

A Guide to the Colorado Academic Standards



Drama and Theatre

Extended Pathway
(Film/Media Arts)
High School

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



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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 Extended Pathway in High School

Create (Create)

Analyze, research, and design scenery, lighting, makeup, costumes, stage properties, sound, film, and cinema or electronic media; participate in virtual scriptwriting and virtual society creation using contemporary software/technology; create an interdisciplinary project (involving film/media), which can be integrated to enhance school wide curriculum.

Perform (Perform/Present)

Act in, design for, or direct a short film, including interpretation of the text; fully realize a film director's vision; master the fundamental requirements, and demonstrate the ability to rehearse and exhibit knowledge of film/media production; implement a major design element (lighting, sound, costumes) to enhance film/media productions.

Critically Respond (Know/Comprehend and Critique/Evaluate/Refine)

Select an area of the film production process for independent study; script/film/edit a documentary or satirical analysis on current events in school, community, or national or international news; describe the functions, meanings, contributions, and significance of film works within various cultures throughout history.

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

- Researching the roles of live drama and theatre arts, film, cinema, television, and electronic media to portray and/or reinvent the world around them; contributing to a creative work by utilizing various technical resources such as digital, projections, and video/audio techniques enhances the overall production; incorporating technological advances to recreate environments and develop a personal awareness of the production process.
- Discussing the different forms of drama and theatre and the use of a variety of conventional styles to connect training in drama and theatre arts to the film and television industry; articulating the resources needed to support a production and the relationship with the production team.
- Utilizing various resources in the research for a production, including cinema, Internet, and technical marketing, to strengthen technical literacy; exploring drama and theatre through media, film, cinema, and Internet sources to enhance proficiency in the use and knowledge of information technology and the newest developments in media technology; analyzing the development of film production within the social, historical, political, and technological development of various cultures.