



Archdiocese of Washington Catholic Schools

Academic Standards

Music

7th Grade

Standard 1 - PERFORMING MUSIC: Singing alone and with others

Students sing independently and in groups, applying good vocal technique and exploring the changing voice. They sing music of various styles and cultures appropriately and expressively. Students sing accompanied and unaccompanied in unison and parts, from memory, and using a musical score. They follow the directions of a conductor.

- MU.7.1.1 Sing independently and in ensembles maintaining good breath control, pitch, diction, tone quality, and posture.
- MU.7.1.2 Explore the changing voice and expanding vocal range.
- MU.7.1.3 Sing expressively with attention to dynamics, phrasing, and articulation.
- MU.7.1.4 Sing songs of various styles and cultures with sensitivity to performance practices, accurate pronunciation, and appropriate movement.
- MU.7.1.5 Sing unison and part songs, partner songs, rounds, and songs with ostinatos, a cappella and with varied accompaniment.
- MU.7.1.6 Sing using a score and from memory, following the directions of a conductor.

Standard 2 - PERFORMING MUSIC: Playing an instrument alone and with others

Students play melodic, harmonic, and rhythmic parts independently or in ensembles with correct technique, steady tempo, and appropriate style and dynamics. They follow the directions of a conductor.

- MU.7.2.1 Play melodic, rhythmic, and harmonic patterns by rote and by reading.
- MU.7.2.2 Play pitched and non-pitched classroom instruments using correct techniques for producing sound.
- MU.7.2.3 Play I, IV, and V chord patterns independently or as part of an ensemble.
- MU.7.2.4 Play melodies and accompaniments of various styles and cultures, independently or in ensembles.
- MU.7.2.5 Play melodies, accompaniments, and ensemble parts expressively with correct rhythms, tempos, and dynamics.
- MU.7.2.6 Maintain an independent part on an instrument in a group while following the cues of a conductor.



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Standard 3 - CREATING MUSIC: Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments

Students improvise sung or instrumental responses, melodies, and accompaniments. They create accompaniments to literary pieces and follow a conductor's directions in improvising short musical compositions. They improvise movement in response to music.

- MU.7.3.1 Sing or play call and response conversations led by teacher or students.
- MU.7.3.2 Improvise rhythmic accompaniments to classroom or recorded songs.
- MU.7.3.3 Improvise independently and cooperatively with voice or instruments to create a short piece as directed by a teacher or student conductor.
- MU.7.3.4 Create appropriate rhythmic movement to accompany a song or instrumental piece.
- MU.7.3.5 Use voices and instruments to create appropriate sound effects as accompaniments to a poem or short story.

Standard 4 - CREATING MUSIC: Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines

Students compose melodic and rhythmic patterns and sound compositions and arrange part songs.

- MU.7.4.1 Compose melodic and rhythmic patterns for voice or instruments within established guidelines.
- MU.7.4.2 Collaboratively plan and perform a sound composition using a variety of acoustic or electronic sounds within established guidelines.
- MU.7.4.3 Arrange a given part song by re-assigning voice or instrumentation for each part using traditional or electronic sources.



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Standard 5 - RESPONDING TO MUSIC: Reading, notating, and interpreting music

Students read and notate music in the treble and bass clefs and play or sing melodies in various keys and meters. They use appropriate musical terminology relating to dynamics, tempo, articulation, and expression.

- MU.7.5.1 Read, notate, and perform music using whole, half, dotted half, quarter, dotted quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes and rests in 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 6/8, and 3/8 meters.
- MU.7.5.2 Identify and notate rhythms and melodies from aural examples.
- MU.7.5.3 Read and perform simple melodies in a variety of key signatures in treble and bass clefs, using solfège, note names, or numbers.
- MU.7.5.4 Identify and apply musical terms for dynamics, tempo, articulation, and expression.
- MU.7.5.5 Identify examples of non-standard notation.

Standard 6 - RESPONDING TO MUSIC: Listening to, analyzing, and describing music

Students recognize, identify, and describe musical elements, styles, and works from various periods and cultures. They distinguish vocal and instrumental timbres.

- MU.7.6.1 Identify and describe musical elements such as rhythmic and melodic ideas, tonality, form, expressive qualities, and timbre through discussion, writing, or illustration, including how these elements might convey a particular emotion or mood.
- MU.7.6.2 Identify musical forms in aural examples.
- MU.7.6.3 Identify and use appropriate terminology to describe various musical styles, genres, cultures, and time periods.
- MU.7.6.4 Identify instruments and voice types in aural examples of music from different styles, genres, cultures, and historical periods.



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Standard 7 - RESPONDING TO MUSIC: Evaluating music and music performances

Students determine characteristics of effective musical compositions and performances and evaluate them based on collaboratively developed rubrics.

- MU.7.7.1 Define and discuss characteristics of a variety of effective musical works such as repetition and contrast and rhythmic and melodic interest. Identify these characteristics in music heard in the classroom or independently.
- MU.7.7.2 Listen to and compare examples of a particular style or genre using basic music terminology.
- MU.7.7.3 Identify characteristics of effective performance of various styles of music and create a rubric to evaluate specific examples.

Standard 8 - RESPONDING TO MUSIC: Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts

Students discover elements common to music and disciplines across the curriculum. They explore ways to enhance understanding of specific topics through interdisciplinary activities including the physical properties of sound and healthy listening habits.

- MU.7.8.1 From a list of the elements of music, the elements of art (line, color, shape, value, texture, form, and space), and the principles of design (unity, variety, emphasis, balance, proportion, pattern, and rhythm), map correlations with dance, drama, and other curricular areas.
- MU.7.8.2 Define the physical properties of sound including frequency, amplitude, and wavelength.
- MU.7.8.3 Identify and label the basic anatomy of the ear and discuss healthy listening habits.
- MU.7.8.4 Respond to specific writing prompts such as, "How is the creative process in music similar to that in art, literature, or science?"
- MU.7.8.5 Identify music related to a contemporary event or topic such as Black History Month and explore interdisciplinary connections that involve music performance, dramatization, related art, reading, writing, and other potential activities.



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Standard 9 - RESPONDING TO MUSIC: Understanding music in relation to history and culture

Students recognize and experience music that influenced cultural trends of the past as well as that of contemporary cultures. They consider the place of music in our culture and identify career opportunities.

- MU.7.9.1 Investigate past and contemporary uses of music to influence societal change such as campaign songs or songs of protest related to issues such as human rights, the environment, or nuclear weapons.
- MU.7.9.2 Listen to specific examples of program music related to cultural events in Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas such as *The Moldau* by Smetana or *In the Steppes of Central Asia* by Borodin.
- MU.7.9.3 Identify performing artists from recent decades that influenced American culture, find examples of their songs, and discuss how specific songs reflected the culture at a particular time.
- MU.7.9.4 Explore various musical styles and genres from Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas.
- MU.7.9.5 Respond to specific writing prompts such as, “Is music valued in our culture, how, and by whom?”
- MU.7.9.6 Identify various career opportunities related to contemporary American music.