



Advancing creativity in education

www.maeia-artsednetwork.org

For Immediate Release—photos and logo available (contact us)

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Michigan Arts Education Instruction and Assessment (MAEIA) Website and Resources Now Available

Arts educators, along with school and community leaders, now have a new set of tools and resources available to help them implement high quality arts education programming in dance, music, theatre, and visual arts for all kindergarten through 12th grade students. The Michigan Arts Education Instruction and Assessment (MAEIA) project grew out of collaboration between the Michigan Department of Education, the Michigan Assessment Consortium (MAC), and Data Recognition Corporation (DRC).

The Michigan Arts Education Instruction and Assessment (MAEIA) project's new website at www.maeia-artsednetwork.org offers the state's first comprehensive one-stop-shop of tools and resources that can help answer key questions that K-12 educators are asking:

- What does an exemplary arts program look like?
- Where do I find research that supports the need for quality arts programs?
- What tool would help my district evaluate its arts program?
- What does authentic assessment in the arts look like?
- What tools can I use to have meaningful conversations about arts education in my district?

Voluntary Model Assessments in the arts help drive improvement

One key MAEIA resource is a set of voluntary model assessments that help K-12 arts educators authentically assess student learning in all grade levels and content areas in the arts. The availability of this resource is the culmination of a multi-year effort by hundreds of Michigan and national arts educators and assessment specialists who contributed to one or more aspects of the MAEIA tools and resources. This volunteer team researched and drafted the front-end tools, then developed, reviewed, field-tested, and revised the model assessments.

MAEIA's catalogue of 350 project-based assessments is one of the largest in the nation, meaning teachers can choose the best performance tasks to fit their curricula and instruction. All assessments are curriculum-embedded

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and aligned to Michigan Standards and National Core Arts Anchor Standards. MAEIA's individual and small group performance assessments are intended to be used periodically throughout the school year to document student performance, for use in improving instruction and learning. MAEIA assessments also have the potential to support the effectiveness of arts educators.

Why MAEIA?

For Michigan's young people to be fully prepared when they leave high school for college, career, and life, they will need a complete and competitive education. Research and opinion polls of administrators, employers, parents, and students support the significant impact of an arts-rich education on the whole child.

MAEIA voluntary tools and resources help K-12 schools:

- Improve the quality of K-12 arts education programs
- Monitor and improve student learning in the arts
- Support professional practice and teacher effectiveness in the arts
- Advance arts as a core element of public education

MAEIA tools and resources

MAEIA's voluntary assessments and program review tools are offered at no charge to Michigan districts at www.maeia-artsednetwork.org.

- **Michigan Blueprint of a Quality Arts Education Program** is a goal-setting document for arts education program and school improvement purposes. The Blueprint describes the highest standards of successful arts education programs in dance, music, theatre, and visual arts, along seven criteria that align with the Michigan School Improvement Framework.
- A companion document—the **Michigan Arts Education Blueprint Research and Recommendations**—provides supporting research documentation for each criterion and indicator in each arts discipline.
- **Michigan Arts Education Program Review Tool** is a self-study tool that educators and others can use to analyze and reflect upon the status of their districts' and schools' arts education program, and can become the basis for enhancing the arts education program in the context of school improvement.

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- **Michigan Arts Education Assessment Specifications** is a set of standards-based recommendations and models for the creation of appropriate assessments in the arts. This document outlines the purposes and uses of assessment in the arts, and provides more specific information on how to accurately use MAEIA arts education assessments.
- **MAEIA K-12 Model Assessments** are a catalogue of 350 performance events and performance tasks that have been developed and field-tested in Michigan's classrooms. The assessments provide teachers with measures of student performances in each of the four arts disciplines, in order to document the growth in student learning as that learning happens.
- **MAEIA K-12 Model Assessment Administration Manual** describes the types of assessment items available and provides guidance on item selection, as well as overall assessment administration and scoring procedures.

Join the MAEIA Community!

Educators and others who share MAEIA's vision of advancing creativity in education are invited to join the MAEIA Community to learn, grow, connect, and contribute to an ongoing conversation about quality K-12 arts education. MAEIA Community members enjoy access to blog posts, a conversation forum, a social media network and calendar of upcoming events. Visit www.maeia-artsednetwork.org to learn more or contact Holly Erb at 517-816-4520.

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The MAEIA Project has been developed by the Michigan Assessment Consortium (MAC) and Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) for the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), in partnership with Michigan educators.

