

Registered Dance Educator as Master Teacher

Professional Teaching Standards for Dance Arts



The Registered Dance Educator (RDE) is a master teacher and has demonstrated and documented their practice based on the *Professional Teaching Standards in Dance Arts* (PTSDA). A master teacher demonstrates excellence inside and outside of the studio through consistent leadership and collaboration. A master teacher strives for distinguished teaching and continued professional growth. Specifically, according to the PTSDA standards:

I. Goals and Purposes of Dance Art Education

Accomplished teachers understand the goals and purposes of dance education and use this knowledge to inform their instructional practice, motivate student learning and achievement, and convey the importance of dance to life and learning beyond the dance learning environment.

II. Knowledge of Students

Accomplished teachers demonstrate an understanding of the cognitive, affective, and kinesthetic development of students from early childhood through young adulthood and into lifelong learning. Teachers should recognize individual student interests, aptitudes, and needs to inform age-appropriate instructional decisions.

III. Standards and Curriculum: Skills and Knowledge of Dance Arts

Accomplished teachers use their knowledge of dance to aid students in acquiring the skills to create, perform, critically analyze, interpret, and evaluate works of art in dance.

IV. Learning Environments

Accomplished teachers establish safe and engaging learning environments that meet the *Opportunity-To-Learn Standards* (2017) to support student learning and growth.

V. Instructional Resources and Strategies

Accomplished teachers utilize a variety of resources and employ diverse strategies that enable students to maximize learning.

VI. Taking the Responsibility to be the Best Teacher You Can Be and Advancing the Field of Dance Arts Education

Accomplished teachers take responsibility for continuing education and professional development, and they collaborate with colleagues at local, state and national levels to advance the field of dance arts education.

VII. Integrating Community Resources to Support and Enhance Your Dance Program

Accomplished teachers coalesce community resources to build their dance program so it is central to community education, art, culture, society, and business. Genuine collaboration and networks create pathways to establishing, nurturing and sustaining dance programs in a community.

VIII. Reflective Practice: Research, Assessment, and Evaluation

Accomplished teachers seamlessly blend teacher and student assessments and program evaluation into daily instruction; and they recognize that dance studios and classrooms provide research opportunities to improve teaching, learning, and reflective practice.

Dance Educators who are master teachers can be found across all sectors, and NDEO believes it is important to identify and honor these master teachers. In order to become an RDE master teacher, an educator must apply and demonstrate these merits through an adjudicated portfolio process. This portfolio must include support of advanced teaching capability regarding professionalism, leadership, assessment, and instruction and of other contributions to education such as serving as a mentor, researcher, or writer. They must present evidence-based documentation that attests to their abilities in each of the eight PTSDA standards.