

Description of Dance Proficiency and Body of Work (revised 8/3/07)

Students wishing to use Dance to demonstrate proficiency in the Arts, as required by the Rhode Island Board of Regents, must demonstrate by performance and/or portfolio of evidence, achievement at a proficient level in two of the three areas of creating, performing and responding. The proficient level of achievement is as follows:

Creating/Choreography -- THE STUDENT:

- (C 1)Solves movement problems – Student can solve movement problems in response to a prompt.
- (C 2)Uses choreographic forms and elements – Elements, such as unison, contrast, varied facings, varied groupings, level changes, symmetry and asymmetry, are evident; one or more choreographic forms/structures is/are present, ie. ABA, or canon.
- (C 3)Communicates ideas, emotion, or cultural aesthetic – Movement communicates ideas, emotions, or cultural aesthetic; maintaining audience's attention.
- (C 4)Expresses a quality, style, and/or musicality – Quality, style, and/or musicality are identifiable in the work.

Performing -- THE STUDENT:

- (P 1)Shows kinesthetic awareness and movement skills – Often demonstrates strength, flexibility, agility and coordination as appropriate to the genre.
- (P 2)Demonstrates rhythmic acuity – Performs rhythmic patterns accurately and maintains the appropriate tempo.
- (P 3)Demonstrates dynamic range and artistic expression – Often presents movement with clarity of intent; uses varied qualities and phrasing; often demonstrates commitment to the movement and concept.
- (P 4)Performs dance of two different genres* or styles** with stylistic fluency (ie. Ballet, modern, African, ballroom, jazz, hip-hop, tap, Southeast Asian) – Performs in two or more dance genres or styles with a moderate level of stylistic fluency.

Responding – THE STUDENT:

- (R 1)Answers aesthetic questions about dance – Shows a good knowledge of dance as an art form; answers an aesthetic question about dance in a thoughtful essay at an ELA At Standard level.
- (R 2)Writes a significant number of dance reviews that show knowledge of dance as an art form, and of the process of dance criticism. – Reviews: 1) Use description, analysis, interpretation and evaluation consistently; 2) include discussion of at least three different dances or dance sections within a performance; 3) often use vivid descriptive language while discussing movement, costumes, lighting, music/text or other performance elements; 4) use proper format and state who, what, when, and where of the performance.
- (R 3)Writes research papers on varied topics that show knowledge of dance as an art form. —Papers use proper reference format; have an introductory paragraph which includes a thesis statement; a body, and a conclusion; use ideas from varied sources; support claims with evidence; inform reader about topic in a way that is clear and often engaging.
- (R 4)Passes an oral or written exit exam with Above or At Standard grades – 1) Describes the similarities and differences among three or more dance forms: distinguishes accurately among costumes/traditional dress and music; gives generally accurate description of each form; gives some accurate background on each form; 2) Describes how dance connects to other art forms: describes how one of the following relates to dance and gives an example for each – (theatre, music, visual art, film, poetry, fiction); 3) Compares/contrasts two different dance compositions or dances in terms of time, space, and energy – makes at least 6 observations for each dance; discusses main differences and similarities between dances and uses dance terminology.

*genre=general category of dance, i.e. ballet, modern, jazz, tap

** style=more specific category, i.e. rhythm tap, Latin jazz, contemporary ballet

Body of Work (revised 8/3/07)

The Body of Work, or portfolio, that a student would present for Dance Proficiency is as listed below. This Body of Work could be collected over time and include evidence taken from work outside the formal school setting and/or examples from earlier years in school.

Creating/Choreography (Video samples: 3 dances, 4 dance studies) THE STUDENT:

(C1) Solves movement problems in response to a prompt –

Evidence: Four separate studies of at least one minute each that solve movement problems set by the instructor or the student. At least three of these studies must be choreographed. One improvisational response is allowed. Studies can be performed by soloist or ensemble.

(C2) Uses choreographic forms and elements – **(C3)** Communicates ideas, emotion, or cultural aesthetic–

(C4) Expresses a quality, style, and/or musicality –

Evidence: Three separate dances of at least two minutes duration each. One sample must be an ensemble work of three or more people. The second must be either a solo or duet. The third must include evidence of using content from other disciplines (e.g. history, literature, arts, science, mathematics).

Performing (Video samples: 3 dances) THE STUDENT:

(P1) Shows kinesthetic awareness and movement skills – **(P2)** Demonstrates rhythmic acuity – **(P3)** Demonstrates dynamic range and artistic expression – **(P4)** Performs dance of two different genres* or styles** with stylistic fluency--

Evidence: Three complete and contrasting dances of at least two genres (forms) or styles that are no less than two minutes in duration. Student may perform in solo, duet or ensemble work. The dance may be assigned by the instructor or choreographed by the student. Student must be clearly visible in at least 75% of the presented work.

Responding (1 essay, 6 written reviews, 2 research papers, oral/written exam) THE STUDENT:

[Note: All written work must be At or Above Standard to be counted towards proficiency. All papers must be double spaced and in 12 point font.]

(R1) Answers aesthetic questions about dance – **Evidence:** 1 essay

(R2) Writes a significant number of dance reviews that show knowledge of dance as an art form and of the process of dance criticism – **Evidence:** 6 written reviews

(R3) Writes research papers on varied topics that show knowledge of dance as an art form –

Evidence: 2 papers

(R4) Passes an oral or written exit exam with Above or At Standard grades

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