

MUSIC PHILOSOPHY

Music education is an integral part of aesthetic experiences and, by its very nature, an interdisciplinary study that enables students to develop sensitivities to life and culture. Students will develop attitudes, knowledge and performance skills that will enable them to perceive music as an art. Preparation, understanding and participation of students in Catholic schools in religious celebrations enrich both the mind and heart in the offering of prayer to God through song, instruments and dance.

INTRODUCTION

The basic structure of the music curriculum includes 3 levels in which to complete specific educational objectives. They are:

- Primary Level: Kindergarten, Grade 1 and Grade 2
- Intermediate Level: Grade 3, Grade 4 and Grade 5
- Middle Level: Grade 6, Grade 7 and Grade 8

The music curriculum is centered on 7 **Strands**: Vocal Expression, Instrumental, Improvisation and Composition, Artistic Perception, Evaluating Music, Connections and, Historical and Cultural Context. Each strand is aligned to competencies identified in the North Carolina Standard Course of Study and National Standards set by MENC, Music Educators National Conference.

A critical component of the diocesan curriculum is the development of basic **Values and Attitudes**. Values and Attitudes highlight key issues that will enable students to develop a critical conscience in regard to music appreciation and evaluation. These are not necessarily quantifiable but rather identified in a student's respect for music.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

North Carolina Standard Course of Study, Department of Public Instruction

The K-12 National Standards, Pre-K Standards and What They Mean to Music Educators, MENC, Music Educators National Council

Lafayette Diocesan Core Curriculum Guide, Lafayette, Indiana

California Music Standards, California Department of Education

Visual and Performing Arts, ASCD Curriculum Handbook, 1999

Standards Reference Master, ASCD, 1999

RESOURCES

Clark County School District (Las Vegas) Curriculum Guide, Clark County Community Press, 601 North 9th Street, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101,

Classical Kids Series (cassette or CD) Grades 2-6, The Children's Group, Inc., 1400 Bayly Street, Suite 7, Pickering, Ontario, Canada, L1W3R2

Classic Tales and Tunes (book), Todd F. Kline, Parker Publishing, West Nyack, NC 10994 ISBN 0-13-762683-5

Magnificent Seven, The John Carter and Mary Kay Beall, Alfred Publishing Co., Inc, 1995, (guide to classical composers)

MENC web site: www.menc.org

Music and Movement in the Classroom, Steve Traugh, Creative Teaching Press, Inc. Grades K – 2 (book and 2 cassettes)

Music Smart! Gwen Hotchkiss, Parker Publishing Company, Pre-K – Grade 8 (listening tapes and activities for teaching music appreciation)

North Carolina Symphony – field trip

Ready-To-Use Music Activities Kit, Audrey J. Adair, Parker Publishing Company, Inc., (comprehensive; for schools without music textbooks)

***Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*, Benjamin Britten, Harcourt Brace and Co., 1996**