

## Proposed Alaska Arts Standards Fact Sheet | Public Comments

The Alaska State Board of Education (SBE) has sent proposed, revised Alaska Arts Standards forward for public comment. Please provide feedback to the SBE on the revision of these standards, no later than **4:00 p.m. on Friday February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016.**

The Arts Standards—which include dance, media arts, music, visual arts and theatre—guide educational practice in the delivery of sequential instruction across diverse art forms, and inform local, voluntary arts education curriculum development, professional development, leadership, policy and community partnerships.

In 2014 [the Alaska State Council on the Arts](#) released [Venture for Alaska's Youth](#), a report on Arts Education in Alaska. One of the top recommendations in the report was to “*update the [1996 Alaska Fine Arts Standards](#) and Develop Media Arts Standards.*”

The [Alaska Arts Education Consortium](#), a statewide non-profit arts education organization, took the lead on this work with support from the Alaska Dept. of Education and Early Development, several Alaska school districts, and the Alaska State Council on the Arts. Over the last year a diverse group of Alaskan education, arts and culture sector representatives have worked as a task force to update and revise the 1996 Alaska State Content Standards in the Arts. The Standards Task Force met three times in person to review and revise the Standards, and begin work on providing resources for schools and districts to implement the new standards. The Task Force considered how the standards might be utilized by arts specialists to teach within a specific discipline, classroom teachers to integrate the arts into other content areas, and by local curriculum developers, and community arts partners.

The Task Force also envisioned foundational support materials for the proposed standards, which will include a philosophy and vision for the standards, lifelong learning goals, and essential questions and enduring understandings specific to dance, media arts, music, visual arts and theatre.

The Task Force included many voices at the table, working passionately and collaboratively to develop standards that will serve students and teachers in Alaska, across a diversity of forms and cultures. Members represented a diversity of art forms, rural and urban school districts, and community arts partners.

### Here are a few “prompt” questions that might help you provide feedback to the SBE:

- To what degree do the four prime standards (A. Create, B. Present, C. Respond, D. Connect) represent a diversity of art forms, across a diversity of cultures and communities, in Alaska?
- How might these standards be used by teachers, arts specialists, students and/or community arts specialists in your district or community?
- In a time of multi-media content and growing global connection, do these standards support artistic literacy in any given art form?
- Is there anything missing that should be added to the 11 anchor standards that are aligned with the four process standards?

To comment on these proposed Alaska Arts Content Standards, go to the Department of Education and Early Development website at <https://education.alaska.gov/regs/comment.cfm>, and follow the instructions on the page. A link to the proposed standards is provided, as well as the administrative code you will reference in your comment.

If you have questions about the process engaged in by the Alaska Arts Standards Task Force, please contact AAEC's leader on the project, Annie Calkins at [anniecalkins@gmail.com](mailto:anniecalkins@gmail.com).

Thank you for your time and engagement with arts education in our state.

### **Proposed Alaska Arts Content Standards**

A: Create (CR) | A student should be able to imagine and develop artistic ideas and work.

A student who meets the content standard should:

- 1) Generalize and conceptualize artistic ideas and work;
- 2) Organize and develop artistic ideas and work; and
- 3) Refine and complete artistic work.

B: Present (PR) | A student should be able to interpret and share artistic work.

A student who meets the content standards should:

- 1) Select, analyze and interpret artistic works, including those from diverse cultural traditions, for performance, presentation and/or production;
- 2) Develop and refine artistic work for performances, presentations and/or productions; and
- 3) Perform, present and/or produce artistic work.

C: Respond (RE) | A student should be able to understand and evaluate how the arts convey meaning.

A student who meets the content standard should:

- 1) Recognize and analyze artistic works, including those from diverse cultural traditions;
- 2) Interpret intent and meaning in artistic works; and
- 3) Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.

D: Connect (CO) | A student should be able to relate artistic ideas and work with personal meaning and external context.

A student who meets the content standard should:

- 1) Relate, synthesize and express both knowledge and personal experiences as a way to participate in the arts; and
- 2) Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical contexts to deepen understanding.