



## **Position Statement on Equity for All Students [Adopted March 2012; Reviewed 2015]**

Visual arts education is committed to goals that advocate both excellence and equity for all students through differentiated educational opportunities, resources, and systems of support. A successful art education program respects a range of diversity in the uniqueness of all students, their similarities, differences, and learning characteristics. Included in the range of diversity are students at risk; those with special needs; students from a variety of economic, multicultural, and global backgrounds; and those who are highly creative, gifted and/or talented.

Art teachers should incorporate students' prior knowledge and experience into classroom practice by respecting and valuing their students' unique strengths through creating equitable classroom communities. Instructional materials should present diverse populations as role models in various aspects of the visual arts. To this end, instruction and assessment should be designed so that all students, based on their abilities and backgrounds, are afforded opportunities to communicate what they know and are able to do through the visual arts.