Visual and Performing Arts
Performing Arts: Symphonic Band
Unit 1: Proper Breathing Technique for Wind Players

Essential Understandings	▪ Instrumental music requires basic breathing skills and proper techniques.
Essential Questions	▪ What is proper playing posture? ▪ What is meant by "diaphragm" breathing? ▪ What is proper tone production?
Essential Knowledge	▪ Wind tone production begins with good posture. ▪ Use of the diaphragm muscle is needed for proper air pressure. ▪ Use of firm air pressure is important at all volumes.
Vocabulary	▪ Terms: o posture, tone production, "hissing air", diaphragm
Essential Skills	▪ Demonstrate proper body/instrument position. ▪ Maintain even flow at most dynamic levels. ▪ Hold long tones with an evenness of tone.

Related Maine Learning Results	Music
	A. Disciplinary Literacy
	  A1.Music Difficulty
	    Students perform music that requires well-developed technical skills, attention to phrasing and interpretation, and the ability to perform various meters and rhythms in a variety of keys while modeling proper posture and technique alone or with others.
	  A2.Notation and Terminology
	    Students apply accumulated knowledge of musical notation, symbols, and terminology to perform music with greater complexity and variation including sudden dynamic contrasts.
	  A3.Listening and Describing
	    Students listen to, analyze and evaluate music using their understanding of pitch, rhythm, tempo, dynamics, form, timbre, texture, harmony, style and compound meter.
	E. Visual and Performing Arts Connection
	  E3.Goal Setting
	    Students make short-term and long-term goals based on rigorous criteria and related to time management, interpersonal interactions, or skill development that will lead to success in the arts.

Sample Lessons And Activities	▪ Use videos on "wind tone production" ▪ Demonstrate the effects of improper vs. proper breath

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Sample Classroom Assessment Methods	"Long tone" playing quiz - Pitch control using electronic tune for visualization
Sample Resources	- <u>Videos:</u> - SmartMusic computer system videos