

TEACHER GUIDE

LESSON PLANS

Drum Corps International show performances provide the basis for activities and lessons that meet National Standards.

Prior to 2014, the National Standards for Arts Education, released in 1994 by the Music Educators National Conference (formerly known as MENC, now NAFME), documented the standards that related directly to attending a DCI show:

NAFME NATIONAL STANDARDS: 1.Singing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music 2.Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music 3. Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments 4.Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines 5.Reading and notating music 6. Listening to, analyzing, and describing music 7. Evaluating music and music performances 8.Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts 9.Understanding music in relation to history and culture.



DESTINATION DRUM CORPS

Lesson: Listening to and judging a marching ensemble.

Meets NCCAS Standards: 7, 8, 9, and 11

Objective

Students will learn critical musical evaluation by judging a drum corps show or other marching music performances. Being “judges” themselves will allow them to transfer knowledge gained in this experience into improving their own performances.

Quick Lesson Plan

Begin: Prepare the class by reading about DCI and viewing the video “What is Drum Corps International.” <http://www.dci.org/about/>

You can also find many videos of drum corps performances which are available for streaming, download, or purchase on DVD and Blu-ray Disc™ at <http://www.dci.org/store/>

Develop: Explore the lesson by discussing the elements of a drum corp show—both musical as well as visual—and how these elements may or may not relate to your own school ensembles.

In June of 2014, the National Coalition for Core Arts Standards (NCCAS) launched the PreK–12 National Core Arts Standards in dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts. “NCCAS is a partnership of national arts and education organizations and media arts representatives that developed the 2014 National Core Arts Standards. These new standards are intended to affirm the place of arts education in a balanced core curriculum, support the 21st-century needs of students and teachers, and help ensure that all students are college and career ready.” <http://www.nationalartsstandards.org>

Attending a Drum Corps International show enables music educators to actively engage students, staff and parents in a number of anchor standards that make up these new National Core Arts Standards—specifically the standards in music *and* dance as follows:

Artistic Process: Responding

(Understanding and evaluating how the arts convey meaning.)

Common Anchor Standard #7

Perceive and analyze artistic work.

Common Anchor Standard #8

Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.

Common Anchor Standard #9

Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.

Artistic Process: Connecting

(Relating artistic ideas and work with personal meaning and external context.)

Common Anchor Standard #11

Relate artistic ideas and works to societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding.

Assessment

- Can the students discuss the various musical elements in context to evaluate performances?
- Do the students understand the visual elements and how they interpret and enhance the music performed?