



Garden State International Heritage Festival 2017



Department of Visual and Performing Arts

Learn Schools' Visual Arts 2016-2017 Vision Statement

The arts are an indispensable and fundamental part of a student's education. Our mission for the visual arts program at iLearn Schools is to provide interdisciplinary, multi-cultural, and historically aware lessons which engage our students' senses, talents, and individual experiences. iLearn Schools' visual arts program provides a secure environment where students study visual imagery, ideas, and occasions for creating art in their everyday lives.

Visual arts curriculum offers visual, hands-on experiences to all types of learners and is used to enrich the student's perception of information. Our lessons open students to the opinions of others while promoting a respect for differences, moving students beyond stereotypical ideas about individuals from different racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups. Our cultural arts program prepares students to participate in the world around them.

Our art educators believe that our students are a part of this culture, and constantly seek new opportunities to involve our young artists in local, statewide, and national current arts events. We believe our students are the key to keeping art alive for centuries to come. Through student-centered discussions, manipulation of materials, and a variety of sensual and perceptual experiences, students will develop the skills, information, and confidence they need to participate in the larger world around them.

Learn Schools' Performing Arts 2016-2017 Vision Statement

At iLearn Schools, performing arts are experienced through exploring, practicing, and performing in a multitude of environments that suit the students' auidial, visual, and kinesthetic learning styles. It is our mission to provide students a place to discover, express, and create through aspects of performing arts, whether musical or theatrical, while encouraging intellectual and social growth while preparing students for college and career-readiness in the performing arts.

The Performing Arts Department at iLearn Schools believes in a strong, well-balanced education, combining both individual and group experiences, using a variety of teaching methods, allowing and encouraging students to excel and develop their skills. Students are motivated to seek further challenges to maintain the desire of discovery and expression through their experiences. Students in our performing arts department utilize the many opportunities of growth all while continuing to grow as performers off-stage as well, through strong team-building, excellent rapport with staff, and reinforcing the development of confidence needed to succeed.

Connecting the GSIHF with Curricula

The Garden State International Heritage Festival is the blending of multidisciplinary content areas to recognize and celebrate diversity in the classroom throughout the year. Many of the NJ Student Learning Standards and National Core Arts Standards can be explored within the framework of cultural awareness and appreciation. In the arts-based curricula, students may create projects and performances based on artistic styles or time periods, and view, perform, and listen to pieces garnered from myriad cultures. Through this holistic approach, students are exposed to a world of artistic expression, increasing their global awareness of the arts, and embracing creativity as 21st- century learners. **The GSIHF serves as a forum to display the creative talents of our students.**



NEW JERSEY CORE CURRICULUM CONTENT STANDARDS (*updated 2014*)

Arts Education in the 21st Century

Creativity is a driving force in the 21st century global economy, with the fastest growing jobs and emerging industries relying on the ability of workers to think unconventionally and use their imaginations

Experience with and knowledge of the arts are essential components of the P-12 curriculum in the 21st century. As the state of New Jersey works to transform public education to meet the needs of a changing world and the 21st century workforce, capitalizing on the unique ability of the arts to unleash creativity and innovation in our students is critical for success, as reflected in the mission and vision that follow:

Mission: The arts enable personal, intellectual, social, economic, and human growth by fostering creativity and providing opportunities for expression beyond the limits of language.

Standard 1.1 The Creative Process: All students will demonstrate an understanding of the elements and principles that govern the creation of works of art in dance, music, theatre, and visual art.

Standard 1.2 History of the Arts and Culture: All students will understand the role, development, and influence of the arts throughout history and across cultures.

Standard 1.3 Performing: All students will synthesize skills, media, methods, and technologies that are appropriate to creating, performing, and/or presenting works of art in dance, music, theatre, and visual art.

Standard 1.4 Aesthetic Responses & Critique Methodologies: All students will demonstrate and apply an understanding of arts philosophies, judgment, and analysis to works of art in dance, music, theatre, and visual art.



National Coalition for **CORE ARTS** Standards

Understanding and Using the Core Arts Standards The arts have always served as the distinctive vehicle for discovering who we are. Providing ways of thinking as disciplined as science or math and as disparate as philosophy or literature, the arts are used by and have shaped every culture and individual on earth. They continue to infuse our lives on nearly all levels—generating a significant part of the creative and intellectual capital that drives our economy. The arts inform our lives with meaning every time we experience the joy of a well-remembered song, experience the flash of inspiration that comes with immersing ourselves in an artist’s sculpture, enjoying a sublime dance, learning from an exciting animation, or being moved by a captivating play.

The fact that the arts provide important touchstones confirms their value to the development of every human being. Nurturing our children, then, necessarily means that we must provide all of them—not just those identified as “talented”—with a well-rounded education that includes the arts. By doing so, we are fulfilling the college and career readiness needs of our students, laying the foundations for the success of our schools and, ultimately, the success of our nation.

The central purposes of education standards are to identify the learning that we want for all of our students and to drive improvement in the system that delivers that learning. Standards, therefore, should embody the key concepts, processes and traditions of study in each subject area, and articulate the aspirations of those invested in our schools—students, teachers, administrators, and the community at large. To realize that end goal, these new, voluntary National Core Arts Standards are framed by a definition of artistic literacy that includes philosophical foundations and lifelong goals, artistic processes and creative practices, anchor and performance standards that students should attain, and model cornerstone assessments by which they can be measured. The connective threads of this conceptual framework are designed to be understood by all stakeholders and, ultimately, to ensure success for both educators and students in the real world of the school.

The framework is being developed in the complex, evolving context of local, state, and national educational practice and public policy. Therefore, the National Coalition for Core Arts Standards (NCCAS) expects that this guiding document will evolve as the standards are brought to completion. This conceptual framework is intended to serve as an entry point into the further refinement of the standards through feedback and discussion with a broad range of stakeholders.

In addition, while extensive research has been done in support of the standards revision (ranging from international standards and to alignment to the Common Core Standards in Mathematics and English Language Arts), the research phase of the work is far from complete. To further refine and develop this new generation of arts standards, NCCAS is committed to seeking out and gathering input from a broad range of stakeholders with an interest in arts education. Teachers, students, parents, and decision makers all have a stake in the work of creating coherent standards that will shape policy and classroom practice, helping arts education to solidify its contributions to the students of America.