

Urban Academy

Policy and Procedure:

RELIGION

Policy No.: 01.06

Originate: August 2003

Revised/Reviewed: December 2021

Adopted: 8/03

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I. PURPOSE

A. This policy is to identify the status of religion as it pertains to the programs of Urban Academy.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT

A. Urban Academy shall neither promote nor disparage any religious belief or non belief. Instead, Urban Academy encourages all students and employees to have appreciation for and tolerance of each other's views.

B. Urban Academy also recognizes that religion has had and is having a significant role in the social, cultural, political, and historical development of civilization.

C. Urban Academy recognizes that one of its educational objectives is to increase its students' knowledge and appreciation of music, art, drama, and literature which may have had a religious basis or origin as well as a secular importance.

D. Urban Academy supports the inclusion of religious music, art, drama, and literature in the curriculum and in school activities provided it is intrinsic to the learning experience and is presented in an objective manner without sectarian indoctrination.

E. The historical and contemporary values and the origin of various religions, holidays, customs and beliefs may be explained in an unbiased and nonsectarian manner.

III. RESPONSIBILITY

A. It shall be the responsibility of the Director to ensure that the study of religious materials, customs, beliefs and holidays in Urban Academy is in keeping with the following guidelines:

1. The proposed activity must have a secular purpose.
2. The primary objective of the activity must be one that neither advances nor

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inhibits religion.

3. The activity must not foster excessive governmental relationships with religion.

B. The Director is granted authority to develop and present for school board review and approval directives and guidelines for the purpose of providing further guidance relative to the teaching of materials related to religion. Should there be approved directives and guidelines they shall be attached as an addendum to this policy.