

# Arts & Humanities

ADOPTION EFFECTIVE

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STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
ARTS & HUMANITIES COORDINATOR

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The Idaho Arts and Humanities Arts Content Standards encompass several disciplines, all created to enhance the K-12 educational experience. Standards in the disciplines described below, first created in 2000, have been reviewed twice since that time. The most recent standards, adopted by the Idaho State Legislature in 2017, added the discipline of media arts. Significant changes to these standards were made by Idaho stakeholders, including educators and members of arts and humanities communities. Statements from each of the disciplines represent segments of a larger white paper document that outlines the scope of each area of study.

Dance:

Dance education provides all students with opportunities to participate in, understand, create, reflect and value the art of dance. Students exposed and trained in dance develop *dance literacy*, and participate in multiple ways of communicating and collaborating. The Idaho Dance Standards enhance a student's ability to develop creativity, imagination, innovation, critical thinking, and problem solving.

Interdisciplinary Humanities:

The Interdisciplinary Humanities standards provide a pathway for learners to discover and understand the human experience through a balanced and integrated combination of the arts and/or humanities with inclusion of *two or more* content areas of arts and humanities. The Idaho Interdisciplinary Standards guide the teacher who will have extensive expertise in two or more disciplines and enable students to identify and apply authentic connections.

Media Arts:

Media Arts is a collection of expressive media that lie between two historical trajectories: computing and communications media. Media arts consumes or augments many longstanding artistic and design oriented curricula. The Idaho Media Arts standards should guide students practicing the discipline to synthesize tools and disciplinary approaches for creative problem solving in order to allow them to become creative contributors in a collaborative, digital global workforce.

Music:

Music concepts enhance learning in all subject areas. The Idaho Music Standards revolve around four artistic processes: Creating, Performing/Producing/Presenting, Responding, and Connecting. The new strand of Connecting brings the classroom study of music into a larger context of its place in the arts and

in the community of overall learning. The music standards allow Idaho teachers and school districts to create effective curriculum and lessons, providing a complete and thorough music education.

#### Theatre:

Theatre arts education provides an enriched curriculum that fosters vibrant imaginative skills, empowered personal expression, and an appreciation and support of cultural experience. The Idaho Theatre Standards articulate student achievement in theatre and translate the standards into measurable goals. These standards will provide Idaho educators with a comprehensive document to advance their theatre arts objective, thereby preparing their students to be critical thinkers and contributing citizens.

#### Visual Arts:

The visual arts include the traditional fine arts, such as painting, drawing, sculpture, ceramics, and the design arts. Visual art is defined by self-expression through creative art making. Additionally, the visual arts provide students with diverse backgrounds and needs an opportunity for discovery, self-expression, and communication. The new Visual Arts Standards provide a broad, flexible, and sequential framework that meets the needs of educators in developing curriculum. They will guide teachers in instructing students in problem solving, collaboration, artistic practice, visual literacy, reflection, and experimentation, all contributing to educated citizens in our increasingly creative global economy.