

## **GLOSSARY for Arizona Arts: Dance STANDARDS**

### **Aesthetic**

A set of principles concerned with the nature and appreciation of beauty

### **Alignment**

The process of adjusting the skeletal and muscular system to gravity to support effective functionality

### **Alternative performance venue**

A performance site other than a standard Western style theater (for example, classroom, site specific venue, or natural environment)

### **Anatomical principles**

The way the human body's skeletal, muscular and vascular systems work separately and in coordination

### **Artistic criteria**

Aspects of craft and skill used to fulfill artistic intent

### **Artistic expression**

The manifestations of artistic intent through dance, drama music, poetry, fiction, painting, sculpture or other artistic media. In dance, this involves the dance and the dancers within a context

**Artistic statement**

An artist's verbal or written introduction of their work from their own perspective to convey the deeper meaning or purpose

**Body patterning**

Neuromuscular patterns (for example, core-distal, head-tail, homologous [upper-lower], homo-lateral [same-side], cross-lateral [crossing the body midline])

**Body-mind principles**

Concepts explored and/or employed to support body-mind connections (for example, breath, awareness of the environment, grounding, movement initiation, use of imagery, intention, inner-outer, stability-mobility)

**Body-use**

The ways in which movement patterns and body parts are used in movement and dance practice; descriptive method of identifying patterns

**Bound movement**

An "effort element" from Laban Movement Analysis in which energy flow is constricted

**Capstone Project**

A culminating performance-based assessment that determines what 12th graders should know and be able to do in various educational disciplines; usually based on research and the development of a major product or project that is an extension of the research

**Choreographic devices**

Manipulation of dance movement, sequences or phrases (repetition, inversion, accumulation, canon, retrograde, call and response)

**Codified movement**

Common motion or motions set in a particular style that often have specific names and expectations associated with it

### **Context clues**

Information obtained from the dance that helps one understand or comprehend meaning and intent from a movement, group of movements, or a dance as a whole; requires seeing

### **Contrapuntal**

An adjective that describes the noun counterpoint; music that has at least two melodic lines (voices) played simultaneously against each other; in dance, at least two movement patterns, sequences or phrases danced simultaneously using different body parts or performed by different dancers

### **Cultural movement practice**

Physical movements of a dance that are associated with a particular country, community, or people

### **Dance literacy**

The total experience of dance learning that includes the doing and knowing about dance: dance skills and techniques, dance making, knowledge and understanding of dance vocabulary, dance history, dance from different cultures, dance genres, repertory, performers and choreographers, dance companies, and dance notation and preservation

### **Dance movement principles**

Fundamentals related to the craft and skill with which dance movement is performed (for example, the use of dynamic alignment, breath support, core support, rotation, initiation and sequencing, and weight shift)

### **Dance phrase**

A brief sequence of related movements that have a sense of continuity and artistic or rhythmic completion

### **Dance structures**

The organization of choreography and movement to fulfill the artistic intent of a dance or dance study (for example, AB, ABA or theme and variation); often referred to as choreographic form

### **Dance study**

A short dance that is comprised of several dance phrases based on an artistic idea

## **Dance techniques**

The tools and skills needed to produce a particular style of movement

## **Dance terminology**

Vocabulary used to describe dance and dance experiences

**Simple dance terminology** (Tier 1/PreK-2): Basic pedestrian language (for example, locomotor words walk, run, tip-toe, slither, roll, crawl, jump, march, and gallop; and non-locomotor words, bend, twist, turn, open and close)

**Basic dance terminology** (Tier 2/grades 3-5): Vocabulary used to describe dance movement techniques, structures, works, and experiences that are widely shared in the field of dance (for example, stage terminology, compositional vocabulary, language defining dance structures and devices, anatomical references, dance techniques such as alignment or "line")

**Genre-specific dance terminology** (Tier 3/grades 6 up): Words used to describe movement within specific dance forms ballet, contemporary, culturally-specific dance, funk, hip-hop, jazz, modern, tap, and others (for example, in Polynesian dance (Hula), auwana, kahiko, halau, kaholo, uwehe, ami); in ballet: glissade, pas de bouree, pas de chat, arabesque; in jazz: kick ball change, pencil turn, jazz walk, jazz run; in modern: contraction, triplets, spiral, pivot turn; and in tap: shuffle-step, cramp roll, riff, wing, time step

## **Dance work**

A complete dance that has a beginning, middle (development), and end

## **Dynamics**

The qualities or characteristics of movement which lend expression and style; also called "efforts," or "energy (for example, lyrical, sustained, quick, light, or strong)

## **Elements of dance**

The key components of movement; movement of the body using space, time, and energy; often referred to as the elements of movement; see Elements of Dance Organizer by Perpich Center for Arts Education (used with permission)

**Embody** \_\_\_\_\_

To physicalize a movement, concept, or idea throughout the body

**Energy** \_\_\_\_\_

The dynamic quality, force attach, weight, and flow of movement

**Evaluative Criteria** \_\_\_\_\_

The definition of values and characteristics with which dance can be assessed; factors to be considered to attain an aesthetically satisfying dance composition or performance

**Explore** \_\_\_\_\_

Investigate multiple movement possibilities to learn more about an idea

**Free flowing movement** \_\_\_\_\_

An "effort element" from Laban Movement Analysis in which energy is continuous

**Functional alignment** \_\_\_\_\_

The organization of the skeleton and musculature in a relationship to gravity that supports safe and efficient movement while dancing

**General Space** \_\_\_\_\_

Spatial orientation that is not focused towards one area of a studio or stage

**Genre** \_\_\_\_\_

A category of dance characterized by similarities in form, style, purpose, or subject matter (for example, ballet, hip hop, modern, ballroom, cultural practices)

**Kinesthetic awareness** \_\_\_\_\_

Pertaining to sensations and understanding of bodily movement

**Locomotor** \_\_\_\_\_

Movement that travels from one location to another or in a pathway through space (for example, in PreK, walk, run, tip-toe, slither, roll, crawl, jump, march, gallop; in Kindergarten, the addition of prance, hop, skip, slide, leap)

**Movement Characteristics** \_\_\_\_\_

The qualities, elements, or dynamics that describe or define a movement

**Movement phrase**

A brief sequence of related movements that have a sense of continuity and artistic or rhythmic completion

**Movement problem**

A specific focus that requires one find a solution and complete a task; gives direction and exploration in composition

**Movement vocabulary**

Codified or personal movement characteristics that define a movement style

**Negative space**

The area (space) around and between the dancer(s) or dance images(s) in a dance

**Non-locomotor**

Movement that remains in place; movement that does not travel from one location to another or in a pathway through space for example, in PreK, bend, twist, turn, open, close; in Kindergarten, swing, sway, spin, reach, pull)

**Performance etiquette**

Performance values and expected behaviors when rehearsing or performing (for instance, no talking while the dance is in progress, no chewing gum, neat and appropriate appearance, dancers do not call out to audience members who are friends)

**Personal space**

The area of space directly surrounding one's body extending as far as a person can reach; also called the kinesphere

**Polyrhythmic**

In music, several rhythms layered on top of one another and played simultaneously; in dance, embodying several rhythms simultaneously in different body parts

**Production elements**

Aspects of performance that produce theatrical effects (for example, costumes, make up, sound, lighting, props)

### **Production terminology**

Words commonly used to refer to the stage, performance setting, or theatrical aspects of dance presentation

### **Rhythm**

The patterning or structuring of time through movement or sound

### **See.Think.Wonder**

An inquiry-based Visual Thinking Strategy (VTS) used for critical analysis from Harvard Project Zero, in which children respond to simple questions (What do you see? What do you think? What do you wonder?) which enable a child to begin make meaning from an observed (dance) work of art

### **Sound Environment**

Sound accompaniment for dancing other than music (for example, street noise, ocean surf, bird calls, spoken word)

### **Space**

Components of dance involving direction, pathways, facings, levels, shapes, and design; the location where a dance takes place; the element of dance referring to the cubic area of a room, on a stage, or in other environments

### **Spatial design**

Pre-determined use of directions, levels, pathways, formations, and body shapes

### **Stimuli**

A thing or event that inspires action, feeling, or thought

### **Style**

Dance that has specific movement characteristics, qualities, or principles that give it distinctive identity (for example, Graham technique is a style of Modern Dance; rhythm tap is a style of Percussive Dance; Macedonian folk dance is a style of International Folk dance; Congolese dance is a style of African Dance)

### **Technical dance skills**

Is the degree of physical proficiency a dancer achieves within a dance style or technique (for example, coordination, form, strength, speed and range)

**Tempi** \_\_\_\_\_

Different paces or speeds of music, or underlying beats or pulses, used in a dance work or composition (singular: tempo)

**Tempo** \_\_\_\_\_

The pace or speed of a pulse or beat underlying music or movement (plural: tempi or tempos)

**Theme** \_\_\_\_\_

A dance idea that is stated choreographically