



# Archdiocese of Washington Catholic Schools

## Academic Standards

### Music

#### 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE

##### **Standard 1 - PERFORMING MUSIC: Singing alone and with others**

*Students sing a variety of repertoire expressively with attention to breath control, pitch, tone quality, diction, and posture. They sing songs with independent parts, both a cappella and accompanied, and they follow the directions of a conductor.*

- MU6.1.1 Sing independently and in ensembles maintaining good breath control, pitch, diction, tone quality, and posture.
- MU.6.1.2 Explore the changing voice and expanding vocal range through warm-ups and selected repertoire.
- MU.6.1.3 Sing expressively with attention to dynamics, phrasing, and articulation.
- MU.6.1.4 Sing songs of various styles and cultures with sensitivity to performance practices, accurate pronunciation, and appropriate movement.
- MU.6.1.5 Sing unison and part songs, partner songs, and rounds, a cappella and with varied accompaniment.
- MU.6.1.6 Follow the cues 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.6.2.1 Play melodic, rhythmic, and chordal patterns by rote and by reading.
- MU.6.2.2 Play pitched and non-pitched percussion, keyboard, string, and wind instruments using correct techniques for producing sound.
- MU.6.2.3 Play I, IV, and V chord patterns independently or as part of an ensemble.
- MU.6.2.4 Play melodies and accompaniments of various styles and cultures independently or in ensembles.
- MU.6.2.5 Play melodies, accompaniments, and ensemble parts expressively with correct rhythms, tempos, and dynamics, independently or in ensembles.
- MU.6.2.6 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 accompaniments, melodies of determined length, and melodic and rhythmic variations. They invent short compositions independently and cooperatively.*

- MU.6.3.1      Improvise rhythmic, melodic, and harmonic accompaniments to songs using pitched and non-pitched classroom instruments and electronic sound sources.
- MU.6.3.2      Improvise a melody of a determined length to be sung or played with an existing ostinato.
- MU.6.3.3      Improvise melodic and rhythmic variations of learned songs by singing and using instruments.
- MU.6.3.4      Independently and cooperatively improvise successive melodic phrases to create a song.
- MU.6.3.5.     Improvise rhythmic and melodic phrases on a variety of instruments in response to the cues of a student or teacher conductor.

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

*Students create, arrange, and perform instrumental and vocal compositions within established guidelines.*

- MU.6.4.1      Plan and perform a rhythmic speech composition with text based on themes such as teams, cars, or places. Include performance indicators such as tempo, dynamics, and changes in vocal timbre.
- MU.6.4.2      Compose melodies to be sung or played with a given ostinato or accompaniment.
- MU.6.4.3      Create a song in an appropriate meter to accompany an original descriptive text of at least four phrases.
- MU.6.4.4      Arrange a given short two-part song by re-assigning voice or instrumentation for each part using traditional or electronic sources.
- MU.6.4.5      Collaboratively create a short drama based on a folk tale or historical event incorporating student-generated lyrics, melodies, and instrumentation. Perform the completed work.



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

*Students read and perform music in specified meters and keys from a score. They write rhythms and pitches from aural examples.*

- MU.6.5.1 Read, notate, and perform quarter, dotted quarter, eighth, half, dotted half, sixteenth, and whole notes, and quarter, half, and whole rests in meters of 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 6/8, 3/8, alla breve, and asymmetrical meters.
- MU.6.5.2 Identify and notate rhythms and melodies from aural examples.
- MU.6.5.3 Read and perform songs from notation and sight read new songs from simple musical scores.
- MU.6.5.4 Read and perform in various major and minor keys.
- MU.6.5.5 Apply the designated expressive markings when singing or playing music.

#### ***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 experience and describe live musical performances.*

- MU.6.6.1 Describe musical elements including tonality, form, expressive qualities, and timbre through discussion, writing, or illustration, including how these elements may convey an expressive mood.
- MU.6.6.2 Identify and use appropriate terminology to describe various musical styles, genres, cultures, and time periods.
- MU.6.6.3 Recognize, discuss, and write about works of representative historic and contemporary composers.
- MU.6.6.4 Attend and describe live musical experiences.
- MU.6.6.5 Include descriptions of musical experiences in a portfolio.



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

*Students establish and apply criteria for listening to and performing music.*

- MU.6.7.1 Establish criteria for distinguishing effective musical works including classroom and recorded compositions. Use criteria to discuss or write about specific examples.
- MU.6.7.2 Apply established criteria for effective performance when listening to live and recorded music.
- MU.6.7.3 Apply established criteria when performing music in and outside the classroom.

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

*Students explore specific interdisciplinary connections and express them through various means. They recognize how music activities connect to life skills needed in many contexts.*

- MU.6.8.1 Use various means to explore interdisciplinary connections of a concept such as creativity:
- Mapping possible connections
  - Investigating a compositional technique such as John Cage's creative use of "prepared piano" and discovering cross-disciplinary associations
  - Responding to a writing prompt such as, "How is the creative process in music similar to that in other disciplines such as science, literature, or art?"
- MU.6.8.2 Compare compositional techniques in music and other disciplines, such as sequences in musical examples and simple tessellations in mathematics and art.
- MU.6.8.3 Integrate music into an interdisciplinary presentation of a specific topic.
- MU.6.8.4 Identify life skills developed in music studies and activities such as cooperation, effort, perseverance, and respect that transfer to other disciplines and contexts.



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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 present day cultures. They research career opportunities in music related to contemporary culture.*

- MU.6.9.1 Investigate past and contemporary uses of music to influence societal change such as the political context of “Yankee Doodle,” or protest songs like “If I Had a Hammer” or “I Am Woman.”
- MU.6.9.2 Listen to specific examples of program music related to historical events in Europe and the Americas such as Tchaikovsky’s “1812 Overture.”
- MU.6.9.3 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.6.9.4 Explore and contrast music of contemporary American and various world cultures through live or recorded authentic performances.
- MU.6.9.5 Research various career opportunities related to contemporary American music.