A Guide to the Colorado Academic Standards

Working Together

To support families and teachers in realizing the goals of the Colorado Academic Standards, this guide provides an overview of the learning expectations for high school drama and theatre arts education and offers some possible learning experiences students may engage in during this time.

Why Standards?

Created by Coloradans for Colorado students, the Colorado Academic Standards provide a grade-by-grade road map to help ensure students are ultimately successful in college, careers, and life. The standards aim to improve what students learn and how they learn in ten content areas, emphasizing critical-thinking, creativity, problem solving, collaboration, and communication as important life skills in the 21st century.

Drama and Theatre Arts Education for High Schools (9-12)

The drama and theatre arts standards in the high school years focus on specific drama knowledge and skills and theatre elements to develop a solid foundation for specialized theatrical study (acting/character and script analysis, playwriting, technical theatre such as lights/sound/set and costume design, directing, and film studies). Through a variety of specialized theatre courses, students research, investigate and perform numerous dramatic techniques and theatrical genres such as scripted and improvisational works. They also examine character development and a variety of setting scenarios, develop ideas as playwrights, directors, designers and technicians, describe their own personal preferences for drama and theatre works, and respectfully critique themselves and the performances of others.

Where can I learn more?

- Contact your school district regarding local decisions related to standards, curriculum, resources, and instruction.
- Colorado Academic Standards Booklets: http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/GradeLevelBooks.asp
- Karol Gates, Colorado Arts Content Specialist at 720-202-9268, Gates_k@cde.state.co.us

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Colorado **PTA**
every child. one voice.

At the end of High School, students can...

The Colorado Academic Standards in Drama and Theatre Arts
are organized by elements of the Creative Process:
Create ➡ Perform/Present ➡ Know/Comprehend and Critique/Evaluate/Refine

Drama and Theatre Arts Education Learning Expectations for Film/Media Arts through a Fundamental Pathway in High School

Create (Create)
Create a project that uses electronic media to present a dramatic form in a new or enhanced way; understand and use technology to enhance activities and dramatizations; determine casting, staging, and technical requirements for a film/media production.

Perform (Perform/Present)
Use skills to demonstrate the ability to rehearse and exhibit knowledge of film and media; exhibit an understanding of the interrelationship among the technical aspects of film production, performers, and audiences; inform the design of sets, costumes, sound, and lighting for a film production.

Critically Respond (Know/Comprehend and Critique/Evaluate/Refine)
Research the cultural and historical background of a specific film; compare and contrast practices and methods of performance with the practices and methods of film, cinema, television, and electronic media; develop specific methods for documenting and assessing one's own artistic development throughout participation in a film or media project; critique and evaluate artistic choices and personal reactions to film or media presentations using guidelines for evaluating films.

Throughout the study of Film/Media Arts, you may find students in the Fundamental Pathway successfully applying the elements of the creative process by...

- Investigating the roles of live theatre, film, cinema, television, and electronic media to help to interpret the world around them; using current technologies, such as social networking, Internet research, and media to support/assist with creating a character; using technology to recreate an environment, enhance a production, and bring a creative work to life.

- Working on a film production team, as an actor, designer, technician or director; understanding the historical and cultural background of different forms of film to aid in creating believable performances; utilizing a director's skills, such as organizing, blocking, preparing rehearsals, scheduling, and conceptualizing.

- Comparing and contrasting film and cinema and media presentations from various genres and cultures; adhering to schedules, time restraints, and deadlines, and learning to prioritize.