

Vocal Music 6-8 | VM

For Vocal Music 6-8, the major work of the discipline falls within the Perform domain. Concepts covered in the Create, Connect, and Respond domains are accessible only after students are thoroughly versed in the fundamental skills necessary to perform on an instrument. Standards are specifically adapted towards the artistic processes by which people make music: Performing, Creating, Responding, and Connecting. The foundations within each artistic process propose an intended sequence of scaffolding skill levels as a means of developing students' competency.

Literacy in the vocal music classroom is being able to read, write, and perform music. Just as the study of various languages promotes overall literacy, reading and writing musical notation, expressive markings, and harmonic structure unlocks new patterns of thought, exploring the analytical, mathematical, and linguistic centers of the mind. Musical literacy is decoding at its best. The language of music encompasses the senses of touch, sight, and hearing. These processes demand the student to balance their physical and intellectual actions and personal discipline in ways not explored in other academic areas.

The activity of vocal music provides students opportunities for high and varied levels of critical thinking. Students of vocal music develop a second written language and artistically-enhanced physical skills. They learn to work independently and within groups, as critical thinkers, problem solvers, and contributing members of a larger unit. Problem solving in the vocal classroom is immediate and continuous as the music is being produced. Creative decision making, individually and in groups, results in final artistic products. Vocal music instruction cultivates an individual who is capable of multi-tasking, managing time, working alone, and collaborating with others.

Artistic Processes	1994 National Standards / TN	New Foundations	Performance Standards
Perform (P)	Sing (1), play (2), read (5)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Select, analyze, interpret 2. Develop and refine 3. Convey meaning through presentation 	See grade levels
Create (Cr)	Improvise (3), compose (4)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Generate and conceptualize 5. Organize and develop 6. Refine and complete 	
Respond (R)	Listen (6), analyze (7)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Perceive and analyze artistic work 8. Interpret intent and meaning 9. Apply criteria to evaluate 	
Connect (Cn)	Connect (8), historical (9)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experience 11. Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical context to deepen understanding 	

DOMAIN: Perform

Foundation P1

Select, analyze, and interpret artistic work for presentation.

Standard VM.P1

Grade Level	Standards
6	6.VM.P1.A Select varied repertoire to study, based on music reading skills and an understanding of the structure, context, and technical skill of the individual or the ensemble.
	6.VM.P1.B Use music reading skills to demonstrate how knowledge of compositional devices in musical works informs prepared and/or improvised performances.
	6.VM.P1.C Identify expressive qualities in a varied repertoire of music that can be demonstrated through prepared and/or improvised performances.
7	7.VM.P1.A Select a varied repertoire to study, based on music reading skills and an understanding of the structure, context, and technical skill of the individual or the ensemble.
	7.VM.P1.B Use music reading skills to demonstrate how compositional devices and theoretical and structural characteristics in musical works inform prepared and/or improvised performances.
	7.VM.P1.C Demonstrate understanding and application of expressive qualities in a varied repertoire of music through prepared and improvised performances.
8	8.VM.P1.A Explain the criteria used to select a varied repertoire to study, based on an understanding of theoretical and structural characteristics of the music, the technical skill of the individual or ensemble, and the purpose or context of the performance.
	8.VM.P1.B Use music reading skills to demonstrate how compositional devices and theoretical and structural aspects of musical works impact and inform prepared and/or improvised performances.
	8.VM.P1.C Demonstrate an understanding of context in a varied repertoire of music through prepared and/or improvised performances.

DOMAIN: Perform

Foundation P2

Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for presentation.

Standard VM.P2

Grade Level	Standards
6	6.VM.P2.A Demonstrate the ability to read and notate music individually and/or in ensemble settings.
	6.VM.P2.B Demonstrate fundamental voice control while performing a varied repertoire of music individually and in ensemble setting(s) while making appropriate use of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Posture • Breath management • Tone production with freedom, resonance, control, and energy • Pitch matching, accuracy, and intonation • Balance and blend • Sense of ensemble
	6.VM.P2.C Demonstrate technical accuracy through appropriate use of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tonal center/key relations • Scale construction • Rhythm work including pulse, note, and rest values • Range development • Diction, pronunciation, and vowel formation • Expressive elements including dynamics, phrasing, and stylistic characteristics
	6.VM.P2.D Use self-reflection and peer feedback to refine individual and ensemble performance of a varied repertoire of music.
7	7.VM.P2.A Demonstrate the ability to read and notate music individually and/or in ensemble settings.
	7.VM.P2.B Demonstrate fundamental voice control while performing a varied repertoire of music individually and in ensemble setting(s) while making appropriate use of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Posture • Breath management • Tone production with freedom, resonance, control, and energy • Pitch matching, accuracy, and intonation • Balance and blend • Sense of ensemble

	<p>7.VM.P2.C Demonstrate technical accuracy through appropriate use of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tonal center/key relations • Scale construction • Rhythm work including pulse, note, and rest values • Range development • Diction, pronunciation, and vowel formation • Expressive elements including dynamics, phrasing, and stylistic characteristics
	<p>7.VM.P2.D Use self-reflection and peer feedback to refine individual and ensemble performance of a varied repertoire of music.</p>
8	<p>8.VM.P2.A Demonstrate the ability to read and notate music individually and/or in ensemble settings.</p>
	<p>8.VM.P2.B Demonstrate fundamental voice control while performing a varied repertoire of music individually and in ensemble setting(s) while making appropriate use of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Posture • Breath management • Tone production with freedom, resonance, control, and energy • Pitch matching, accuracy, and intonation • Balance and blend • Sense of ensemble
	<p>8.VM.P2.C Demonstrate technical accuracy through appropriate use of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tonal center/key relations • Scale construction • Rhythm work including pulse, note, and rest values • Range development • Diction, pronunciation, and vowel formation • Expressive elements including dynamics, phrasing, and stylistic characteristics
	<p>8.VM.P2.D Develop and apply strategies to address expressive challenges in a varied repertoire of music, and evaluate their success using feedback from ensemble peers and other sources to refine performances.</p>

DOMAIN: Perform

Foundation P3

Convey and express meaning through the performance of artistic work.

Standard VM.P3

Grade Level	Standards
6	6.VM.P3.A Demonstrate attention to musical literacy, fundamental control, technical accuracy, and expressive qualities in prepared and/or improvised performances of a varied repertoire of music representing diverse cultures, styles, and genres.
	6.VM.P3.B Perform music with technical accuracy to demonstrate the creator's intent.
	6.VM.P3.C Demonstrate performance decorum (such as stage presence, facial expression, memorization, and appropriate artistic delivery) and audience etiquette appropriate for venue and purpose.
7	7.VM.P3.A Demonstrate attention to musical literacy, fundamental control, technical accuracy, and expressive qualities in prepared and/or improvised performances of a varied repertoire of music representing diverse cultures, styles, and genres.
	7.VM.P3.B Demonstrate an understanding of expressive intent by connecting with an audience through prepared and/or improvised performances.
	7.VM.P3.C Demonstrate performance decorum (such as stage presence, facial expression, memorization, and appropriate artistic delivery) and audience etiquette appropriate for venue and purpose.
8	8.VM.P3.A Demonstrate attention to musical literacy, fundamental control, technical accuracy, and expressive qualities in prepared and/or improvised performances of a varied repertoire of music representing diverse cultures, styles, and genres.
	8.VM.P3.B Demonstrate an understanding of expressive intent by connecting with an audience through prepared and/or improvised performances
	8.VM.P3.C Demonstrate performance decorum (such as stage presence, facial expression, memorization, and appropriate artistic delivery) and audience etiquette appropriate for venue and purpose.

DOMAIN: Create

Foundation Cr1

Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.

Standard VM.Cr1

Grade Level	Standards
6	6.VM.Cr1.A. Compose and improvise melodic and rhythmic ideas or motives that reflect characteristics of music or text studied in rehearsal.
7	7.VM.Cr1.A Compose and improvise melodic and rhythmic ideas or motives that reflect characteristics of music or text studied in rehearsal.
8	8.VM.Cr1.A Compose and improvise melodic and rhythmic ideas or motives for use in an arrangement or over a chordal structure that reflect characteristics of music or text studied in rehearsal.

DOMAIN: Create

Foundation Cr2

Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.

Standard VM.Cr2

Grade Level	Standards
6	6.VM.Cr2.A Select, draft, and develop melodic and rhythmic ideas or motives that demonstrate understanding of characteristics of music or text studied in rehearsal.
	6.VM.Cr2.B Document compositions and/or improvisations through notation and/or recording.
7	7.VM.Cr2.A Select, draft, and develop melodic and rhythmic ideas or motives that demonstrate understanding of characteristics of music or text studied in rehearsal.
	7.VM.Cr2.B. Document compositions and/or improvisations through notation and/or recording.

8	8.VM.Cr2.A Select, draft, and develop melodic and rhythmic ideas or motives for use in an arrangement that demonstrate understanding of characteristics of music or text studied in rehearsal.
	8.VM.Cr2.B Document compositions and/or improvisations for use in an arrangement through notation and/or recording.

DOMAIN: Create	
Foundation Cr3 Refine and complete artistic work.	
Standard VM.Cr3	
Grade Level	Standards
6	6.VM.Cr3.A Evaluate and refine compositions and/or improvisations based on teacher-provided criteria.
	6.VM.Cr3.B Present finalized composition and/or improvisation individually or as an ensemble.
7	7.VM.Cr3.A Evaluate and refine compositions and/or improvisations based on teacher-provided criteria.
	7.VM.Cr3.B Present finalized composition and/or improvisation individually or as an ensemble.
8	8.VM.Cr3.A Evaluate and refine compositions and/or improvisations for use in an arrangement based on collaboratively-developed criteria.
	8.VM.Cr3.B Present finalized composition and/or improvisation individually or as an ensemble.

DOMAIN: Respond	
Foundation R1 Perceive and analyze artistic work.	
Standard VM.R1	
Grade Level	Standards
6	6.VM.R1.A Identify and justify reasons for selecting music based on characteristics found in music, context, and student interest.
	6.VM.R1.B Through written and aural examples, analyze how context and musical elements inform student response to music.
7	7.VM.R1.A Identify and justify reasons for selecting music based on characteristics found in music, context, and student interest.
	7.VM.R1.B Through visual and aural examples, analyze how context and musical elements inform student response to music.
8	8.VM.R1.A Identify and justify reasons for selecting music based on characteristics found in music, context, student interest, and personal research from teacher-provided sources.
	8.VM.R1.B Through visual and aural examples, analyze and explain how context and manipulation of musical elements influence response to music.

DOMAIN: Respond	
Foundation R2 Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.	
Standard VM.R2	
Grade Level	Standards
6	6.VM.R2.A Interpret and describe the artistic intent and aesthetic qualities of musical works, citing as evidence the treatment of the elements of music, contexts, historical significance, and the setting of the text.
7	7.VM.R2.A Interpret the artistic intent and aesthetic qualities of musical works, citing as evidence the treatment to the elements of music, contexts, historical significance, and the setting of the text.

8	8.VM.R2.A Interpret and justify the artistic intent and aesthetic qualities of musical works, citing as evidence the treatment of elements of music, contexts, historical significance, and the setting of the text.
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DOMAIN: Respond	
Foundation R3 Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.	
Standard VM.R3	
Grade Level	Standards
6	6.VM.R3.A Describe the influence of experiences, performances, context, and analysis on the artistic process.
7	7.VM.R3.A Describe and evaluate the influence of experiences, performances, context, and analysis on the artistic process.
8	8.VM.R3.A Identify and justify musical preferences using appropriate vocabulary, context, student opinion, and personal research gathered from varied sources.

DOMAIN: Connect	
Foundation Cn1 Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to artistic endeavors.	
Standard VM.Cn1	
Grade Level	Standards
6	6.VM.Cn1.A Demonstrate how interests, knowledge, and skills relate to personal choices and intent when creating, performing, and responding to music.
7	7.VM.Cn1.A Demonstrate how interests, knowledge, and skills relate to personal choices and intent when creating, performing, and responding to music.

8	8.VM.Cn1.A Demonstrate how interests, knowledge, and skills relate to personal choices and intent when creating, performing, and responding to music.
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DOMAIN: Connect	
Foundation Cn2 Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical context.	
Standard VM.Cn2	
Grade Level	Standards
6	6.VM.Cn2.A Demonstrate understanding of relationships between music and other disciplines, history, varied contexts, and daily life.
7	7.VM.Cn2.A Demonstrate understanding of relationships between music and other disciplines, history, varied contexts, and daily life.
8	8.VM.Cn2.A Demonstrate understanding of relationships between music and other disciplines, history, varied contexts, and daily life.

Tennessee Academic Standards for Fine Arts Education

Introduction

As states are pursuing raised standards for student learning, it is important to recognize the essential role of arts education in the development of well-rounded students preparing for college, career, and life readiness. In fact, Tennessee has made significant artistic contributions across the national landscape, and Tennessee's school teachers and leaders will undoubtedly play an important role in nurturing environments of creativity and innovation that will lead to even greater contributions.

Tennessee Arts Education at a glance

The federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) lists the arts and music as a part of a "well-rounded" education, and Tennessee schools offer a rich history of supporting arts education. Tennessee is recognized nationally for significant contributions in arts and culture, and the state academic standards for arts education contribute to increased student access for quality arts education that impacts college, career, and life readiness for Tennessee students. While Tenn. Code Ann. §49-6-1025 speaks to visual art and music instruction for grades K-8, schools also offer courses in dance, theatre, and media arts instruction.

(a) The course of instruction in all public schools for kindergarten through grade eight (K-8) shall include art and music education to help each student foster creative thinking, spatial learning, discipline, craftsmanship and the intrinsic rewards of hard work.

(b) Local boards of education are encouraged to fully implement the art and music curriculum adopted by the board of education through both art and music classes, as well as integration into other core academic subjects.

In addition, Tennessee graduation requirements stipulate one full credit of fine arts, and many students elect to focus concentration on sequential course offerings in multiple arts disciplines, including visual arts, dance, media arts, theatre, and vocal and instrumental music. As the economic development of Tennessee becomes increasingly dependent upon skills and outcomes that are embedded in the Tennessee Standards for Arts Education, such as critical and creative thinking, problem solving, collaboration, reflection, and persistence, it will become even more important to ensure that Tennessee students are engaged in sequential standards-based arts instruction. Arts education can also reach a diversity of learners by embodying learning modalities, helping all students learn. For these reasons and others, it is important to consider

several supporting factors when implementing the Tennessee Standards for Arts Education. The National Association for Music Education and the National Art Education Association have developed National Opportunity to Learn Standards to correspond to the implementation of standards-based arts education instruction, and local boards of education are encouraged to implement the support needed to facilitate quality fine arts instruction.

2016 Revision Process Overview

The Tennessee State Board of Education and the project leadership team partnered with multiple arts agencies such as state arts education teachers associations, higher education institutions, and arts education leadership councils in order to create and disseminate a stakeholder feedback survey and recruit nominations for the writing team application process. After the writing team was selected, they conducted a careful examination of the data from the state arts education standards feedback survey and created principles to guide the development of the 2016 Standards for Arts Education. The resulting standards are organized in a way that brings more unity to all of the arts disciplines while maintaining the integrity of each specific content area. It is an attempt to bring the rich content of the previous standards to more modern understandings of standards so that districts can create high quality curriculum guides and students can have the most robust arts learning possible. If implemented with fidelity, the goal of the revised standards will be to teach all students to become quality artists capable of not only performing and creating artistic works with great fidelity, but also expressing meaning and understanding through the arts.

The next section will explain the overarching framework that houses the standards. It is important to note that some content areas will present the information in a different sequence in order to bring focus to the standards. For example, you may see the “Create” domain appear first in Visual Arts while the “Perform” domain appears first for music. This is not a mistake but an intentional presentation of the priorities for the major work of the content area. It is also important to note the major difference in visual presentation between previous state standards versions and the current drafts (not in final format versions). The previous standards were essentially a listing of 6-9 (depending on the specific arts content area) statements followed by a listing of grade/level specific performance indicators. Eleven foundational statements consistent among all of the arts content areas guide the updated standards, and the actual standards that follow are content and grade/level specific. Another significant consideration is that, depending on the particular grade and content area, not all of the 11 foundations are weighted equally in terms of expected instructional time or importance towards comprehensive artistic growth. Each content area and grade level

will refer to the “major work of the grade” to communicate which foundations are expected to be prioritized in order for students to gain mastery consistent with college and career readiness in the specific art form.

Shared between all fine arts disciplines are the eleven foundations and the four overarching domains. The Tennessee Portfolio of Student Growth System implemented the use of the “Perform, Create, Respond, and Connect” Domains in 2011, and the 2016 Standards for Arts Education continue to group all of the revised standards in similar domains, listed below. It is important to keep in mind that the order of the domains will depend on each specific content area.

Domains:

P= Perform (Music, Dance, Theatre); Present (Visual Arts) Produce; (Media Arts)

Cr= Create

R= Respond

Co= Connect

As mentioned previously, each domain has two or three “foundations” that are common among all fine arts disciplines, totaling eleven overarching statements of requisite behaviors for artistic growth. Again, it is important to keep in mind that that not all foundations are implied to be weighted equally. The weighting changes depending on the grade and course expectations for the specific fine arts disciplines.

Foundations:

P= Perform (Music, Dance, Theatre); Present (Visual Arts); Produce (Media Arts)

1. Select, analyze, and interpret artistic work for performance/presentation/production.
2. Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for performance/presentation/production.
3. Convey and express meaning through the performance/presentation/production of artistic work.

Cr= Create

1. Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.
2. Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.
3. Refine and complete artistic work.

R= Respond

1. Perceive and analyze artistic work.
2. Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.
3. Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.

Co= Connect

1. Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to artistic endeavors.
2. Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical context.

A Guide to the Coding of the Updated Standards

The standards are coded with the grade level, content area, domain, foundation, and a letter might also be used to delineate subsections of the particular foundation. Some foundations will contain more standards than other, depending on the content and grade level.

Examples:

K.VA.P.1.A Select art objects for personal portfolio and display, explaining why they were chosen.

Kindergarten (K) is the grade, Visual Arts (VA) is the content, Present (P) is the domain, 1 is the foundation “Select, analyze, and interpret artistic work for presentation”, and A is the actual standard.

6.IM.P.2.C Demonstrate musical literacy on the instrument, individually and inensemble settings, by adequately sight-reading a varied repertoire of music. For example: Demonstrate an understanding of basic elements associated with successful sight-reading.

Sixth Grade (6) is the grade, Instrumental Music (IM) is the content, Perform (P) is the domain, 2 is the foundation “Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for performance”, and C is the third standard under this foundation.

Additional Considerations

The following are several considerations to provide context around the revised standards for arts education:

1. Literacy in the Arts Classrooms

Literacy is an important concept in all academic areas. Rather than being a stand-alone subject area, literacy provides a pathway for cognition, enabling students to learn content efficiently and express themselves effectively. The arts, like all subject areas, help to reinforce literacy through the careful study of discipline specific vocabulary, the review of primary sources in the content, and a variety of engagement opportunities specifically in the artistic domains of “Respond” and “Connect”. However, the predominance of Tennessee Standards for Arts Education prioritizes the principles of artistic literacy, such as visual thinking strategies, aural literacy (audiation), and notation literacy (decoding symbolic systems of music notation to create and interpret meaning). To the goals of college and career readiness, it would be counter productive for school leaders to suggest that an arts teacher limit the implementation of the Tennessee Standards for Arts Education during instructional time in order to reinforce learning in English language arts classrooms. Arts teachers’ instructional efforts are best leveraged when creating synergy towards the multiple meanings of literacy instruction, and the multiple meanings are embedded as appropriate to each arts discipline in the Tennessee Standards for Arts Education.

2. Major Work of the Grade

As previously noted, the specific grade level and discipline within the arts will prioritize instructional time within certain foundations. Not all of the content in a given grade/course is emphasized equally in the standards. Some foundations require greater emphasis than others based on the depth of the ideas, the time that they take to master, and/or their importance to arts learning or the demands of college and career readiness. In addition, an intense focus on the most critical material at each grade allows depth in learning. That is not to say the other foundations are not important, only that the urgency towards mastery does not require the same amount of instructional time depending on the course and experience level of the young artists. For example, it might be common in level one beginning band and orchestra to prioritize instructional time in foundation P2 “Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for performance” and, for example, prioritize P3 “Convey and express meaning through the performance” more heavily as the student progresses through the middle school and high schools levels of instrumental music. While P1 “Select, analyze, and interpret artistic work for performance” would be covered during instruction, the relative instructional time needed to achieve the standards would not be comparable.

3. Grade Bands

Within the Tennessee Standards for Arts Education, elementary school is defined as grades K-5; middle school as grades 6-8; and high school as grades 9-12. It is important to note that in some content areas, the student point of entry is dependent upon certain factors and districts should exercise care when developing curriculum maps and course offerings. For example, to become college ready in most ensemble- based performing arts coursework, instruction should start in middle school and progress sequentially through high school. The Tennessee Standards for Arts Education are constructed to reflect this common expectation.

4. Opportunity to Learn Standards

The Tennessee Standards for Arts Education are written to reflect conditions described in the basic level programming from the National Opportunity to Learn Standards for Music and Arts Education.