

Specialty Teacher – Music/Art (Grades K–8)

Role

Serves as the lead educator in visual and/or performing arts, providing students with rich opportunities to explore creativity, expression, and cultural understanding through structured instruction in music and/or art. The Specialty Teacher supports American Legacy Academy's mission by fostering intellectual and emotional development, character formation, and an appreciation for beauty and meaning—advancing Aristotle's ideal of *eudaimonia* through artistic excellence.

Authority Level

Leads the planning, instruction, and assessment of the music and/or visual arts program across all K–8 grade levels. Exercises creative autonomy in curriculum delivery, classroom culture, and artistic integration while aligning instruction with school values and academic expectations.

Responsibilities

The Specialty Teachers in Music/Art plays a vital role in shaping well-rounded learners by cultivating creative literacy, aesthetic appreciation, and self-expression. Through developmentally appropriate instruction, the teacher helps students discover their creative voice while building focus, perseverance, and cultural awareness.

Instructional Excellence

- Deliver standards-aligned, age-appropriate instruction in music and/or visual art, including elements of theory, technique, history, and creative practice
- Develop student skills in musicianship, vocal/instrumental performance, composition, and/or drawing, painting, sculpture, and mixed media
- Introduce students to diverse artists, cultural traditions, and forms of artistic expression to broaden cultural literacy and historical understanding
- Use structured techniques such as repetition, modeling, and guided exploration to build foundational knowledge and artistic fluency

Creative Development and Expression

- Encourage individual expression and creative confidence while maintaining structure, skill-building, and intentionality
- Create opportunities for student choice, problem-solving, and imagination within projects and performances
- Support emotional growth and communication through artistic outlets, encouraging students to reflect and engage with complex ideas
- Showcase student work and performance to build pride, purpose, and connection to community

Assessment and Student Growth Monitoring

- Assess student progress using portfolios, rubrics, performance evaluations, and process-based reflections
- Provide meaningful feedback that supports skill development, creativity, and artistic intent
- Track student participation, mastery of artistic techniques, and growth in creative habits such as focus, patience, and craftsmanship
- Align grading practices with school standards, developmental expectations, and ALA's instructional philosophy

Character and Virtue Development through the Arts

- Reinforce ALA's core virtues—perseverance, integrity, responsibility, and wonder—through practice, critique, and creative risk-taking
- Establish classroom routines and norms that promote respectful collaboration, attention to detail, and reflective thinking
- Model and teach humility in growth, courage in expression, and gratitude for beauty and community
- Connect artistic learning to moral reasoning and cultural awareness through projects, performances, and shared experiences

Collaboration and Professional Practice

- Collaborate with classroom teachers and instructional leaders to create interdisciplinary lessons that reinforce core content through music and art
- Participate in school events, performances, exhibitions, and community showcases to highlight the value of the arts
- Engage in professional development to refine artistic expertise and pedagogy in line with national and state arts education standards
- Communicate with families to celebrate student growth, share learning objectives, and promote community participation in the arts

Alignment with ALA's Mission and Educational Philosophy

- Advance ALA's three pillars: Academic Excellence, Character Development, and Physical Fitness through integration of the creative arts
- Embody Aristotle's vision of the "unity of mind, body, and soul", recognizing the arts as a path to truth, beauty, and moral understanding

- Apply an essentialist approach by teaching artistic vocabulary, techniques, and traditions in a sequenced, skill-building manner
- Incorporate constructivist strategies by fostering exploration, student choice, and expression through open-ended creative processes
- Encourage lifelong engagement with the arts as a source of joy, empathy, and critical thinking

Reporting Structure

Reports To: School Administrator

Collaborates With: Humanities Teachers, STEM Teachers, Academic Director, Instructional Coach, SPED/ELL Coordinator, and other Specialty Teachers

Receives Support From: Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), arts education resources, and school-based professional development

Music Teacher

Minimum Qualifications

- *Associate's Degree in Music or a related field or 24 credit hours in Music*
- 18 clock hours of Health and Safety Training
- CPR & First Aid Certification
- Safe Sport Certification
- Arizona IVP Fingerprint Clearance Card
- *Ability to read and write musical notation*

Experience

- 2 years teaching music, including live/recorded performance

Core Competencies

- Inspiring creativity and musical exploration
- Student-centered vocal and instrumental instruction
- Cultural appreciation of music genres
- Clear communication and expressive instruction
- Facilitates performances and showcases that build student confidence
- Leverages music projects to promote character and teamwork

- Engages community musicians and families in arts-based learning

Art Teacher

Minimum Qualifications

- *Associate's degree in art or a related field or 24 credit hours in Art*
- 18 clock hours of Health and Safety Training
- CPR & First Aid Certification
- Safe Sport Certification
- Arizona IVP Fingerprint Clearance Card

Experience

- 2 years teaching art, with portfolio evidence

Core Competencies

- Visual storytelling and creative guidance
- Respect for artistic voice and expression
- Knowledge of art history and technique
- Studio management and instructional flexibility
- Facilitates project-based exhibitions and interdisciplinary art projects
- Supports legacy-building through student-led visual narratives
- Connects local artists and cultural resources with classroom instruction