



## ABC Project Strategic Plan 2017-2022

The Arts In Basic Curriculum (ABC) Project is a statewide initiative begun in 1987 and is cooperatively directed by the South Carolina Arts Commission, the South Carolina Department of Education, and the College of Visual and Performing Arts at Winthrop University.

**Mission.** The Arts in Basic Curriculum Project provides leadership to achieve quality, comprehensive arts education (which includes creative writing, dance, design, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts) for all students in South Carolina.

**We Believe.** All students deserve equal access to quality, comprehensive, standards-based arts education, which is essential to the educational promise and social wellbeing of South Carolina's children. Based on research, and in alignment with the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate, we believe that education in the arts provide students with:

### World-Class Knowledge

- The arts teach a diverse and transferable set of learning skills.
- The arts enable learners to be creative in their approach to problem solving and to visualize concepts in new ways.
- Rigorous, comprehensive, and sequential arts programs based on the 2017 South Carolina Visual and Performing Arts Standards provide a foundation for college and career opportunities.

### World-Class Skills

- The 2017 South Carolina College-and-Career-Ready Standards for Visual and Performing Arts Proficiency set achievable, measurable goals to build knowledge and skills necessary to prepare learners for the future workplace.
- Artistic processes develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills as learners create, refine, and reflect on their work and the works of others.
- Through the collaborative arts experiences learners acquire skills necessary to communicate effectively as part of a team.

### Life and Career Characteristics

- Learning in the arts through history and culture broadens global perspectives.
- Rigorous quality arts experiences require learners to persevere through experimentation, repetition, and mastery of their arts discipline.
- The arts require learners to be disciplined, dedicated, and demonstrate a strong work ethic.

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**Goal I - Increase delivery of quality arts education and arts integrated learning**

- **Objective A.** Develop and sustain individual school and district capacities to implement comprehensive, standards-based arts education
  - **Strategy 1.** SC Arts Commission Arts in Education grants
  - **Strategy 2.** SC Department of Education Arts Curricular Innovation grants
  - **Strategy 3.** Guide school and school districts to other grant funding
  - **Strategy 4.** Explore alternative methodology to deliver standards-based arts education
  
- **Objective B.** Offer effective professional development and technical assistance to promote best practices
  - **Strategy 1.** Sustain and expand the ABC principals' peer network
  - **Strategy 2.** Establish an additional Field Services position at the ABC Project
  - **Strategy 3.** Design a research agenda that deepens understanding of current approaches to arts education and informs professional development
  - **Strategy 4.** Implement technology-based arts and arts integration professional development resources
  - **Strategy 5.** Develop a plan to promote diverse arts traditions of South Carolina
  
- **Objective C.** Support the implementation of the 2017 South Carolina College-and-Career-Ready Standards for Visual and Performing Arts Proficiency
  - **Strategy 1.** Create and disseminate exemplary standards-based lesson plans
  - **Strategy 2.** Demonstrate alignment between the 2017 South Carolina College-and-Career-Ready Standards for Visual and Performing Arts Proficiency and National Core Arts Standards
  - **Strategy 3.** Facilitate STEAM programs throughout SC that meet the 2017 South Carolina College-and-Career-Ready Standards for Visual and Performing Arts Proficiency
  - **Strategy 4.** Introduce the concepts of quality arts integration to teacher preparation programs
  
- **Objective D.** Ensure long term sustainable growth for the ABC Project and ABC Sites
  - **Strategy 1.** Assemble and facilitate an ABC Project sustainability task force
  - **Strategy 2.** Implement recommendations proposed by sustainability task force
  - **Strategy 3.** Refocus organizational activities as appropriate
  - **Strategy 4.** Develop hybrid strategic planning model that incorporates in-person and technology based components

**GOAL II – Actively participate in the creation and maintenance of local, state, and national policies to ensure a quality, sequential, standards-based arts education**

- **Objective A.** Strengthen efforts in local, grassroots arts education advocacy
  - **Strategy 1.** Develop webinar to offer arts education advocacy workshops
  - **Strategy 2.** Monitor local arts advocacy efforts of ABC Sites
  - **Strategy 3.** Disseminate presentations and articles to SC State School Boards Association, SC PTA, SC School Improvement Council, and other state education advocacy organizations

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- **Objective B.** Make the case that the arts are integral to College and Career Readiness
  - **Strategy 1.** Ensure the arts are included in other content areas and initiatives of the SC Department of Education, including diploma pathways
  - **Strategy 2.** Ensure the arts are included in initiatives of key education entities, including Transform SC, Education Oversight Committee, South Carolina Coalition for Mathematics and Science, and South Carolina Afterschool Alliance
  - **Strategy 3.** Communicate with school and district leaders, including principals and superintendents, to ensure they recognize the contributions of the arts to student learning and achievement
  - **Strategy 4.** Communicate with business leaders and policy makers to ensure they recognize the contributions of the arts to student learning and achievement
  - **Strategy 5.** Work with institutions of higher education to ensure arts teacher preparation programs include the 2017 College and Career Ready Standards for Visual and Performing Arts Proficiency
  
- **Objective C.** Promote the work of the ABC Project
  - **Strategy 1.** Develop an ABC Project communication plan
  - **Strategy 2.** Engage with and lead state, regional, and national conversations about arts education
  - **Strategy 3.** Create visibility of the ABC Project related to the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary

**Goal III - Advance arts education through local, state, and national partnerships**

- **Objective A.** Maintain and strengthen existing partnerships
  - **Strategy 1.** ABC Coordinating Committee (SC Arts Commission, SC Department of Education, and Winthrop University)
  - **Strategy 2.** ABC Steering Committee
  - **Strategy 3.** SC Arts Alliance
  - **Strategy 4.** Council of Arts Education Presidents (CAEP) and member organizations
  - **Strategy 5.** Present at state and national conferences
  - **Strategy 6.** Refocus organizational activities as appropriate
  
- **Objective B.** Establish new local, state, and national partnerships that promote arts education
  - **Strategy 1.** Collaborate with initiatives focused on literacy, STEAM, project based learning, and College & Career readiness
  - **Strategy 2.** Identify and present at previously unattended state and national conferences
  - **Strategy 3.** Identify and connect ABC Sites with local partner opportunities
  
- **Objective C.** Diversify and increase funding for the ABC Project
  - **Strategy 1.** Increase existing funding sources
  - **Strategy 2.** Identify and pursue new public and private funding sources
  - **Strategy 3.** Identify and pursue previously unpursued public and private funding sources