

A Guide to the Colorado Academic Standards



Drama and Theatre

Fundamental Pathway
(Scripted Works, Character
Development, Technical Theatre)
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



COLORADO
Department of Education

Colorado
PTA
everychild. onevoice.



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



Drama and Theatre

Fundamental Pathway
(Scripted Works, Character
Development, Technical Theatre)
High School



COLORADO
Department of Education

www.cde.state.co.us

Colorado
PTA
everychild. onevoice.

www.copta.org

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 Learning Expectations for a Fundamental Pathway High School (Scripted Works, Character Development, or Technical Theatre)

Create (Create)

Demonstrate knowledge of fundamental vocal and movement techniques; demonstrate knowledge of a character and employ several strategies to understand the goals of a particular character; demonstrate fundamental knowledge of design and technology in all areas of technical theatre (lights/sound/set and costume design).

Perform (Perform/Present)

Rehearse and perform an original or scripted scene, play or monologue; use previously acquired skills to demonstrate the ability to rehearse and exhibit fundamental vocal and purposeful movement techniques; participate as a member of a technical crew (lights/sound/set design/props) and management team and contribute ideas to the design of a production; demonstrate an understanding of the interrelationship among the technical aspects of production, onstage performers, and audiences.

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

Research the ways in which artists have used self-reflection to document and refine their work; identify and describe the influence of other artists on the development of their own artistic work; critique and evaluate artistic choices and personal reactions to dramatic presentations

using guidelines for evaluating a theatrical production; demonstrate objectivity in assessing one's personal abilities in creative endeavors and an ability to receive and act upon coaching feedback and constructive criticism.

Throughout the study of Scripted Works, Character Development, or Technical Theatre, you may find students in the Fundamental Pathway successfully applying the elements of the creative process by...

- Analyzing character to help understand human behavior; researching numerous historical and inventive aspects of technical theatre to obtain a deeper understanding of the field; using technology to recreate environment, enhance a production, and bring a creative work to life.
- Demonstrating the ability to create a believable dramatic portrayal as a performer and/or technician; participating as a member of a technical crew or management team.
- Making artistic choices based on research; devising specific methods for documenting and assessing one's own artistic development throughout participation in a drama or theatre project as a performer or technician; exploring quality scripted works to inform one's own playwriting.