Artistic Literacy: The Overarching Goal of the Illinois Arts Learning Standards

All elements of the Illinois Arts Learning Standards are designed to promote artistic literacy, which is "the knowledge and understanding required to participate authentically in the arts. ... While individuals can learn about dance, media, music, theatre, and visual arts through reading print texts, artistic literacy requires that they engage in artistic creation processes directly through the use of appropriate materials ... and in appropriate spaces."¹

The following are qualities of standards-aligned arts teaching and learning as identified by the CPS Department of Arts Education. These best practices support the ultimate goal of artistic literacy.

---