Dance Vocabulary

Cultures: the customs, beliefs, arts, and way of life of a specific group of people

African - Most African dance is an example of Ceremonial dancing

Caribbean - social dances here derived from the Spanish settlers and the early residents of the continent and African slaves - Mambo and the currently popular Salsa dancing.

Colonial - the purpose of most Colonial dance is social. An example of colonial dance is the Virginia Reel

Latin American – social dances here derived from the Spanish settlers and the early residents of the continent. Cha Cha, Tango, Meringay, Samba, Rumba are examples.

Native American - Native American Dance like African dance is classified as a form of ceremonial dance

Dance Forms: the way movements are put together

AB – A choreographic form that has one pattern (A) followed by different pattern (B)

ABA - A choreographic form that has one pattern (A) followed by another different contrasting pattern (B) with the first pattern (A) repeated.

call and response - A choreographic form that has a leader or group doing a dance sequence alone first (call) and another person or group repeating the dance sequence done by the first person or group(response)

dance composition- a group of dance movements with a beginning, middle and an end

expressive qualities- ideas and emotions communicated by the movement patterns of a dance composition

narrative - A choreographic form that tells a story in movement

Elements of Dance: the basic parts of dance; movement, space, time and force

movements- actions made by the body
**locomotor**- actions of the body that cover space (walk, run, skip, hop, jump, slide, leap, gallop, step-hop, grapevine, polka, waltz, and two-step)

**non-locomotor**- actions of the body that do not cover space (bend, stretch, twist, swing, push, pull, rise, fall, dodge, sway body alignment, balance, isolation body parts, elevation, and landing dance movements vs. athletic and pedestrian movements)

**force**- the use of energy while moving

**free-flowing/bound** - contrasting use of muscle to create movements that appear are continually moving (free-flowing) with movements that come to a stop (bound)

**heavy/light** – contrasting use of muscle to create movements that appear heavy/strong or light

**sharp/smooth** - contrasting use of muscle to create movements that appear sharp or smooth

**tension/relaxation** - contrasting use of muscle to create movements that appear tense or relaxed

**space**- the area covered by the dance movements, including shape, level, directions, pathways, size and focus

**directions**- forward, backward, sideways, up, down, etc.

**focus**- where the dancer is looking and/or where the audience’s attention is directed.

**level**- the distance from the floor

**pathways**- patterns that the body makes as it moves through space or on the floor

**shape**- the design of the body as it exists in space

**size**- large and small movements

**time**- how fast or slow (tempo), even or uneven (beat), long or short (duration) the movement is
accent – bring attention to one movement by making it more noticeable than other movements in the dance pattern

durations - the length of time of the movement

rhythmic pattern- the flow or repeated movements in a dance

**Purposes:** the reasons why people dance

artistic- dances (ballet, jazz) created and performed in order to convey a meaning.

ceremonial (initiation)- dances, which are performed at celebrations (wedding dances), or ceremonies, (Native American dances: hunting, war, rain etc...)

recreational- dances (folk, line, square dance, tap , social) performed in social settings

**Drama Vocabulary**

**Creative Dramatics:** a way of learning through role playing and problem solving

improvisation- creating a character or situation using movement and speech without prior preparation or rehearsal

mimicry- the practice of imitating another person or action

pantomime- a situation where the performer uses only gestures, body language or facial expression to get across the idea or character. It is based solely on physical movement and does not use any vocal sounds

role playing- improvising movement and dialogue to put oneself in another’s place in a particular situation and often to examine the person(s) and/or situation(s) being improvised

storytelling- the act of telling a story in the oral tradition

**Elements of Drama:** essential components of a dramatic performance

dialogue- a conversation between two or more characters to express thoughts, feelings, and action
discovery: a revelation, something that is suddenly revealed about a character or situation in a play

conflict- the struggle between opposing forces, ideas, or interests in a play

empathy: capacity for participating in the feelings or ideas of another

falling action: the series of events following the climax

language: the words used by the playwright to communicate the message

monologue- a long speech made by one person, often called a soliloquy

motivation: an incentive or an inducement for further action for a character

plot development- the plan of action or events of the story A plot has a beginning, a middle, and an end.

rising action: a series of events following the initial incident and leading up to the dramatic climax.

suspense: mental uncertainty, anxiety

theme: the basic idea of a play; the idea, point of view, or perception that binds together a work of art

turning point: the climax or high point of a story

Elements of Performance: the components necessary to perform a dramatic work

acting- pretending to be a character

body alignment – carrying the body is such a manner that all parts are in proper position and ready to perform a variety of activities

breath control – using the body to control the expression of the breath in order to better deliver the lines of the play or to project the voice to the audience

character- a person portrayed in a drama, novel, or other artistic piece

control of isolated parts of the body – the use of separate body parts to indicate character and expression

diction – the selection and pronunciation of words
listening- focusing on what is being said or acted out on stage and reacting to it

movement- how the actor uses his/her body to create a character or to react to another character

speaking style- the manner in which a character speaks which reflects cultural or historical influences

storytelling- the act of telling a story in the oral tradition

vocal expression- the manner in which an actor uses his/her voice in a performance

**Elements of Production:** aspects of a play outside of the dramatic elements that aid in telling the story

**costumes**- a style of dress often worn in a play that is characteristic of a particular country, period, or people. Costumes also give information about a character such as where the story takes place, when it takes place, social status etc...

**lighting:**- the use of lights to create the mood or setting for the play

**make-up**- the production element that is used on an actor’s body that reflects what the character looks like. Actors/Actresses wear some type of make-up on areas of the body that are seen by the audience (e.g. face, arms, legs, etc...).

**music**- music is an element of production that often helps create a mood, add suspense etc.

**props**- any article, except costume or scenery, used as part of a dramatic production (e.g. a glass for drinking, a purse, a weapon etc...)

**role**- the characteristics and expected social behavior of an individual in a given position (e.g. mother, employer)

**scenery**-the painted backdrop on a theatrical stage that represents where the story takes place

**sound**- any sound, not made by an actor, used to help create the environment, establish a mood or aides in telling the story. (e.g., forest sounds, thunder, street sounds etc.)
**Forms of Theatre:**

- **dance** – a theatrical production that uses only body movements to tell a story.

- **film** – comedy or drama that is filmed in scenes played on location. The scenes are not filmed in consecutive order the film editor arranges the scenes according to the director’s judgment.

- **musical theatre** – a play with music, and sometimes dance, that helps to tell the narrative

- **television** – entertainment that is similar to film but in a smaller format

**History/Cultures:** the total product of human creativity

- **Greek** – Greek drama started as a religious festival that was later dedicated to entertaining the people. The plays had a moral or ethical theme. The theatres of Greece, and the techniques of production became the foundation of modern drama.

- **Elizabethan** – The drama at the time of Shakespeare in England

- **Modern** – Drama performed since 1900

- **Native American** - The use of drama in Native American culture is similar to the West African culture in that drama serves a purpose. Their stories reflect their beliefs system and their life style. Native American stories are told in the oral tradition and are often used to teach children a lesson.

- **West African** - Drama in the West African culture serves a purpose. The purpose usually represents an important time in a person’s life.

**Periods:** relating to the drama of a particular historical time

- **Colonial American** - stories from this period are generally folktales or legends

**Style:** a distinctive manner of dramatic expression; the way the dramatic and production elements are put together

- **folktales** - any story or tale passed on traditionally and based on superstition or false beliefs

- **myths** - traditional stories dealing with supernatural beings, ancestors, or heroes
Theatrical Careers:

actor- a role interpreted by a male

actress- a role interpreted by a female. Currently both male and female theatre performers refer to themselves as “actor”.

designers- people who are in charge of creating the sets, lights, sound, costumes and all the technical things that make the play come alive.

director- the one who brings all the elements together

playwright- a person who writes a play

Types of Stages:

arena- a theatre in which the stage is at the center of the audition

proscenium- a stage that is the typical “box with an open end facing the audience”

thrust- a stage that extends beyond the proscenium arch and is usually surrounded on three sides by seats

Music Vocabulary

Composer- a person who creates musical works

Cultures- the total product of human creativity

American Folk- music of the common people

Asian- the people of China, India and Japan

European- the people of the European continent whose music had it’s own roots in ancient Greece and Italy and represent ”western culture”

Native American- the people who first lived in what is now the Americas

West African- ethnic peoples from the western countries of Africa
Elements of Music: basic components that are found in a musical composition

dynamics- the loudness or softness of the music

  crescendo- (<)

  decrescendo- (>)

  forte- loud, symbol (f)

  fortissimo- very loud, symbol (ff)

  mezzo forte- medium loud symbol, (mf)

  mezzo piano- medium soft, symbol, (mp)

  pianissimo- very soft, symbol, (pp)

  piano- soft, symbol (p)

form- the overall plan or structure for a piece of music

  AB- music composed with two different sections
  ABA- music composed in 3 sections; A’s are alike and B is different

  al fine- To the finish

  call & response- a soloist makes a statement and a group gives a reply

  coda- A few measures or a section added to the end of a piece of music to make a more effective finish

  coda sign- A sign that denotes the Coda.

  da capo (D.C) - From the beginning

  dal segno (D.S.)- Repeat from the sign

  repeat signs- a symbol that tells a musician to go back and play something again

  rondo- An instrumental piece in which the leading theme is repeated, alternately with others.

  round- form where performers play or sing the same melody by entering at different times
**theme and variation** - Form consisting of a theme followed by a number of variations on the theme.

**verse/chorus** - verse: a set of words set to music as in a hymn; chorus: a set of words set to music that is often repeated after each verse

**harmony** - two or more different notes played or sung at the same time

**harmonic progression** - the movement of a chordal (vertical) set of notes in a musical composition

**intervals** - the distance between two notes

**major** - a pattern of notes arranged in a special order; whwh (w=whole, h=half)

**parts** - separate lines in music

**resting “home” tone** - a dominant tone that has other tones related to it

**tonality** - the relation of tones and chords to a “home” tone

**triads - major /minor** - Three tone chords (e.g. 1st, 3rd, 5th notes of a major or minor scale)

**unison** - to sing and/or play the same part

**melody** - a succession of musical tones

**bass clef** - a symbol used to show low sounding notes.

**bass clef lines** - named (g,b,d,f,a) from bottom to top (good boys deserve fudge always)

**bass clef spaces** - named (a,c,e,g) from bottom to top (all cows eat grass)

**cadence** - Harmonic formula that brings a musical idea to a close.

**direction** - whether a (melody) moves higher or lower, or stays the same

**flats** - (b) A musical sign that lowers a pitch ½ step

**keyboard** - The whole set of keys in pianos, organs, harpsichords, etc.
**key signature** - The sharps (#) of flats (b) placed at the beginning of a composition or line of music denoting the scale on which the music is based.

**D major scale** - A major scale that begins and ends on D that has 2 sharps F# and C#.

**Bb major scale** - A major scale that begins and ends on Bb that has 2 flats Bb and Eb

**middle C** - the white key to the left of the two black keys in the center of a piano

**phrase** - A short portion of a melodic line with a clear beginning and end.

**pitch** - the highness or lowness of a sound

**pitch notation** - symbols used to tell a performer what pitch to play

**shape** - the shape created as a (melody) moves higher and lower, or stays on the same pitch

**sharps** - (#) A musical sign that raises a pitch ½ step

**skip** - moving from one note to another while missing several in between

**step** - moving from one note directly to another; also a step equals two half steps

**treble clef** - a symbol used to show high sounding notes

**treble clef lines** - named (e,g,b,d,f) from bottom to top: (every good boy deserves fudge)

**treble clef spaces** - named (f,a,c,e) from bottom to top: (spells face)

**rhythm** - the organization of notes and rests to create a beat

**bar lines** - vertical lines that divide the staff into measures

**duration** - the length of time a sound or silence lasts

**fermata** - holding a note for a longer than normal time

**meter** - another name for time signature

**duple meter** - beats organized in twos

**triple meter** - beats organized in threes

**asymmetrical meter** - Grouping of beats (e.g. 5/4, 7/4) that give the feeling of being off balance, not symmetrical.

**notes** - music symbols for sound
**whole note**- a note or rest that receives 4 beats
**half note**- a note or rest that receives 2 beats
**quarter note**- a note or rest that receives 1 beat
**eighth note**- a note or rest that receives 1/2 beat
**sixteenth note**- a note or rest that receives 1/16 beat

**rests**- music symbols for silence

**syncopation**- A temporary shifting of the accent in music so that the stress falls between the strong beats.

**time signature**- tells how many beats per measure and what kind of note gets one beat

- **2/4 time**- a time signature organized as two beats per measure and a quarter note gets one beat
- **4/4 time**- a time signature organized as four beats per measure and a quarter note gets one beat
- **6/8 time**- a time signature organized as 6 beats per measure and an eight note gets one beat

**tempo**- the speed at which the music is played

- **adagio** - slow
- **allegro** - fast
- **largo**- very slow
- **moderato**- moderate

**timbre**- the special sound of each instrument, voice, or sound; also called tone color

- **acoustic instruments**- Musical instruments whose sound is not produced using electricity
- **brass**- instruments, which use a metal cup, shaped mouthpiece to create their sound
- **electronic instruments**- Instruments whose sound is produced using electricity
- **folk**- those instruments, other than orchestral instruments, are used in different cultures, or groups around the world
**instrument family**- grouping instruments by like characteristics

**percussion**- any instrument that is struck, shaken, or hammered

**string**- instruments that use strings to create their sounds; by bowing, plucking, or strumming

**synthesized sounds**- Musical sounds that are produced by electronic instruments

**voice parts**- different musical lines divided by highness or lowness of the voice

  - **soprano** - the highest female voice
  - **alto** - the lowest female voice or unchanged boy’s voice
  - **tenor** - the highest male voice
  - **bass** - the lowest male voice

**woodwind**- instruments that make their sounds by using a single or double reed

**Genre**- a type or category of music

**ballads**- in folk music, a narrative song dealing with topical themes

**bluegrass**- a musical style from the American south known for its quick tempos, elaborate vocals, and often showing off instruments such as the fiddle, banjo, mandolin, guitar, and bass.

**blues**- a kind of American music that came from spirituals and work songs of African American people

**country**- American popular music using dance rhythms, simple form, and down-to-earth lyrics

**folk songs**- songs create by a particular group of people

**game songs**- songs written or used to accompany a game

**jazz**- American musical style using improvisation and complex rhythms.

**lullabies**- songs written to help children go to sleep

**marches**- usually a patriotic piece that is performed by a band and is often performed while marching

**musicals**- a play with music

**opera**- sung drama
patriotic- songs written to inspire the love for one’s country

popular- music that is well known and liked by a particular group at a particular time

rock- popular music of the 50’s and 60’s

rap- a style of popular music that started in the late 1970’s and that uses rhyming lyrics that are spoken or half-sung in a syncopated style over a rhythmic accompaniment

spiritals- American folk hymns often linked to the slaves of the 19th century

work songs- songs written to make work easier and lift the spirits of the workers

Periods- a historical time period in which the arts often have similar characteristics

Renaissance - (1400-1600)

Optimistic, lively and worldly, the music of the Renaissance no longer had rigid distinctions between sacred and secular music.

Composers Dufay, Palestrina, Desprez, and Lassus

  word painting- musical representation of specific poetic images

  motets- sacred music but the text is nonscriptual (acappella)

  madrigal- Secular vocal music for several voices , with verses set to the same music and a refrain set to different music.

Baroque – (1600 to 1750)

Structured musical form with clear-cut divisions into sections or movements marked the form of Baroque music. The introduction of counterpoint and the fugue added to the polyphonic innovations of this period.

Composers – Bach, Handel, Vivaldi

Instruments of the Baroque period:

  harpsichord- a stringed instrument with keyboard, in which the sound is made by a plectrum plucking the strings

  orchestral families- instruments grouped by similar characteristics

  organ- a wind instrument with a keyboard, in which the sound is made by forcing air through a series of pipes

Classical - (1750-1820)

This period showed an expansion of the structured counterpoint of the Baroque to include spontaneous musical form. Additional instruments used in an enlarged
orchestral setting. Chamber music, symphony, sonata, concerto and string quartet were popular forms of music during the classical era.

**Composers**- Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven

**Sonata Form** was introduced. The form is composed of 4 sections:
- **Exposition**- First theme in home key
- **Development**- new treatment of theme in modulated keys
- **Recapitulation**- brings resolution
- **Coda**- more powerful feeling of conclusion

**Romanticism** - (1820-1900)

Music stressed emotion, imagination and individualism. There was a rebellion against neo-classical form and this style emphasized freedom of expression. Musical forms used of the classical era (sonata form, symphony). A greater ranges of tone color, dynamics and pitch. There were unstable chords, less emphasis on balance and resolution.

**Composers**- Tchaikovsky, Chopin, Wagner, Puccini, Liszt, Shubert

**20th Century- Twentieth Century (Contemporary) 1900- present**

An age of musical diversity, were new approaches to pitch, rhythm and sounds (especially percussive sounds) was used. Composers drew inspiration from a variety of sources; folk, popular. Tone color played a major role in creating variety, mood and continuity. Composers began using the polychord (combination of two chords played at the same time).

**Composers**- Bartok, Stravinsky, Mahler, Copland, Gershwin

**Style**- the individual way the elements of music are put together; can be individual, by periods, by composer groups or by nations

**Visual Art Vocabulary**

**Cultures**- the customs, beliefs, arts, and way of life of a specific group of people

**Ancient and lineage-based:**

**African**- many individual cultures existing on the African continent, whose purpose for art is ceremonial, decorative, and functional

**Asian** – cultures from countries of the Pacific Rim- China and Japan. In these countries, space is used in an arbitrary manner, and the images are highly stylized.
Early American - a culture existing during the establishment and colonization of North America beginning in the mid-1600’s and reflected in the folk art of the present.

Latin American – cultures from Latin America. The purpose of art in these countries is similar to western art with social, political and religious subject matter.

Native American - a culture existing in North America whose purpose for art is ceremonial, decorative, and functional

Near Eastern – the countries of Turkey, Iran, Iraq, Israel, and other countries of the middle east. These cultures usually have artwork that is highly decorative and functional.

Elements of Art: the basic parts of a work of art; line, color, value, shape, texture, form, and space

- color - an element of art which is caused by the amount of reflected light; hue, tints, shades

  - color group or relationships - a family of related hues; warm, cool, neutral, triadic, complementary, analogous

    - warm colors - the group of hues that include yellows, oranges, and reds
    - cool colors - the group of hues that include greens, blue, and purples
    - neutral colors - the groups of hues that include black, white, browns, tans and grays
    - monochromatic – tones of one color in addition to the main hue. One hue and the neutral colors used to paint a picture.

- primary color - a hue from which all other colors can be mixed; red, yellow, and blue

- secondary color - a hue mixed from two primary colors; orange, green, and purple

- shades - Black added to a hue to change its value and make it darker

- tints – White added to a hue to change its value and make it lighter

- form - a unit that has length, width, and depth, (three-dimension), such as a cube, pyramid, cone, sphere, cylinder
**line** - an element of art; a mark that moves through space which can vary in length, width, direction, and color

**shape** - the area enclosed by a line that has length and width (two-dimensions), such as square, rectangle, triangle, circle

**space** – the area between, around, above, below or within things
  - **negative** – negative space is the area around the images that defines those objects (background)
  - **perspective** – the attempt to make objects look three-dimensional in a two-dimensional surface, giving the illusion of depth. Linear perspective (one-point perspective) has a horizon line and all other lines meet at a focal point.
  - **positive** - positive space is the shapes that make up the image

**texture** - the way a surface looks or feels - rough, smooth, prickly, and furry

**value** – (light and shadow) the degree of lightness and darkness in an art work

**Media** - the materials the artist uses to create the artwork

**Two-dimensional:**

**crayon** - a wax containing pigment

**ink** - pigment mixed with water and chemicals to make a media used for drawing

**oil pastels** – this medium is similar to chalk pastels but it has an oil base that makes it stick to the surface better and has a more brilliant color

**pencil** - a drawing device containing graphite

**paint** - a pigment suspended in liquid
  - **tempera** – a painting medium in which pigment is mixed with egg yoke and water to make an opaque image.
  - **watercolor** - a painting medium in which pigment is mixed with gum Arabic and water to make a transparent image

**paper** - a material produced from plant pulp such as cotton, wood, flax, and papyrus

**pastels** – pigments pressed into sticks and used as a dry medium on paper; sometimes referred to as hard or soft chalk pastels
Two or Three-dimensional:

fabric - a material produced by interlocking horizontal and vertical threads

yarn - a material produced by twisting fibers of animal, plant, or synthetic sources

Three-dimensional:

clay - a form of earth mixed with water that can be shaped and fired to create permanent artwork

glass - an art medium made of silicone and other trace elements that can be formed when hot or used in mosaics and stained glass windows

found objects - “junk” that is discarded and certain natural materials that are used by artists in sculptural constructions

metal - a processed material used to make sculpture

papier mache - a material made of paper torn into strips or made into pulp and mixed with paste

stone - a natural material used to make sculpture

wood - a natural material used to make sculpture

Periods:

European – cultures of European countries known as “Western Art”

Renaissance – the art of this 16th century of rebirth of the ideas of classical Greece and Rome. Art work is based on rules and order with a attempt to use proportion and perspective to achieve the illusion of depth on a flat picture plane.

19thCentury:
Impressionism – an art style that attempted to capture the rapidly changing effects of light on objects
Realism / Naturalism – a style of art in which everyday scenes and events are painted to show the beauty in the commonplace. People and objects are painted as they actually look.
**Principles of Design:** concepts that guide artists in creating and organizing their artwork - balance, pattern, contrast, and emphasis

**Balance:** how the elements are arranged to show a sense of weight in a work of art - radial, symmetrical, asymmetrical

- **Asymmetry:** balance in which things on each side of a center line or point appear to be unequal
- **Symmetry:** balance in which things on each side of a center line or a central point appear the same

**Contrast:** an obvious difference between two things - light and dark, thick and thin, big and little

**Emphasis:** the drawing of attention to important areas or objects in a work of art (focal point)

**Movement:** combining elements to produce the look of action or to cause the viewer’s eye to sweep over the artwork in a certain manner.

**Pattern:** the repetition of shape, line, or colors in a design; principle of art

**Proportion:** the relationship in size of one component of an artwork to another

**Repetition:** the way of combining art elements so that the same elements are used over and over to achieve balance

**Rhythm:** combining art elements to produce the look and feel of movement, especially with a visual tempo or beat

**Processes:** the methods used by the artist to produce the work of art

**Two-dimensional:**

- **Collage:** an art process made with cut or torn paper of fabric and glue
- **Drawing:** marks made with dry media such as pencil, crayon
- **Fabric Design:** artwork made from natural or synthetic filament
- **Mosaics:** artworks made with small pieces of colored glass, or tile and set in cement
- **Painting:** an art process made with wet media such as tempera, oil, or watercolor
**printmaking** - the process of reproducing images on a flat surface. Three types of print processes are relief (linoleum, wood), intaglio (etching, engraving) and stencil (silk screen)

**Three-dimensional:**

**architecture** - art form of designing and planning construction of buildings, cities, landscape, and bridges

**ceramics (pottery)** - the art of making objects with clay, hardened and fired in a kiln for durability

**sculpture** - an art process using modeling, carving, or joining materials into a three-dimensional form.

**weaving** - an art process using thread or yarn to produce cloth on a loom

**Purposes:** The reasons that people make art

- **decorative** - embellishes the surface of objects
- **expressive** - (personal expression) shows emotions and ideas
- **functional** - useful
- **imitate nature** - reflect the world
- **narrative** - describes and illustrates experiences and makes a point
- **ritual** - (celebration, commemoration)

**Styles:** the way in which an artist works - realistic, abstract, non-objective

- **abstract** - a style of art that is not realistic, but adds or subtracts details to create a personal design or view
- **non-objective** - a style of art that does not show recognizable objects, but uses lines, shapes, and colors as the subject
- **realistic/naturalistic** - showing something as it might really look such as a person or scene
- **symbolic** - works of art that have forms, images, or subjects representing meanings other than the ones with which they are usually associated
Subject matter: what the artwork is about - portrait, landscape, still life

landscape- a work of art showing a view of a natural outdoor scene such as a forest or field

portrait- a work of art created to show a person, animal, or group of people usually focusing on the face

still life- an artwork showing an arrangement of objects that cannot move on their own such as a vase of flowers

Purposes: The reasons that people make art

decorative - embellishes the surface of objects

expressive- (personal expression) shows emotions and ideas

functional – art work intended to decorate or to be used for an everyday purpose - useful

imitate nature – artwork intended to reflect the world

narrative- describes and illustrates experiences and makes a point

ritual – artwork used in celebrations, commemorations and religious ceremonies.