



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

ARTS EDUCATION GUIDANCE 2020–21

Guidance and resources to support local educational agencies (LEAs) in determining how to safely provide arts education in alignment with California *Education Code (EC)*, Section 51210 and 51220.

High Quality Arts Education During a COVID-19 Impacted School Year

During the pandemic, some in-person activities associated with performing arts courses (dance, music, and theatre), such as groups practicing and performing, may be compromised. Despite this, instruction can continue to focus on the [2019 California Arts Standards](#) associated with the artistic processes of creating, responding, and connecting, and students can continue to practice for performances during independent applied learning time. Educators may also consider how to approach rehearsal and performances through shared technology platforms, outdoor instruction, and other innovative approaches. High quality Arts instruction addresses all aspects of the new

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2019 California Arts Standards, of which rehearsal and performance are only a portion of the learning expectations. This guidance document should:

1. Serve as a supplement to national, state and/or local public health departments guidance regarding the reopening of schools.
2. Assist LEAs with information to prevent learning loss in arts education programs.

It is not intended to “tell” local educational agencies what to do, but to share helpful suggestions that may assist arts programs in providing quality standards-aligned instruction safely in remote and in-person environments.

California *EC* pertaining to Arts Education

***EC* Section 51210**

(a) The adopted course of study for grades 1 to 6, inclusive, shall include instruction, beginning in grade 1 and continuing through grade 6, in the following areas of study ...

(e) Visual and performing arts, including instruction in the subjects of dance, music, theatre, and visual arts, aimed at the development of aesthetic appreciation and the skills of creative expression.

***EC* Section 51220**

The adopted course of study for grades 7 to 12, inclusive, shall offer courses in the following areas of study: ...

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(g) Visual and performing arts, including dance, music, theatre, and visual arts, with emphasis upon development of aesthetic appreciation and the skills of creative expression.

Guidance for LEAs

1. Consider mobile and/or outdoor teaching options for visual and performing arts programs. Increase transition time to allow for cleaning between classes if using indoor facilities. Performing arts programs can be taught in well-ventilated spaces or outdoors, with appropriate mitigation techniques.
2. Refer to the *International Coalition Performing Arts Aerosol Study* for detailed guidance including distancing and ventilation. Mask the person and the instrument with well fitting, multi-layer, surgical style washable and/or disposable masks. Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV)-13, non-stretchy materials are recommended for wind instruments.
3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Guidance currently is 6-foot distancing. Masks should be worn for indoor and/or outdoor rehearsal. For indoor rehearsal, limit the number of students in a space to allow for appropriate social distancing. Allow for between one and three air changes prior to next use of the room. For outdoor rehearsal, playing or singing should cease for approximately five minutes to allow aerosols to disperse. Heating, ventilation, and air

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conditioning (HVAC) systems in indoor spaces should utilize MERV-13 filters or addition of appropriately sized high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) purifiers.

4. Create individual visual arts and media arts production kits for students to use for remote or in-person instruction, when possible (i.e. drawing supplies, painting supplies, sculpture and three-dimensional arts supplies, headphones, etc.).
5. Use visual markings on the floor for spacing students to adhere to social distance requirements in classrooms requiring movement. Reduce numbers for in-person classes so social distancing can be maintained.
6. Sanitize instruments, tools, supplies, cameras, equipment, workstations, and computers before and after each use.
7. Give special consideration to sanitation of facilities between use, including but not limited to: locker rooms, dressing rooms, green rooms, risers, stages, backstage, studio areas, and student workstations. For dance studios and rehearsal facilities give special consideration to proper sanitation of floors, barres, and mirrors.
8. Develop alternative live and/or recorded exhibition and performance opportunities that meet state content standards, following state and national guidelines.
9. Refer to guidance from the *Event Safety Alliance (ESA) Reopening Guide* for specific guidance on reopening performing arts events for music, theatre and dance programs.

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References

Arizona Department of Education Arts and Physical Education Re-entry Guidelines:

<https://www.azed.gov/communications/files/2020/03/AZ-Arts-and-Physical-Education-Re-Entry-Guidelines-5-26-2020.pdf>

Arts Education New Jersey, September Ready Fall 2020 Guidance for Arts Education:

<https://www.artsednj.org/arts-ed-nj-issues-september-ready-fall-2020-guidance-for-arts-education/>

California Department of Education (CDE) Arts Standards:

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/vapacontentstds.asp>

CDE Arts Webpage: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ca/vp/>

CDE Distance Learning Resources for Arts Education:

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/cr/dl/index.asp?tabsection=3#artseducation>

CDE Guidance for Reopening CTE Programs in California:

<https://www.cteonline.org/resources/98448/guidance-for-reopening-cte-programs-in-california>

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California Dance Education Association COVID-19 Best Practices:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/15vZ5_K_0QNkSNlvCSqjFW1lz4BT97eLlaJupFb-Z8EY/edit

California Educational Theatre Association COVID-19 Response Document:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1CNajWycoN1Y5vn6ol8xFiCaQQS1hGNjfOZhpm6KfrJw/edit>

California Music Educators Association COVID-19 Resources and Information:

<https://calmusiced.com/resources/covid-19-information/>

Educational Theatre Association (EdTA), Recommendations for Reopening School

Theatre Programs: <https://www.schooltheatre.org/blogs/edta-news/2020/06/24/edta-releases-guide-for-reopening-school-theatre-p>

Event Safety Alliance Reopening Guide: <https://www.eventsafetyalliance.org/>

International Coalition Performing Arts Aerosol Study as presented by National

Federation of State High School Associations:

<https://www.nfhs.org/articles/unprecedented-international-coalition-led-by-performing-arts-organizations-to-commission-covid-19-study/>

Maine Department of Education Framework for Reopening Schools and Returning to In-

Person Instruction: <https://www.maine.gov/doe/framework>

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National Art Education Association (NAEA), Remote Learning Toolkit:

<https://www.arteducators.org/learn-tools/remote-learning-toolkit>

National Association for Music Education (NAfME), Fall 2020 guidance for Music

Education: <https://nafme.org/my-classroom/fall-2020-guidance-music-education-from-nfhs-nafme/>

The National Dance Education Association (NDEO), Teaching Dance in Fall 2020:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pYpik7k0hc87CZ25hWKfSh3IP2q0Cwmz/view>

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