

# ARTS & DIGITAL LITERACY

A program of the TEXAS CULTURAL TRUST





The Texas Cultural Trust, in partnership with the University of Texas at Austin College of Fine Arts, created an innovative suite of classes that bridges the gap between traditional fine arts education and technological instruction. The **Arts & Digital Literacy Initiative** is a project-based Fine Arts program that integrates technology into the creative classroom, giving students all of the benefits of an arts rich education, while preparing them for the modern workplace. All courses are aligned with the current TEKS standards for Fine Arts and count as Fine Arts credit for graduation.

The Trust's research shows that students who are enrolled in the arts have up to **15 percent higher pass rates on standardized test scores**, are **half as likely to drop out**, and **attend an average of one additional week of classes per school year**. Additionally, these students have **greater rates of enrollment in higher education**. Digital literacy is the future of communication, and these courses generate learning experiences that truly engage students while simultaneously developing their capacity for **critical thinking, creativity, imagination, and innovation**.

To help alleviate any barriers to implementation, the Trust is committed to offering ongoing support: An annual Arts & Digital Literacy Institute, a professional development opportunity for Fine Arts teachers; as well as a Classroom Technology Grant, offering financial assistance that may be used to purchase technology or cover other associated costs.

**The Arts & Digital Literacy Free Online Curricula is Available at [www.artsdigit.com](http://www.artsdigit.com)**

- Art and Media Communications I & II
- Music and Media Communications I & II
- Theatre and Media Communications I & II
- Dance and Media Communications I & II



# COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

All Courses are Available for Fine Arts Credit under the Current Fine Arts TEKS (Fall 2015). The Arts & Digital Literacy Free Online Curricula is Available at [www.artsdiglit.com](http://www.artsdiglit.com)



## **Art and Media Communications I (PEIMS Code: 03500120)**

## **Art and Media Communications II (PEIMS Code: 03501230)**

The pioneering visual art curriculum combines the powerful art principles with technology as a way to bridge traditional Fine Art education with contemporary digital media applications. One expected outcome is to equip students with 21st century skills that are highly sought-after by colleges and the workforce. The courses combine rigorous and relevant experiential study of modern, post-modern, and contemporary art and design with explorative student learning in various media platforms.



**“ The projects are very creative and challenging. It shows us there is a world of opportunity that can be achieved through technology and storytelling.”**

*— Student, Manor High School,  
Manor ISD, Art and Media I*

## **Music and Media Communications I (PEIMS Code: 03156400)**

## **Music and Media Communications II (PEIMS Code: 03156500)**

The innovative music curriculum aims to ensure that all students, who may or may not have an extensive background in music, experience exciting, hands-on instruction in music while integrating digital media. The standards-based instruction focuses on fundamental music skills, but students will also explore and discover their own personal musicality using media-based resources for listening, recording, sharing, composing, and—most importantly—making music.

## **Theatre and Media Communications I (PEIMS Code: 03251300)**

## **Theatre and Media Communications II (PEIMS Code: 03251400)**

In Theatre and Media Communications I & II, students engage in pragmatic theatrical study coupled with video and audio design. Creation and analysis of student performances balance with exploration of contemporary practices in digital media. Students learn how to fuse traditional stagecraft with current technological applications to create new media, such as animations, digital images, and multimedia presentations.



## **Dance and Media Communications I (PEIMS Code: 03834500)**

## **Dance and Media Communications II (PEIMS Code: 03834600)**

Students enrolled in Dance and Media Communications I & II will undertake diligent studies of dance history, dance technique, and choreography to explore how these elements translate to a digital medium. Through creation and analysis, students learn how to integrate traditional and contemporary dance with current modes of technology to reinvent the medium as they know it. The resulting product will take many forms, such as digital videos, websites, and interactive performances.

**“As a representative of all the small schools in Texas, Richland Springs is delighted to be a part of expanding the arts to rural schools. I was considering retiring from teaching theatre until this intriguing new Theatre and Media Communications course came along, and now, I am rejuvenated and inspired.”**

—Patsy Hall, *Theatre and Media Communications I Teacher, Richland Springs High School*

**“It is exciting to see a curriculum being built that will be affirming, challenging, and skill-building for at-risk 9th graders. I can already visualize students who have not had an art class for years re-engaging in the creative arts, and in turn, gaining marketable skills that are in demand in the workplace.”**

—Suki Steinhauser, *Executive Director of Communities in Schools in Austin*

**“These courses are a great opportunity for a child to be prepared, not just academically, but... for the 21st Century workplace, using the arts to really connect with these kids, many of whom have never had an art class before, but need it.”**

—Elizabeth Sanchez Lopes, *Supervisor, Northside Independent School District, Dance and Media Communications and Theatre and Media Communications I*

**“Arts & Digital Literacy offers limitless possibilities to generate student interest and engagement and empower students to try new ways of learning.”**

—April Cox, *Theatre and Media Communications Trainer and Teacher, New Braunfels Independent School District*

**“What’s most exciting about this program is that so many more students are going to get a chance to participate in the fine arts who have, for one reason or another, been excluded in the past. There is a huge appetite among students to know about the arts and this program opens the door to many, many more children who want that opportunity. This is an important thing for Texas and for education in the state of Texas.”**

—Dr. Douglas Dempster, *Dean of the College of Fine Arts, The University of Texas at Austin*



Arts & Digital Literacy is a program of the Texas Cultural Trust in collaboration with The University of Texas at Austin College of Fine Arts.

Texas Cultural Trust’s mission is to be the leading voice for the arts in education, advocacy, and economic impact in Texas, spotlighting the artistic excellence of our state.

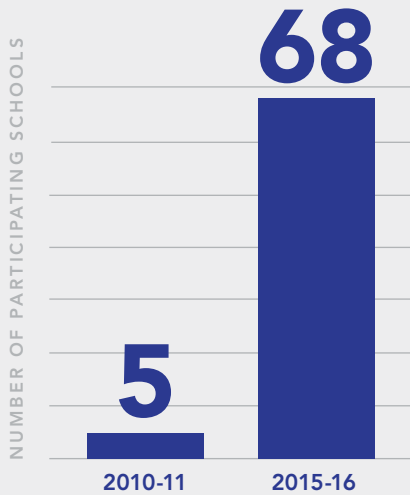
Download the curriculum at [www.artsdiglit.com](http://www.artsdiglit.com) | [www.txculturaltrust.org](http://www.txculturaltrust.org)

# ARTS & DIGITAL LITERACY

IMPACT SNAPSHOT



Since our inception in 2010-11, we've had an annual growth rate of **MORE THAN 30%**.

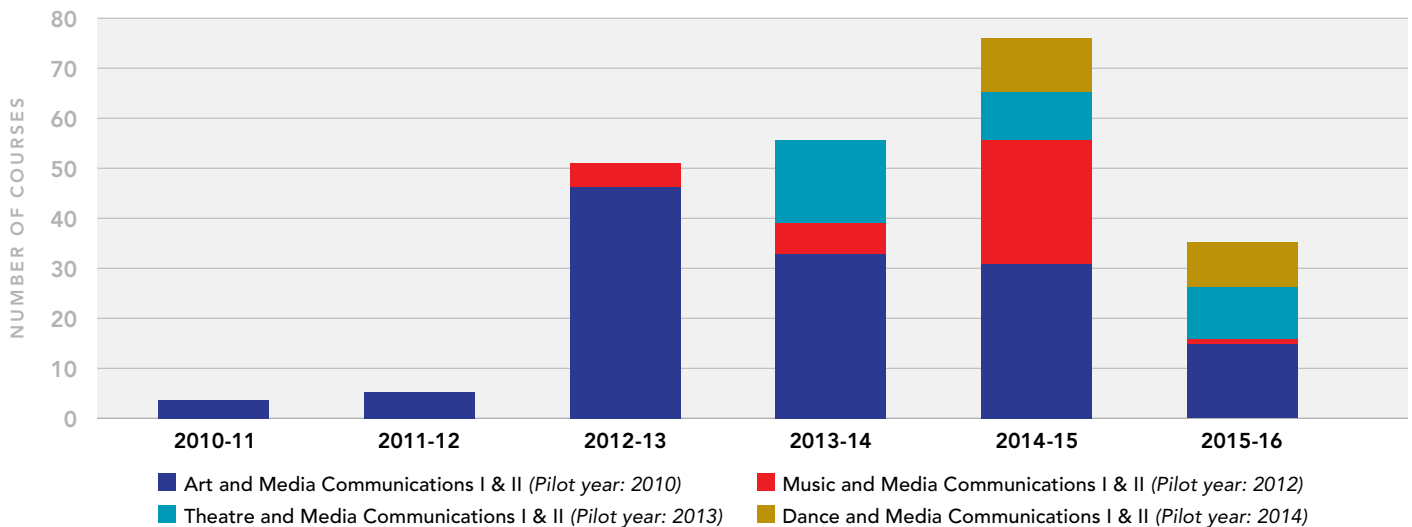


**OVER 5,000 TEACHERS** across the state have been trained in Arts & Digital Literacy course instruction.



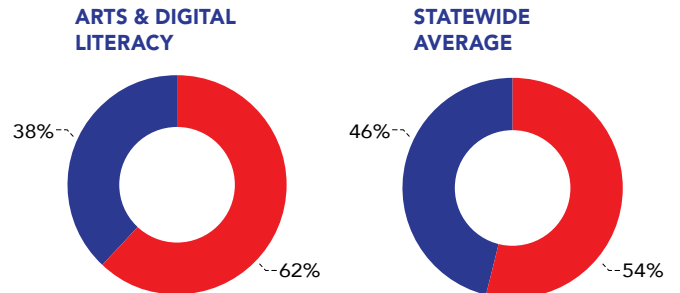
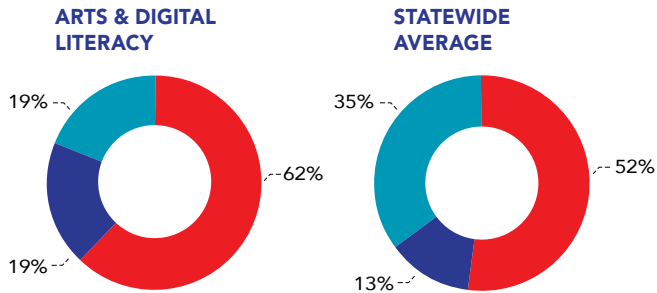
**MORE THAN 2000 STUDENTS** IN 217 CLASSROOMS IN 116 TEXAS SCHOOLS are enrolled in Arts & Digital Literacy courses.

## TOTAL NUMBER OF ARTS & DIGITAL LITERACY COURSES OFFERED BY YEAR



We serve more **STUDENTS OF COLOR** than the statewide average.

We serve more **AT-RISK YOUTH** than the statewide average.



- Hispanic or Latino students
- African-American students
- Caucasian/other students

- At-risk youth
- Non-at-risk youth

### NUMBER OF PROGRAMS OFFERED IN EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT

- |                          |                                   |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| El Paso - 10             | Hays - 1                          |
| Garland - 10             | Henderson - 1                     |
| Alief - 5                | Highland - 1                      |
| Austin - 5               | Hillsboro - 1                     |
| Comal - 4                | Idea Public Schools - 1           |
| Dallas - 4               | Katy - 1                          |
| Northside - 4            | Kerens - 1                        |
| Round Rock - 4           | Lexington - 1                     |
| Spring - 4               | Liberty Hill - 1                  |
| Grand Prairie - 3        | Manor - 1                         |
| Houston - 3              | McKinney - 1                      |
| Plano - 3                | Mesquite - 1                      |
| Pharr-San Juan-Alamo - 3 | Mount Pleasant - 1                |
| Aldine - 2               | New Diana - 1                     |
| Brownsville - 2          | Olton - 1                         |
| Fort Worth - 2           | Richland Springs - 1              |
| Georgetown - 2           | San Marcos - 1                    |
| Lake Travis - 2          | Silsbee - 1                       |
| San Antonio - 2          | Snyder - 1                        |
| Alba-Golden - 1          | Socorro - 1                       |
| Arlington - 1            | Stamford - 1                      |
| Arp - 1                  | Three Rivers - 1                  |
| Calhoun - 1              | Treetops School International - 1 |
| Celina - 1               | Tyler - 1                         |
| Comstock - 1             | Waco - 1                          |
| Eanes - 1                | Yoakum - 1                        |
| Ector - 1                |                                   |
| Edinburg - 1             |                                   |
| Forney - 1               |                                   |
| Glen Rose - 1            |                                   |
| Granbury - 1             |                                   |

