

## **Montana Standards and Benchmarks for the Arts: Grades 5-8**

MONTANA ART STANDARD 1: Students create, perform/exhibit, and respond in the Arts.  
Benchmarks:

- 1) Students create a work from their own ideas and images based on themes, symbols, events, and personal experiences.
- 2) Students select a variety of materials and sources to demonstrate a specific art form.
- 3) Students prepare and/or revise works for presentation.
- 4) Students collaborate with others to make artistic choices.
- 5) Students describe and analyze artistic choices in their own work and works of others.

MONTANA ART STANDARD 2: Students apply and describe the concepts, structures, and processes in the Arts.

Benchmarks:

- 1) Students apply the elements of rhythm, melody, harmony, timbre/tone, color, and form.
- 2) Students apply the techniques of expressive devices, dynamics, tempo, phrasing, accompaniment, interpretation, and improvisation.
- 3) Students perform vocal and/or instrumental solos, or in ensembles.
- 4) Students perform examples of music (e.g., ceremonial, celebration, concerts, theatre, dance, film, social, community, entertainment).
- 5) Students perform examples of music (e.g., folk, jazz, ethnic, popular, classical, time period).
- 6) Students rehearse, perform, and critique musical performances.

MONTANA ART STANDARD 3: Students develop and refine arts skills and techniques to express ideas, pose and solve problems, and discover meaning.

Benchmarks:

- 1) Students use art materials, techniques, technologies, and processes to create specific responses.
- 2) Students communicate intended meaning based on their own ideas and concepts from other sources.
- 3) Students use improvisation/experimentation to determine solutions.
- 4) Students use accepted performance and expressive techniques (e.g., breath control, posture) while singing and playing music in small and large ensembles.
- 5) Students identify and define standard notation symbols including pitch, rhythm, dynamics, tempo, articulation, and expressions.

MONTANA ART STANDARD 4: Students analyze characteristics and merits of their work and the work of others.

Benchmarks:

- 1) Students evaluate the quality and effectiveness of their own and other art works by applying specific criteria appropriate to the style and offer constructive suggestions for improvement.

- 2) Students describe the influence of personal experience on the interpretation of works of art.
- 3) Students develop and apply criteria for evaluating quality and effectiveness of the work of art.
- 4) Students describe and compare a variety of individual responses to works of art.

MONTANA ART STANDARD 5: Students understand the role of the Arts in society, diverse cultures, and historical periods.

Benchmarks:

- 1) Students demonstrate how history/culture and the Arts influence each other.
- 2) Students identify, describe, and analyze specific works of art as belonging to particular cultures, times, and places in the context in which they were created.
- 3) Students compare various reasons for creating works of art.
- 4) Students describe how people's emotions and experiences influence the development of specific art works.
- 5) Students demonstrate appropriate audience behavior for the context and style of art presented.
- 6) Students determine the connection of a work of art to societal and cultural change or preservation, including American Indian culture and art.

MONTANA ART STANDARD 6: Students make connections among the Arts, other subject areas, life, and work.

Benchmarks:

- 1) Students compare and explain how the characteristic materials of each art (e.g., sound in music, visual stimuli in visual arts, movement in dance, human interrelationships in theatre) correlate to similar events, scenes, emotions, or ideas.
- 2) Students utilize interrelated elements among the Arts and other subject areas.
- 3) Students explore vocational and avocational opportunities in the Arts.
- 4) Students identify how works of art reflect the environment in which they are created.