

CAREERS FOR

Art & Music Education

MAJORS

“The future belongs to young people with an education and the imagination to create.”
-President Barack Obama

Art and Music educators help to foster creativity, free expression, and develop fine motor skills in the students they teach. Numerous articles have praised the importance and long lasting benefits that art and music has on students across all levels. Once a career in decline, many cities and states are realizing the importance of art and music education in the development of students. In 2019, Albuquerque Public Schools started an initiative to expand fine arts programs in elementary schools. [UNM's College of Fine Arts](#) offers four degrees for students interested in pursuing a career in arts education. Students are encouraged to [speak with a College of Fine Arts academic advisor](#) to discuss the requirements for each degree.

[Bachelor of Arts in Art Education \(BA\)](#)

UNM's BA prepares students to become art teachers in K-12 classrooms. After completing the program, students are eligible to apply for New Mexico teaching licensure. Students must pass the BA-AE screening criteria before admittance to the program.

[Bachelor of Music Education \(BME\)](#)

There are two concentrations for students interested in UNM's BME degree. [The Instrumental Concentration](#) allows students to teach any music class in K-12 levels. [The Vocal Concentration](#) includes an emphasis in strings, winds, percussion, piano, or guitar and prepares students to teach choir or other vocal classes in a K-12 setting. Both concentrations allow students who complete the program to apply for a New Mexico teaching license.

[Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Arts \(BAIA\)](#)

The BAIA degree will allow students to explore multiple creative disciplines while studying artistic pedagogy. Students will also have the opportunity to explore art theory and practice, artistic management, and grant writing.

[Bachelor of Music in String Pedagogy](#)

Students follow a rigorous and comprehensive curriculum that explore the works of Galamian, Kendall, Rolland, and Suzuki. There is an interdisciplinary portion of study that focuses on areas like child development, human cognition, and running your own private studio. Students in the program teach at the UNM Lab School, where community children ages 3 through high school receive private lessons.

Industries & Occupations

Employers specifically recruit UNM students and alumni. Consult Career Services' [Handshake](#) for a list of organizations, recruiters, and current job postings. Speak with a Career Development Facilitator for help with identifying employers or additional resources for Art & Music Education.

- Education
 - K-12 public, private, and charter schools, K-12 after school programs, colleges, universities, professional schools, junior colleges, technical and trade schools
- Continuing/Certificate Programs
 - GED programs, adult education, continuing education programs, Board of Education, professional associations, specialty populations (prison or correctional systems, veteran’s reintegration programs)
- Community Services
 - Not for profit, YMCA, YWCA, camp programs, residential treatment facilities, rehabilitation programs, workforce programs, specialty group programs, adoption agencies.

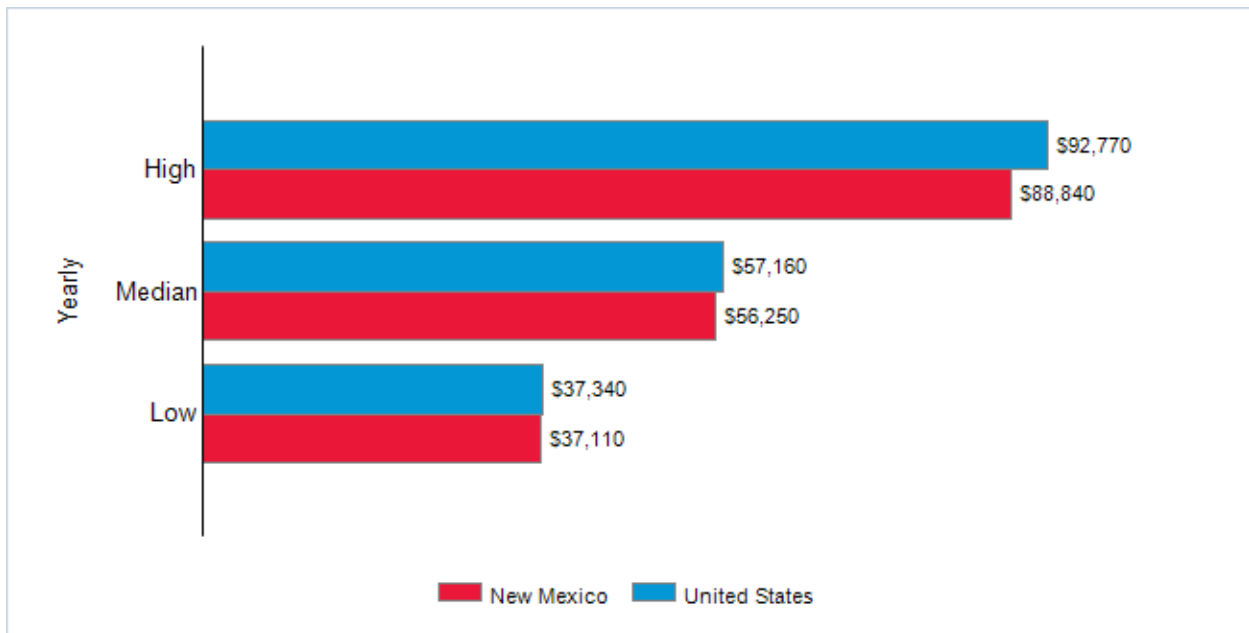
Top Companies

- [Albuquerque Public Schools](#)
- [Los Lunas Schools](#)
- [Las Cruces Public Schools](#)
- [Santa Fe Public Schools](#)
- [Gadsden Independent School District](#)

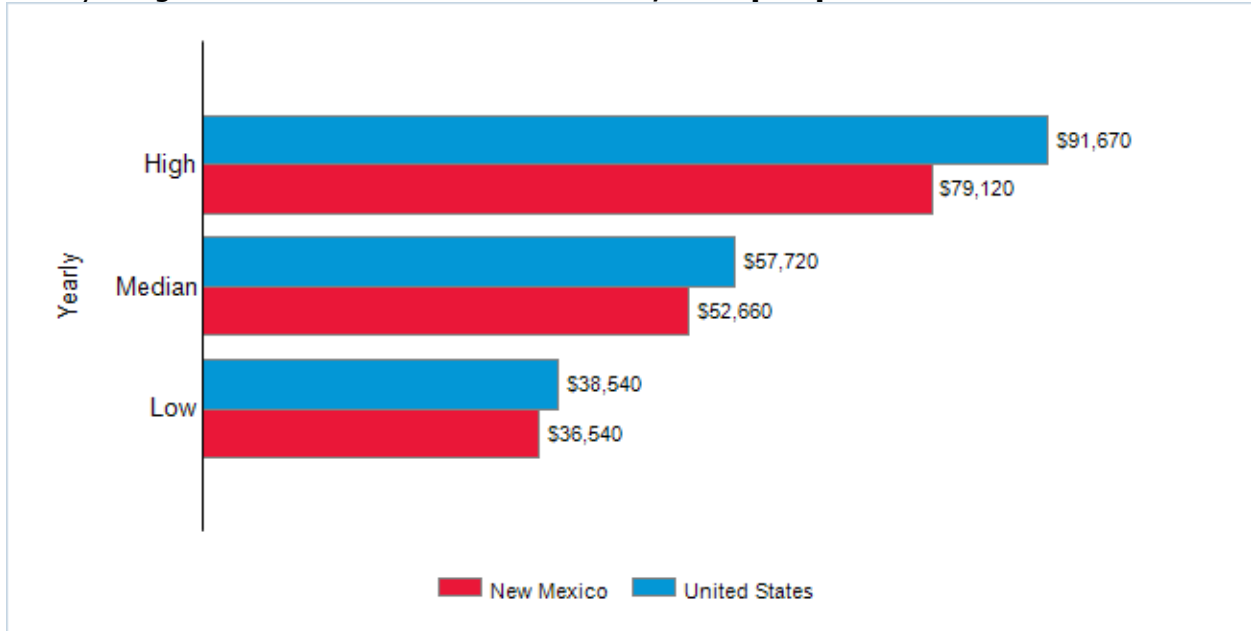
Salary Information

SALARY INFORMATION LINKED FROM [CAREER ONE STOP](#)

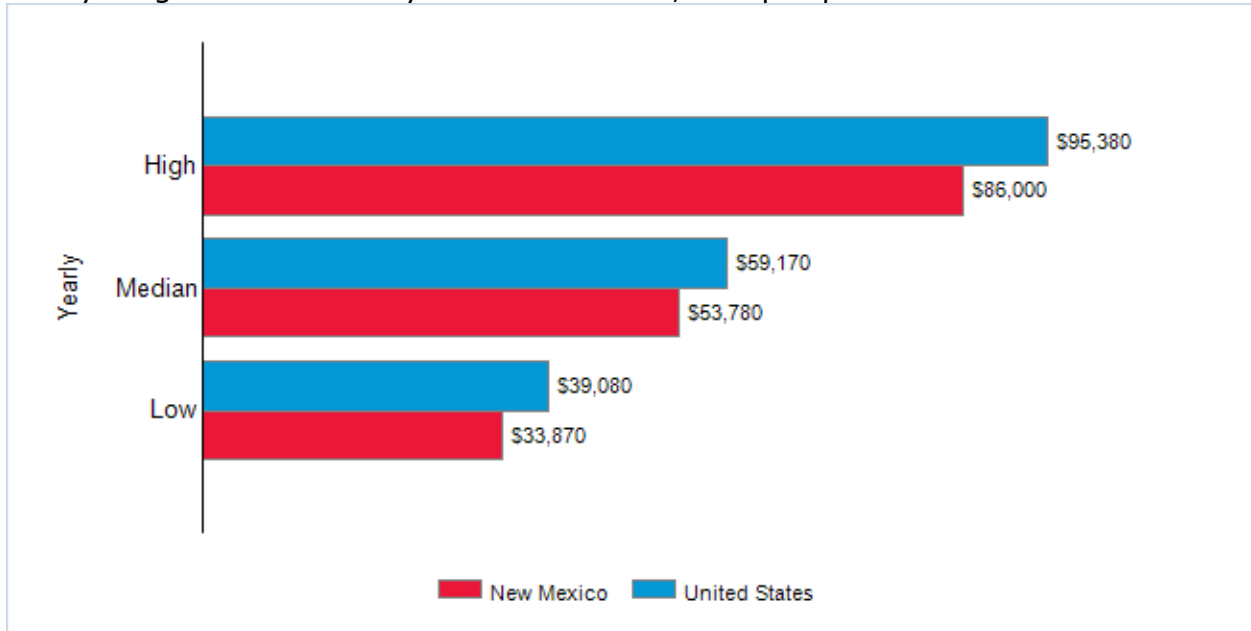
Yearly Wages for Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education in NM



Yearly Wages for **Middle School Teachers, Except Special Education** in NM



Yearly Wages for **Secondary School Teachers, Except Special Education** in NM



Career Facts

5 Skills and Qualifications Employers Look for in art and music education students:

- Ability to encourage students
- Self-reflectiveness
- Knowledge of multiple approaches to art and music education
- Training, coaching, and developing students

Tips

- Working with students in a classroom setting is a unique experience. It is suggested that education students experience the nature of this environment by shadowing teachers or working in some capacity (substitute teacher, educational assistant) at a school.
- UNM Career Services hosts an Educator's Career Fair every spring semester where up to 100 school districts from around the country and state attend.

Learn More

[UNM College of Fine Arts](#)

[Handshake](#)

[UNM Student Activities Center](#)

[O*Net – Secondary School Teachers](#)

[Occupational Outlook Handbook –](#)

[Kindergarten and Elementary School](#)

[Teachers](#)

[Buzzfile – Employers of Education Majors in](#)

[NM](#)

[National Educational Association](#)

[American Federation of Teachers](#)

[American Library Association](#)

[National Art Education Association](#)

[American Association of School](#)

[Administrators](#)

[Teach-Now](#)

[New Mexico Public Education Department](#)

[New Mexico Art Education Association](#)

[Center for Nonprofit Excellence](#)