6-8 Understanding Dance as an Art Form

Content Area: **Music**
Course(s):
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**
Length: **10 Weeks**
Status: **Published**

Brief Summary of Unit

In this unit, students will continue to build on previous knowledge of dance as an art form critical to our human development. Students will analyze dance through its historical, social and cultural context as well as the way in which it is presented. Topics will include site specific work, dance on film, participatory dance and dance for entertainment.

Essential Questions

- What is dance?
- Why do people dance?
- Where do people dance?
- What can we learn about ourselves through the art of dance?

Essential Understandings

- Dance is an integral part of our lives and can happen in different ways
- Dance can occur in many places, including on a stage as performance
- The audience brings their own experiences and perspectives to dance performances
- Using clear and concise language specific to the genre and context will enable audience members to engage more meaningfully with a dance

Students Will Know

- The various places and spaces that dance exists in and how each context impacts the audience's experience
- The ways in which an audience member might decipher meaning from a performance using correct

vocabulary; spatial pathways, level changes, rhythm and choreographic tools

- How to identify various genres or styles of dance

Students Will be Skilled At

- Discussing and analyzing various types of dance performances
- Using outlines to create written reflections and critiques of a dance performance
- Discussing possibilities of meaning within a given dance performance
- Using genre specific terminology to discuss and write about dance

Learning Plan

- Discuss essential questions
- Discuss the context of various dance performances (social dance, concert dance, dance on film)
- Discuss how technology and other theatrical elements might impact the dance
- Brainstorm about the possible intentions of the choreographer, based on the choreographic choices of the performance.
- Discuss the challenges and opportunities presented by the context of the performance

Evidence/ Performance Tasks

- Discussion of essential questions
- Observation of understanding through discussions and journal prompts
- Discussion of what some of the dance performances might mean using genre specific terminology
- Journaling
- Outline of a formal critique
- Pair and share
- Independence assessed by grade level

Standards

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wdmsiGOdCHlrjU-WPvAtENnEgi0EStZXo0uiFYv1Nu4/edit?usp=sharing

9.4.12.CI.1	Demonstrate the ability to reflect, analyze, and use creative skills and ideas (e.g., 1.1.12prof.CR3a).
9.4.12.CI.2	Identify career pathways that highlight personal talents, skills, and abilities (e.g., 1.4.12prof.CR2b, 2.2.12.LF.8).
9.4.12.CI.3	Investigate new challenges and opportunities for personal growth, advancement, and transition (e.g., 2.1.12.PGD.1).
9.4.12.CT.1	Identify problem-solving strategies used in the development of an innovative product or practice (e.g., 1.1.12acc.C1b, 2.2.12.PF.3).
9.4.12.CT.2	Explain the potential benefits of collaborating to enhance critical thinking and problem solving (e.g., 1.3E.12profCR3.a).
9.4.12.CT.3	Enlist input from a variety of stakeholders (e.g., community members, experts in the field) to design a service learning activity that addresses a local or global issue (e.g., environmental justice).
9.4.12.CT.4	Participate in online strategy and planning sessions for course-based, school-based, or other project and determine the strategies that contribute to effective outcomes.
1.1.8.Re7a	Use genre-specific terminology to compare and contrast recurring patterns of movement and their relationships in dance in the context of artistic intent.
1.1.8.Re7b	Use genre-specific dance terminology. Explain how the elements of dance are used and how they differ in a variety of genres, styles, or cultural movement practices to communicate intent. Use genre-specific dance terminology.
1.1.8.Re8a	Examine a dance and explain how artistic expression is achieved through relationships among the elements of dance, use of body, dance technique, and context. Interpret using genre specific dance terminology.
1.1.8.Re9a	Examine artistic criteria to determine what makes an effective performance. Consider content, context, genre, style, and /or cultural movement practice to comprehend artistic expression. Use genre-specific dance terminology.
1.1.8.Cn10a	Explain how the perspectives expressed by the choreographer impact personal interpretation. Consider how personal background and experiences influence responses to dance works.
1.1.8.Cn11	Relating artistic ideas and works within societal, cultural, and historical contexts to deepen understanding.

Materials

- Notebook
- Cranford Public Schools Dance K-8 Materials/Resources

Suggested Strategies for Modifications

This link includes content specific accommodations and modifications for all populations:

Performing Arts Accommodations & Modifications