and context, and how this will shape future compositions.</p>
Responding: Understanding and evaluating how the arts convey meaning.	7. Perceive and analyze work.	<p>MU:Re7.1.CII Apply teacher-provided or personally-developed criteria to select music that expresses personal experiences and interests, moods, visual images, concepts, texts, or storylines in simple or moderately complex forms, and describe and defend the choices as models for composition.</p> <p>MU:Re7.2.CII Analyze aurally and/or by reading the scores of musical works the elements of music (including form), compositional techniques and procedures, relating them to style, mood, and context; and explain how the analysis provides models for personal growth as composer, performer, and/or listener.</p>
	8. Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work	MU:Re8.1.CII Develop and support interpretations of varied works, demonstrating an understanding of the composers' intent by citing the use of elements of music (including form), compositional techniques, and the style/genre and context of each work
	9. Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.	MU:Re9.1.CII Explain the effectiveness of the technical and expressive aspects of selected music and performances, demonstrating understanding of music theory as well as compositional techniques and

<b>Strand</b>	<b>Anchor</b>	<b>Standard</b>
		<p>procedures.</p> <p>MU:Re9.2.CII Describe ways in which critiquing others' work and receiving feedback from others have been specifically applied in the personal creative process.</p>
<p>Connecting: Relating artistic ideas and work with personal meaning and external context.</p>	<p>10. Apply and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.</p>	<p>MU:Cn10.1.CII            Demonstrate how interests, knowledge, and skills relate to personal choices and intent when creating, performing, and responding to music.</p> <p>Embedded within:            MU:Cr1.1.CII,            MU:Cr3.2.CII,            MU:Pr4.1.CII,            MU:Re8.1.CII</p>
	<p>11. Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical context to deepen understanding.</p>	<p>MU:Cn11.1.CII            Demonstrate understanding of relationships between music and the other arts, other disciplines, varied contexts, and daily life.</p> <p>MU:Cr2.1.CII,            MU:Pr4.2.CII,            MU:Pr6.1.CII,            MU:Re7.2.CII</p>

## Composition and Theory: Advanced

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Creating: Conceiving and developing new artistic ideas and work.	1. Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.	MU:Cr1.1.CIV Describe and demonstrate multiple ways in which sounds and musical ideas can be used to represent extended sonic experiences or abstract ideas.
	2. Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.	<p>MU:Cr2.1.CIII Assemble and organize multiple sounds or extended musical ideas to create initial expressive statements of selected extended sonic experiences or abstract ideas.</p> <p>MU:Cr2.2.CIII Analyze and demonstrate the development of sounds and extended musical ideas in drafts of music within a variety of moderately complex or complex forms.</p>
	3. Refine and complete artistic work; Present culminating presentation of completed work.	<p>MU:Cr3.1.CIII Research, identify, explain, and apply personally-developed criteria to assess and refine the technical and expressive aspects of evolving drafts leading to final versions.</p> <p>MU:Cr3.2.CIII Share music through the use of notation, solo or group performance, or technology, and demonstrate and explain how the elements of music, compositional techniques and processes have been employed to realize expressive intent.</p>
Performing: Realizing artistic work through interpretation and presentation.	4. Select, analyze, and interpret artistic work for presentation	<p>MU:Pr4.1.CIII Identify and select specific sections, movements, or entire works that express personal experiences and interests, moods, visual images, concepts, texts, or storylines in moderately complex or complex forms.</p> <p>MU:Pr4.2.CIII Analyze how the elements of music (including form), and compositional techniques of selected works relate to the style, function, and context, and explain and support the analysis and its implications for rehearsal and performance.</p> <p>MU:Pr4.3.CIII Develop interpretations of works based on an understanding of the use of elements of music (including form), compositional techniques, style, function, and context, explaining and justifying how the interpretive choices reflect the creators' intent.</p>
	5. Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for presentation.	MU:Pr5.1.CIII Create rehearsal plans for works, identifying the form, repetition and variation within the form, compositional techniques, and the style

Strand	Anchor	Standard
		<p>and historical or cultural context of the work.</p> <p>MU:Pr5.2.C.III Using established criteria and feedback, identify the ways in which performances use compositional techniques and convey the formal design, style, and historical/cultural context of the works.</p> <p>MU:Pr5.3.C.III Identify, compare, and implement strategies for improving the technical and expressive aspects of multiple contrasting works.</p>
	6. Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work.	<p>MU:Pr6.1.C.III Share live or recorded performances of works (both personal and others'), and explain and/or demonstrate understanding of how the expressive intent of the music is conveyed.</p> <p>MU:Pr6.2.C.III Explain how compositions are appropriate for a variety of audiences and contexts, and how this will shape future compositions.</p>
Responding: Understanding and evaluating how the arts convey meaning.	7. Perceive and analyze work.	<p>MU:Re7.1.C.III Apply researched or personally-developed criteria to select music that expresses personal experiences and interests, visual images, concepts, texts, or storylines in moderately complex or complex forms, and describe and justify the choice as models for composition.</p> <p>MU:Re7.2.C.III Analyze aurally and/or by reading the scores of musical works the elements of music (including form), compositional techniques and procedures, relating them to aesthetic effectiveness, style, mood, and context; and explain how the analysis provides models for personal growth as composer, performer, and/or listener.</p>
	8. Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work	<p>MU:Re8.1.C.III Develop, justify and defend interpretations of varied works, demonstrating an understanding of the composers' intent by citing the use of elements of music (including form), compositional techniques, and the style/genre and context of each work.</p>
	9. Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.	<p>MU:Re9.1.C.III Evaluate the effectiveness of the technical and expressive aspects of selected music and performances, demonstrating understanding of theoretical concepts and complex compositional techniques and procedures.</p> <p>MU:Re9.1.C.IIIb Describe and evaluate ways in which</p>

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		critiquing others' work and receiving feedback from others have been specifically applied in the personal creative process.
Connecting: Relating artistic ideas and work with personal meaning and external context.	10. Apply and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.	<p>MU:Cn10.1.CIII Demonstrate how interests, knowledge, and skills relate to personal choices and intent when creating, performing, and responding to music.</p> <p>Embedded within:  MU:Cr1.1.C.III,  MU:Cr3.2.C.III,  MU:Pr4.1.C.III,  MU:Re8.1.C.III</p>
	: 11. Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical context to deepen understanding.	<p>MU:Cn11.1.CIII Demonstrate understanding of relationships between music and the other arts, other disciplines, varied contexts, and daily life.</p> <p>Embedded within:  MU:Cr2.1.C.III,  MU:Pr4.2.C.III,  MU:Pr6.1.C.III,  MU:Re7.2.C.III</p>