

# Definitions of the California VAPA Standards Component Strands

For all Four Arts Disciplines: Theatre, Visual Art, Dance, Music

## 1.0 Artistic Perception

- **Building blocks** of art form
- Terminology, vocabulary
- Art processes
- Art elements
- Art principles
- Art skills
- Sensory awareness

## Another Way of Looking

*What is this stuff?*

## 2.0 Creative Expression

- Creating
- Performing
- Participating
- Inventing
- Improvising
- Process of Creating
- Communicating meaning
- **Doing** the art

*What can I do  
with this stuff?*

## 3.0 Historical and Cultural Context

- Understanding the **history** of the art form
- Understanding the **cultural context** in history of the art form
- Past and present
- Exposure to the role arts play in human history
- Linking the past to the present to understand the human condition
- Analyzing and comparing
- Understanding diversity

*What have other  
people done with  
this stuff?*

## 4.0 Aesthetic Valuing

- Looking at art, your own and others
- Deriving meaning from your own art and others art
- Critiquing with informed criteria
- Talking about art
- Informed decisions about art
- Human response to art
- Higher order thinking
- Identifying and discovering the emotional response to art
- Exposure to art essential

*How do I know if  
this is good stuff?*

## 5.0 Connections, Relations and Applications

- To careers in the arts
- To other subject areas, and other art forms
- Meta-cognition, higher level thinking skills

*How does this  
stuff fit with other  
stuff?*