Competence and confidence during a performance is the goal. Skillful movement and technique provide the practical substance for performance. Performance is the demonstration of human feeling and reasoning through movement. It is technical expertise and artistic expression through reflective practice, study, and evaluation of one’s own work and the work of others.

**Prepared Graduates**
The prepared graduate competencies are the preschool through twelfth-grade concepts and skills that all students who complete the Colorado education system must master to ensure their success in a postsecondary and workforce setting.

**Prepared Graduate Competencies in the 1. Movement, Technique, and Performance Standard are:**

- Understand that dance performance requires technical competency
- Demonstrate competence and confidence in performing a variety of dance styles and genres
- Demonstrate awareness of fitness, wellness, and the body’s potential for movement
- Participate in a dance production
- Demonstrate thinking skills such as describing, analyzing, interpreting, evaluating, and problem-solving through dance movement and verbal discussion
2. Create, Compose and Choreograph

Creative dance involves using the dance elements of space, time, and energy to explore, improvise, and make movement phrases. The degree of sophistication in the choreographic process is evident in Composition, which is a shorter work of art in progress. Choreography is the art of making dance using meaning, intent, and principles of structure and design. In dance, there are three levels of creativity that define and solve artistic problems in presenting a work of art – notation, movement vocabulary, and style.

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Prepared Graduate Competencies in the 2. Create, Compose and Choreograph Standard are:

- Demonstrate and use the principles and practices of choreography in the creative process
- Improvise and create movement based on an intent or meaning
- Demonstrate an understanding of form and structure to create dances
- Demonstrate thinking skills such as describing, analyzing, interpreting, evaluating, and problem-solving through dance movement and verbal discussion
3. Historical and Cultural Context

The Historical and Cultural Context in dance focuses on understanding the relevance of dance in the world today. The aim is to know dance from a variety of cultures; understand how dance shapes and reflects cultures and history through time; and acknowledge dance in society as creative, expressive, communicable, and social.

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**Prepared Graduate Competencies in the Historical and Cultural Context Standard are:**

- Understand and appreciate a dance in terms of the culture in which it is performed
- Explore and perform dance styles from various cultures and times
- Demonstrate thinking skills such as describing, analyzing, interpreting, evaluating, and problem-solving through dance movement and verbal discussion
Reflect upon dance to stimulate the imagination and challenge the intellect; connect it with other disciplines to enrich and enhance the spectrum of knowledge; and respond to it to deepen and refine one's emotional nature. Represent dance as art in oral and written communications. Critique and analyze new dance works, reconstructions, and masterpieces. Distinguish the aesthetic values of dance, and discover the artistic intent.

**Prepared Graduates**
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**Prepared Graduate Competencies in the 4. Reflect, Connect, and Respond Standard are:**

- Use criticism and analysis to reflect upon and understand new works, reconstructions, and masterpieces
- Discover connections to academic content areas, social activities, mass media, and careers
- Demonstrate thinking skills such as describing, analyzing, interpreting, evaluating, and problem-solving through dance movement and verbal discussion