Arts Education Research Compendium

Produced by the Beverly Taylor Sorenson A.R.T.S. Initiative of the McKay School of Education at Brigham Young University

and

The Utah Division of Arts & Museums Arts Education Program
Arts Education Research Compendium

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Introduction

This Arts Research Compendium is a collection of citations from arts education research articles, sorted by topics pertinent to arts education. It was compiled by Kalli Kronmiller, a part-time research faculty member in the Beverly Taylor Sorenson A.R.T.S. Initiative of the McKay School of Education at Brigham Young University. Later additions and editing were done by Jean Tokuda Irwin, Alyssa Hickman Grove, and Elizabeth Brown of the Utah Division of Arts and Museums’ Arts Education Program. Its purpose is to organize and keep track of the vast amount of information found in arts education research articles, with particular attention paid to the outcomes of the arts in education. The Arts Research Compendium is not comprehensive of all existing arts research, but, rather, is a work in progress containing a variety of research articles, to which additional research may be added. Feedback and suggestions concerning ways in which the Arts Research Compendium can be improved are welcomed and may be sent to byuart@gmail.com or jirwin@utah.gov.
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Arts Education Findings

21st-Century Skills

2008 The reality of life in the 21st century is that the skills associated with artistic practices — creative thinking, self-discipline, collaboration and innovation — are skills that are in great demand. In fact, in our rapidly changing global economy, the skills the arts teach may be mandatory for everyone’s success (p. 26). (Lynch, R. L. (2008). Creating a brighter workforce with the arts. School Administrator, 65, 3, 26-30.)

2008 In 10 years, the prototypical U.S. industry will be engaged in “creative work” — research, development, marketing and sales and global supply chain management. These areas depend on leadership rooted in creativity, imagination and the arts. … a major threat to America’s global competitiveness is the decades-long erosion of the arts — dance, music, theatre and the visual arts — in our educational system, which has been exacerbated by federal legislation failing to live up to its promise to prepare all young people for success in the 21st century. Eliminating the arts because of arbitrary policies or lack of adequate funding only further removes U.S. students from a curriculum that fosters 21st century skills for 21st century jobs (p. 27). (Lynch, R. L. (2008). Creating a brighter workforce with the arts. School Administrator, 65, 3, 26-30.)

2008 If students are to succeed in today’s complex economy, they need to know more than just English, math, science, and history. They also need a range of analytic and workplace skills. Mastering those skills means learning how to think critically and creatively, work collaboratively, use the Internet to do research, and communicate clearly and effectively. Students also need to be responsible and accountable, to be up on the news, and to have a workable knowledge of economics and business. (Lehigh, S. (2008, November 19). Teaching students 21st-century skills. The Boston Globe, Retrieved 11/24/08 from http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/editorial_opinion/oped/articles/2008/11/19/teaching_students_21st_century_skills/.)

2008 Different tools are needed to assess such skills, including performance assessments like speeches, projects, and exhibitions. Clearly, multiple-choice tests short written essays are not up to the task. … Some fear that moving beyond our current focus on high-stakes testing and toward multiple measures will mean lowered standards. This argument falsely assumes tests themselves are standards. The fact is that too many schools are now narrowly focused on preparing kids for tests, not educating the whole child. … Many students are engaged by arts instruction, and when students are engaged their overall motivation to learn improves.
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2007 The National Governors Association concurs that the arts provide a competitive advantage. Its report, *The Impact of Arts Education on Workforce Preparation*, points out that the arts help build the workforce of tomorrow (2002). It describes how arts-based education increases academic performance and lowers juvenile crime. In school and after-school programs the arts are providing to be “innovative and cost-effective ways to produce successful students and productive employees.” (Access report online at: www.nga.org) (p. 23).


2007 Involvement in the arts prepares students to solve future problems by encouraging risk taking, experimentation, and freedom to fail. Finding multiple solutions, trying new ideas, and capitalizing on mistakes are artistic orientations. As Aristotle observed, “Art loves chance. He who errs willingly is the artist” (p. 23).


2007 The arts deliver precisely the kinds of thinking and working skills needed in the workplace of the new millennium: analysis, synthesis, evaluation, and critical judgment. The arts nourish imagination and creativity while focusing deliberately on content and end products. The workplace demands collaboration and teamwork, technological competencies, flexible thinking, an appreciation for diversity, and self-discipline—all of which are integral to arts learning. Arts-based education also boosts school attendance and communication skills. The arts contribute to lower recidivism rates, increased self-esteem, and the acquisition of job skills, especially for at-risk populations. The arts give students an understanding of the skill, discipline, perseverance, and sacrifice necessary for achievement in the workplace and in personal life (p. 24).

Anecdotal Evidence

2008 J.D. Jerome (1899-1992) was an educator in the 1930s. He truly loved his job and shared his enthusiasm with everyone around him. He began every faculty meeting with singing and he closed every school day with a song (p. 50).


2008 A new superintendent in northern California recently asked: “Why would I pay 12 music teachers when my students can’t read?” With his school district’s largely black and brown students testing far below basic levels in the subjects for which educators are now held accountable, that question raises the difficult choices district leaders face: How can limited funds be most equitably allocated to benefit needy and deserving children and communities? Another superintendent in an adjacent school district has wrestled for six years with this challenge. Despite extra attention to math and reading skills, many students in her district continue to be labeled “chronically and persistently far below basic.” She’s trying something new — a longitudinal action-research project to equip her teachers to use arts as learning resources. By helping teachers link authentic arts learning with English language learning, the project will support teachers in building arts and teaching skills to better engage the neediest students. They’ll learn to use arts to motivate thinking, speaking, reading and writing and, beyond motivation, to make students’ learning visible so teachers can better target instruction to individual needs. The county superintendent is impressed, and she’s bringing all 18 superintendents in the county together to consider such arts-infused strategies (p. 14).


2008 In rural communities throughout New England, the nonprofit Education Development Center has been implementing its SMART Schools program, an arts-based, whole-school redesign. In 16 schools in New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont, the SMART Schools program has realized proven results, producing high academic achievement while implementing an arts-focused curriculum.

The SMART Schools philosophy is centered on five key design elements:

* Teaching all four artistic disciplines of dance, music, theatre and visual arts to every student every day — including teaching the arts as discrete subjects as well as arts integration to connect the arts standards and other subject standards;

* Developing and implementing rigorous standards-based, arts-infused curriculum, instruction and performance assessments;

* Fostering an inclusive school culture;

* Cultivating professional learning communities; and
* Building community partnerships (p. 20).


2008 James Halley, superintendent in the North Kingstown, R.I., schools from 1995 through 2007, says he was particularly impressed by the changes in instruction that the program brought to teachers who participated. In addition to using the arts and multiple intelligence concepts in every lesson, the teachers became risk takers themselves and encouraged risk taking on the part of students (p. 20).


2008 Perhaps the most noteworthy example of bringing arts education to scale is found in the Dallas Independent School District. Through the Dallas Arts Learning Initiative, all 300,000 students in the 157 elementary schools will have arts education programs by this September. … Three major components form the foundation in Dallas: standards-based fine arts instruction, including 45 minutes of weekly art and music instruction; integration of arts and culture with other curriculum subjects, including programming by museums and performing arts groups; and out-of-school programs that provide access of inner-city kids and their families to arts experiences. Arts integration approaches include having teaching artists work with middle school students to use creative writing, visual art and digital media to express their views of the world. The arts initiative works with teachers to help them position the arts as a resource for teaching science, math, social studies and language arts. One innovative program developed by a local dancer combines curriculum in dance and geography (p. 22).


2008 A growing community with 21,000 students in 20 schools, Dorchester has taken an interesting approach to expanding arts opportunities by creating arts-integrated middle schools and gradually expanding arts activities throughout the district led by Larry Bamfield, the district fine arts coordinator. To attend the Rollings Middle School of the Arts, 5th graders apply for an audition that does not include an academic review. Each year, 200 students are selected to enter the 6th grade class, where they receive intensive training in their area of choice: dance, piano, strings, theatre arts, visual arts or vocal music. Students are selected from various backgrounds, yielding a diverse environment (p. 24-25).


2008 Warren County, Pa.: Classroom teachers in the 5,400-student Warren County Schools in rural North Warren, Pa., receive special training on how to integrate the arts into the core subjects, thanks to the U.S. Department of Education’s Arts in Education Model Development and Dissemination grant program (p. 25).

2008 More than 10 years ago in New York’s South Bronx, the poorest congressional district in the nation, a small school called St. Augustine boasted that 9.5 percent of its students read at or above grade level and 95 percent met New York state academic standards. These were highly significant achievements especially for a student population that was 100 percent minority, with many of the children living in single-parent homes in communities plagued by AIDS, crime, substance abuse and violence. What was the secret of the school’s success? St. Augustine infused every discipline — math, history, science and biology — with dance, music, creative writing and visual arts (p. 35).


Dallas fourth-graders in the James S. Hogg Elementary School have spent several weeks each fall studying 19th-century pioneer lives in the American Southwest. Their understanding of this dynamic era initially came from classroom discussions and library books. But now the school is teaming up with local artists and cultural institutions to make this history theme more arts-enriched. Students are involved in group and individual projects to help them understand deeper the meanings of culture, tradition, and historical significance. They noted that learning is more fun and their Texas state test scores in social studies are rising. …

Superintendent of the school district:

‘In Texas there’s almost as much pressure for teachers to boost test scores as there is for coaches to win football games. Here in Dallas there’s probably more. If anyone wants to criticize [our arts program] as fluff, they should look at the test scores.

Initial analysis of standardized tests administered throughout the district show that students in the above program achieved a 10-point gain over a control group that achieved only a 3-point gain on the same material (p. 17).


2008 In order to make literature meaningful, students must be given aesthetic opportunities to respond to the printed text. Smith and Herring further shared five activities designed to create an active learning environment. First, students used expressive writing to respond to the themes in a novel. Next, students engaged in creative movement to maneuver through the setting of the story. Third, students were encouraged to use visual arts to illustrate their feelings or knowledge of the book. Fourth, students used exploratory music to respond to a segment of the text. Through this activity students selected a portion of the text to share. Once they had made their selections, the students chose music that would reflect the mood of the passage. Then, the students played the music or provided sound effects in the background while the passage was read orally. The fifth activity involved the use of informal drama. This was a type of improvisation theater in which pairs of students re-created dialogue from the text. … Each of the responses from the students indicated that their comprehension of the text was increased and that their motivation for reading was enhanced (p. 17).
2007 As a child, I’d never met anyone who had gone to college. The highest aspiration in my neighborhood was to stay out of jail and get a union job—and not all of my relatives managed to achieve either of those goals. Everyone had a relative in jail, whether for something small or big. Many people in my neighborhood had failed to finish high school. The reason that I am where I am today is not because of Harvard or Stanford. It is because of poetry, music, and art (p. 13).


2006 Nick Jaffe’s K-8 students create, perform, critique, engineer, and produce dozens of original projects in music recording classes at a Chicago elementary school (p. 61). … The majority of competent engineers and technical specialists are female students. Kids who have a terrible time collaborating end up directing complex productions, sometimes working with their ‘enemies.’ Bookish kids end up singing or rapping. Students with social or emotional problems show amazing focus and intensity, taking on tasks they find most frustrating in regular classrooms. Students with writing difficulties spend hours writing lyrics. Problem students often show exceptional creative depth and come up with more sophisticated musical and artistic ideas than their peers do (p. 62).

(Rabkin, N. & Redmond, R. (2006). The arts make a difference. Educational Leadership, 60-64.)

2006 One fall day, we watched 4th graders in a low-income inner city school drawing portraits of one another in a lesson that was part of a unit on descriptive writing. The students were focused and excited. Rich writing and art covered the classroom walls and showed evidence of real learning and accomplishment. Most other classrooms in this school also integrated the arts with other subjects. The classrooms buzzed with intensity. On the same day, we observed 4th graders in another school. They were bored and slumping in their chairs as they waited to read aloud a bit of advice that the teacher had asked them to write for their classmates. They mumbled, “Don’t hit your sister,” and “Do your homework.” There was no student work on the walls, no evidence of learning. Instead, hallway posters reminded students of rules they must follow. “Stay in line.” “Don’t forget your uniform” (p. 63).

(Rabkin, N. & Redmond, R. (2006). The arts make a difference. Educational Leadership, 60-64.)

2005 Can going to an art museum make elementary school students better learners? … teachers in the role of facilitators share with their students—most of them in grades three through five—an image of a carefully selected work of art and pose three questions: 1. What’s going on in this picture? 2. What do you see that makes you say that? 3. What else can you find? Teachers skillfully paraphrase each student’s response, a step that demonstrates active listening and language use, validates individual views, and reinforces a range of ideas. … students build on each other’s insights to collectively construct
meaning for the work under discussion. … “[Students] are not as argumentative as they were, and they work better in groups, because I think they respect each other’s opinion a little bit more than before” (p. 56-57).

(Longhenry, S. (2005). Thinking through art at the Boston museum of fine arts. SchoolArts; The Art Education Magazine for Teachers, 104, 7, 56-57.)

2001 Harvard psychologist Jessica Davis, who directs an arts-in-education program, has seen this kind of discovery at work in an inner-city school in the South Bronx. There, she recounts, a member of the Bronx Dance Theater teaches ballet twice a week to fourth-graders who happen to have the lowest reading scores in the city. The principal insisted that the visiting dance instructor conduct classes on Mondays and Fridays, the days when students’ attendance was at its lowest. As the principal expected, the students fell in love with dance, and their attendance—and their reading scores—shot up (p. 31).

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Arts Advocacy

Arts: An Important Part of Education

2007 “If it’s important, you make the time.” … art is not an extra that can be indulged in when time permits, but rather an essential ingredient of superior academic instruction (p. 80).

2007 Establish a norm that there is no such thing as a ‘nonacademic’ class in school and that every subject, including the arts, is worthy of the thought and discipline that we associate with academic study (p. 80-81).

2007 The case for arts based learning is convincing enough that in 2004 Secretary of Education Rod Paige wrote a personal letter to all school superintendents emphasizing the significance of the arts in achievement. He reminded the nation’s educational leaders “the arts are a core academic subject under the No Child Left Behind Act” and lamented the “disturbing and just plain wrong” notion that NCLB should be used to shrink the role of the arts in schools. He refers to the National Longitudinal Study of 25,000 students, which showed a strong correlation between the arts and better test scores. What’s more, high arts students “performed more community service, watched fewer hours of television, reported less boredom in school, and were less likely to drop out of school.” Paige points out that the findings held for students from the lowest socioeconomic quartile “belying the assumption that socioeconomic status, rather than arts engagement, contributes to such gains in academic achievement and social involvement.” Read Paige’s letter at www.ed.gov/policy/elsec/guid/secletter/040701.html (p. 15).

2007 Everything that counts isn’t countable and what we can count may not count. Many well-rounded successful people were not straight A students. High scores do not guarantee desirable social and moral behavior. What matters most in a broader view of success? Ferrero (2005) reminds us “schooling is always and inevitably about cultivating persons” (p. 15).

2007 In a May 2005 speech, Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of Education, Susan Scalafani called learning in and through the arts “central” to fulfilling the NCLB’s goal of improved student achievement (p. 22).
A May 2005 Harris poll shows the American public overwhelmingly believes the arts are vital to a well-rounded education (p. 16).

This publication presents commentary by Governor Mike Huckabee, who also was Chairman of the Education Commission of the States in 2005, and former U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige promoting arts education’s influence on the development of critical analysis skills. Introduces “The Arts: A Lifetime of Learning,” a program implemented by the Education Commission of the States that aims to use public awareness, research, analytical tools, and leadership efforts to “increase the arts’ stature in education.”

An education without music or the other arts is an impoverished education, and our children deserve better (p. 226).

School instruction caters to the logical-mathematical and linguistic intelligences ignoring the other six potential intelligences possessed by students. The additional six intelligences are identified by Gardner as (a) bodily kinesthetic, (b) musical, (c) spatial, (d) interpersonal, (e) intrapersonal, and (f) naturalistic. Gardner supports the notion that these intelligences are strongly rooted in the arts. … By involving students in learning catered to their specific intelligence strengths, they will become more active participants in the learning process (p. 22).

Physical sensation and emotion are essential components of the mind, as integral to thought and learning as logic is. In fact, some researchers note that logic may not be possible without sensation and emotion. It is ironic, then, that the arts are frequently dismissed as merely emotional, not cognitive. Thus, the very emotional and personal content of the arts are part of what causes the arts to become cognitively powerful (p. 14).

Physical sensation and emotion are essential components of the mind, as integral to thought and learning as logic is. In fact, logic may not be possible without them. It is ironic, then, that the arts are frequently dismissed as “merely” emotional, not cognitive. Their emotional content is part of what makes them cognitively powerful (p. 63).
2007 Education, true education, should liberate; it should cultivate the genuinely free man, the man of moral judgment, of intellectual integrity; it should give us the power to see the other side; it should impart nobility of purpose and kindliness of spirit. It should leave with us the inescapable truth that man is a spiritual being and that the struggle for the mastery of the forces of nature is not merely for the satisfaction of human needs but is also inspired by the spiritual and of reaching out beyond our immediate lives to something eternal (p. 4).


2001 As the Teachers College researchers said in their report, studying the arts engages students in a “constellation” of learning that interacts in multiple ways with learning in other school subjects as well as in other dimensions of the students’ emotional and social lives. Learning to act, compose music, or design a building draws on and reinforces habits of mind and personal dispositions at work in other school subjects and social settings. Indeed, these interrelationships are the fundamental premise of formal education: What you learn today will be applied in multiple ways now and in the future (p. 38).


1998 … various art forms will differ in the degree to which they obviously involved skills that are used in academic areas; … we might separate the academic effects of learning in the arts, such as skills gained from taking music or water-color painting lessons, from the academic effects of learning through the arts, such as using historical paintings or dramatizing key historical moments to learn about the past. … “A willingness to imagine possibilities that are not now, but which might become. A desire to explore ambiguity, to be willing to forestall premature closure in pursuing resolutions. The ability to recognize and accept the multiple perspectives and resolutions that work in the arts.” … I strongly suspect that a panel composed of math, science, history, foreign language, and elementary teachers would judge unanimously that students developing these dispositions would be more likely to succeed in school than students who did not, and that these dispositional outcomes of arts education would tend to boost academic achievements to some degree (p. 11).


Arts Complement Other Academic Areas
Robert Root-Bernstein, a biochemist and MacArthur prizewinner, studied 150 eminent scientists from Pasteur to Einstein. His findings were startling to those educators lobbying for more emphasis on the sciences, for he discovered that nearly all of the great inventors and scientists were also musicians, artists, writers or poets. Galileo was a poet and literary critic. Einstein was a passionate student of the violin. And Samuel Morse, the father of telecommunications and inventor of the telegraph, was a portrait painter. Albert Schweitzer, the humanitarian and medical doctor, was a world-class organist and Bach expert. Root-Bernstein and his wife Michelle co-authored the book Sparks of Genius, which examines the minds of inventive people and shows that creativity is something that both artists and scientists can learn. More important, the authors show that the seemingly disparate disciplines of art and science, music and math complement and enhance one another (p. 34-35).

2008 The assumption is that students can become proficient in the arts just as they can become proficient in other disciplines, thus enhancing their life-long skills and creative ability (p. 14).

2007 The National Council of Teachers of English Elementary Section Steering Committee (1996) states: We define the language arts broadly to include all of the various ways that learners make and share meaning … (including) art, music, drama, mathematics, and movement as well as the traditional four of language—reading, writing, speaking and listening (p. 33).

2007 Children who lag behind are being subjected to endless practicing of strategy skills such as “finding the main idea.” Their slow progress induces our schools to add still more time to the literacy block—up to three hours a day in many places—during which time students practice empty exercises on trivial fictions that subtract from time that could be devoted to the substantive knowledge actually needed to gain reading comprehension. (p. 17)

…a central finding about reading comprehension—that the possession of relevant prior knowledge is the single most potent contributor to the comprehension of a text. The lack of relevant prior knowledge will hinder comprehension, no matter how many long hours a child has spent learning to monitor, question, or summarize. There is a consensus among comprehension researchers that students with low fluency and self monitoring skills but with relevant prior knowledge will comprehend better than those who have excellent technical reading skills but are weak in relevant knowledge. (p. 19)

If we want to make sure that students have the background knowledge they need to be good readers, we must give them a good general education—that is, an education in literature, science, history, and the liberal arts. That is the only kind of
education that can build good readers. Period. Wasting hours on hours of precious school time on trivial, disconnected stories and on futile how-to exercises deprives students of hours that could be spent on learning literature, science, history, and the arts (p. 19-20). (Hirsch Jr., E. D. (2007). What do they know of reading who only reading know? Bringing liberal arts into the wasteland of the “literacy block”. In C.E. Finn & D. Ravitch (Ed.), Beyond the basics: Achieving a liberal education for all children (pp. 17-24). Washington, D.C.: Thomas B. Fordham Institute.)

2001 As the Teachers College researchers said in their report, studying the arts engages students in a “constellation” of learning that interacts in multiple ways with learning in other school subjects as well as in other dimensions of the students’ emotional and social lives. Learning to act, compose music, or design a building draws on and reinforces habits of mind and personal dispositions at work in other school subjects and social settings. Indeed, these interrelationships are the fundamental premise of formal education: What you learn today will be applied in multiple ways now and in the future (p. 31).

1998 There is strong theoretical justification for the view that the arts are great potential partners in academic learning, especially when we consider the general role of representation in how we learn and how we express our understandings. Consider a brief story set in a history classroom: an artistic form of representation is proposed by a curriculum pioneer as important to the study of modern European history. Examples of this form are enlisted to present ideas and information to students; learners gather round and discuss what they see in one example to be a rich portrait of Paris in 1898—a city bustling with life and evidence of modernization—the public transit, the electric street lights, the dress, occupations, and pastimes of the Parisians. The students think more deeply about this representation, going over it again and perhaps again for new insights; they discover new questions and possibilities lurking inside and discuss these with their classmates and teacher; there is ambiguity in what they confront. There are messages, some more clear than others. The learners get swept up in the idea that what they see shows marks of the Industrial Revolution they discussed a month ago; they perceive connections to developments in science. They also get playful and compose a fiction—an imagined conversation between a merchant and a well-dressed lady, or between two laborers off to work at the rear of a horse-drawn bus; or they may write the speech of a politician who is concerned about pedestrian safety on the Champs Elysée. They try their own hand at similar representation and find the going rather difficult. Perhaps they even begin to cultivate habits of mind that impact their approaches to other problems or learning situations. … The students are “reading” the painting, talking about its images discerningly, connecting its messages to themes and historical context explored during their course of study. … We teach through representations. We construct meaning by formulating our own representations (p. 9-10).
Arts Contribute to the Development of the Whole Child

2001 Contributors to NAEP’s Arts Education framework call the arts—dance included—“essential for every child’s complete development and education.” … Dance belongs in every school’s curriculum, the framework writers say, because it allows students to discover insights into themselves and into their social and cultural worlds (p. 30-31). (Black, Susan. (2001). Shall we dance? American School Board Journal, 30-32.)

2001 The arts allow students to feel the joy of making thoughts tangible, to fill a space in the world with something they have created (p. 32). (Black, Susan. (2001). Shall we dance? American School Board Journal, 30-32.)

1999 More often than we would like, arts educators receive requests to justify our professional existence or the existence of the arts in our schools on the basis of their contributions to non-art outcomes. I cannot recall the number of times I have been asked about the contribution the arts make to increasing tests scores in math, or in reading, or in any other academic subject that the inquirer believes to be more important than any of the arts — or all of them for that matter. What research, callers want to know, demonstrates that experience in the arts boosts academic achievement? They sometimes go on to ask if more exposure to the arts advances school reform. … I sometimes ask myself if those who inquire ever considered reversing the question. Have they ever thought about asking how reading and math courses contribute to higher performance in the arts (p. 143)? (Eisner, E. W. (1999). Does experience in the arts boost academic achievement? The Clearing House. 72, 3, 143-149.)

1999 We do the arts no service when we try to make their case by touting their contributions to other fields (p. 149). (Eisner, E. W. (1999). Does experience in the arts boost academic achievement? The Clearing House. 72, 3, 143-149.)

1999 This article analyzes the National Educational Longitudinal Survey (NELS:88), a ten-year panel study following more than 25,000 students between the eighth and twelfth grades. Links sustained involvement in theatre arts by low SES youth with improved self-concept and greater motivation, as well as with higher levels of empathy and tolerance for peers. In addition, students consistently involved in instrumental music were shown to have higher levels of mathematics proficiency than their non-music peers, regardless of SES. (Catterall, J., Chapleau, R. & Iwanaga, J. (1999). Involvement in the arts and human development: General involvement and intensive involvement in music and theatre arts. Champions of change: The impact of the arts on learning. http://www.gseis.ucla.edu/faculty/publications/100535351554386100.pdf)

Arts Contribute to Preparation for the Workplace and Society
Five years ago, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adopted Arts for All: A Regional Blueprint for Arts Education. The county’s hope is that all of its school districts will eventually acknowledge that exposure to and participation in the arts “strengthens a child’s academic development and growth as an individual; prepares the child to feel a part of and make a contribution to the community; and ensures a creative and competent workforce to meet the economic opportunities of both the present and the future” (p. 35).

Robert Redford: “It is crucial that we re-examine how we prepare students to succeed, and indeed thrive, in the workplace and society of the future. We believe that the arts are a key component of meeting this challenge” (p. 28).

Whether it’s an entry point for early childhood education, developing both sides of the brain in grade school or increasing skills taught in high school for a 21st-century workplace, the arts provide knowledge and creative abilities that can foster achievement and success in all areas of life (p. 29).

We don’t need the arts in our schools to raise mathematical and verbal skills—we already target these in math and language arts. We need the arts because in addition to introducing students to aesthetic appreciation, they teach other modes of thinking we value. For students living in a rapidly changing world, the arts teach vital modes of seeing, imagining, inventing, and thinking. If our primary demand of students is that they recall established facts, the children we educate today will find themselves ill-equipped to deal with problems like global warming, terrorism, and pandemics. Those who have learned the lessons of the arts, however—how to see new patterns, how to learn from mistakes, and how to envision solutions—are the ones likely to come up with the novel answers needed most for the future (p. 31).

The arts deliver precisely the kinds of thinking and working skills needed in the workplace of the new millennium: analysis, synthesis, evaluation, and critical judgment. The arts nourish imagination and creativity while focusing deliberately on content and end products. The workplace demands collaboration and teamwork, technological competencies, flexible thinking, an appreciation for diversity, and self-discipline—all of which are integral to arts learning. Arts-based education also boosts school attendance and communication skills. The arts contribute to lower recidivism rates, increased self-esteem, and the acquisition of job skills, especially for at-risk populations. The arts give students an understanding of the skill, discipline, perseverance, and sacrifice necessary for achievement in the workplace and in personal life (p. 24).
This article presents commentary by Governor Mike Huckabee, who also was Chairman of the Education Commission of the States in 2005, and former U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige promoting arts education’s influence on the development of critical analysis skills. Introduces “The Arts: A Lifetime of Learning,” a program implemented by the Education Commission of the States that aims to use public awareness, research, analytical tools, and leadership efforts to “increase the arts’ stature in education.”


This testimony discusses corporate need for creative individuals, noting that “economic development and success is about competing for talent. People no longer follow jobs—instead they move to the most livable places, and jobs and companies follow them.”


This article examines the value placed on creativity in the modern economy using statistics from the business sector. Contrasts this demand for innovative employees with the standardization movement in schools, noting that the low priority placed on arts education may hinder America’s ability to remain competitive in the global markets of the 21st century.


This book explains that we must learn how to learn, teaching ourselves to stay curious and innovative, if we are to excel in a global economy.


This article summarizes four studies (Champions of Change: The Impact of the Arts on Learning; Critical Links: Learning in the Arts and Student Academic and Social Development; Creativity, Culture, Education and the Workforce; and The National Assessment of Educational Progress 1997 Arts Report Card). In these studies, arts education is shown to provide positive learning opportunities for at-risk youth, improve the academic and social skills of students, and prepare students for the new “creative workforce.”


This article examines the impact of the arts on education, youth at risk, business, tourism, and economic development, noting that participation in the arts leads to the development of skills needed to compete in today’s marketplace. Cites America’s
Arts Education Research Compendium

Creative industries, which account for over $60 billion annually in overseas sales, as its leading export.


2002 This publication examines arts education’s role in the development of knowledge-based skills valued in the New Economy. Includes examples of successful arts programs throughout the United States in which participating at-risk and incarcerated youth, as well as youth from the general population, have shown improved skills in communication, personal relationship, problem solving, management and organization. Provides a brief list of strategies and policy options available to governors interested in implementing the arts in their workforce development programs.


2001 This book explains why our current education system is narrow, reductive, incomplete, ill-suited to the 21st century, and destroys our natural creative ability.


2001 This article suggests that arts education provides students with the traits they need to remain competitive in an economy driven by technological advances and globalization. Examines the growth of the creative industries in the United States, concluding that “the U.S. needs a comprehensive strategy that links education and workforce development at the federal, state, and local levels.”


2001 This article discusses the need for innovative, team-oriented workers in today’s industries. Illustrates the value corporations place on creativity by including highlights from speeches made by CEOs of General Electric, Bravo Networks, Corning Incorporated, and Verizon.


2000 This article investigates a constellation of complex ways of thinking connected to arts learning and finds that students who have experiences in the arts improve on measures of several dimensions of creativity, including elaborative and creative thinking, fluency, originality, focused perception, imagination, assuming multiple perspectives, and understanding.


2000 This study details the finding that, based on data from pre- and post-administrations of the Torrance Test of Creative Thinking, a group of students receiving a systematic instructional program in the arts made greater gains than either of two control groups on
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several dimensions, including total creativity, fluency, and originality. The author concludes that “there was a strong indication that creative thinking...was facilitated by involvement in the arts.”


1999 This monograph discusses the function of arts education in preparing students for today’s “economy of ideas” and presents potential methods for building support for arts education. Describes successful models in Florida, New York, Minnesota, and Oklahoma in which the arts were promoted as an integral part of the core curriculum.


http://pubs.artsusa.org/library/ARTS049/html/1.html#pagetop)

1995 This publication details a variety of national programs in which arts education was shown to have a positive impact on student achievement. Stresses the growing importance of communication and problem-solving skills in the modern workplace. References the Secretary’s Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS), a study in which arts education was shown to nurture “foundation” skills such as “thinking creatively, problem-solving, exercising individual responsibility, sociability and self-esteem.”


http://www.nasaa-arts.org/publications/eloquent.pdf)

Arts Contribute to Self-Discovery and Lead to Positive Societal Outcomes

2008 Five years ago, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adopted Arts for All: A Regional Blueprint for Arts Education. The county’s hope is that all of its school districts will eventually acknowledge that exposure to and participation in the arts “strengthens a child’s academic development and growth as an individual; prepares the child to feel a part of and make a contribution to the community; and ensures a creative and competent workforce to meet the economic opportunities of both the present and the future” (p. 35).


2007 Take a 15-year-old who is awkward, who does not feel that she fits into any social class in school. This teenager is probably not terribly interested in her schoolwork. Moreover, she feels cut off from her family. But then she auditions for a play. She discovers that there is a group of other kids just like her—alienated youth that feel that they don’t belong. These “outsiders” are called theater people, creative people. Once in such a group, that 15-year-old realizes that she isn’t abnormal. She is recognized for her acting, she gets applause for doing something that is very closely aligned with these
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inchoate, inarticulate desires of selfhood, of the self-articulation inside of her.

My high school had the best band in Southern California. Most of the first chair
musicians in our band were unruly or rebellious kids. Had they not learned
trumpet or drums at an early age, who knows what destructive force they may have
unleashed on society? The band gave these kids a way of socializing, a way of directing
their energy and everything else that was positive.

The same thing applies to school newspapers, drama clubs, choruses, and
other arts groups. When you cut these activities out of school, which the local school
boards and state school boards have systematically done in the United States over the
past 30 years, you shut the doors of self-realization to a generation of Americans.
Those doors once invited students to discover what they are actually good at. They
provided positive means of socialization instead of negative forms of self-socialization
(or no socialization). They developed and refined young people’s productive
skills. So the benefits were not only individual or social, but also economic (p. 15).
In C.E. Finn & D. Ravitch (Ed.), Beyond the basics: Achieving a liberal education for all
children (pp. 11-16). Washington, D.C.: Thomas B. Fordham Institute.)

2007 I would like to see an American education system that uses the power of the
arts to open doors that allow kids develop their own talents. I would like to see a system
that uses the arts to take the class clown and, at least for one or two moments a
day, let him become the class star. The arts are one of the ways that we can do this.
We need a system that grounds all students in pleasure, beauty, and wonder. It is the
best way to create citizens who are awakened not only to their own humanity but
also to many possibilities of the human world they are about to enter (p. 16).
In C.E. Finn & D. Ravitch (Ed.), Beyond the basics: Achieving a liberal education for all
children (pp. 11-16). Washington, D.C.: Thomas B. Fordham Institute.)

2004 The two most important reasons for studying the arts are to enable our children to
be able to appreciate some of the greatest feats humans have ever achieved (e.g., a
Rembrandt painting, a Shakespeare play, a dance choreographed by Martha Graham, a
Charlie Parker jazz improvisation), and to give our children sufficient skill in an art form
so that they can express themselves in this art form. The arts are the only arenas in which
depth personal meanings can be recognized and expressed, often in nonverbal form. (from
the second article on this citation) (p. 158)
(Hetland, L. & Winner, E. (2004). Cognitive transfer from arts education to nonarts
outcomes: Research evidence and policy implications. In E. W. Eisner & M. D. Day
(Ed.), Handbook of Research and Policy in Art Education, pp. 135-161. Mahwah, New
Jersey: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Publishers.)

2001 NDA leaders say … Instead of a “mere nodding acquaintance with the arts, …
schools should give students a pathway of engagement that leads, in turn, to a lifetime of
involvement with the arts. Dance, along with visual arts, music, and drama, can help
students discover who they are—and, even more, who they can become” (p. 31).
2001 Contributors to NAEP’s Arts Education framework call the arts—dance included— ”essential for every child’s complete development and education.” Dance belongs in every school’s curriculum, the framework writers say, because it allows students to discover insights into themselves and into their social and cultural worlds (p. 30-31). (Black, Susan. (2001). Shall we dance? American School Board Journal, 30-32.)

Arts Elevate Learning

2008 Lack of financial resources is usually blamed first, but the major factor is the lack of clear understanding of the nature of the learning that occurs in the arts and the power and relevance of that learning in addressing our personal, societal, cultural and economic needs. None of those needs will be fully met — and certainly we will not empower every young person with 21st-century skills — until and unless the arts are fully and robustly present in the curriculum and life of our schools. Polls show the public believes that (p. 17).
(Deasy, R.J. (2008). Why the arts deserve center stage. School Administrator, 65, 3, 12-17.)

2008 It is now time to recognize our future economic power will come from the culture we create, and that will come from what our schools produce. Our success is much less dependent upon the skills our children have than on our children’s ability to see the world through fresh eyes. The future will be shaped by those who see through new eyes and who can imagine new things (p. 38).

2008 Math isn’t about mastering rules and memorizing times tables. It is about finding the elegance in a well-stated problem. And science isn’t about learning periodic tables and formulas. It is about exploring the mysteries of the universe. And social studies isn’t about trying to remember when, where and who. It is about better understanding the human condition. And literature is not about probing plot lines or grammatical niceties. It is really about understanding ourselves. Learning must be about elegance, mystery and probing our inner universe. And the best way to approach a lot of this is through the arts (p. 40).

2008 The great cellist Pablo Casals once remarked that “each second we live is a new and unique moment in the universe, a moment that never was before and will never be again. And what do we teach our children in school? We teach them that two and two make four and that Paris is the capital of France. We should also teach them what they are.” He reminds us that each child is unique and capable of anything, of becoming another
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Beethoven, Michelangelo or Shakespeare. That they are all marvels and it is our task to make the world worthy of its children (p. 40).


2008 “The arts can help us break out of traditional patterns of thinking and adopt fresh approaches to intellectual experiences. … I believe the arts offer an expanded tool set for learning and understanding that can enhance creative thinking skills.” “… We must possess not only the resources but also the creative flexibility to think differently about the arts” (p. 26).


2008 In 2000, the Arts Education Partnership, together with the President’s Committee on the Arts and Humanities, published a groundbreaking report called “Champions of Change.” According to the report, research shows that learners can reach higher levels of achievement through their engagement with the arts. In addition, learning in and through the arts can help level the playing field for disadvantaged youth (p. 34).

**Why the Arts Change the Learning Experience**

* THE ARTS REACH STUDENTS WHO ARE NOT OTHERWISE BEING REACHED. Young people who are disengaged from schools and other community institutions are at the greatest risk of failure or harm. The arts provided a reason and sometimes the only reason for being engaged with school or other organizations.

* THE ARTS REACH STUDENTS IN WAYS THAT THEY ARE NOT OTHERWISE BEING REACHED. Young people who were considered classroom failures, perhaps “acting out” because conventional classroom practices were not engaging them, often became the high achievers in arts learning settings. Success in the arts becomes a bridge to learning and eventual success in other areas of learning.

* THE ARTS CONNECT STUDENTS TO THEMSELVES AND EACH OTHER. Creating artwork is a personal experience. Students draw upon their personal resources to generate the result. By engaging their whole person, they feel invested in ways that are deeper than “knowing the answer.”

* THE ARTS TRANSFORM THE ENVIRONMENT FOR LEARNING. When the arts become central to the learning environment, schools and other settings become places of discovery. The very school culture is changed and the conditions for learning improve. Figurative walls between classrooms and disciplines are broken down. Teachers are renewed. Even the physical appearance of a school building is transformed through the representations of learning.

* THE ARTS PROVIDE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE ADULTS IN THE LIVES OF YOUNG PEOPLE. Those held responsible for the development of children and youth — teachers, parents and other adults — are rarely given sufficient or significant opportunities for their own continuing
education. With adults participating in lifelong learning, young people gain an understanding that learning in any field is a never-ending process. The roles of the adults are also changed. In effective programs, the adults become coaches or active facilitators of learning.

* THE ARTS PROVIDE NEW CHALLENGES FOR THOSE STUDENTS ALREADY CONSIDERED SUCCESSFUL. Boredom and complacency are barriers to success. For those young people who outgrow their established learning environments, the arts can offer a chance for unlimited challenge. In some situations, older students may teach and mentor younger students. In others, young people gain from the experience of working with professional artists.

* THE ARTS CONNECT LEARNING EXPERIENCES TO THE WORLD OF REAL WORK. The world of adult work has changed, and the arts learning experiences described in the research show remarkable consistency with the evolving workplace. Ideas are what matter, and the ability to generate ideas, to bring ideas to life and to communicate them is what matters to workplace success. Working in a classroom or a studio as an artist, the young person is learning and practicing future workplace behaviors (p. 35).


2008 Research in arts education has consistently shown that the arts are a distinct form of knowledge requiring sustained and demanding work and yielding kinds of empathy, understanding and skill both equal and distinctive from those available in [other subject disciplines]. Quality arts education produces positive impacts in terms of ‘improved student attitudes to school and learning, enhanced cultural identity and sense of personal satisfaction and well-being’… “The arts are particularly important for experiencing the joy of creating, developing attention to detail, and learning ways of expressing thoughts, knowledge and feelings beyond words” (p. 105).


2008 According to Arnold Aprill, “An arts-rich curriculum can help transform a school into a dynamic learning community in which educators and students are more likely to think critically, express themselves creatively, and respect diverse opinions” (p. 110).


2008 Teachers should move from the role of dispensers of knowledge into the role of facilitators of learning. Students are not merely receivers of the given information, they should be encouraged to construct meaning for themselves. The arts provide students with the tools for this construction of knowledge. The arts encourage students to apply their arts-related intelligences to perceive and organize new information into concepts that are used to construct meaning (p. 24).

I think to myself: One of these days—after I come up with a clear and unambiguous definition for what a dance-arts education is—I’m going to figure out a way to explain its educational benefits clearly and unambiguously. I’ll be able to tell each and every one of you what, if anything, a dance-arts education is and what it does. I’ll be able to tell you so succinctly that you’ll breathe in deeply, look profoundly embarrassed that you hadn’t thought of this yourself, sigh a little sigh, and say without reservation, “Oh, now I get it!” I won’t have to convince you to consider dance and its place in education because Suzie reads better, or adds better, or writes better. After I finish explaining my point of view, you will be convinced that Suzie is educationally better off because she has had the chance to dance and to learn to use her body expressively and creatively. Suzie will be a better Suzie because she can manage her corporeal self with great skill and sensitivity. Suzie will be a better Suzie because she likes her corporeal self more for having had what Margaret H’Doubler termed Suzie’s “subjective-objective” dance experience. Having been both “knowing-subject” and “object-known” in creative-movement terms, Suzie will be aware of her body and its potential in expressivity and in her daily life. Out of her dance experience Suzie will glean many things. If only I could figure out what they are and how to measure them (p. 27-28)!


Education, true education, should liberate; it should cultivate the genuinely free man, the man of moral judgment, of intellectual integrity; it should give us the power to see the other side; it should impart nobility of purpose and kindliness of spirit. It should leave with us the inescapable truth that man is a spiritual being and that the struggle for the mastery of the forces of nature is not merely for the satisfaction of human needs but is also inspired by the spiritual and of reaching out beyond our immediate lives to something eternal (p. 4).


The purpose of arts education is not—as many people assume, including many academics—to create professional artists. This is a narrow view. We do not study poetry to become poets. Nor do we study music to become musicians, or theater to become actors. That sometimes happens, but it is a by-product of arts education and not its main goal. The real purpose of arts education is to awaken us to the full potential of our humanity both as individuals and citizens in society (p. 12).


Rodney Van Valkenburg, Director of Arts Education, Allied Arts of Greater Chattanooga, believes that the reason the arts work is that “the skills necessary to be a good artist are the same skills that are needed to be a good student: self-control of your body, voice, and mind” (p. 15).
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2003 The arts are among the most powerful learning experiences your students can have and, with the right kind of planning, they will enrich the overall performance of your entire school (p. 18).
(Deasy, R. J. (2003). Let there be music … and ART … and P.E.: Don’t axe the arts! Principal, 14-18.)

Arts Shape Our World

2008 Beyond the school walls the arts are not only richly integrated into the world of today and tomorrow, they are major forces shaping those worlds through communications, design, entertainment and culture. We and our students are challenged to master and respond to these forces. By keeping learning in the arts at the margins of public education, we are condemning ourselves and our students to be marginalized in the world (p. 17).
(Deasy, R.J. (2008). Why the arts deserve center stage. School Administrator, 65, 3, 12-17.)

2008 [Pink] suggests if your job can be done elsewhere cheaper or by a machine (computers are great at linear, sequential acts), then you are in trouble. But if your work involves creative, innovative thinking such as story telling, design or empathy, then you are in good shape because your job can’t easily be outsourced. He suggests we are moving into a conceptual world where these creative skills are most important.

The last century was called by many the “American Century” because of our domination in military and economic terms. But as author Ben Wattenberg described it in The First Universal Nation, our domination and the making of the first universal nation may well have had more to do with our popular culture than anything else. He pointed out it wasn’t the electronic boxes that were being produced in the Far East that were important, it was the software, the movies and the music that went into them that created culture.

… The universal images the world watches and the sounds they listen to most often emanate from American shores. Yes, in World War II our military might have liberated Paris, but it may be Paris Hilton who is winning the current war for world influence. For better or worse, American popular culture trumps all others.

America’s real power is not in our engineering but in our “imagineering” … (p. 38).

2008 The true impact of the arts far exceeds our ability to put a dollar amount on it. Throughout history, the arts have built the infrastructure from which human knowledge
Arts and cultural values have been forged. However, in a century characterized by the growing dominance of the knowledge-based economy, ensuring that our children master the creative skills and habits of mind that fuel our knowledge is a capital investment we cannot afford to miss (p. 30).


2001 Let’s bet on history. Of course, we do not know for sure what is the best education for children to ensure that they will grow up to lead productive and happy lives. But the arts have been around longer than the sciences; cultures are judged on the basis of their arts; and most cultures and most historical eras have not doubted the importance of studying the arts. Let’s assume, then, that the arts should be a part of every child’s education and treat the arts as seriously as we treat mathematics or reading or history or biology. Let’s remember why societies have always included the arts in every child’s education. The reason is simple. The arts are a fundamentally important part of culture, and an education without them is an impoverished education leading to an impoverished society. Studying the arts should not have to be justified in terms of anything else. The arts are as important as the sciences: they are time-honored ways of learning, knowing, and expressing (p. 5).


Focus on Testing Inaccurately Portrays Student Achievement and Stifles Creativity

2008 In a piece written for Newsweek magazine, Fareed Zakaria interviewed the minister of education of Singapore. Zakaria pointed out that while the students in Singapore outperform the students in the United States on tests, years later the American students are much more successful in the world of work, particularly as inventors and entrepreneurs. The minister explained that both countries have meritocracies — in Singapore, it is based on testing and in the United States, it is based on talent. He conceded what behaviors make a student successful — creativity, curiosity and a sense of adventure — are not covered on tests. This is where America has an edge. The minister went on to mention that Singapore must learn from America’s culture of learning, which challenges conventional wisdom, even to the point of challenging authority.

While Singapore is trying to copy what we do best, we are trying to copy Singapore in the one place that will not give us an economic edge — the culture of testing. Where we might want to copy Singapore is in their treatment of teachers. In Singapore, beginning teachers make more than beginning doctors, lawyers and engineers. When I questioned this on a visit there, I was reminded you would not have doctors, lawyers or engineers without teachers. And yet, any chance we might have to compete internationally in education hinges on our teachers’ ability to educate our children effectively and creatively. …
The greatest irony is that at a time when America needs its creativity and ingenuity the most to compete with the enormous scale of our competitors, we have chosen to, as “A Nation at Risk” warned us against 2.5 years ago, unilaterally disarm ourselves. We are reshaping our educational system to look more like Singapore, with more emphasis on a culture of testing and less on a culture of culture. The very things that make America uniquely American — our innovative spirit and our creative expression — are being pushed out of our schools in favor of a narrowed curriculum built around norm-referenced, high-stakes tests. Schools now are rewarded and mostly punished for their performance on multiple-choice tests, the least creative and innovative activities found in schools (p. 39).

Cognitive scientists remind us that fear inhibits cognitive processes, and yet we are trying to make children and schools smarter by threatening them and scaring them to death.

There is no question that a significant portion of America’s children are not performing to world-class standards. This is mostly because America is not performing to world-class standards in dealing with the social issues that plague many children and their families (p. 40).


2008 The poor children in America bring many assets to school with them every day. And these assets are often in areas that would bring greater success to America in the global marketplace. If you look at one of the creative cultural gifts America has given the world, such as music, you would identify genres such as jazz, blues, bluegrass, country, rock, R&B and hip-hop.

What do all these forms have in common? They all came from a part of our society that had been left behind. The children on the Native American reservations in the Southwest may not perform at grade level, but if they are tasked with assignments to “design” (one of Pink’s basic skills in the conceptual world) they are highly proficient. Basketball players in the ghettos of our inner cities might not know what the concept of systems thinking is, but if put on a basketball court they know where 10 people are moving through time and space and can anticipate their movements and create elegant responses to them — the essence of a systems thinking approach.

Classrooms full of immigrant children might have trouble meeting the goal of adequate yearly progress set by No Child Left Behind, but those same children culture shift and language shift multiple times during the day — something most middle-class Americans cannot do in this increasingly diverse global world.

Creativity is often found at the margins of a society, where ideas and imaginations are free to roam. We need to spend less time on identifying what children do not know and more time celebrating what they do know. We need to find ways to build upon these strengths to help them learn what else they may need to be successful in their own lives.
and productive citizens for the world (p. 40).

**2007** If public education is truly committed to having no child left behind, it would do well to consider bringing the arts along, too (p. 38).

**2007** Today there are two closely related visions of American education in practice. One aims to produce children who pass standardized testing at each level. The other is one that produces entry-level workers for a consumer society. Both targets might be interesting as tactics, but neither are inspiring objectives for education. These are very small aims—far too small to guide and inspire an adequate educational system. Let me offer an alternative vision. The purpose of education in the United States should be to create productive citizens for a free society. … Those words and ideas are worth examining. The first term is “productive.” We are now in the twenty-first century. The twentieth century was the American century during which the U.S. was preeminent in terms of productivity, innovation, wealth, and power. The world is a much more complicated place today. The United States is not going to compete with the rest of the world in terms of cheap labor or cheap raw materials. If we are going to compete productively with the rest of the world, it’s going to be in terms of creativity and innovation. America has always had a capacity for hard work and stamina, but those qualities of creativity and ingenuity are not being nurtured and fostered by our current educational system (p. 11-12).

**2007** There is no way we can train people to be productive citizens in a complex, free society if all we do is prepare them to pass standardized tests. I’m not an enemy of these tests, because if people can’t read, if they can’t add and subtract, they can’t do much else. But literacy and mathematics are only the foundation of a building. We need to add the walls and the upper stories. One of the best ways to accomplish this task is through teaching the liberal arts, and in particular, the fine arts (p. 12).

**Imagination, Creativity, and Innovation**

**2009** This book tackles the challenge of determining and pursuing work that is aligned with individual talents and passions to achieve well-being and success. “The element” is the point where the activities individuals enjoy and are naturally good at come together.
Robinson emphasizes the importance of nurturing talent and honing creativity, talks about how mentors are crucial, and discusses the need to transform education. (Robinson, K. (2009.) *The Element: How Finding Your Passion Changes Everything.* New York: Viking.)

**2008** Imagination, innovation and creativity have been the foundation that catapulted the United States into a world leadership role, not only in the realm of economics, but by offering the world a unique model of democracy, one capable at its best of embracing a diversity of peoples in forging a vibrant society. Our leadership is threatened to the extent we do not revitalize and sustain these capacities in ourselves and in the students we teach. … the “new basics” that schools must nurture: imagination and its application in being innovative and creative (p. 13). (Deasy, R.J. (2008). Why the arts deserve center stage. *School Administrator, 65,* 3, 12-17.)

**2008** These capacities demanded by the arts are the same skills that business and corporate leaders tell us are essential for American success in the global economy. …in a poll for the Partnership for 21st Century Skills, the public ranked ethics and social responsibility, teamwork and collaboration, lifelong learning and self-direction along with imagination, innovation and creativity as skills they want schools to do a better job of teaching. They ranked these values and abilities as more important than individual school subjects, including science and mathematics.

The Arts Education Partnership, a national nonprofit coalition of more than 100 education, arts, government and philanthropic organizations, found a similar set of concerns in focus groups and in a national independent poll commissioned on behalf of its coalition. Imagination, focus group participants said, allowed young people to have dreams and aspirations for their future, to have a vision of what they could become and accomplish. These hopes and goals motivate them to learn. They are a reason to stay in school and are the basis for developing the skills and values needed to succeed. Without them, both students and schools will fail.

“I’m angry about schools,” one frustrated urban parent said to murmurs of support from others in a focus group. “Schools are stifling imagination and creativity. I’m doing more at home than the schools are.”

“Schools are about making sure everybody’s average,” said another. “All that rote stuff to pass tests. America can’t afford that. We’ve got to go way beyond average.” . . .

. . . On the national poll commissioned by the Arts Education Partnership, 80 percent of the respondents said it was important or extremely important for schools to develop the imagination and innovative and creative skills of students. And 88 percent said the arts were essential for doing so and were a sound educational investment. On each of the cognitive capacities developed by the arts discussed above, an average of 80 percent of respondents felt they were important to be taught in schools and 79 percent felt schools were not doing so. (Full findings at www.theimaginination.net.)
It’s clear the public believes the arts play a crucial and catalytic role in developing the imagination, but all teaching should foster imaginative thinking. Multiple forms of the arts give students a chance to reveal their individuality, their knowledge, their competence, their feelings and beliefs, their potential. These revelations in the works they produce give teachers insights and understanding to inform their teaching, to better foster the full exercise of students’ imagination and creativity, and to give every student confirmation their aspirations are achievable. Those attitudes can bring a about a transformation in the entire school (p. 15-16).

(Deasy, R.J. (2008). Why the arts deserve center stage. School Administrator, 65, 3, 12-17.)

2008 As schools cut time for the arts, they may be cutting just the curriculum that would build the innovative leaders of tomorrow.

The profile of skills required in the 21st century labor force has changed. No longer do memorized facts and rigid formulas pave the way to lucrative careers. Instead, non-routine thinking is the basic skill for job categories that economists predict will increase, while those jobs that require formulaic decisions diminish, either because of outsourcing or automation (p. 14).


2008 [Pink] suggests if your job can be done elsewhere cheaper or by a machine (computers are great at linear, sequential acts), then you are in trouble. But if your work involves creative, innovative thinking such as storytelling, design or empathy, then you are in good shape because your job can’t easily be outsourced. He suggests we are moving into a conceptual world where these creative skills are most important. …

The last century was called by many the “American Century” because of our domination in military and economic terms. But as author Ben Wattenberg described it in The First Universal Nation, our domination and the making of the first universal nation may well have had more to do with our popular culture than anything else. He pointed out it wasn’t the electronic boxes that were being produced in the Far East that were important, it was the software, the movies and the music that went into them that created culture. …

The universal images the world watches and the sounds they listen to most often emanate from American shores. Yes, in World War II our military might have liberated Paris, but it may be Paris Hilton who is winning the current war for world influence. For better or worse, American popular culture trumps all others.

America’s real power is not in our engineering but in our “imagineering” … (p. 38).


2008 As a special report in Business Week magazine observed last year: “The game is changing. It isn’t just about math and science anymore. It’s about creativity, imagination, and, above all, innovation.” Most analysts studying the new global economy agree that
the growing “creative and innovative” economy represents America’s salvation. But how do we make someone innovative and creative? …Former U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley predicted the jobs in greatest demand in the future don’t yet exist. In fact, he said, they will require workers to use technologies that have not yet been invented to solve problems that we don’t yet even know are problems (p. 32).


**2008** … Dana Gioia, chairman of the National Endowments for the Arts, said, “If the U.S. is to compete effectively with the rest of the world in the new global marketplace, we need a system that grounds all students in pleasure, beauty and wonder. It is the best way to create citizens who are awakened not only to their humanity, but to the human enterprise that they inherit and will — for good or ill — perpetuate.”

He argued that America’s success will not be through “cheap labor, cheap raw materials, or the free flow of capital or a streamlined industrial base,” but through “creativity, ingenuity, innovation.”

Gioia’s formula for success is simple enough: Nurture a love of reading and marvel at the beauty of a sunset or a tree in bloom; find wonder in the mystery of birth, prehistoric life or the DNA of life itself; and ensure the arts play a central role in our lives (p. 32-33).


**2008** … Sir Ken Robinson, an international expert in the field of creativity and innovation in education, who said, “Creativity is as important as literacy and should be given equal status” (p. 35).


**2008** As schools cut time for the arts, they may be losing their ability to produce not just the artistic creators of the future, but innovative leaders who improve the world they inherit (p. 29).


**2007** In the long run, America’s true competitive edge is not its technical prowess but its creativity, its imagination, its inventiveness, its people’s capacity to devise new solutions, to innovate, to invest new organizational as well as technological forms, and to eke productivity gains out of what others see as static situations (p. 7).


**2007** Today there are two closely related visions of American education in practice. One aims to produce children who pass standardized testing at each level. The other is one
that produces entry-level workers for a consumer society. Both targets might be interesting as tactics, but neither are inspiring objectives for education. These are very small aims—far too small to guide and inspire an adequate educational system. Let me offer an alternative vision. The purpose of education in the United States should be to create productive citizens for a free society. … Those words and ideas are worth examining. The first term is “productive.” We are now in the twenty-first century. The twentieth century was the American century during which the U.S. was preeminent in terms of productivity, innovation, wealth, and power. The world is a much more complicated place today. The United States is not going to compete with the rest of the world in terms of cheap labor or cheap raw materials. If we are going to compete productively with the rest of the world, it’s going to be in terms of creativity and innovation. America has always had a capacity for hard work and stamina, but those qualities of creativity and ingenuity are not being nurtured and fostered by our current educational system (p. 11-12).

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Arts for the Arts’ Sake

2008 … justifying “the arts on the basis of their impact on academic performance is not uncontroversial.” Those who make this argument are in danger of conceding that other subjects are academically superior, which leads to the undermining of the arts in education (p. 104). (Gibson, R. & Anderson, M. (2008). Touching the void: arts education research in Australia. Asia Pacific Journal of Education, 28, 1, 103-122.)

2008 We don’t need the arts in our schools to raise mathematical and verbal skills—we already target these in math and language arts. We need the arts because in addition to introducing students to aesthetic appreciation, they teach other modes of thinking we value. For students living in a rapidly changing world, the arts teach vital modes of seeing, imagining, inventing, and thinking. If our primary demand of students is that they recall established facts, the children we educate today will find themselves ill-equipped to deal with problems like global warming, terrorism, and pandemics. Those who have learned the lessons of the arts, however—hot to see new patterns, how to learn from mistakes, and how to envision solutions—are the ones likely to come up with the novel answers needed most for the future (p. 31). (Winner, E. & Hetland, L. (2008). Art for our sake: School arts classes matter more than ever—but not for the reasons you think. Arts Education Policy Review, 109, 5, 29-31.)

2005 One frequently stated conclusion is that the lack of evidence of a causal link between the arts and academic achievement should not be used as a reason to stop promoting the arts for their own sake (p. 8). (Boyes, L. C. & Reid, I. (2005). What are the benefits for pupils participating in arts activities? The view from the research literature. Research in Education, 73, 1-14.)

2001 Harvard University researchers Ellen Winner and Lois Hetland, co-investigators for a project called Reviewing Education and the Arts, have an answer: The “arts must be justified in terms of what the arts can teach that no other subject can teach” (p. 32). (Black, Susan. (2001). Shall we dance? American School Board Journal, 30-32.)

2001 Arts educators have tried to strengthen the position of the arts in our schools by arguing that the arts can be used to buttress the 3Rs. … There is danger in such reasoning. If the arts are given a role in our schools because people believe the arts cause academic improvement, then the arts will quickly lose their position if academic improvement does not result, or if the arts are shown to be less effective than the 3Rs in promoting literacy and numeracy. Instrumental claims for the arts are a double-edged sword. It is implausible to suppose that the arts can be as effective a means of teaching an academic subject as is direct teaching of that subject. And thus, when we justify the arts by their secondary, utilitarian value, the arts may prove to have fewer payoffs than academics. Arts educators should never allow the arts to be justified wholly or even primarily in terms of what the arts can do for mathematics or reading. The arts must be
These mixed findings should make it clear that, even in cases where arts programs add value to non-arts academic outcomes, it is dangerous to justify arts education by secondary, non-arts effects. Doing so puts the arts in a weakened and vulnerable position. Arts educators must build justifications based on what is inherently valuable about the arts themselves, even when the arts contribute secondary benefits. Just as we do not (and could not) justify the teaching of history for its power to transfer to mathematics, we must not allow policy makers to justify (or reject) the arts based on their alleged power to transfer to academic subject matters (p. 5).

The arts offer a way of thinking unavailable in other disciplines. The same might be said of athletics. Suppose coaches began to claim that playing baseball increased students’ mathematical ability because of the complex score keeping involved. Then suppose re-searchers set out to test this and found that the claim did not hold up. Would school boards react by cutting the budget for baseball? Of course not. Because whatever positive academic side effects baseball might or might not have, schools believe sports are inherently good for kids. We should make the same argument for the arts: the arts are good for our children, irrespective of any non-arts benefits that the arts may in some cases have (p. 5).

If we required physical education to demonstrate transfer to science, the results might be no better, and probably would be worse. So, it is notable that the arts can demonstrate any transfer at all (p. 5).

The arts are important in their own right and should be justified in terms of the important and unique kinds of learning that arise from the study of the arts. We should not expect more, in terms of transfer, from the arts than we expect from other disciplines. We do not justify the presence of mathematics education by whether such study leads to stronger skills in English or Latin; nor should we justify the presence of arts education by whether such study leads to stronger skills in traditional academic areas (p. 7).

Problems begin to emerge when the values for which the arts are prized in schools are located primarily in someone’s version of the basics, when those basics have little or nothing to do with the arts. … The core problem with such rationales for arts education is that they leave the arts vulnerable to any other field or educational practice that claims
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that it can achieve the same aims faster and better (p. 146). … My claim, at base, is that arts education and the several art fields that constitute it ought to give pride of place to those unique contributions that only the arts make possible (p. 147) … the contributions arts education makes to both the arts and to life beyond them (p. 148):

1. **Students should acquire a feel for what it means to transform their ideas, images, and feelings into an art form.** … getting a feel for the process through which works of art come into being is fostered best by having experience trying to do so yourself, even if the most telling outcome of such experience is to recognize how much distance exists between our best efforts and the work of masters. (p. 148)
2. **Arts education should refine the student’s awareness of the aesthetic qualities in art and life.** If arts education is about anything, it is about helping students become alive to aesthetic qualities of art and life in the worlds in which they live. Put more directly, arts education should help students learn to use an aesthetic frame of reference to see and hear. What does this mean educationally? It means that students will know what they can listen for in music and what they can look for in the visual arts. It means also that when they are asked about the works or situations they encounter they will be able to say something about them with insight, sensitivity, and intelligence. It means that they will know not only what they like or respond to in a work — or a walk, for that matter — but why. This means that they will have reasons for their preferences, they will be able to bring to a work what they need to render the work intelligible.
3. **Arts education should enable students to understand that there is a connection between the content and form that the arts display and the culture and time in which the work was created.** This outcome is intended to situate the arts within culture and to advance students’ understanding that the problems that artists tackle and how they do so are influenced by the setting in which they work. … the quality of experience the arts make possible is enriched when the arts are experienced within a context of ideas relevant to them. Understanding the cultural context is among the most important ways in which such enrichment can be achieved … the idea of the relationship of culture and art at the level of principled generalization should be understood and that at least one or more examples of that idea should be part of the student’s intellectual repertoire.
4. Finally, I wish to identify a particularly important set of outcomes for arts education.
   * A willingness to imagine possibilities that are not now, but which might become.
   * A desire to explore ambiguity, to be willing to forestall premature closure in pursuing resolutions.
   * The ability to recognize and accept the multiple perspectives and resolutions that work in the arts celebrate (p. 148).


1999 More often than we would like, arts educators receive requests to justify our professional existence or the existence of the arts in our schools on the basis of their contributions to non-art outcomes. I cannot recall the number of times I have been asked about the contribution the arts make to increasing tests scores in math, or in reading, or in any other academic subject that the inquirer believes to be more important than any of the arts — or all of them for that matter. What research, callers want to know, demonstrates
that experience in the arts boosts academic achievement? They sometimes go on to ask if more exposure to the arts advances school reform. ... I sometimes ask myself if those who inquire ever considered reversing the question. Have they ever thought about asking how reading and math courses contribute to higher performance in the arts (p. 143)?

1999 We do the arts no service when we try to make their case by touting their contributions to other fields (p. 149).
Arts Outcomes

2008 The findings suggest that narrative inquiry is an appropriate method to situate the individual as central to the research and allow participants’ definitional perspective of art and impact to be recorded. … A key finding was that the participants experienced art in widely different ways and placed varying degrees of significance on the different impacts of their experiences.

… The knowledge gained from the narrative inquiry demonstrates that the impact of art is a complex and multilayered concept that is experienced and understood in a variety of different ways contingent on each individual’s experience and perspective. The findings illustrate that the impact of art is not solely limited to social impacts, as previous empirical research emphasizes, but incorporates myriad individual impacts. Further, the findings also illustrate that impact of art does not automatically occur… (p. 32). (White, R. W. & Hede, A.M. (2008). Using narrative inquiry to explore the impact of art on individuals. The Journal of Arts Management, Law, and Society, 38, 1, 19-3)

2004 One of the key insights from this analysis is that the most important instrumental benefits require sustained involvement in the arts (p. xv).

Abstract Reasoning

2008 Arts education not only provides artistic training, but teaches children creativity, spatial thinking and abstract reasoning, all critical skill sets for tomorrow’s software designers, scientists, entrepreneurs and engineers (p. 27).

2008 Compilations of more than 60 peer-reviewed independent studies published in recent years by the national Arts Education Partnership have begun to provide research-based answers to these questions. The studies identify the cognitive capacities — habits of mind and personal dispositions — that are developed as students tackle the specific challenges of an art form: the choreography and movements of a dance; the composition and performance of a piece of music; the script and acting of a drama; the design and creation of a painting or sculpture; the writing and performance of an opera. As students learn the content, processes and techniques specific to each of these art forms, they are at the same time developing and applying these capacities.

* Symbolic understanding. Reading, writing and doing math are processes of grasping and using symbols. So is playing the notes on sheet music, assembling colors and shapes into a portrait. Understanding and using multiple modes to
represent and communicate ideas and feelings helps us get better at all of them. That’s one of the links between the arts and literacy (p. 14-15).

(Deasy, R.J. (2008). Why the arts deserve center stage. School Administrator, 65, 3, 12-17.)

Brain Research

2010 Social emotions like admiration for another person’s virtue are often associated with a desire to be virtuous one’s self, and to engage in meaningful and socially relevant activities against any odds. These emotions can profoundly inspire us, sometimes motivating our most significant life-course decisions. Yet despite the cognitive maturity and complexity of knowledge required to induce an emotion like admiration for virtue, our recent study of the brain revealed significant involvement of low-level brain systems responsible for the feeling of the gut and the maintenance of basic life regulation. These findings contribute an interesting jumping-off point for reexamining the educational study of motivation states because they suggest that, contrary to current conceptions in educational research, nonconscious, low-level physiological processes related to survival and bodily sensation may be critical contributors to intrinsic motivation.


2008 In 2004, the Dana Arts and Cognition Consortium brought together cognitive neuroscientists from seven universities across the United States to grapple with the question of why arts training has been associated with higher academic performance. Is it simply that smart people are drawn to “do” art—to study and perform music, dance, drama—or does early arts training cause changes in the brain that enhance other important aspects of cognition? … Here is a summary of what the group has learned:

1. An interest in a performing art leads to a high state of motivation that produces the sustained attention necessary to improve performance and the training of attention that leads to improvement in other domains of cognition.
2. Genetic studies have begun to yield candidate genes that may help explain individual differences in interest in the arts.
3. Specific links exist between high levels of music training and the ability to manipulate information in both working and long-term memory; these links extend beyond the domain of music training.
4. In children, there appear to be specific links between the practice of music and skills in geometrical representation, though not in other forms of numerical representation.
5. Correlations exist between music training and both reading acquisition and sequence learning. One of the central predictors of early literacy, phonological awareness, is correlated with both music training and the development of a specific brain pathway.
6. Training in acting appears to lead to memory improvement through the learning of general skills for manipulating semantic information.

7. Adult self-reported interest in aesthetics is related to a temperamental factor of openness, which in turn is influenced by dopamine-related genes.

8. Learning to dance by effective observation is closely related to learning by physical practice, both in the level of achievement and in the neural substrates that support the organization of complex actions. Effective observational learning may transfer to other cognitive skills.

Although scientists must constantly warn of the need to distinguish between correlation and causation, it is important to realize that neuroscience often begins with correlations—usually, the discovery that a certain kind of brain activity works in concert with a certain kind of behavior. … Many of the studies cited here tighten up correlations that have been noted before, thereby laying the groundwork for unearthing true causal explanations through understanding biological and brain mechanisms that may underlie those relationships.

… In my judgment, this project has identified candidate genes involved in the predisposition to the arts and has also shown that cognitive improvements can be to specific mental capacities such as geometric reasoning; that specific pathways in the brain can be identified and potentially changed during training; that sometimes it is not structural brain changes but rather changes in cognitive strategy that help solve a problem; and that early targeted music training may lead to better cognition through as yet unknown neural mechanism. All of those findings are rather remarkable and challenging.


2007 Arts integration creates a highly stimulating learning environment for all children. Since the brain is constantly changing during childhood, it is important to be responsive to individual maturational strengths and needs as well. Arts integration focuses on the “power of one,” in which each child is valued for his/her uniqueness, while there is sensitivity to general developmental patterns (p. 38).


2007 The arts are arguably the most important tool a teacher has to engage the emotions. Artists create things to engage others emotionally so art pieces are compelling instructional materials. Creating art is emotionally engaging as well. “The arts, then, change the brain of both the creator, and the consumer.” Arts-based lessons employ emotions to release memory proteins. Students are intentionally engaged in experiences that call for feelings to be felt and expressed. The importance of the arts in school is strongly associated with motivation and interest. Arts-based instruction gives students freedom and ownership that are “part and parcel of the neurochemistry of the arts.” Creating meaning through the arts employs diverse media and alternative sign systems to expand ways to express feelings and ideas. Creativity is based on the decisions made by the creator, which causes the brain’s reward system to kick in. Chemicals, such as dopamine, are released in the region of cortex used to create ideas, problem solve and...
make decisions, and plan actions. Students feel satisfaction and pride when they create original ideas and objects (p. 39-40).

2007 Brain changes are most extensive and powerful when emotion is part of learning. The chemicals of emotion, such as adrenalin, serotonin, and dopamine modify synapses. Modification of synapses is the very root of learning. Connections may not occur at all if the emotion chemicals and structures in the brain are not engaged (p. 39).

2007 … every musical [arts] experience that we offer our students affects their brains, bodies, and feelings. In short, it changes their minds permanently (p. 39).

2006 Pink argues that business and everyday life will soon be dominated by right-brain thinkers. He identifies the roots and implications of transitioning from a society dominated by left-brain thinkers into something entirely different. Pink pinpoints abundance, Asia, and automation as the primary forces behind this change. The keys to success are in developing and cultivating six senses: design, story, symphony, empathy, play, and meaning. Pink compares this upcoming “Conceptual Age” to past periods of upheaval, such as the Industrial Revolution and the Renaissance.

2005 Musical performance demands complex cognitive and motor operations. Musicians must translate music notation (visual-spatial-temporal information) into precisely timed sequential finger movements involving coordination of both hands, recall long passages, bring meaning to music through the use of dynamics and articulation, transpose pieces to new keys, and improvise melodies and harmonies based on existing musical pieces. Some musicians are also able to identify pitches without the use of a reference tone (absolute pitch). Studies have explored the brain bases of these exceptional and highly specialized sensorimotor skills, and auditory-spatial skills. These studies have shown that in musicians certain regions of the brain are larger or have more gray matter volume (when compared to non-musicians)…These differences are even greater among musicians who began musical training at an early age. Similarly, differences between musicians and non-musicians correlate with intensity of musical training throughout life (p. 125).

2005 …functional brain differences are associated with the particular musical instrument played. Violin training is associated with adaptations in brain regions controlling fine finger movements of the left hand; piano training is associated with adaptations in brain
regions controlling finger movements of both the hands (p. 125).

2005 First, areas in adult musicians’ brains shown to be enlarged are greatest in those musicians who began training at relatively a young age. Second, degree of structural brain differences between musicians and non-musicians correlates with intensity of musical training. Third, functional brain differences between two different types of instrumentalists suggest that differences evolved as a function of playing and training on a specific instrument (p. 130).

2005 Further evidence that music training accounts for the brain differences in adult musicians comes from a study showing electrophysiological effects (enhanced P2) of instrumental music training in 4- to 5-year-olds after 1 year of piano or violin training in response to tones from their instrument, with some specific effects depending on the instrument studied. Skilled violinists and pianists also show an enhanced P2 component while listening to music compared to non-musicians (p. 130).

2002 This book explains the neurodevelopmental research of the author, who has found that students bring unique combinations of strengths and challenges to school. Understanding these differences can help teachers meet students’ needs. Often children may be perplexed by what appears to be their failure to fit a “norm.” Through a process he calls “demystification,” Levine’s approach helps individual children to understand that each has a unique set of strengths, as well as areas where they need additional help.

2000 Knowledge that is taught in multiple contexts is likely to support the transfer of learning from one domain to another. Learning to look for, recognize, and extract underlying themes and ideas can help students to understand when and under what conditions to apply their knowledge, an aspect of expertise.

1999 This noted neurologist takes on the question of the origin of consciousness, proposing that the answer lies in emotion. Damasio distinguishes between core consciousness, the nonverbal awareness of one’s state of being, and extended consciousness, which entails a sense of other times and places. Damasio argues that most higher organisms possess core consciousness and many possess some form of extended consciousness; but in its highest manifestations, such as art and science, extended
consciousness is characteristic of humanity. He insists on the role of emotion in creating extended consciousness, which in one sense is core consciousness augmented by memory. At its base, Damasio concludes, consciousness means that we feel both pain and pleasure; in its higher manifestations, it enables us to transcend and articulate these feelings through language, creativity, and conscience.


1994 Neuropsychology experts Geoffrey and Renate Caine examine how the brain functions during learning experiences and how this knowledge can influence teaching strategies. The brain has an infinite number of possibilities for making connections and constantly seeks meaning by identifying patterns, according to the authors.


**Collaboration**

2008 The arts are an integral part of our learning and growing process. Through the arts we learn about other people and cultures. We learn to look at themes, ideas and perspectives in new and different ways. We also learn to work with others, for collaboration is often one of the distinguishing characteristics of working in the arts (p. 50).


2008 … arts programs can enhance students’ potential to engage with school and learning. The following ‘enabling’ skills and attitudes were noted: students’ self esteem was increased; students were better able to work cooperatively with others; and students were able to plan and set goals (p. 107).


2008 The arts also were viewed as instrumental in enhancing student communication while increasing student ability to interact and to reflect (p. 16-17).


2008 Compilations of more than 60 peer-reviewed independent studies published in recent years by the national Arts Education Partnership have begun to provide research-based answers to these questions. The studies identify the cognitive capacities — habits of mind and personal dispositions — that are developed as students tackle the specific challenges of an art form: the choreography and movements of a dance; the composition and performance of a piece of music; the script and acting of a drama; the design and creation of a painting or sculpture; the writing and performance of an opera. As students
learn the content, processes and techniques specific to each of these art forms, they are at the same time developing and applying these capacities.

* Collaborative learning and action. Rehearsing and putting on a play, practicing and performing in a chorus and dancing in a musical are collaborative processes of acquiring and manifesting knowledge and skills. You are committed to pursuing a common goal and working toward it. It’s teamwork (p. 14-15).

(Deasy, R.J. (2008). Why the arts deserve center stage. School Administrator, 65, 3, 12-17.)

2008 The research, reported in “Studio Thinking: The Real Benefits of Visual Arts Education” by this author, shows that arts help students find important problems and persist toward their solutions. Arts teach envisioning, observing, informed risk-taking, learning from mistakes and comfort with uncertainty. They emphasize collaboration, expression, reflection and articulation of deeply held ideas (p. 14).


2007 The arts build cooperation by involving students in group problem solving through ensembles, choirs, troupes, and skits. Through arts experiences, they learn to work as a team, to respect diverse points of view, and to see that relationships among people and ideas matter. These ways of working are critical to the workplace and family success (p. 19).


2007 1. Quality of classroom participation increased. Students involved as makers and doers in the arts showed the greatest ability to collaborate, reflect, and make choices (p. 36).


Creativity

2008 Arts education not only provides artistic training, but teaches children creativity, spatial thinking and abstract reasoning, all critical skill sets for tomorrow’s software designers, scientists, entrepreneurs and engineers (p. 27).


2008 Compilations of more than 60 peer-reviewed independent studies published in recent years by the national Arts Education Partnership have begun to provide research-based answers to these questions. The studies identify the cognitive capacities — habits of mind and personal dispositions — that are developed as students tackle the specific challenges of an art form: the choreography and movements of a dance; the composition and performance of a piece of music; the script and acting of a drama; the design and
creation of a painting or sculpture; the writing and performance of an opera. As students learn
the content, processes and techniques specific to each of these art forms, they are at
the same time developing and applying these capacities.

* Imagination. To write or act in a play, design a building or write a song, we
must visualize new possibilities for human thought and action and the use of
materials. This engages the cognitive capacity of imagination.

* Innovation and creativity. When imagination is put into action, the results can
be a piece of music, a hybrid car, or a cure for cancer. Getting the results takes
discipline, persistence and resilience. One needs to stay on task despite challenges
and frustrations of setbacks (p. 14).

(Deasy, R.J. (2008). Why the arts deserve center stage. School Administrator, 65, 3, 12-17.)

2007 Hamilton, OH. Students involved in the SPECTRA arts program made more gains
in reading vocabulary, comprehension, and math than a control. Creativity measures were
four times higher and gains held during a second-year evaluation (p. 6).
Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson Merrill Prentice Hall.)

2005 Stumm found that academic ability could be predicted by a creativity test, and that
‘high’ academic achievers also ranked well on a task requiring imaginative ability. This
suggests a relationship between those who do well academically and those who are
creatively ‘able’ (p. 4).
(Boyes, L. C. & Reid, I. (2005). What are the benefits for pupils participating in arts
activities? The view from the research literature. Research in Education, 73, 1-14.)

2004 Effects of arts include: ... creativity and expressive skills and art form knowledge
and skills, as well as associated transfer effects, that is skills recyclable to other contexts.
In this way, we can say that arts may have the potential to offer cultural, educational and
even economic inclusion ... and coherent learning pathways and progression (p. 53).
(Kinder, K. & Harland, J. (2004). The arts and social inclusion: What’s the evidence?
Support for Learning, 19, 2, 52-56.)

2000 Art, for example, attracted low scores for thinking and problem-solving skills, but
high scores for creativity, experimentation and imagination. Drama also registered a high
number of nominations for imagination, but had proportionately fewer for creativity,
although more for thinking and problem-solving skills. Dance was similarly high on
imagination, but low on thinking and problem solving skills. Although attracting some
references to thinking and problem-solving skills, music was comparatively low for
creativity, experimentation, and imagination. In addition to such variations between art
forms, the data suggested that the type and level of creativity outcomes varied according
to differences in teacher pedagogies and course content (p. 54).
(Harland, J. (2000). What research in the United Kingdom shows about transfer from the
arts. In E. Winner & L. Hetland (Ed.), Beyond the soundbite: arts education and
academic outcomes: conference proceedings from Beyond the soundbite: what the
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research actually shows about arts education and academic outcomes. Los Angeles, California: The Getty Center.)

Critical/Creative Thinking

2008 The arts are an integral part of our learning and growing process. Through the arts we learn about other people and cultures. We learn to look at themes, ideas and perspectives in new and different ways. We also learn to work with others, for collaboration is often one of the distinguishing characteristics of working in the arts (p. 50).
(Jerome, S. (2008). Bringing the arts front and center. School Administrator, 65, 3, 50.)

2008 Harland et al. (2000) suggest that art education outcomes range from the most intrinsic, such as enjoyment and personal achievement in the arts themselves, to related effects, such as the development of creativity and divergent thinking, and their extrinsic transfer to other curriculum areas. According to Bower, teaching the arts to students “has been linked to better visual thinking, problem solving, language and creativity … by learning and practicing art, the human brain actually wires itself to make stronger connections” (p. 104).

2008 Students learned best by a multi-sensory approach to learning. Dramatizing afforded students opportunities to see, hear, and create learning opportunities. Dramatic activities also enhanced critical thinking skills of students. … “Drama activities help transform school from a place where we tell students what to think to a place where we help them experience thinking” (p. 19).

2008 Benefits of arts programs:
- Enhances higher order thinking and learning
- Reinforces aesthetic qualities of students
- Promotes visualization of the content and promotes imagination
- Encourages risk-taking by students expressing creativity (p. 23-24).

2008 It’s true that students involved in the arts do better in school and on their SATs than those who are not involved. However, correlation isn’t causation, and an analysis we did several years ago showed no evidence that arts training actually causes scores to rise.

There is, however, a very good reason to teach arts in schools, and it’s not the one that arts supporters tend to fall back on … arts programs teach a specific set of thinking skills rarely addressed elsewhere in the curriculum—and that far from being irrelevant in
a test-driven education system, arts education is becoming even more important as standardized tests like the MCAS exert a narrowing influence over what schools teach (p. 29).

2008 While students in art classes learn techniques specific to art, such as how to draw, how to mix paint, or how to center a pot, they’re also taught a remarkable array of mental habits not emphasized elsewhere in school. Such skills include visual-spatial abilities, reflection, self-criticism, and the willingness to experiment and learn from mistakes (p. 29).

2008 In our analysis, we identified eight “Studio Habits of Mind” that arts classes taught. (THIS IS NOT A DIRECT QUOTE…IT’S SENTENCES FROM THE ARTICLE PIECED TOGETHER.)
1. Persistence: Students worked on projects over sustained periods of time and were expected to find meaningful problems and persevere through frustration.
2. Expression: Students were urged to move beyond technical skill to create works rich in emotion, atmosphere, and their own personal voice or vision.
3. Making clear connections between schoolwork and the world outside the classroom: Students were taught to see their projects as part of the larger art world, past and present.
4. Observing: Visual arts students are trained to look.
5. Envisioning (forming mental images internally and using them to guide actions and solve problems): We saw students pushed to notice what they might not have seen before….forming mental images internally and using them to guide actions and solve problems. … prompting students to imagine what was not there. Like observing, envisioning is a skill with payoffs far beyond the art world. Einstein said that he thought in images. The historian has to imagine events and motivations from the past, the novelist an entire setting. Chemists need to envision molecular structures and rotate them. The inventor—the envisioner par excellence—must dream up ideas to be turned into real solutions.
6. Innovating through exploration
7. Reflective Self-evaluation: Seeing clearly by looking past one’s preconceptions is central to a variety of professions, from medicine to law.
8. Innovation(p. 30).

2008 Compilations of more than 60 peer-reviewed independent studies published in recent years by the national Arts Education Partnership have begun to provide research-based answers to these questions. The studies identify the cognitive capacities — habits of mind and personal dispositions — that are developed as students tackle the specific challenges of an art form: the choreography and movements of a dance; the composition
and performance of a piece of music; the script and acting of a drama; the design and creation of a painting or sculpture; the writing and performance of an opera. As students learn the content, processes and techniques specific to each of these art forms, they are at the same time developing and applying these capacities.

* Critical thinking. To make and appreciate a good piece of music, a poem or a play, you have to develop and apply criteria and standards for making judgments about quality — evaluate your products or performances and those of others to determine whether they are any good. Fix what’s wrong (p. 14).

(Deasy, R.J. (2008). Why the arts deserve center stage. *School Administrator, 65*, 3, 12-17.)

2008 Our recent research at Project Zero, a research and development group at Harvard’s Graduate School of Education, shows that serious instruction in visual arts — and teachers of music, dance and drama suggest that these benefits extend across the arts — teaches habits of higher-order thinking that help students develop capacities to recognize the hidden roots of problems, make careful choices in ambiguous circumstances and seek and synthesize the resources necessary to solve problems in novel ways. High-quality arts education helps students develop important critical and creative thinking that is underdeveloped when schools dedicate themselves only to students’ success on tests (p. 14).


2007 “Students in the program performed better in six categories of literacy and critical thinking skills—including thorough description, hypothesizing and reasoning—than did students who were not in the program” (p. 80).


2007 The arts are deeply cognitive. No art is understood or created without higher-level thinking. Artistic thinking is characterized by careful observation, pattern finding, new perspectives, qualitative judgment, and use of metaphors and symbols. The arts are used to transform and represent what is noticed and imagined. These kinds of thinking are equally important in science, math, and history (p. 16).


2007 Schools that integrate the arts develop essential thinking such as careful observation of the world; mental representation of what is observed or imagined; abstraction from complexity; pattern recognition and development; qualitative judgment; symbolic, metaphoric, and allegorical representation (p. 35).


2007 *Arts experiences engage and strengthen higher-order thinking.* These include increases in comprehension/meaning construction, spatial reasoning (the capacity for organizing and sequencing ideas), conditional reasoning (Theorizing about outcomes and consequences), problem solving/decision making, and the components of creative
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thinking (originality, elaboration, and flexibility) (p. 35-36).

2007 Critical thinking is developed through the arts. For example, students used more ‘Evidentiary reasoning’ and broadened their understanding of interpretation itself from discussing paintings (p. 36).

2007 Creativity as a “capacity for learning” is expanded. High arts students are more fluent, flexible, original, elaborative, and willing to resist closure (p. 36).

2007 A 3-year study of 2,000 students found a significant relationship between rich school arts programs and creative, cognitive, and personal competencies needed for academic success. The study suggests that transfer of learning involves “certain habits of mind which have salience across subject areas.” A key factor was to “invite thinking to travel back-and-forth across subject boundaries” (p. 6).

2005 In Arts in their View: a Study of Youth Participation in the Arts Harland, Kinder and Hartley … report that the ‘arts effects’ evidenced include increases in self-esteem and confidence, as well as enhancement of thinking, organizational skill and other cognitive skills. … one of the noticed effects on pupils in schools with a good reputation for high-quality creative arts learning situations was a heightened sense of fulfillment and advances in personal development (p. 7).
(Boyes, L. C. & Reid, I. (2005). What are the benefits for pupils participating in arts activities? The view from the research literature. Research in Education, 73, 1-14.)

2005 In addition, Hetland and Winner found two areas where there was equivocal support: learning to play music and math, dance and non-verbal reasoning. Although they found some evidence, they found no generalisable, reliable causal links for the following oft-cited ‘results’ of arts participation: arts and verbal/math scores; arts and creative thinking; learning to play music and reading; visual arts and reading, and lastly between dance and reading. These authors emphasis that arts participation may well add value to non-arts academic outcomes, but that it is dangerous to justify inclusion of the arts by supposed secondary non-arts effects—the arts should be of value in their own right (p. 8).
(Boyes, L. C. & Reid, I. (2005). What are the benefits for pupils participating in arts activities? The view from the research literature. Research in Education, 73, 1-14.)

2002 This publication shows how the arts can help students develop the essential understanding of metaphors, symbols, and analogies and their potential for communication of ideas.
2001 Reliable Causal Links Based on Very Few Studies

*Dance and Nonverbal Reasoning:* Based on 3 reports (4 effect sizes), a small to medium sized causal relationship was found between dance and improved visual-spatial skills. Again, however, more studies are needed before any firm conclusions can be drawn (p. 4).


2001 Areas Where No Reliable Causal Links Were Found

*Arts-Rich Education and Creative Thinking:* Based on 4 reports (6 effect sizes), no relationship was found between studying arts and verbal creativity test measures. A small to medium sized relationship was found between studying arts and figural creativity tests (which themselves are visual tests) but this relationship could not be generalized to new studies (p. 5).


2003 The report (Critical Links) and its interpretive essays reveal some important relationships between learning in the arts and academic and social skills in the following major areas:

*Thinking Skills.* Learning in individual art forms, as well as in multiple arts experiences, engages and strengthens such fundamental cognitive capacities as spatial reasoning, conditional reasoning, problem-solving, and creative thinking (p. 16).

(Deasy, R. J. (2003). Let there be music … and ART … and P.E.: Don’t axe the arts! *Principal, 14*-18.)

2000 This article details the finding that, based on data from pre- and post-administrations of the Torrance Test of Creative Thinking, a group of students receiving a systematic instructional program in the arts made greater gains than either of two control groups on several dimensions, including total creativity, fluency, and originality. The author concludes that “there was a strong indication that creative thinking…was facilitated by involvement in the arts.”


2000 Art, for example, attracted low scores for thinking and problem-solving skills, but high scores for creativity, experimentation and imagination. Drama also registered a high number of nominations for imagination, but had proportionately fewer for creativity, although more for thinking and problem-solving skills. Dance was similarly high on imagination, but low on thinking and problem-solving skills. Although attracting some references to thinking and problem-solving skills, music was comparatively low for creativity, experimentation, and imagination. In addition to such variations between art forms, the data suggested that the type and level of creativity outcomes varied according
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to differences in teacher pedagogies and course content (p. 54).
(Harland, J. (2000). What research in the United Kingdom shows about transfer from the arts. In E. Winner & L. Hetland (Ed.), Beyond the soundbite: arts education and academic outcomes: conference proceedings from Beyond the soundbite: what the research actually shows about arts education and academic outcomes. Los Angeles, California: The Getty Center.)

Cultural Awareness

2008 By increasing access to arts education, the community and schools are increasing students’ understanding of other cultures (p. 9).

2008 The arts are an integral part of our learning and growing process. Through the arts we learn about other people and cultures. We learn to look at themes, ideas and perspectives in new and different ways. We also learn to work with others, for collaboration is often one of the distinguishing characteristics of working in the arts (p. 50).
(Jerome, S. (2008). Bringing the arts front and center. School Administrator, 65, 3, 50.)

2008 Benefits of arts programs:
- Expands curriculum to other cultures of the world
- Provides an avenue to encourage diversity/multiculturalism (p. 23-24)

2008 de Silva and Villas-Boas (2006) report that there were significant differences between pre- and post-tests in an experiment focusing on development of student attitudes regarding respect towards different ethnic/cultural groups. The results revealed that stereotypical and other negative influences stemming from the broader community could be better neutralized with an aggressive arts-based approach (p. 21).

2007 Currently, some 400 languages are now spoken in schools nationwide. To live in harmony in such diversity requires appreciation for contributions every culture makes to a society. One source for such understanding is the arts. They are naturally interdisciplinary and provide a neutral ground to learn varied communication symbols, content disciplines, values, and beliefs. The arts help us better understand the joys and sorrows of others (p. 19).
2007 Arts-based teaching and learning “opens avenues.” Students who are not part of the dominant culture benefit from the expanded opportunities for learning the arts provide (p. 37).

2004 … the arts effects typology also posits outcomes which are not so prominent elsewhere in the disaffection research literature: creativity and expressive skills and art form knowledge and skills, as well as associated transfer effects, that is skills recyclable to other contexts. In this way, we can say that arts may have the potential to offer cultural, educational and even economic inclusion and coherent learning pathways and progression. Indeed, the importance of arts experiences being relevant to – and reflecting – young people’s lives, interests and culture has been identified as crucial to effective arts practices, that is those that encourage high numbers of effects (p. 53).

Disadvantaged/Struggling Students

2008 “In 2000, the Arts Education Partnership, together with the President’s Committee on the Arts and Humanities, published a groundbreaking report called “Champions of Change.” According to the report, research shows that learners can reach higher levels of achievement through their engagement with the arts. In addition, learning in and through the arts can help level the playing field for disadvantaged youth (p. 34).

2008 Art-integrated programs are associated with academic gains across the curriculum as reflected in standardized test scores. Further, these programs appear to have a more powerful effect on the achievement of struggling students than more conventional arts education programs targeting the more advanced student (p. 14).

2007 He refers to the National Longitudinal Study of 25,000 students, which showed a strong correlation between the arts and better test scores. What’s more, high arts students “performed more community service, watched fewer hours of television, reported less boredom in school, and were less likely to drop out of school.” Paige points out that the findings held for students from the lowest socioeconomic quartile “belying the assumption that socioeconomic status, rather than arts engagement, contributes to such gains in academic achievement and social involvement.” Read Paige’s letter at www.ed.gov/policy/elsec/guid/secletter/040701.html (p. 15).
2007 Problem students often become the high achievers in arts learning settings. Success in the arts can be a bridge to success in other areas of learning, as is demonstrated in case studies of disadvantaged students in New York City involved in ArtsConnection. Students used more self-regulatory behaviors and had a sense of identity that made them more confident and resilient (p. 20).

2007 Literature, visual art, drama, dance, and music have the power to energize and humanize the curriculum. Integrated arts schools are acting on research that confirms how arts experiences help “level the educational playing field” for disadvantaged students and “close the achievement gap” (p. 11).

2007 Arts experiences especially benefit “undereducated” students (p. 35).

2007 The arts engage and offer challenges for all students—at risk, disadvantaged, delayed, and gifted from every cultural background.
1. *Arts-based teaching engages a wide range of learners.* By introducing flexibility, teachers can better promote individuality and diversity. All arts-involved students showed higher levels of learning, especially at-risk and underachieving students. Students who have struggled with traditional modes of instruction find success in inclusive environments that build on commonalities, while respecting differences.
3. *Significant relationships and improvements in reading, writing, and math were found.* This research focused on disadvantaged low-scoring students involved in the arts experiences such as using multimedia from photographs, objects, and videos to advanced computer software (p. 37).

2007 A study of 10 “high-poverty” schools in the continental United States found that arts integration and arts education contributed significantly to closing the achievement gap (p. 10).

2006, Nick Jaffe’s K-8 students create, perform, critique, engineer, and produce dozens of original projects in music recording classes at a Chicago elementary school (p. 61). … The majority of competent engineers and technical specialists are female students. Kids who have a terrible time collaborating end up directing complex productions, sometimes working with their ‘enemies.’ Bookish kids end up singing or rapping. Students with social or emotional problems show amazing focus and intensity, taking on tasks they find
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most frustrating in regular classrooms. Students with writing difficulties spend hours writing lyrics. Problem students often show exceptional creative depth and come up with more sophisticated musical and artistic ideas than their peers do (p. 62). (Rabkin, N. & Redmond, R. (2006). The arts make a difference. Educational Leadership, 60-64.)

2006 Broadly understood as affective and expressive—not academic or cognitive—the arts survive at the margins of education as curriculum enrichments, rewards to good students, or electives for the talented. But evidence is now emerging that shows that arts education can have powerful effects on student achievement. Moreover, these effects may be most profound for struggling students (p. 60). (Rabkin, N. & Redmond, R. (2006). The arts make a difference. Educational Leadership, 60-64.)

2005 Arts-integrated schools reported substantial effects for all students. The greatest impact was for disadvantaged students. “Students become better thinkers, develop higher order skills, and deepened their inclination to learn” (Rabkin, N & Redmond, R. (2005, January 8). The art of education success. Washington Post, A19.)

2003 According to a new and comprehensive research report, good arts programs in elementary and middle schools not only build skills needed to learn other subjects, including reading, writing, and math, but motivate students to learn—particularly those at risk of failure (p. 15). (Deasy, R. J. (2003). Let there be music … and ART … and P.E.: Don’t axe the arts! Principal, 14-18.)

2003 Of great importance to schools struggling to close achievement gaps are indications that for certain students—most notably young children, those from economically disadvantaged circumstances, and those needing remedial instruction—learning in the arts may be particularly helpful. For instance, studies show that some students who are encouraged to dramatize reading material significantly improve their comprehension of the text and their ability to read new and unfamiliar material (p. 16-17). (Deasy, R. J. (2003). Let there be music … and ART … and P.E.: Don’t axe the arts! Principal, 14-18.)

2002 This article details the findings of the 1993 National Household Education Survey, which analyzed factors that affect the cognitive readiness of four-year-old preschool students. Of the preschoolers in the national sample considered at-risk, those who participated in culture-related activities were associated with higher levels of cognitive development and lower variability in cognitive readiness. (Beasley, T.M. (2002). Influence of culture-related experiences and sociodemographic risk factors on cognitive readiness among preschoolers. Journal of Education for Students Placed at Risk.)

2001 “Champions of Change: The Impact of the Arts on Learning”: They report a wide range of positive impacts of arts learning on the academic and personal success of the
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students, including significant benefits for disadvantaged children and for high-poverty schools (p. 38).

1999 Analysis of these studies indicates that the use of creative drama to enhance the reading scores of a population of remedial or low-ability fifth graders enrolled in a compensatory program proved effective at the .05 level compared to the performance of two other groups of students using methods that did not include creative drama (Du Pont, 1992). It must be noted that the aim of the program was to increase reading performance, not to teach creative drama, and that the population was a special population of fifth graders in need of reading skills, not a population of average students. In short, given the aims of the study and the population studied, the results are limited to like populations (p. 144).

1998 Studies indicate that creative drama can serve to remediate difficulties in social and language skills (p. 89). Children with LD (learning disabilities) can improve and maintain social and oral expressive language (speaking) skills through drama. … Creative drama basically entails self-expressive, social interactions which emphasize speaking spontaneously in improvisations, thereby leading to better interpersonal communication skills (p. 93).

English Language Acquisition

2008 For students who speak little or no English and who may face other barriers to fully engaging in the life of the school, the arts are the ‘languages’ that reveal their abilities and potential to teachers—the crucial connection that motivates them to learn (p. 12).
(Deasy, R.J. (2008). Why the arts deserve center stage. School Administrator, 65, 3, 12-17.)

2008 “I think the work done here suggests a much closer connection between the cognitive processes that give rise to the arts and the cognitive processes that give rise to the sciences” (Elizabeth S. Spelke, p. 1). … the Dana Foundation of New York City in 2004 brought together neuroscientists and cognitive psychologists from seven universities to launch a broad program of studies looking at how experience in dance, music, theater, and visual arts might spill over into other areas of learning, and to explore possible mechanisms for those links in the anatomy of the brain—even at the genetic level. “Left unsettled, experts say, is whether the arts make people smarter or whether smart people simply gravitate to the arts.” “While the report still doesn’t provide any definitive answers to the arts-makes-you-smarter question, it sounds a final death knell to
the myth that students are either right- or left-brained learners. It also offers hints on how arts learning might conceivably spill over into other academic domains.” Other studies in the mix also suggest a link between music learning and speaking fluency in second-language (p. 10). … “What we are seeing here is that we have quantitative data that confirm our assumptions about the interrelationships in the way children learn … And the purpose of education is to realize the full human potential of every child (p. 11).


2008 She’s trying something new — a longitudinal action-research project to equip her teachers to use arts as learning resources. By helping teachers link authentic arts learning with English language learning, the project will support teachers in building arts and teaching skills to better engage the neediest students. They’ll learn to use arts to motivate thinking, speaking, reading and writing and, beyond motivation, to make students’ learning visible so teachers can better target instruction to individual needs. The county superintendent is impressed, and she’s bringing all 18 superintendents in the county together to consider such arts-infused strategies (p. 14).


2007 The principal observed, “It is the only opportunity for some of those children to attach meaning to what we’re doing … Because they’re not understanding the language … it’s hard for them to read a fifth grade content book, their reading level may not be fifth grade content, but they see it, they do it, they act it out, it’s fun, it’s engaging, they remember it. They’re able to attach meaning to that and build on their experiences” (p. 36-37).


2007 Students at Opening Minds through the Arts (OMA) schools have significantly higher scores in math, reading, and writing than non-OMA students. The arts have closed the gap between minority and white students (p. 6).

Opening Minds Through the Arts is an arts integration project currently being implemented in the Tucson Unified School District in Arizona. The OMA® Project was developed around brain-based learning theories designed to impact at-risk children and significantly increase student achievement. The goal of OMA® is to help all students succeed by actively supporting and positively engaging students in all subjects through the arts. http://www.ed.gov/news/av/video/edtv/2004/0503-resources.html


2007 Escondido, CA. K-5 multilingual students made significant gains in English and comprehension with arts integration. The SAUVE program received a development and dissemination grant in 2003 (p. 6).

The California Center for the Arts, Escondido Foundation (The Center), will implement project, SUAVE: A Model Approach to Teaching English Language Learners Through the Arts. The project will further develop, evaluate, and disseminate its
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nationally recognized model arts learning program SUAVE (Socios Unidos Para Artes Via Educación—“United Communities for Arts in Education”). The SUAVE project, a collaborative venture of The Center, Cal State San Marcos, and local partner school districts, is an educational and cultural partnership designed to infuse the arts into core curriculum instruction in multicultural and multilingual settings. SUAVE pairs The Center’s resident artists, called “arts coaches,” with classroom teachers to develop strategies that integrate multiple disciplines—visual arts, music, dance, theater—into instruction of core subjects such as language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies, as well as to develop knowledge of the arts in and of themselves.

SUAVE will support activities for three purposes:
* Document and research learning outcomes using a randomized experimental design for students who experience arts-infused core English Language instruction;
* further refine already demonstrated elements of SUAVE as a professional development program for teachers; and
* Disseminate SUAVE best practices on a regional and national level at a conference on Arts Learning in 2004, SUAVE’s 10th anniversary, with the goal of improving opportunities for the expansion of the role of the arts in pre-K to 12 schools.

The project will involve more than 50 teachers and 1,500 students over a three-year period from five school sites at two school districts, one inner city and one rural, in North San Diego County with substantial numbers of at-risk English language learners (ranging from 28% to 80%). http://www.ed.gov/programs/artsedmodel/2003awards.html

2007 Arts integration is significantly related to gains in reading scores for students in grades 3-5 and is more effective for English language learners and students from low socioeconomic homes (p. 10).

2007 An ArtsPartners school, Hogg Elementary students—mostly ELLs from poor neighborhoods—are turning out writing like advantaged students. By fourth grade they write like sixth graders (p. 10).

Generalized Student Achievement

2008 “In 2000, the Arts Education Partnership, together with the President’s Committee on the Arts and Humanities, published a groundbreaking report called “Champions of Change.” According to the report, research shows that learners can reach higher levels of achievement through their engagement with the arts. In addition, learning in and through the arts can help level the playing field for disadvantaged youth (p. 34).
2008 In *More Than Words Can Say*, Joan Livermore argues that the arts “can facilitate personal and social development. Learning in other curriculum areas and the development of a range of skills and understandings that can be applied in vocational and other life situations.” … important cognitive and social processes and capabilities are developed in and through arts-learning experiences (p. 104). (Gibson, R. & Anderson, M. (2008). Touching the void: arts education research in Australia. *Asia Pacific Journal of Education, 28, 1*, 103-122.)

2008 Arnold Aprill, Executive Director of the Chicago Arts Partnership in Education (CAPE), makes the claim that “the arts do indeed increase student achievement when achievement is conceived of in rich and complex ways, and when the authentic connections between the arts and the rest of learning are acknowledged and developed over time” (p. 104). (Gibson, R. & Anderson, M. (2008). Touching the void: arts education research in Australia. *Asia Pacific Journal of Education, 28, 1*, 103-122.)


2008 Art-integrated programs are associated with academic gains across the curriculum as reflected in standardized test scores. Further, these programs appear to have a more powerful effect on the achievement of struggling students than more conventional arts education programs targeting the more advanced students (p. 14). (Gullatt, D. E. (2008). Enhancing student learning through arts integration: Implications for the profession. The University of North Carolina Press. 12-25.)

2008 “In 2006, Scottish Executive Social Research published “Arts and Employability,” which investigated the effect of an arts education on later employability by examining longitudinal data of nearly 12,000 young people. The most intriguing empirical findings include these:

* The rate of employment appears higher among young people leaving school at a later stage who took arts subjects, compared to those who did not take arts subjects; and
* Students who took at least two arts subjects at standard grade tended to have a higher rate of employment than those who took only one arts subject.

The data also show that taking arts courses in school benefits occupations that do not require secondary education:
* Among young people leaving school at the earliest opportunity, employability is generally higher for those who had studied arts subjects;
* Students who leave school at an early stage after having taken arts subjects are less likely to find themselves in a negative labor market position three years later, compared to the average young person leaving school early; and
* Young people who had studied music or graphic communication are among the most employable of those who leave school at the earliest opportunity.

The report offers an encouraging assessment of the importance of an arts education to workforce development: “[Y]oung people from lower socioeconomic backgrounds gaining confidence at school, as demonstrated by drama or music students, are more likely to enjoy higher salaries and enter professional or managerial jobs” (p. 28). (Lynch, R. L. (2008). Creating a brighter workforce with the arts. School Administrator, 65, 3, 26-30.)

2008 “I think the work done here suggests a much closer connection between the cognitive processes that give rise to the arts and the cognitive processes that give rise to the sciences.” … the Dana Foundation of New York City in 2004 brought together neuroscientists and cognitive psychologists from seven universities to launch a broad program of studies looking at how experience in dance, music, theater, and visual arts might spill over into other areas of learning, and to explore possible mechanisms for those links in the anatomy of the brain—even at the genetic level. Left unsettled, experts say, is whether the arts make people smarter or whether smart people simply gravitate to the arts. … While the report still doesn’t provide any definitive answers to the arts-makes-you-smarter question, it sounds a final death knell to the myth that students are either right- or left-brained learners. It also offers hints on how arts learning might conceivably spill over into other academic domains. … students who came to the study with more musical training tended to make faster gains in reading fluency than did students with no musical backgrounds. … “Listening carefully to other sounds has long been thought to be important to the development of phonological awareness and reading fluency.” … the Stanford researchers also found preliminary evidence suggesting a link between visual-arts lessons outside of school and children’s skill at math calculations, possibly because both activities involve recognizing patterns. … middle and high school students who studied music intensively, typically because they were enrolled in special schools for the arts, were better than students with little or no musical training at tasks involving basic geometric skills, but not at tasks involving other kinds of fundamental mathematical systems, such as basic number representation. Other studies in the mix also suggest a link between music training and skill at manipulating information in both long term and working memory; between music learning and speaking fluency in second-language learning; and dance and the ability to learn by observing movement. Training in acting, also appears to lead to memory improvement. One way that arts learning might lead to improved thinking skills … might be in motivation students to pay attention (p. 10). … Spatial skills and other nonverbal IQ skills did improve in the music students over the course of the eight-week study, but that was also true for the children who got attention training and the Head Start children who worked in small groups. Only the children in the large Head Start class failed to make any
progress in those areas. … “What we are seeing here is that we have quantitative data that confirm our assumptions about the interrelationships in the way children learn,” said poet Dana Gioia, the chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, at the Dana conference. “And the purpose of education is to realize the full human potential of every child” (p. 11).


2007 SAT scores for students who studied visual art are 47 points higher in math and 31 points for the verbal portion over nonarts students. Students with music backgrounds averaged 49 points higher on combined scores. Students with drama and dance backgrounds scored 44 points and 27 points higher, respectively. See SAT Results at www.collegeboard.com (p. 10).


2007 A solid body of evidence correlates meaningful teaching through the arts with higher academic achievement and desirable personal and social behaviors (p. 34).


2007 As more teachers use the motivation and communication powers of the arts, reports of increased concentration, more cooperation, better comprehension, and greater self-discipline among students are on the rise (p. 34).


2007 …dozens of studies are finding the same thing: Significant arts involvement changes how children think and how they feel about learning. That fact is reflected in test scores and in vast quantities of survey, interview, observation, and anecdotal evidence (p. 35).


2007 Academic Achievement as Measured by Test Scores
1. **Arts-involved students score higher than other students.** Differences range significantly from 16 to 18 percentage points (test scores). Students whose parents had lower incomes scored lower, but their scores were still significant.

2. **Greater arts integration yields higher test scores.** Longer and more intense work in the arts had more impact. This effect was particularly strong for low-income and ESL students.

3. **Academic achievement builds over time.** “Gain scores” (year-over-year comparisons) were significantly higher for third, fourth, and fifth graders in arts integrated classrooms.

4. **Arts experiences especially benefit “undereducated” students** (p. 35).

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2007 Thirty-seven arts-based CAPE schools outscored nonarts schools on the Illinois Test of Basic Skills and the Illinois State IGAP test (reading and math). By sixth grade, more than 60% of CAPE students were performing at grade level. This gain is sizable and significant. By ninth grade CAPE students were a full grade level higher than non-CAPE students in reading (p. 60).

2007 New York, Connecticut, Virginia, and South Carolina In a study of 2,000 students, grades 4-8, researchers found “significant relationships between rich in-school arts programs and creative, cognitive, and personal competencies needed for academic success” (p. 60).

2007 Dallas, TX. Partnership for Arts, Culture, and Education, Inc. (PACE) reports that integrating the arts into the core curriculum positively affects academic performance. Three urban elementsaries were studied. After 4 years, students in the integrated arts school had higher average standardized test scores in language arts than students from the other schools (p. 60).

2007 Bronx, NY. At St. Augustine School, 98% of students were at grade level after participating in an arts-integrated curriculum (p. 60).

2007 Charleston, SC. More than 90% of students in grades 1-3 have met basic skills standards in reading and math at Ashley River Creative Arts Elementary. Ninety-six percent meet basic standards in other subjects as well. These rates are about 10 percent higher than other South Carolina schools (p. 60).

2007 Augusta, GA. Students at the Redcliffe Elementary Arts Infusion School showed gains on the Stanford Achievement Test for each year of the project (p. 60).

2007 Chicago. Twenty-three arts-integrated CAPE schools showed test scores rising up to two times faster than in demographically comparable schools (p. 6).
2007 Test scores of arts-involved students are generally higher than those who aren’t. The arts help students “exercise your mind in unique ways.” See SAT Results at www.collegeboard.com (p. 6).

2007 A 3-year study of 2,000 students found a significant relationship between rich school arts programs and creative, cognitive, and personal competencies needed for academic success. The study suggests that transfer of learning involves “certain habits of mind which have salience across subject areas.” A key factor was to “invite thinking to travel back-and-forth across subject boundaries” (p. 6).

2007 Students in 130 arts-based Waldorf schools outperformed national averages on the SAT (p. 10).

2007 A meta-analysis of 30 studies showed students in arts integrated programs consistently outperformed those in traditional classrooms on national and states tests (p. 9).

2007 Dallas, Texas Four thousand five hundred teachers now integrate field trips and arts residencies into literacy, science, and social studies. More than 150 public schools work with museums, theatres, and other arts groups to boost academic achievement.
ArtsPartners teachers replace “drive-by art” field trips with learning tied to the state-mandated curriculum. Standardized tests who bigger strides in literacy, especially writing. Scores of students with the most arts involvement rose 10 points—as compared to 3 points for the control group (p. 10).

2006 Broadly understood as affective and expressive—not academic or cognitive—the arts survive at the margins of education as curriculum enrichments, rewards to good students, or electives for the talented. But evidence is now emerging that shows that arts education can have powerful effects on student achievement. Moreover, these effects may be most profound for struggling students (p. 60).
(Rabkin, N. & Redmond, R. (2006). The arts make a difference. Educational Leadership, 60-64.)

2006 Investigators who sliced and diced the massive National Education Longitudinal Study of 1988 (NELS: 88) database found a significant correlation growing over time, between arts participation and academic performance (p. 60).
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**2005** This publication reports case studies of ten schools that serve large percentages of at-risk students and use arts-integrated instruction to bring about student gains in various subjects, as well as to create an environment that is conducive to cognitive and social development. Researchers determined that arts-integrated learning experiences offered rich opportunities for developing higher order thinking skills. See Chapter 3: Thinking in the Arts. They also found that performance in the arts heightened students’ self-efficacy and engagement and awakened their desire to make a contribution. See Chapter 2: When Learning Matters.


**2005** ‘Students who received the Learning Through the Arts curriculum for one year attained significantly higher scores on their achievement tests than students who received the traditional curriculum’ (p. 4).

(Boyes, L. C. & Reid, I. (2005). What are the benefits for pupils participating in arts activities? The view from the research literature. *Research in Education, 73*, 1-14.)

**2005** Arts impact research suggests that is it exposure to arts experiences that can generate attendant success in other non-arts areas (p. 4).

(Boyes, L. C. & Reid, I. (2005). What are the benefits for pupils participating in arts activities? The view from the research literature. *Research in Education, 73*, 1-14.)

**2005** Music training enhances verbal memory in both adult musicians and children. Music training has also been shown to raise IQ modestly consistent with a report by Gardiner, Fox, Knowles, and Jeffrey (1996) that children receiving both art and music instructions improved on standardized test scores. Further, children with dyslexia have been found to improve on phonemic awareness and spelling tests after only 15 weeks of rhythm-based music training (p. 125-126).


**2004** This article summarizes four studies (Champions of Change: The Impact of the Arts on Learning; Critical Links: Learning in the Arts and Student Academic and Social Development; Creativity, Culture, Education and the Workforce; and The National Assessment of Educational Progress 1997 Arts Report Card) in which arts education is shown to foster problem-solving and creative-thinking skills in students, as well as encourage increased self-confidence and empathy.


**2001** “Champions of Change: The Impact of the Arts on Learning”: They report a wide range of positive impacts of arts learning on the academic and personal success of the
In a quantitative synthesis of 188 studies, Winner and Hetland found few causal relationships between learning in the arts and improved academic achievement in other areas. The researchers discovered slight effects in some specific areas, such as a link between listening to music and improved spatial reasoning. But they caution educators not to get brainwashed by today’s testing mentality and not to claim that arts programs will raise kids test scores. Such unwarranted assumptions, they say, could cause the arts—dance and all—to be written out of the curriculum (p. 32).


This publication makes a strong case, based on research, that the arts should be a core subject. Eric Jensen, an expert in brain-based teaching and learning, cites research suggesting that arts education helps decrease the number of dropouts, boosts attendance, instills team building skills, enhances creativity, and provides other benefits that influence academic and career success. He describes in detail how the arts aid learning. (Jensen, E. (2001). Arts with the brain in mind. Alexandria, VA: Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development. http://www.jlcbrain.com)

James Catterall, a UCLA researcher, studied 25,000 students in grades 8 to 10. He discovered that students “highly involved in arts programs” fare better in other subjects too and are “much less likely to drop out” of school or become uninterested in school life. Catterall’s study also shows that students from low-income families who participate in arts experiences are more likely to do better academically than those who do not. Not only do students’ attitudes, attendance, abilities, and grades dramatically improve when the arts become part of their school life, but “research shows that arts education programs result in measurable gains in student motivation and achievement in reading, writing, and mathematics”—exactly what traditional school proponents want to accomplish (p. 11).


This article details the intellectual, developmental, and creative skills identified by Elliot Eisner, Lee Jacks Professor of Education at Stanford University, as those strengthened through arts learning. Among the key cognitive skills revealed in the article, participation in the arts teaches children to examine qualitative relationships, manage problems with multiple solutions, take advantage of unexpected opportunities, and create within the confines of a material. (Eisner, E. (2000). Ten lessons the arts teach. Learning in the Arts: Crossing Boundaries. http://www.giarts.org/usr_doc/Learning.pdf)

This article summarizes the findings of the Reviewing Education and the Arts Project (REAP) by Harvard’s Project Zero. A search for all English language studies between 1950 and 1999 found that learning in the arts leads to academic improvement in
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2000 … when social class and prior attainment were controlled for, taking two-year art, drama, or music courses from fourteen to sixteen was not positively associated with examination performances in English and mathematics. Where such variables are not controlled for, it is maintained that any correlations disclose more about the characteristics of the pupils taking different arts-related courses than any purported impact on general academic performance (p. 51). (Harland, J. (2000). What research in the United Kingdom shows about transfer from the arts. In E. Winner & L. Hetland (Ed.), Beyond the soundbite: arts education and academic outcomes: conference proceedings from Beyond the soundbite: what the research actually shows about arts education and academic outcomes. Los Angeles, California: The Getty Center.)

1999 This article examines what makes the programs of Shakespeare & Company, a classical professional theatre organization that teaches Shakespeare in K-12 schools, so effective. Four major learning areas are identified from responses submitted by the nearly 800 students who participated in the study: Shakespeare and his language, acting, creative communities, and self as learner. Project Zero’s research indicates that reading and acting Shakespeare’s works promote confidence in interpreting various forms of complex text (including mathematical theorems), as well as a greater awareness of others and a sense of community between peers working toward a common goal. (Seidel, S. (1999). Stand and unfold yourself. Champions of change: The impact of the arts on learning. http://aep-arts.org/PDF%20Files/ChampsReport.pdf)

1995 This publication details various national studies in which arts education was shown to strengthen creativity and promote communication and problem-solving skills in students. In one notable study, creativity measures for students who participated in the SPECTRA+ Program were four times higher than their peers who did not participate in an arts curriculum. In addition, a review of 57 studies indicates that participation in the arts promotes a higher self-concept and improved social skills. (Murfee, E. (1995). Eloquent evidence: Arts at the core of learning. http://www.nasaa-arts.org/publications/eloquent.pdf)

Math

2008 “Champions of Change” also reports that sustained involvement in music and theater are highly correlated with success in mathematics and reading and that “the arts provide young people with authentic learning experiences that engage their minds, hearts and bodies” (p. 34).
2008 “I think the work done here suggests a much closer connection between the cognitive processes that give rise to the arts and the cognitive processes that give rise to the sciences” (Elizabeth S. Spelke, p.1). … the Dana Foundation of New York City in 2004 brought together neuroscientists and cognitive psychologists from seven universities to launch a broad program of studies looking at how experience in dance, music, theater, and visual arts might spill over into other areas of learning, and to explore possible mechanisms for those links in the anatomy of the brain—even at the genetic level. Left unsettled, experts say, is whether the arts make people smarter or whether smart people simply gravitate to the arts. “While the report still doesn’t provide any definitive answers to the arts-makes-you-smarter question, it sounds a final death knell to the myth that students are either right- or left-brained learners. It also offers hints on how arts learning might conceivably spill over into other academic domains.” … Researchers found preliminary evidence suggesting a link between visual-arts lessons outside of school and children’s skill at math calculations, possibly because both activities involve recognizing patterns. … Middle and high school students who studied music intensively, typically because they were enrolled in special schools for the arts, were better than students with little or no musical training at tasks involving basic geometric skills, but not at tasks involving other kinds of fundamental mathematical systems, such as basic number representation (p. 10). “What we are seeing here is that we have quantitative data that confirm our assumptions about the interrelationships in the way children learn … And the purpose of education is to realize the full human potential of every child” (p. 11). (Viadero, D. (2008). Insights gained into arts and smarts. Education Week, 27, 27, 1-11.)
Structural brain changes but rather changes in cognitive strategy that help solve a problem; and that early targeted music training may lead to better cognition through an as yet unknown neural mechanism. All of those findings are rather remarkable and challenging.


2007 Music instruction develops math-related skills. Spatial reasoning and spatial-temporal reasoning skills used in music are fundamental to understanding and using mathematical ideas and concepts (p. 36).


2007 Students at Opening Minds through the Arts (OMA) schools have significantly higher scores in math, reading, and writing than non-OMA students. The arts have closed the gap between minority and white students (p. 6).

Opening Minds Through the Arts is an arts integration project currently being implemented in the Tucson Unified School District in Arizona. The OMA® Project was developed around brain-based learning theories designed to impact at-risk children and significantly increase student achievement. The goal of OMA® is to help all students succeed by actively supporting and positively engaging students in all subjects through the arts. http://www.ed.gov/news/av/video/edtv/2004/0503-resources.html


2007 South Carolina. Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC) evaluators analyzed 3 years of state tests in English/Language Arts and math. They found a steady increase in the percent of students identified as proficient or advanced in ABC schools, as compared to the comparison group (p. 6).


2007 A 3-year study of more than 6,000 elementary students in Learning to Read Through the Arts showed an 11 point increase in math in the 170 schools. Literacy scores remained the same, but students reported being happier about school and researchers saw them as more engaged (p. 10).


2007 Hamilton, OH. Students involved in the SPECTRA arts program made more gains in reading vocabulary, comprehension, and math than a control. Creativity measures were four times higher and gains held during a second-year evaluation (p. 6).

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2005 Arts-participating experimental groups made ‘gains in mathematics achievement that were statistically significant (p. 3). (Boyces, L. C. & Reid, I. (2005). What are the benefits for pupils participating in arts activities? The view from the research literature. Research in Education, 73, 1-14.)

2005 In addition, Hetland and Winner found two areas where there was equivocal support: learning to play music and math, dance and non-verbal reasoning. Although they found some evidence, they found no generalisable, reliable causal links for the following oft-cited ‘results’ of arts participation: arts and verbal/math scores; arts and creative thinking; learning to play music and reading; visual arts and reading, and lastly between dance and reading. These authors emphasis that arts participation may well add value to non-arts academic outcomes, but that it is dangerous to justify inclusion of the arts by supposed secondary non-arts effects—the arts should be of value in their own right (p. 8). (Boyces, L. C. & Reid, I. (2005). What are the benefits for pupils participating in arts activities? The view from the research literature. Research in Education, 73, 1-14.)

2005 Previous research has demonstrated that music training enhances visual-spatial abilities in young children. Music training appears to enhance performance on the WISC-III Object Assembly, a task that requires mental rotation, but has no effect on Raven’s Progressive Matrices, a task considered non-spatial. The ability to copy geometric forms which requires coordination between visual perception and motor planning, has also been found to be enhanced by music training (p. 125).

2005 … studies have also shown that music training can have positive effects on motor skills. The tapping rate of both the right and the left index fingers was shown to be faster in musicians than in non-musicians, and the tapping rate of the non-dominant hand was found to increase with training. This higher tapping rate in keyboard players also correlated with a greater intrasulcal length of the posterior precentral gyrus (a gross marker of primary motor cortex size). Taken together, the research suggests that music training may have positive effects on spatial, mathematical, verbal, and motoric ability (p. 126).

2001 Reliable Causal Links Based on Very Few Studies Learning to Play Music and Mathematics: Based on 6 reports (6 effect sizes), a small causal relationship was found between music training and math. However, while 3 of these studies produced medium effects, 3 produced either very small effects or none at all. If the two studies measuring pre-school math rather than school math had not been included (because these were measures of spatial recognition and perception), a reliable effect would have resulted. However, more studies are needed before any firm conclusions can be drawn (p. 4).
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**2001 Areas Where No Reliable Causal Links Were Found**

*Arts-Rich Education and Verbal and Mathematics Scores/Grades:* Based on 31 reports (66 effect sizes), a small to medium correlation was found between studying the arts and academic achievement as measured primarily by test scores. However, no evidence was found that studying the arts causes academic indicators to improve. The correlational findings can be explained by non-causal mechanisms. For example, high achieving students (no matter what their ethnic or racial group, no matter what their social class) may choose or be guided to study the arts. This would then result in the finding that students who take arts courses are also high-achieving, high test-scoring students (p. 4-5). (Hetland, L. & Winner, E. (2001). The arts and academic achievement: What the evidence shows. *Arts Education Policy Review, 102*, 5-6.)

**2003** According to a new and comprehensive research report, good arts programs in elementary and middle schools not only build skills needed to learn other subjects, including reading, writing, and math, but motivate students to learn—particularly those at risk of failure (p. 15). (Deasy, R. J. (2003). Let there be music … and ART … and P.E.: Don’t axe the arts! *Principal, 14*-18.)

**2003** The report (Critical Links) and its interpretive essays reveal some important relationships between learning in the arts and academic and social skills in the following major areas:

*Mathematics.* Certain types of music instruction develop spatial reasoning and the spatial-temporal reasoning skills that are integral to understanding and using mathematical ideas and concepts (p. 16). (Deasy, R. J. (2003). Let there be music … and ART … and P.E.: Don’t axe the arts! *Principal, 14*-18.)

**2000** Music to Maths

Once social class and prior attainment in maths were controlled for, there was no significant positive association between taking courses in music or participation in extra curricular music and GCSE performance in maths. Art and drama attracted more references to transfers to learning in other subjects than music. Only one of the latter cited a transfer to maths: … music and maths. It might not seem like it, but you have to time bars and things and add them up and that process helps you in other subjects (year seven) (p. 52). (Harland, J. (2000). What research in the United Kingdom shows about transfer from the arts. In E. Winner & L. Hetland (Ed.), *Beyond the soundbite: arts education and academic outcomes: conference proceedings from Beyond the soundbite: what the research actually shows about arts education and academic outcomes*. Los Angeles, California: The Getty Center.)
“I think the work done here suggests a much closer connection between the cognitive processes that give rise to the arts and the cognitive processes that give rise to the sciences.” … the Dana Foundation of New York City in 2004 brought together neuroscientists and cognitive psychologists from seven universities to launch a broad program of studies looking at how experience in dance, music, theater, and visual arts might spill over into other areas of learning, and to explore possible mechanisms for those links in the anatomy of the brain—even at the genetic level. Left unsettled, experts say, is whether the arts make people smarter or whether smart people simply gravitate to the arts. … While the report still doesn’t provide any definitive answers to the arts-makes-you-smarter question, it sounds a final death knell to the myth that students are either right- or left-brained learners. It also offers hints on how arts learning might conceivably spill over into other academic domains. … Other studies in the mix also suggest a link between music training and skill at manipulating information in both long term and working memory; … Training in acting, also appears to lead to memory improvement (p. 10). … “What we are seeing here is that we have quantitative data that confirm our assumptions about the interrelationships in the way children learn … And the purpose of education is to realize the full human potential of every child” (p. 11).


In 2004, the Dana Arts and Cognition Consortium brought together cognitive neuroscientists from seven universities across the United States to grapple with the question of why arts training has been associated with higher academic performance. Is it simply that smart people are drawn to “do” art—to study and perform music, dance, drama—or does early arts training cause changes in the brain that enhance other important aspects of cognition? … Here is a summary of what the group has learned:

- Specific links exist between high levels of music training and the ability to manipulate information in both working and long-term memory; these links extend beyond the domain of music training.
- Training in acting appears to lead to memory improvement through the learning of general skills for manipulating semantic information.

Although scientists must constantly warn of the need to distinguish between correlation and causation, it is important to realize that neuroscience often begins with correlations—usually, the discovery that a certain kind of brain activity works in concert with a certain kind of behavior. … Many of the studies cited here tighten up correlations that have been noted before, thereby laying the groundwork for unearthing true causal explanations through understanding biological and brain mechanisms that may underlie those relationships.

… In my judgment, this project has identified candidate genes involved in the predisposition to the arts and has also shown that cognitive improvements can be to specific mental capacities such as geometric reasoning; that specific pathways in the brain can be identified and potentially changed during training; that sometimes it is not structural brain changes but rather changes in cognitive strategy that help solve a problem; and that early targeted music training may lead to better cognition through an as
yet unknown neural mechanism. All of those findings are rather remarkable and challenging.


2005 Music training enhances verbal memory in both adult musicians and children. Music training has also been shown to raise IQ modestly consistent with a report by Gardiner, Fox, Knowles, and Jeffrey (1996) that children receiving both art and music instructions improved on standardized test scores. Further, children with dyslexia have been found to improve on phonemic awareness and spelling tests after only 15 weeks of rhythm-based music training (p. 125-126).


Motivation

2008 Compilations of more than 60 peer-reviewed independent studies published in recent years by the national Arts Education Partnership have begun to provide research-based answers to these questions. The studies identify the cognitive capacities — habits of mind and personal dispositions — that are developed as students tackle the specific challenges of an art form: the choreography and movements of a dance; the composition and performance of a piece of music; the script and acting of a drama; the design and creation of a painting or sculpture; the writing and performance of an opera. As students learn the content, processes and techniques specific to each of these art forms, they are at the same time developing and applying these capacities.

* Engagement and achievement motivation. Imagining and pursuing a personal vision is profoundly engaging. It’s an act of self expression and an act of communicating meaning and feelings to other. Students become goal-oriented and self-directed (p. 14).

(Deasy, R.J. (2008). Why the arts deserve center stage. School Administrator, 65, 3, 12-17.)

2008 “I think the work done here suggests a much closer connection between the cognitive processes that give rise to the arts and the cognitive processes that give rise to the sciences” (Elizabeth S. Spelke, p. 1). … the Dana Foundation of New York City in 2004 brought together neuroscientists and cognitive psychologists from seven universities to launch a broad program of studies looking at how experience in dance, music, theater, and visual arts might spill over into other areas of learning, and to explore possible mechanisms for those links in the anatomy of the brain—even at the genetic level. “Left unsettled, experts say, is whether the arts make people smarter or whether smart people simply gravitate to the arts.” While the report still doesn’t provide any definitive answers to the arts-makes-you-smarter question, it sounds a final death knell to the myth that students are either right- or left-brained learners. It also offers hints on how
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Arts learning might conceivably spill over into other academic domains. … One way that arts learning might lead to improved thinking skills … might be in motivation students to pay attention (p. 10). …”What we are seeing here is that we have quantitative data that confirm our assumptions about the interrelationships in the way children learn … And the purpose of education is to realize the full human potential of every child” (p. 11).


2008 In 2004, the Dana Arts and Cognition Consortium brought together cognitive neuroscientists from seven universities across the United States to grapple with the question of why arts training has been associated with higher academic performance. Is it simply that smart people are drawn to “do” art—to study and perform music, dance, drama—or does early arts training cause changes in the brain that enhance other important aspects of cognition? … Here is a summary of what the group has learned:

—-An interest in a performing art leads to a high state of motivation that produces the sustained attention necessary to improve performance and the training of attention that leads to improvement in other domains of cognition.

Although scientists must constantly warn of the need to distinguish between correlation and causation, it is important to realize that neuroscience often begins with correlations—usually, the discovery that a certain kind of brain activity works in concert with a certain kind of behavior. … Many of the studies cited here tighten up correlations that have been noted before, thereby laying the groundwork for unearthing true causal explanations through understanding biological and brain mechanisms that may underlie those relationships.

… In my judgment, this project has identified candidate genes involved in the predisposition to the arts and has also shown that cognitive improvements can be to specific mental capacities such as geometric reasoning; that specific pathways in the brain can be identified and potentially changed during training; that sometimes it is not structural brain changes but rather changes in cognitive strategy that help solve a problem; and that early targeted music training may lead to better cognition through an as yet unknown neural mechanism. All of those findings are rather remarkable and challenging.


2008 Many students are engaged by arts instruction, and when students are engaged their overall motivation to learn improves.


2007 As Richard Riley, former Secretary of Education, put it, “The arts teach young people how to learn by giving them the first step: the desire to learn” (p. 15).

2007 Studies of successful people show that persistence pays off; the arts increase persistence. Persistence derives from motivation; in arts-based schools it becomes apparent that it wasn’t that students couldn’t learn—it was that they wouldn’t. The arts make students want to learn. What’s more, students become more resilient to setbacks when they have the opportunity to learn through arts-based inquiry lessons that emphasize experimentation and learning from mistakes (p. 34).

2007 Motivation to pursue and sustain learning is essential to achievement. Learning in the arts nurtures motivation through active engagement, boosting self-confidence and self-efficacy. These increase attendance, educational aspirations, and ownership of learning. Arts-based teaching makes learning more equitable by broadening access to understanding and ways to express meaning (p. 36).

2005 Art can be a powerful motivational tool to those who are successful. It can provide the impetus to succeed in other areas of school work …. Participating in an art activity is generally a joyful experience for a child, regardless of his academic achievement level… Peer group acceptance through artwork builds self-esteem in the child who feels accepted and important (p. 4-5).
(Boyes, L. C. & Reid, I. (2005). What are the benefits for pupils participating in arts activities? The view from the research literature. *Research in Education, 73*, 1-14.)

2003 The report (Critical Links) and its interpretive essays reveal some important relationships between learning in the arts and academic and social skills in the following major areas:

*Motivation.* The arts nurture motivation to learn by emphasizing active engagement, disciplined and sustained attention, persistence, and risk-taking. Participation in the arts also tends to increase attendance and students’ educational aspirations (p. 16).
(Deasy, R. J. (2003). Let there be music … and ART … and P.E.: Don’t axe the arts! *Principal, 14*-18.)

2000 It is likely that when reading instruction is integrated with arts instruction, children become more motivated to read. This could occur if (as is likely) young children find arts activities engaging. This analysis provided some support for the hypothesis that an art-reading curriculum does work to improve reading, and that such curricula are more effective than traditional reading curricula. However, this conclusion is limited by the fact that we cannot reliably generalize this result to new studies, probably because of the small number of studies combined (p. 291).
2000 Our first meta-analysis showed that when art instruction is not integrated with reading, such instruction has no effect on reading achievement scores, but has a moderate effect on reading readiness scores. Given that reading readiness tests are visual in nature, this finding demonstrates a near form of transfer. … Perhaps arts instruction helps children to focus their visual attention and pay attention to form and detail, skills that may then help children on a visual kind of readiness test. Whether this heightened performance of a reading readiness test as a function of arts instruction leads to later reading achievement remains to be determined. This is an important question for future research (p. 291).

Problem Solving

2008 Harland et al. (2000) suggest that art education outcomes range from the most intrinsic, such as enjoyment and personal achievement in the arts themselves, to related effects, such as the development of creativity and divergent thinking, and their extrinsic transfer to other curriculum areas. According to Bower, teaching the arts to students “has been linked to better visual thinking, problem solving, language and creativity … by learning and practicing art, the human brain actually wires itself to make stronger connections” (p. 104).

2008 Because living and functioning in the world is a complex activity, students should be encouraged to participate in the process from multiple perspectives. The arts can also assist students with new ways to view and appreciate opportunities for interaction within the world around them. The arts can enable students to comprehend that there are many ways of problem solving. If one perspective does not meet a particular need for comprehension, students realize that they can approach the comprehension problem from another direction utilizing the arts (p. 21).

2008 Compilations of more than 60 peer-reviewed independent studies published in recent years by the national Arts Education Partnership have begun to provide research-based answers to these questions. The studies identify the cognitive capacities — habits of mind and personal dispositions — that are developed as students tackle the specific challenges of an art form: the choreography and movements of a dance; the composition and performance of a piece of music; the script and acting of a drama; the design and creation of a painting or sculpture; the writing and performance of an opera. As students learn the content, processes and techniques specific to each of these art forms, they are at the same time developing and applying these capacities.
*Conditional reasoning. As a painting instructor once told me, “You don’t start until you have an image of where you are going.” Nor do you write a song or a play word by word. You have to have an idea or story in mind of what you want to make and be prepared to adjust it as you go along. This is conditional reasoning, proceeding by trial and error. It’s theorizing about actions, outcomes and consequences, defining and generating optional approaches and solutions to problems and conditions (p. 14-15).

(Deasy, R.J. (2008). Why the arts deserve center stage. School Administrator, 65, 3, 12-17.)

2008 Our recent research at Project Zero, a research and development group at Harvard’s Graduate School of Education, shows that serious instruction in visual arts — and teachers of music, dance and drama suggest that these benefits extend across the arts — teaches habits of higher-order thinking that help students develop capacities to recognize the hidden roots of problems, make careful choices in ambiguous circumstances and seek and synthesize the resources necessary to solve problems in novel ways. High-quality arts education helps students develop important critical and creative thinking that is underdeveloped when schools dedicate themselves only to students’ success on tests (p. 14).


2008 The research, reported in “Studio Thinking: The Real Benefits of Visual Arts Education” by this author, shows that arts help students find important problems and persist toward their solutions. Arts teach envisioning, observing, informed risk-taking, learning from mistakes and comfort with uncertainty. They emphasize collaboration, expression, reflection and articulation of deeply held ideas (p. 14).


2007 The arts develop the courage to take risks and experiment. Pride in one’s unique contributions develops as teachers and peers positively respond to efforts. The arts create confidence in one’s ability to do original problem solving. Confidence increases willingness to take more risks and be more flexible (p. 20).


2007 Involvement in the arts prepares students to solve future problems by encouraging risk taking, experimentation, and freedom to fail. Finding multiple solutions, trying new ideas, and capitalizing on mistakes are artistic orientations. As Aristotle observed, “Art loves chance. He who errs willingly is the artist” (p. 23).


2000 Art, for example, attracted low scores for thinking and problem-solving skills, but high scores for creativity, experimentation and imagination. Drama also registered a high number of nominations for imagination, but had proportionately fewer for creativity, although more for thinking and problem-solving skills. Dance was similarly high on
imagination, but low on thinking and problem solving skills. Although attracting some references to thinking and problem-solving skills, music was comparatively low for creativity, experimentation, and imagination. In addition to such variations between art forms, the data suggested that the type and level of creativity outcomes varied according to differences in teacher pedagogies and course content (p. 54).

(Harland, J. (2000). What research in the United Kingdom shows about transfer from the arts. In E. Winner & L. Hetland (Ed.), Beyond the soundbite: arts education and academic outcomes: conference proceedings from Beyond the soundbite: what the research actually shows about arts education and academic outcomes. Los Angeles, California: The Getty Center.)

**Reading**

2008 “Champions of Change” also reports that sustained involvement in music and theater are highly correlated with success in mathematics and reading and that “the arts provide young people with authentic learning experiences that engage their minds, hearts and bodies” (p. 34).


2008 Readers Theater is an example of a dramatic technique used to facilitate reading instruction. Through the reenactment of a selected story, students not only became familiar with the plot, setting, characters and other story elements, but also the fluency of the story. Students who were instructed using this technique scored significantly higher on tests of reading fluency than those that did not receive instruction in this technique (p. 19).


2008 Researchers note that literature comes to life in more exciting ways through the arts. When students use the visual arts, dramatic reenactments, and groups discussion, the text becomes more meaningful to them (p. 21).


2008 Since the program began, students at Pateros School have increased their scores on the Washington Assessment of Student Learning. Reading scores for fourth-grade students have risen from 56 percent in 2002 to 95 percent in 2006. Seventh-grade reading scores rose from 46 percent to 61 percent, and tenth-grade scores climbed from 48 percent to 92 percent (p. 10).


2008 “I think the work done here suggests a much closer connection between the cognitive processes that give rise to the arts and the cognitive processes that give rise to
the sciences.” … the Dana Foundation of New York City in 2004 brought together neuroscientists and cognitive psychologists from seven universities to launch a broad program of studies looking at how experience in dance, music, theater, and visual arts might spill over into other areas of learning, and to explore possible mechanisms for those links in the anatomy of the brain—even at the genetic level. Left unsettled, experts say, is whether the arts make people smarter or whether smart people simply gravitate to the arts. While the report still doesn’t provide any definitive answers to the arts-makes-you-smarter question, it sounds a final death knell to the myth that students are either right- or left-brained learners. It also offers hints on how arts learning might conceivably spill over into other academic domains. … “Listening carefully to other sounds has long been thought to be important to the development of phonological awareness and reading fluency” (p. 10) … “What we are seeing here is that we have quantitative data that confirm our assumptions about the interrelationships in the way children learn … And the purpose of education is to realize the full human potential of every child” (p. 11).


2008 In 2004, the Dana Arts and Cognition Consortium brought together cognitive neuroscientists from seven universities across the United States to grapple with the question of why arts training has been associated with higher academic performance. Is it simply that smart people are drawn to “do” art—to study and perform music, dance, drama—or does early arts training cause changes in the brain that enhance other important aspects of cognition? … Here is a summary of what the group has learned:

— Correlations exist between music training and both reading acquisition and sequence learning. One of the central predictors of early literacy, phonological awareness, is correlated with both music training and the development of a specific brain pathway.

Although scientists must constantly warn of the need to distinguish between correlation and causation, it is important to realize that neuroscience often begins with correlations—usually, the discovery that a certain kind of brain activity works in concert with a certain kind of behavior. … Many of the studies cited here tighten up correlations that have been noted before, thereby laying the groundwork for unearthing true causal explanations through understanding biological and brain mechanisms that may underlie those relationships.

… In my judgment, this project has identified candidate genes involved in the predisposition to the arts and has also shown that cognitive improvements can be to specific mental capacities such as geometric reasoning; that specific pathways in the brain can be identified and potentially changed during training; that sometimes it is not structural brain changes but rather changes in cognitive strategy that help solve a problem; and that early targeted music training may lead to better cognition through an as yet unknown neural mechanism. All of those findings are rather remarkable and challenging.

... recent research suggests that the stark choice between academics and the arts is a false dichotomy. In fact, recent research suggests a direct and systematic link between art experiences and literacy skills. For example, Kennedy (2006) described a study of a Guggenheim Museum art project: “Students in the program performed better in six categories of literacy and critical thinking skills—including thorough description, hypothesizing and reasoning—than did students who were not in the program.” (p. 80) (Reeves, D. (2007). Academics and the arts. Educational Leadership, 80-81.)


2007 The arts offer additional ways to understand and represent ideas and feelings. This includes improved language and literacy skills related to use of drama and music. For example, dramatic enactments of stories and text improve writing, reading comprehension, and ability to read materials not seen before. The effects are even more significant for children from economically disadvantaged circumstances and those with reading difficulties. Planning and organizing skills inherent in music are parallel with planning and producing writing (p. 36). (Cornett, C. E. (2007). Creating meaning through literature and the arts. (3rd ed.) Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson Merrill Prentice Hall.)

2007 South Carolina. Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC) evaluators analyzed 3 years of state tests in English/Language Arts and math. They found a steady increase in the percent of students identified as proficient or advanced in ABC schools, as compared to the comparison group (p. 6). (Cornett, C. E. (2007). Creating meaning through literature and the arts. (3rd ed.) Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson Merrill Prentice Hall.)

2007 Hamilton, OH. Students involved in the SPECTRA arts program made more gains in reading vocabulary, comprehension, and math than a control. Creativity measures were four times higher and gains held during a second-year evaluation (p. 6).
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2005 The lack of pre-existing correlation makes it more likely that the kinds of skills that have been reported in children who have studied music are an outcome of music training. … studies reported that musical tasks activate language areas and vice versa, suggesting that music and language share neural substrates. Similar associations between musical aptitude and literacy have been found by others. In addition, there are studies that have associated pitch pattern recognition with reading skills (p. 131).

2005 This publication reports case studies of ten schools that serve large percentages of at-risk students and use arts-integrated instruction to bring about student gains in various subjects, including English Language Arts. Researchers found that by tapping the innate desire to convey personal meaning, these schools have helped students to understand the importance of communication and to want actively to improve their skills in reading, speaking, and writing. Connecting learning to students’ background experiences is central to this process. Specifically, the research revealed three essential connections: (1) Students learn to make connections between their own experiences and the ability and willingness to explain complex texts and to explore multiple perspectives. (2) Students come to understand the parallels between language arts and other arts forms, such as drama and visual art, in conveying similar ideas, themes, and experiences. (3) Students’ understanding of the significance and power of the writing process develops their own willingness to exercise literacy skills. These findings are supported both by naturalistic data and student gains on standardized achievement tests. See especially Chapter 4: Arts, Literacy, and Communication.

2004 This article explains that literacy is a complex, multilayered process for making meaning by working with various symbol systems. Each child uses those systems that are preferred or seem most natural. No system works alone; rather, all work together in a kind of inter-textual network. In the upper grades, the opportunities that are afforded to a learner to draw from experiences in one domain and apply them to another domain are critical to deep learning and understanding. Other critical issues in the upper grades include the connection of a learner’s school experiences to personal identity, individual culture, and family.

2004 This article summarizes various studies, including those in Critical Links, which explore connections between learning in music and drama and development in literacy
and language. Notes that both music and language are composed of symbol systems that possess common characteristics and that both employ spatial-temporal reasoning. Highlights the role of dramatic activities in strengthening text comprehension and writing proficiency.  

2004 This article explains that literacy is a complex, multilayered process for making meaning by working with various symbol systems. Each child uses those systems that are preferred or that seem most natural. No system works alone; rather, all work together in a kind of inter-textual network. In the upper grades, the opportunities that are afforded a learner to draw from experiences in one domain and apply them to another domain are critical to deep learning and understanding. Other critical issues in the upper grades include the connection of a learner’s school experiences to personal identity, individual culture, and family.  

2003 This article finds that drama and theatre can increase the “social capital” of learners by improving their mastery of standard English via metacognitive strategies.  
(Kempe, A. (2003). The role of drama in the teaching of speaking and listening as the basis for social capital. Research in Drama Education. http://journalsonline.tandf.co.uk/media/3aa8luxhxndyyv14gp81/contributions/k/k14fp7egnv30gy1x.pdf.)

2002 This article details the findings of the 1993 National Household Education Survey, which analyzed factors that affect the cognitive readiness of four-year-old preschool students. Of the preschoolers in the national sample considered at-risk, those who participated in culture-related activities tended to have higher levels of cognitive development and lower variability in cognitive readiness.  

2002 This article provides a compendium of research studies exploring the potential for transfer to occur in the context of arts learning. The most compelling evidence of opportunities for transfer—the theory that learning in one academic area can assist learning in another area—is cited in studies concerning the impact of drama on story understanding, reading comprehension and topical writing and those suggesting a relationship between music and the development of spatial reasoning abilities. Suggests that more research must be done in the areas of visual arts and dance.  
This publication shows how the arts can help students develop the essential understanding of metaphors, symbols, and analogies and their potential for communication of ideas. (Efland, A. (2002). *Art and cognition*. New York: Teachers College.)

This publication explains the neurodevelopmental research of the author, who has found that students bring unique combinations of strengths and challenges to school. Understanding these differences can help teachers meet students’ needs. Often children may be perplexed by what appears to be their failure to fit a “norm.” Through a process he calls “demystification,” Levine helps individual children to understand that each has a unique set of strengths, as well as areas where additional help is needed. (Levine, M. (2002). *A mind at a time*. New York: Simon & Schuster.)

This publication explains that learning in the arts provides students with forms of communication that transcend or differ from literal or discursive language—including such tools as visual communication, movement and gesture, and music and sound. These “nonlinguistic representations” involve not just a change in medium but a change in mode of understanding. In other words, there are concepts and ideas that can be conveyed via pictures or gestures in a way that is not possible via words. These same researchers also confirm the importance of students’ learning how to understand and use metaphor as a powerful key to learning, which helps students learn and integrate new knowledge through comparison and contrast with existing or familiar knowledge. (Marzano, R. J., Pickering, D. J. & Pollock, J. E. (2001). *Classroom instruction that works*. Alexandria, VA: ASCD.)

### 2001 Areas Where No Reliable Causal Links Were Found

**Learning to Play Music and Reading:** Based on 6 reports (6 effect sizes), a small relationship was found between music and reading but this relationship could not be generalized to new studies (p. 5).


**Visual Arts and Reading:** Based on 5 reports in which visual arts was taught separately from reading (7 effect sizes), a very small relationship between visual arts and reading was found, but this relationship could not be generalized to new studies. This effect was entirely due to reading readiness outcomes (which are themselves visual), and did not hold up for reading achievement outcomes. Based on 4 reports in which visual arts were integrated with reading instruction (4 effect sizes), a medium sized relationship was found between integrated arts/reading instruction and reading outcomes. However, this result could not be generalized to new studies (p. 5).


### 2001 Areas Where No Reliable Causal Links Were Found
Dance and Reading: Based on 4 reports (4 effects sizes), a small relationship between dance and reading was found, but this relationship could not be generalized to new studies (p. 5).

2003 According to a new and comprehensive research report, good arts programs in elementary and middle schools not only build skills needed to learn other subjects, including reading, writing, and math, but motivate students to learn—particularly those at risk of failure (p. 15).
(Deasy, R. J. (2003). Let there be music … and ART … and P.E.: Don’t axe the arts! Principal, 14-18.)

2003 The report (Critical Links) and its interpretive essays reveal some important relationships between learning in the arts and academic and social skills in the following major areas:
  
  Reading and language. Certain forms of arts instruction enhance and complement basic reading instruction. They help children break the phonetic code that unlocks written language by associating letters, words, and phrases with sounds, sentences, and learning. Reading comprehension, speaking, and writing skills are also improved (p. 16).
(Deasy, R. J. (2003). Let there be music … and ART … and P.E.: Don’t axe the arts! Principal, 14-18.)

2003 Acting out stories—classics as well as a child’s own creative inventions—enhances reading development as well as interpersonal and self-understanding (p. 17).
(Deasy, R. J. (2003). Let there be music … and ART … and P.E.: Don’t axe the arts! Principal, 14-18.)

2000 This article explains that knowledge taught in multiple contexts is likely to support the transfer of learning from one domain to another. Learning to look for, recognize, and extract underlying themes and ideas can help students to understand when and under what conditions to apply their knowledge, an aspect of expertise.

2000 This publication summarizes the findings of the Reviewing Education and the Arts Project (REAP) by Harvard’s Project Zero. A search for all English language studies between 1950 and 1999 found that learning in the arts leads to academic improvement in other areas. Cites clear causal links demonstrated between spatial-temporal reasoning and both listening to music and learning to play music.

2000 Music to Reading
Once social class and prior attainment in English were controlled for, there was no significant positive association between taking courses in music or participation in extracurricular music and GCSE performance in English. None of the pupils alluded to possible transfers from music to reading (p. 52).

(Harland, J. (2000). What research in the United Kingdom shows about transfer from the arts. In E. Winner & L. Hetland (Ed.), *Beyond the soundbite: arts education and academic outcomes: conference proceedings from Beyond the soundbite: what the research actually shows about arts education and academic outcomes*. Los Angeles, California: The Getty Center.)

2000 Visual Arts to Reading

Having controlled for social class and prior attainment in English, there was a significant negative association between taking courses in art and GCSE performance in English. The pupils did not mention transfers from art to reading, but some described transfers from art to writing (e.g. observation, imagination, and presentational skills) (p. 52).

(Harland, J. (2000). What research in the United Kingdom shows about transfer from the arts. In E. Winner & L. Hetland (Ed.), *Beyond the soundbite: arts education and academic outcomes: conference proceedings from Beyond the soundbite: what the research actually shows about arts education and academic outcomes*. Los Angeles, California: The Getty Center.)

1999 Analysis of these studies indicates that the use of creative drama to enhance the reading scores of a population of remedial or low-ability fifth graders enrolled in a compensatory program proved effective at the .05 level compared to the performance of two other groups of students using methods that did not include creative drama (Du Pont, 1992). It must be noted that the aim of the program was to increase reading performance, not to teach creative drama, and that the population was a special population of fifth graders in need of reading skills, not a population of average students. In short, given the aims of the study and the population studied, the results are limited to like populations (p. 144).


1999 This article analyzes the National Educational Longitudinal Survey (NELS:88), a ten-year panel study following more than 25,000 students between the eighth and twelfth grades. Links sustained involvement in theatre arts by low SES youth to improvement in reading proficiency, noting that nearly 20 percent more were reading at high proficiency by the twelfth grade than were their non-theatre peers.


1998 This article details the findings of a longitudinal study begun in 1988 by the U.S. Department of Education that examines the arts involvement and academic achievement of 25,000 secondary school students. Overall, high-arts students at the eighth and tenth
grade levels showed higher performance in English and reading than their low-arts peers. Similarly, students coming from low SES (socio-economic status) families that maintained higher levels of arts involvement were almost twice as likely to score in the top two quartiles in reading as students from low SES families with little arts involvement.


1998 This article examines how community youth programs that specialize in the arts can encourage the development of literacy skills for at-risk children and teenagers. Stresses the fundamental role language plays in the translation and critique of art and art making, as well as the frequent opportunities for the use of language that reflects critical judgment and systematic reasoning.


1996 This article cites various studies detailed in the 1995 publication Spin-Offs. Studies explore the relationship between the study of music and learning in nonmusical areas of the curriculum. Included is a 1976 study in which first graders who participated in a classical music listening program were shown to have scored higher in discrimination sections of reading and language arts tests.


School Attendance

2007 Increasingly the arts are becoming leading contenders in school reform … For example, daily attendance increased up to 94 percent, and 83 percent of students achieved at or above national norms in reading and math after the arts were integrated into the curriculum at Guggenheim Elementary School in inner-city Chicago (p. 14).


2007 According to Welch (1995), arts programs are related to dropout prevention. Programs such as the Duke Ellington School’s in Washington, D.C., are examples using the arts to motivate students: Ninety percent of the participants in the Boys Choir of Harlem go on to college (p. 22).


2007 Students stay in school longer and have more positive attitudes (p. 36).

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2007 Arts-based education also boosts school attendance and communication skills. The arts contribute to lower recidivism rates, increased self-esteem, and the acquisition of job skills, especially for at-risk populations. The arts give students an understanding of the skill, discipline, perseverance, and sacrifice necessary for achievement in the workplace and in personal life (p. 24).

School Environment

2008 Benefits of arts programs:
- Promotes the concept that teachers are facilitators of learning and not dispensers of knowledge
- Allows students to more deeply understand by doing and becoming more involved in the learning process
- Provides additional entry points for content discussion and discovery
- Expands curriculum to other cultures of the world
- Reinforces aesthetic qualities of students
- Promotes visualization of the content and promotes imagination
- Encourages multi-sensory approaches to teaching and learning
- Engages intrapersonal and interpersonal communication
- Encourages collaborative work by students (and, at times, teachers)
- Infusion of the arts into the curriculum may be accomplished in a variety of ways
- Improves spatial and logical mathematical reasoning
- Encourages risk-taking by students expressing creativity
- Enhances communication skills of students
- Is adaptable to all areas of the curriculum
- Provides an avenue to encourage diversity/multiculturalism (p. 23-24).

2008 The Arts Education Partnership explored this potential impact of arts education in a three-year study of 10 high-poverty, high-performing schools…. The crucial and seminal finding is that the arts created positive and empowering learning environments in classrooms and in the school. These environments emerged as the result of new sets of relationships the arts fostered between and among students and teachers. … The key to the shift in relationships were teacher attitudes toward the art works produced by students, seeing them primarily as expressive communications of matters personally meaningful to students and, therefore, to be read for insights into how to motivate and guide the students’ academic, personal and social development. … Encouraged by teachers to be both imaginative and progressively more competent in their use of the
techniques of an art form, students matured both individually and as a community of learners. This represents the arc of development that cognitive scientists such as John Bransford and his colleagues describe as leading to “adaptive expertise,” the ability to apply what you learn in new settings and conditions, a fundamental goal of schooling (p. 17).

(Deasy, R.J. (2008). Why the arts deserve center stage. *School Administrator, 65*, 3, 12-17.)

2007 Wilmington, NC. Student disciplinary actions dropped from 130 to 50 and suspensions from 32 to 3 during the first year of involvement in the A+ School Program of arts integration (p. 10).


2007 The arts create a sense of belonging based on delight and respect for each person’s distinctive contributions. Experiences as audience members and as performers connect students in reciprocal relationships. As concertgoers and museum visitors they are bound together in listening and viewing experiences that create shared background. They experience the dependent relationships of arts consumers and producers that builds a sense of community (p. 19).


2007 Research studies also link arts-based education to a positive school environment. The arts transform classrooms, and schools become places of discovery. The culture is changed, conditions for learning improve, and there is more collaboration among teachers and integration of disciplines (p. 22).


2007 It is critical that students learn in a positive context. The arts help create the kind of learning environment that boosts success by “fostering teacher innovation, a positive professional culture, community engagement, increased student attendance and retention, effective instructional practice, and school identity” (p. 37).


2007 The arts enhance learning by creating “strong school ecologies.” A “Complex web of stimulation and influence creates an enhanced learning environment [which is] key to academic achievement.” The arts-infused environment increases opportunities for engaged, active, interdisciplinary teaching and learning (p. 37).


2007 The arts promote a greater spirit of cooperation and participation. Teachers work more collaboratively and are more creative, artistic, and enthusiastic. They think more
deeply and are more open and flexible. Teachers involved in arts integration are more likely to participate in professional development and acquire a broader repertoire of teaching strategies (p. 37).

**2007** A 3-year study of more than 6,000 elementary students in Learning to Read Through the Arts showed an 11 point increase in math in the 170 schools. Literacy scores remained the same, but students reported being happier about school and researchers saw them as more engaged (p. 10).

**2003** The report (Critical Links) and its interpretive essays reveal some important relationships between learning in the arts and academic and social skills in the following major areas:

*School environment.* The arts help to create the kind of learning environment that is conducive to teacher and student success by fostering teacher innovation, a positive professional culture, community engagement, increased student attendance, effective instructional practice, and school identity (p. 16).
(Deasy, R. J. (2003). Let there be music … and ART … and P.E.: Don’t axe the arts! *Principal*, 14-18.)

**2003** Scripp also notes the positive effects of calming background music on student behavior and concentration in classrooms, on school buses, and during tests (p. 17).
(Deasy, R. J. (2003). Let there be music … and ART … and P.E.: Don’t axe the arts! *Principal*, 14-18.)

**Social and Emotional Competence**

**2008** In *More Than Words Can Say*, Joan Livermore argues that the arts can facilitate personal and social development. Learning in other curriculum areas and the development of a range of skills and understandings that can be applied in vocational and other life situations. Studies including *Champions of Change* (Fiske, 1999) *Reviewing Education and the Arts Project* (Project Zero, Hetland & Winner, 2001) and *Critical Links* (Deasy, 2002) have indicated that important cognitive and social processes and capabilities are developed in and through arts-learning experiences (p. 104).

**2008** … arts programs can enhance students’ potential to engage with school and learning. The following ‘enabling’ skills and attitudes were noted: students’ self esteem was increased; students were better able to work cooperatively with others; and students were able to plan and set goals (p. 107).
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2008 The arts also were viewed as instrumental in enhancing student communication while increasing student ability to interact and to reflect (p. 16-17).


2008 Benefits of arts programs:
- Engages intrapersonal and interpersonal communication
- Enhances communication skills of students (p. 23-24).


2008 The habits of mind and dispositions discussed above were developing, and there were also strong and significant personal and social effects. These effects speak directly to the public concerns and beliefs that schools must prepare students not just for economic roles but for family life and citizenship. Three of those effects were rated of great importance by focus groups and in polling and seen as advanced by the arts. Drama is particularly effective at developing the first two. All of the arts, well taught, nurture the third.

* Empathy: understanding another’s feelings and point of view;
* Social tolerance: respecting multiple values and perspectives;
* Self-esteem and self-efficacy: realistically valuing oneself and the impact of one’s actions against a set of internalized standards and believing you can make a difference (p. 17).

(Deasy, R.J. (2008). Why the arts deserve center stage. *School Administrator, 65*, 3, 12-17.)

2008 Subsequent research identified a range of positive social impacts that art has, including:
- Health and well-being
- Learning
- Development and identity
- Attitude and behavior
- Ideology and diversity
- Social inclusion (p. 21).


2008 In 2004, the Dana Arts and Cognition Consortium brought together cognitive neuroscientists from seven universities across the United States to grapple with the question of why arts training has been associated with higher academic performance. Is it simply that smart people are drawn to “do” art—to study and perform music, dance,
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— drama—or does early arts training cause changes in the brain that enhance other important aspects of cognition? … Here is a summary of what the group has learned:

— Adult self-reported interest in aesthetics is related to a temperamental factor of openness, which in turn is influenced by dopamine-related genes.

Although scientists must constantly warn of the need to distinguish between correlation and causation, it is important to realize that neuroscience often begins with correlations—usually, the discovery that a certain kind of brain activity works in concert with a certain kind of behavior. … Many of the studies cited here tighten up correlations that have been noted before, thereby laying the groundwork for unearthing true causal explanations through understanding biological and brain mechanisms that may underlie those relationships.

… In my judgment, this project has identified candidate genes involved in the predisposition to the arts and has also shown that cognitive improvements can be to specific mental capacities such as geometric reasoning; that specific pathways in the brain can be identified and potentially changed during training; that sometimes it is not structural brain changes but rather changes in cognitive strategy that help solve a problem; and that early targeted music training may lead to better cognition through an as yet unknown neural mechanism. All of those findings are rather remarkable and challenging.


2007 Visual images, left open to interpretation, cause fine art, and even decorative art, to engage us cognitively and emotionally and may even stimulate a physical response (p. 7).


2007 Compassion means to be in passion with another. The arts develop concern for, sensitivity to, and “response ability.” The arts build empathy through experiences that cause students to grasp another’s understanding. The arts intentionally invite empathy by their emphasis on and respect for the unusual, different, and extraordinary. Like respect, empathy comes from acknowledging the circumstances of another person and leads to compassion when one person fully imagines himself in those circumstances (p. 19).


2007 Student testimonials also point to how the arts can be a feel-good alternative to drugs and other destructive means to “get high.” In addition, the arts contribute to increased self-esteem and the development of creative problem-solving skills that build independence and lower recidivism rates (p. 15).


2007 1. Self-esteem, flexibility, and willingness to take risks, experiment, and tolerate uncertainty increases. … 3. Empathy for others increased. Drama, in particular, was found to show this effect. Stereotypical views toward minority cultures decreased when
Arts instruction focused on Native American music and culture (p. 36).

2007 Studies of arts-based learning experiences in drama, music, dance, and multiarts activities show student growth in self-control, conflict resolution, collaboration, empathy, and social tolerance.
1. *Quality of classroom participation increased.* Students involved as makers and doers in the arts showed the greatest ability to collaborate, reflect, and make choices.
2. *Self-discipline/regulation increased.* Students were more cooperative, paid attention, persevered, did more problem solving, took initiative, asked questions, took positive risks, used feedback, and prepared. Greater communication skills developed through the arts enhanced ability to achieve consensus.
3. *The arts make education more equitable.* The arts are “instruments of cognitive growth and agents of motivation,” so unfair access to the arts “brings consequences of major importance to our society.” The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) data demonstrates how the arts can level the educational playing field. For example, among all areas in which students were tested, music scores reflected the narrowest gap between varying races and minorities.
4. *Arts-based instruction can increase family and community support.* Dramatic increases were found in “Syntactic complexity, hypothetical reasoning, and questioning approaches” that enable planning and give youth “language with which to collaborate productively and respectfully,” allowing them to participate in social enterprises to improve their communities (p. 36).

2007 The arts are crucial to young children’s understanding and often are the only ways they can express feelings and ideas (p. 18).

2006 This publication examines how participation in the arts impacts student achievement, citing examples from national programs in which arts learning was linked to the development of cognitive and social skills. In one case, learning to play the guitar and perform in front of peers was shown to bolster the confidence and self-esteem of a group of 8- to 19-year-old boys living in residential homes and juvenile detention centers. Similarly, a group of juvenile offenders between the ages of 13 and 17 who participated in jazz and hip-hop dance classes reported marked increases in confidence levels.

2005 Arts participation and self-esteem: In looking at the data made available in small research studies, Esker Kent concluded that:

Thus we have created a cycle – art allows us to give vent to our creative urges; our creativity brings about self-esteem; our improved self-concept assists in the breaking down
of our inhibitions so that we can more readily communicate through art or other modes of expression.

Teacher observation data concluded that there were ‘observed changes in the attitudes of some of the students that participated in the integrated arts classes’. … ‘troublesome students were turned round by the experience and became very different – ‘the kind of experience that may not always show up as a statistic’ (p. 3).

(Boyes, L. C. & Reid, I. (2005). What are the benefits for pupils participating in arts activities? The view from the research literature. Research in Education, 73, 1-14.)

2005 ‘Education in the arts provides students with experiences that broaden their interests, pique their curiosity, and afford opportunities for self-expression (p. 4).

(Boyes, L. C. & Reid, I. (2005). What are the benefits for pupils participating in arts activities? The view from the research literature. Research in Education, 73, 1-14.)

2005 In Arts in their View: a Study of Youth Participation in the Arts Harland, Kinder and Hartley report that the ‘arts effects’ evidenced include increases in self-esteem and confidence, as well as enhancement of thinking, organizational skill and other cognitive skills. … one of the noticed effects on pupils in schools with a good reputation for high-quality creative arts learning situations was a heightened sense of fulfillment and advances in personal development (p. 7).

(Boyes, L. C. & Reid, I. (2005). What are the benefits for pupils participating in arts activities? The view from the research literature. Research in Education, 73, 1-14.)

2004 In terms of social inclusion, arts outcomes appear to be strongly associated with the therapeutic outcomes of enjoyment, psychological wellbeing, and also interpersonal skills/relationship development along with increased awareness of cultural and moral issues. Engaging in arts as part of constructive leisure, at its simplest, negates what criminologists call the ‘hang-factor’—the pull towards engaging in antisocial acts due to lack of opportunities or other purposeful activity (p. 53).


2003 The report (Critical Links) and its interpretive essays reveal some important relationships between learning in the arts and academic and social skills in the following major areas:

Social Behavior. Certain arts activities promote growth in such positive behavioral qualities as self-confidence, self-control, self-identity, conflict resolution, collaboration, empathy, and social tolerance (p. 16).

(Deasy, R. J. (2003). Let there be music … and ART … and P.E.: Don’t axe the arts! Principal, 14-18.)

2003 Acting out stories—classics as well as a child’s own creative inventions—enhances reading development as well as interpersonal and self-understanding (p. 17). (Deasy, R. J. (2003). Let there be music … and ART … and P.E.: Don’t axe the arts! Principal, 14-18.)
Studies indicate that creative drama can serve to remediate difficulties in social and language skills (p. 89). … children with LD (learning disabilities) can improve and maintain social and oral expressive language (speaking) skills through drama. … Creative drama basically entails self-expressive, social interactions which emphasize speaking spontaneously in improvisations, thereby leading to better interpersonal communication skills (p. 93).

Creative drama should be used on an ongoing basis as part of the total program for the development of social skills and oral language (p. 93). … creative drama will not only contribute to a more balanced curriculum for children’s general development but will also enhance specific language and social skills (p. 94).

Spatial Thinking

Arts education not only provides artistic training, but teaches children creativity, spatial thinking and abstract reasoning, all critical skill sets for tomorrow’s software designers, scientists, entrepreneurs and engineers (p. 27).

Besides the relationship between spatial and logical mathematical intelligences, there is also a strong relationship between spatial and musical intelligences. Hetland (2000) explored the Mozart Effect to determine the specific connections between these two intelligences. She stated that the Mozart Effect resulted in the ability of students to visually rotate a picture or symbol of an object. Hetlands’ research supported other findings that this effect was not limited exclusively to Mozart but other composers as well. However, not all types of music enhanced this effect. The particular properties of music that enhanced the spatial skills of participants in this study are still being explored (p. 17).

Benefits of arts programs:

- Improves spatial and logical mathematical reasoning (p. 23-24)
2008 “I think the work done here suggests a much closer connection between the cognitive processes that give rise to the arts and the cognitive processes that give rise to the sciences” (Elizabeth S. Spelke, p. 1). … the Dana Foundation of New York City in 2004 brought together neuroscientists and cognitive psychologists from seven universities to launch a broad program of studies looking at how experience in dance, music, theater, and visual arts might spill over into other areas of learning, and to explore possible mechanisms for those links in the anatomy of the brain—even at the genetic level. Left unsettled, experts say, is whether the arts make people smarter or whether smart people simply gravitate to the arts. While the report still doesn’t provide any definitive answers to the arts-makes-you-smarter question, it sounds a final death knell to the myth that students are either right- or left-brained learners. It also offers hints on how arts learning might conceivably spill over into other academic domains (p. 10). … Spatial skills and other nonverbal IQ skills did improve in the music students over the course of the eight-week study, but that was also true for the children who got attention training and the Head Start children who worked in small groups. Only the children in the large Head Start class failed to make any progress in those areas. “What we are seeing here is that we have quantitative data that confirm our assumptions about the interrelationships in the way children learn … And the purpose of education is to realize the full human potential of every child” (p. 11). 

2007 Spatial reasoning, organization, planning. Self-direction and self-assessment improve. Music, in particular, has been found to enhance spatial thinking (p. 36). 

2005 In Arts and Academic Achievement: What the Evidence Shows Hetland and Winner (2001) examine reported correlations between arts education and academic achievement. They found three areas where clear causal links could be made:
1. Between listening to music and improved temporal-spatial performance.
2. Between playing music and spatial reasoning.
3. Between classroom drama and improved verbal skills (p. 8).
(Boyes, L. C. & Reid, I. (2005). What are the benefits for pupils participating in arts activities? The view from the research literature. Research in Education, 73, 1-14.)

2005 Musical performance demands complex cognitive and motor operations. Musicians must translate music notation (visual-spatial-temporal information) into precisely timed sequential finger movements involving coordination of both hands, recall long passages, bring meaning to music through the use of dynamics and articulation, transpose pieces to new keys, and improvise melodies and harmonies based on existing musical pieces. Some musicians are also able to identify pitches without the use of a reference tone (absolute pitch). Studies have explored the brain bases of these exceptional and highly specialized sensorimotor skills, and auditory-spatial skills. These studies have shown that in musicians certain regions of the brain are larger or have more gray matter volume (when compared to non-musicians)….These differences are even greater among musicians who began musical training at an early age. Similarly, differences between musicians and non-
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musicians correlate with intensity of musical training throughout life (p. 125).


2005 Previous research has demonstrated that music training enhances visual-spatial abilities in young children. Music training appears to enhance performance on the WISC-III Object Assembly, a task that requires mental rotation, but has no effect on Raven’s Progressive Matrices, a task considered non-spatial. The ability to copy geometric forms which requires coordination between visual perception and motor planning, has also been found to be enhanced by music training (p. 125).


2005 Studies have also shown that music training can have positive effects on motor skills. The tapping rate of both the right and the left index fingers was shown to be faster in musicians than in non-musicians, and the tapping rate of the non-dominant hand was found to increase with training. This higher tapping rate in keyboard players also correlated with a greater intrasulcal length of the posterior precentral gyrus (a gross marker of primary motor cortex size). Taken together, the research suggests that music training may have positive effects on spatial, mathematical, verbal, and motoric ability (p. 126).


2004 This publication summarizes various studies, including those in Critical Links, that explore connections between learning in music and the development of spatial-temporal reasoning skills. Notes that mathematics and language are composed of symbol systems that possess common characteristics and that both employ spatial-temporal reasoning.


2003 … music and math both foster spatial reasoning, the ability to mentally sequence and organize concepts (p. 17).

(Deasy, R. J. (2003). Let there be music … and ART … and P.E.: Don’t axe the arts! Principal, 14-18.)

2002 This publication provides a compendium of research studies exploring the potential for transfer to occur in the context of arts learning. Compelling evidence of opportunities for transfer—the theory that learning in one academic area can assist learning in another area—is found in studies involving the relationship of music to the development of spatial reasoning abilities. Suggests that more research must be done in the areas of visual arts and dance.
2001 Areas Where Reliable Causal Links Were Found

Listening to Music and Spatial-Temporal Reasoning: Based on 26 reports (36 effect sizes), a medium-sized causal relationship was found between listening to music and temporary improvement in spatial-temporal reasoning. However, there was wide variation in the studies, with some showing the effect clearly and many not showing the effect at all. Moreover, the existing research does not reveal conclusively why listening to music affects spatial-temporal thinking. For education, such a finding has little importance, since it is temporary and not consistently found. Scientifically, however, this finding is of interest because it suggests that music and spatial reasoning are related psychologically (i.e., they may rely on some of the same underlying skills) and perhaps neurologically as well (i.e., they may rely on some of the same, or proximal, brain areas). Further research is needed to understand the mechanism by which certain types of music influence spatial skills (p. 4).


Learning to Play Music and Spatial Reasoning: Based on 19 reports (29 effect sizes), a large causal relationship was found between learning to make music and spatial-temporal reasoning. The effect was greater when standard music notation was learned as well, but even without notation the effect was large. The value for education is greater here, since the effect works equally for both general and at risk populations, costs little since it is based on standard music curricula, and influences many students (69 of every 100, 3-to-12 year old students). Of course we must still determine the value of improved spatial skills for success in school. Spatial skills might or might not be of benefit to students, depending on how subjects are taught. For example, mathematics or geography might be taught spatially, and if they are, then students with strong spatial abilities should have an advantage in these subjects. Sadly, many schools offer few chances to apply spatial abilities (p. 4).


In a quantitative synthesis of 188 studies, Winner and Hetland found few causal relationships between learning in the arts and improved academic achievement in other areas. The researchers discovered slight effects in some specific areas, such as a link between listening to music and improved spatial reasoning. But they caution educators not to ‘get brainwashed by today’s testing mentality’ and not to claim that arts programs will raise kids test scores. Such unwarranted assumptions, they say, could cause the arts—dance and all—to be written out of the curriculum (p. 32).

Active instruction in music does appear to enhance spatial-temporal performance for preschool and elementary-aged children, at least while instruction is occurring and at least up through two years of instruction (p. 220). (Hetland, L. (2000). Learning to make music enhances spatial reasoning. *Journal of Aesthetic Education, 34*, 3-4, 179-227.)

The “rhythm” theory received some direct support from the Parente and O’Malley study. The hypothesis of that study, that training students in the rudiments of rhythm by playing snare drums and clapping in accompaniment to piano music would enhance performance on the Embedded Figures Test, was supported \((r=.45)\). Kodaly- and Orff-based programs, which enhanced spatial-temporal tasks, also emphasize the rhythmic element of music (p. 221-222).

The present results also provide some empirical support for the near transfer theory, which predicts that music might enhance other nonspatial temporal spatial processes that require spatial recognition, spatial memory, mental rotation, and/or spatial visualization as defined by Linn and Peterson. … Clearly, further research is necessary to determine whether music instruction develops several kinds of spatial skill or only spatial-temporal ones (p. 222).

Some support was also found for the view that music instruction at younger ages is more likely to result in spatial outcomes. … Some support was also found for the prediction that stronger learning of music should result in greater transfer. The contrast performed on studies using individual vs. group lessons showed that those with individual lessons resulted in larger effect sizes (presumably because more learning occurs in one-on-one lessons.) (p. 222).

Cautions: While the results apply to a wide-range of music programs, they do not apply to all. … The studies included in this analysis did not allow me to determine whether or how long effects last after instruction is concluded, and some evidence suggests that they may not persist. … It is possible that music simply speeds up a universal developmental process in spatial ability, rather than providing a lasting advantage. …. These results suggest that many kinds of musical instruction lead to spatial learning, and that type of instruction is not limited to any particular program element, musical style, or instructional practice. … Learning standard notation (at least in combination with piano) further facilitates performance of spatial-temporal tasks (p. 223-224). (Hetland, L. (2000). Learning to make music enhances spatial reasoning. *Journal of Aesthetic Education, 34*, 3-4, 179-227.)

Increased communication leads to other effects. Students are more cooperative, have greater rapport with teachers, show more sustained focus, and are more willing to perform and exhibit learning (p. 36). (Cornett, C. E. (2007). *Creating meaning through literature and the arts*. (3rd ed.) Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson Merrill Prentice Hall.)
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2007 Fewer at-risk behaviors were found. In particular, students involved in music showed this pattern. (New American Schools, 2003) (p. 36).

2007 2. Self-discipline/regulation increased. Students were more cooperative, paid attention, persevered, did more problem solving, took initiative, asked questions, took positive risks, used feedback, and prepared. Greater communication skills developed through the arts enhanced ability to achieve consensus (p. 36).

Verbal Skills

2008 Harland et al. (2000) suggest that art education outcomes range from the most intrinsic, such as enjoyment and personal achievement in the arts themselves, to related effects, such as the development of creativity and divergent thinking, and their extrinsic transfer to other curriculum areas. According to Bower, teaching the arts to students has been linked to better visual thinking, problem solving, language and creativity … by learning and practicing art, the human brain actually wires itself to make stronger connections (p. 104).

2005 In Arts and Academic Achievement: What the Evidence Shows Hetland and Winner (2001) examine reported correlations between arts education and academic achievement. They found three areas where clear causal links could be made:
1. Between listening to music and improved temporal-spatial performance.
2. Between playing music and spatial reasoning.
3. Between classroom drama and improved verbal skills (p. 8).
(Boyes, L. C. & Reid, I. (2005). What are the benefits for pupils participating in arts activities? The view from the research literature. Research in Education, 73, 1-14.)

2005 Studies have also shown that music training can have positive effects on motor skills. The tapping rate of both the right and the left index fingers was shown to be faster in musicians than in non-musicians, and the tapping rate of the non-dominant hand was found to increase with training. This higher tapping rate in keyboard players also correlated with a greater intrasulcal length of the posterior precentral gyrus (a gross marker of primary motor cortex size). Taken together, the research suggests that music training may have positive effects on spatial, mathematical, verbal, and motoric ability (p. 126).
pre-existing neural, cognitive, or motoric markers for musical ability? Brain and Cognition, 59, 124-134.)

2005 The lack of pre-existing correlation makes it more likely that the kinds of skills that have been reported in children who have studied music are an outcome of music training. … Studies reported that musical tasks activate language areas and vice versa, suggesting that music and language share neural substrates. Similar associations between musical aptitude and literacy have been found by others. In addition, there are studies that have associated pitch pattern recognition with reading skills (p. 131).

2001 Areas Where Reliable Causal Links Were Found
Classroom Drama and Verbal Skills: Based on 80 reports (107 effect sizes), a causal link was found between classroom drama (enacting texts) and a variety of verbal areas. Most were of medium size (oral understanding/recall of stories, reading readiness, reading achievement, oral language, writing), one was large (written understanding/recall of stories), and one was small and could not be generalized to new studies (vocabulary). In all cases, students who enacted texts were compared to students who read the same texts but did not enact them. Drama not only helped children’s verbal skills with respect to the texts enacted; it also helped children’s verbal skills when applied to new, non-enacted texts. Thus, drama helps to build verbal skills that transfer to new materials. Such an effect has great value for education: verbal skill is highly valued, adding such drama techniques costs little in terms of effort or expense, and a high proportion of students are influenced by such curricular changes (p. 4).

2000 Verbal Skills Through Drama
Once social class and prior attainment in English were controlled for, there was no significant positive association between taking courses in drama or participation in extra curricular drama and GCSE performance in English. However, in the qualitative testimonies, pupils volunteered accounts of gains in interactive communication skills, language development and expressive skills … Drama helped a lot with work-experience interviews—speaking to people in a friendly manner, not being too frightened of questions … (year ten, drama) (p. 52).
(Harland, J. (2000). What research in the United Kingdom shows about transfer from the arts. In E. Winner & L. Hetland (Ed.), Beyond the soundbite: arts education and academic outcomes: conference proceedings from Beyond the soundbite: what the research actually shows about arts education and academic outcomes. Los Angeles, California: The Getty Center.)

1998 Studies indicate that creative drama can serve to remediate difficulties in social and language skills (p. 89). … children with LD (learning disabilities) can improve and maintain social and oral expressive language (speaking) sills through drama. … Creative
drama basically entails self-expressive, social interactions which emphasize speaking spontaneously in improvisations, thereby leading to better interpersonal communication skills (p. 93).
**Best Practices**

2008 What’s a superintendent who’s convinced arts do matter to do?

* Hire certified arts specialists. There is no substitute for sequential, standards-based curricula in the four art forms.

* Require arts for all students, preschool through high school. The purpose of arts education is not just to develop artists, although that is a happy outcome for some. Rather, instruction should help all students develop capacity to see the world through artistic lenses, when that is useful, just as they learn to use the lenses of mathematics, history, language arts and sciences.

* Team with arts partners. Supplementing regular arts instruction with collaborative planning and teaching with local artists and/or partners from arts organizations and museums in the community expands students’ and teachers’ approaches to artistic thinking so they can use art better across social and academic contexts.

* Spend professional development funds on arts training for general faculty. All teachers, and especially those in elementary grades, need to supplement subject-matter expertise with arts approaches. They can do so over time by participating regularly in art-making experiences and collaborating with school art faculty and teaching artists to reflect on possibilities for arts-infusion that supports their curricular goals.

* Build professional learning communities. Set up regular study groups to develop curriculum. Groups need to mix art teachers with cross-grade, non-arts subject teachers, identify shared questions and relevant readings, and plan ways to learn about them together. Administrators need to support ongoing progress on these plans and set up cross-group discussions at regular intervals.

* Try to lengthen the school day. Arts don’t compete for time with general learning — they support it. More time in school offers more opportunities to pursue the full range of approaches to learning.

* Get supervisors into schools and boardrooms. They’ll learn from practitioners about effective approaches and areas of need for professional support and build bridges of understanding to those who make policy. When supervisors talk only among themselves, their potential benefits to the system are largely neutralized (p. 15).

To effectively prepare students for the new workplace, schools must consider investing in their own creative workforce. Students throughout their preK-12 academic career will need access to the knowledge and skills in the arts that only specialists in music, theatre, visual arts and dance can provide. The presence of trained arts specialists not only ensures sustained and quality student engagement in various artistic disciplines, but also promotes collaboration with classroom teachers to draw connections between the arts and other subject areas. America’s nonprofit arts industries, including your local arts commissions, museums and visual or performing arts centers, can be important partners for school leaders (p. 27-28).


For the arts to effect learning, however, their presence in the schools must be meaningful. Arts specialists must be present and respected by their colleagues; sequential and grade-level appropriate instruction and learning in all artistic disciplines must be comprehensive; potential community arts partnerships must be sought and utilized; and the arts must be incorporated into the educational mission (p. 28).


In Eisner’s opinion, the arts should make a difference both in school environments of students as well as in their environments beyond school. He proposed the following outcomes in a statement describing effective art programs:

1. Students should acquire a feel for what it means to transform their ideas, images, and feelings into an art form;
2. Arts education should refine the student’s awareness of the aesthetic qualities in art and life; and,
3. Arts education should enable students to understand that there is a connection between the content and the form that the arts display and the culture and time in which the work was created (p. 15).


I wish to identify a particularly important [fourth] … outcome for arts education:

- A willingness to imagine possibilities that are not now, but which might become;
- A desire to explore ambiguity, to be willing to forestall premature closure in pursuing resolutions; and,
- The ability to recognize and accept the multiple perspectives and resolutions that work in the arts celebrate (p. 15).


Arts projects should be an extension of student understanding of the curriculum content, not merely a ‘color sheet’ for early finishers (p. 16).
2008 It was essential that art teachers and content teachers be given time to plan together to ensure that the integration of the arts into the classroom was successful and meaningful for students (p. 16).

2007 If the arts are to have the opportunity to affect our children as they did me, they must be presented to children in at least one of two places: early education, where kids are just getting some sense of what the world is; and—probably most crucially—at puberty, when a child is coming into his or her own individuality and separating himself or herself from the family (p. 14).

2007 Now consider a demographically comparable district that pursues a different course. Let’s call it the “unorthodox district.” Instead of teaching trivial stories and having students endlessly practice comprehension strategies, the district mandates that extensive time during the literacy block shall be spent on specified topics in literature, science, history, and the fine arts. Because the listening skills of young children far exceed their reading skills, these subjects would be taught in the earliest grades through texts that are read aloud and discussed. Several weeks will be spent reading and discussing a particular domain, building up relevant knowledge and vocabulary for all students, and thereby narrowing the knowledge gap between advantaged and disadvantaged students (p. 20).

2006 The best programs

* Draw on the artistic resources of their communities, building sustained partnerships between schools and arts organizations and between teachers and artists
* View student achievement and school improvement as pivotal to their mission—they are not only about advancing arts education.
* Engage artists, arts specialists, and teachers from all disciplines in serious inquiry about making powerful pedagogical and curricular links between the arts and other subjects.
* Use the arts as media to communicate content and as methods of learning through such practices as careful observation, inquiry, practice, creation, representation, performance, critique, and reflection.
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* Do not look the same in every school, but reflect each school’s particular strengths, interests, and available arts resources.
* Provide arts instruction both within the context of other subjects and as a subject in its own right.
* Raise funds from outside the school system to support their arts integration work, while persistently seeking higher levels of commitment from schools and districts (p. 64).

(Rabkin, N. & Redmond, R. (2006). The arts make a difference. Educational Leadership, 60-64.)

2004 Indeed, the importance of arts experiences being relevant to—and reflecting—young people’s lives, interests and culture has been identified as crucial to effective arts practices (p. 53).

2004 Key factors associated with effective teaching and learning in the arts were identified. Bearing these in mind may thus not only raise the quality of arts education, but also help some of our young people to re-engage with learning—or indeed not become disaffected in the first place (p. 54). The key factors were:

- **The status of arts subjects in the National Curriculum:** Although the arts are not deemed to be ‘core’ subjects, art and music are established foundations subjects; drama and dance have a more peripheral status, thus implying the are even less important than art and music. The recommendation for the four art forms to have comparable status is made: particularly as each art form was found to offer its own distinctive type of outcomes (p. 54).
- **Enjoyment and perceived relevance of the arts:** where there was evidence of teachers mediating the curriculum so that pupils experience the arts as relevant and engaging, greater uptake and higher numbers of effects also occurred.
- **Internal and external support for the arts and arts teachers**
- **Specialist arts teachers:** Generally speaking the research found that, as far as the arts were concerned, individual teacher factors were probably more important determinants of effective arts education than whole-school factors. School staff perceived a need for specialist arts teachers, and all the lessons identified as demonstrating ‘effective practice’ were taught by specialist teachers with high levels of personal involvement, passion and commitment to the art form.
- **A praise culture:** effective teachers provided a highly supportive and affirming classroom environment in which pupils felt encouraged and safe to take creative risks. The perceptions of many pupils were also that an effective lesson offered a challenging activity, but one through which they could also develop some sense of achievement.
- **Practical task-based activities:** effective arts lessons were often perceived to depend on the extent of practical ‘doing’ activities. Pupils recounted their enjoyment of learning through ‘doing their own thing’, and the personal
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satisfaction they gained from being creative, developing ideas and producing their own individual outcome.

- *Performance, display, evaluation and symbolic ‘celebration’ of what is produced:* These were deemed to be crucial to effective arts lesson. They provided an opportunity for pupils to demonstrate what they had developed, learnt and achieved (p. 55).

- *Pupils’ own contribution* (p. 56).


**2003 What Principals Can Do**

- Instead of cutting arts instruction, examine how your arts teachers can collaborate with classroom teachers so that both reinforce in their instruction the fundamental thinking and motivational skills applicable to one another’s subjects.

- Incorporate quality arts learning activities into your remedial and intervention programs for at-risk students.

- Work with your teachers to examine the general and specific skills developed for various art forms, such as dance, drama, music, and visual arts, and discuss how these skills can be used and enhanced in their classrooms.

- Find time to provide joint planning by arts and classroom teachers to develop interdisciplinary lessons.

- Form partnerships with artists and arts organizations in your community to complement the work of your arts specialist and classroom teachers. Few schools have teachers skilled in all of the art forms, yet each form offers important developmental opportunities for your students if you reach beyond the school walls for help (p. 17-18).

(Deasy, R. J. (2003). Let there be music … and ART … and P.E.: Don’t axe the arts! *Principal, 14*-18.)
**Future Research**

2008 Suggestions from the Dana Foundation for extensions of the research:

1. Previous work has established that different neural networks are involved in various forms of the arts, such as music, visual arts, drama, and dance. Future studies should examine the degrees to which these networks are separate and overlap.
2. We also require evidence of how high motivation to pursue an art form will lead to more rapid changes in that network, and we must find out to what degree such changes may influence other forms of cognition.
3. The links between music and visual arts training and specific aspects of mathematics such as geometry need to be more profoundly explored with advanced imaging methods.
4. The link between intrinsic motivation for a specific art (e.g., music and visual arts) and sustained attention to tasks involving that art needs to be followed up with increased behavioral evidence and imaging methods that can demonstrate that changes in specific pathways are greater for higher levels of motivation.
5. The search for individual indicators of interest in and influence by training in the arts should continue to be examined by a combination of appropriate questionnaire research, used of candidate genes already identified, and whole genome scans.

Further research also should pose these questions:

1. To what degree is the link between music training, reading, and sequence learning causative? If it is causative, does it involve shaping connectivity between areas of the brain network involved?
2. Is the link between music and drama training and memory methods a causative one? If so, can we use brain imaging to determine the mechanism?
3. What is the role of careful observation and imitation in the performing arts? Can we prepare our motor system for complex dance movements by simply observing or imagining desired movements? Do the discipline and the cognitive skill to achieve this goal transfer?


2008 The inherent value of education in the arts has never been in question. But the potential of the arts to engage students in learning more broadly—particularly those who are not otherwise being reached—is an opportunity which demands attention (p. 107).


2008 Although I agree with the REAP authors that arts educators must build justifications based on the inherent value of study in the arts, continuing to seek connections and links between educational experiences in dance and achievement in other subjects seems both politically wise and necessary (p. 27).
2008 Because the essence of a dance-arts education is itself still debated—and the notion of research in and for dance-arts education is in need of great clarification—our field must engage in some substantial preliminary work and contextualization before a strategic vision for empowering future policy initiatives (including curriculum development or a more refined advocacy) may be outlined. Fundamental matters of disciplinary definition and a strategic agenda for inquiry must be addressed before we are able to provide compelling evidence for what a dance-arts education may offer America’s children (p. 28). … Whether it is dance to read, or dance to dance, we must refine a strategic vision for the future of dance in American education (p. 29).

2005 Arnold (2001) calls for new research to be done into the impact of integrated arts teaching on academic achievement, and cites the arts as a possible valuable entry point for educating under-achieving students (p. 8).

2001 … more research needs to focus on quality arts education programs to expand our understanding of the cognitive and affective impact on students of arts study and also its impact on the learning environment of the whole school (p. 38).

2001 … schools with strong arts often reports improved academic achievement. Why? One possibility is that the same schools that treat the arts seriously institute other kinds of innovations that are favorable to academic learning. … To discover this, researchers need to carry out ethnographic studies of exemplary schools that grant the arts a serious role in the curriculum. What kinds of innovations have been made in these schools to foster excellence? If certain innovations are always found in schools that grant the arts a serious role, this finding could account for why schools with serious arts programs have high academic performance. … Experimental studies thus far have not tested this hypothesis. What is needed are comparisons of academically strong vs. academically at-risk students taught the same subject matter with and without the arts as entry points. Can we identify students who first experience success in the art form and subsequently go on to show heightened interest and effort in the academic subject matter? And do levels of interest and/or motivation predict later achievement in that subject matter? It is also possible that all students would benefit from an arts-integrated approach, even those who are high achievers to begin with, simply because an arts-integrated approach makes any subject more interesting. This hypothesis also deserves a rigorous test (p. 6).


Training in the visual arts can lead to small improvements in visual reading readiness tests, but not in reading achievement tests. If we want to find out whether the improvement in reading readiness actually facilitates reading achievement later on, children who show improved reading readiness scores as a function of arts instruction must be followed to find out if they in fact become better readers (p. 292).


When reading is taught in an engaging way, through art projects, children may become motivated to read more and this may improve their reading. But further research is still required to test this explanation. Independent measures of children’s interest in reading, along with measures of reading achievement, are needed. … Further research must compare the effectiveness of art as a motivational entry point into reading with the effectiveness of other potential motivators such as sports (p. 292).


Qualitative research should explore the ways in which the arts may change the entire atmosphere of a school. This way we can begin to understand how the arts affect the “culture of learning” in a school (p. 6).

It would be unfortunate if the debate devolved into an “either/or” dispute among the disciplines, between the arts and the sciences, for instance. The development and use of the imagination cannot be confined to a single discipline nor can the content, skills and modes of thought of a single discipline satisfy the demand to develop the other skills deemed crucial to a 21st century workforce by national reports: collaboration and teamwork, critical thinking and problem solving, initiative and self-direction, the ability to communicate in multiple forms, and social and cross-cultural skills. Integrated, interdisciplinary learning is essential to developing these skills.

Specific characteristics of the arts bring multiple values to interdisciplinary work. And they bring their explicit purpose, the development and application of the imagination — the capacity to visualize new possibilities for human thought, behavior and the use of materials — and embody those visions creatively in tangible and multiple forms of communication.

For the arts to make their contribution, however, administrators and policymakers need to understand the value of moving them from the margins of school priorities and time to a more substantive role in the curriculum and life of the school.

Under the pressures of accountability testing required by states and No Child Left Behind, it’s not easy for policymakers and administrators to take the risk, as Hinojosa has done, of placing some of their bets on the arts as they respond to current and new Challenges. They can draw confidence from a growing body of research clarifying the nature of learning in the arts and the intellectual, personal and social skills the arts require and nurture (p. 13-14).

(Deasy, R.J. (2008). Why the arts deserve center stage. School Administrator, 65, 3, 12-17.)

The interdisciplinary curriculum suggestions encourage students to develop new insights and synthesize new relationships between ideas (p. 35).


The arts help to emphasize what must or is mandated to be learned in schools. … the arts should be used as a means of making meaning of all that is learned. The arts may also be used as a response to what has already been learned and to help to synthesize what had been taught in schools (p. 14).


Learning through the arts, such as the use of drama to re-enact historical events or the use of paintings to introduce and analyze life in historical periods, allows students to learn beyond the rote recall of information (p. 16).
2008 Drama can also be used to enhance intrapersonal intelligence. McMaster (1998) described drama as a way to develop metacognitive strategies. While students are dramatizing a particular narrative, they are continually analyzing and evaluating their work to decide whether they are convincing enough in their role. Teachers assisted with this strategy by providing questions that helped students reflect on their performances and plan for improvement on future performances. Students employed the use of visualizing as they planned for dramatic reenactments of a particular part of the text. Because visualization was an effective strategy to store information for retrieval, this process inevitably aided in comprehension (p. 18).

2008 Drama, because of its requirement for active student involvement, encourages risk-taking while allowing students the opportunity to transform themselves into characters representative of the material they have read. This teaching strategy activity enabled students to claim ownership of the newly processed information in addition to becoming a tool for application for the new knowledge to other areas. Researchers have also noted that drama encouraged the use of skill of writing, speaking, and performing as well. The art of drama lies within the process as opposed to the product (p. 18).

2008 Learning through the arts provides students the opportunity for constructing meaning of content related material through the use of the visual, dramatic, and musical arts while learning in the arts give students the exposure to specific skills gained through instruction in these art forms. Both roles of the arts are desired in a school based program (p. 24).

2008 While the arts should be recognized as subjects that can stand alone and be important in their own rights, parents and educators should also embrace the concept that the arts can enhance true understanding of a content area (p. 24).

2007 Based on a study of a large-scale project in Minneapolis, researchers concluded “the amount of arts integration matters.” More than mere exposure to the arts is necessary to affect substantial gains in learning. When teachers integrated the arts into their mathematics lessons “a lot,” for example, students showed greater gains than those who integrated “very little.” The potential for the arts to invigorate learning is demonstrated in the academic superiority of students in schools that devote 25 percent or more of the curriculum to arts courses (p. 11).
2007 This vignette highlights the qualities that made arts integrations engaging learning experiences:

1. **Integrations allowed students to use their hands, bodies, and voices in meaningful ways.**
   What we typically ‘shush’ (voices) or ask to keep still (hands and bodies) become tools for learning in an arts integration lesson … they were permitted to stand, sit, or move around the room as needed. This sense of freedom and responsibility for their own learning helped sustain their attention and encouraged perseverance with the task.

2. **Making art allowed choices about how to interact with content.**
   Expressing their understanding of concepts through art led students to become more attentive to detail, more deliberate in their choices, and more thoughtful about what they considered essential, underscoring the power of art as an intellectual exercise.

3. **Integrations were social events.**
   Students were free to visit with one another as long as they were working. They borrowed materials and ideas freely from each other, but this social aspect of the integration did not appear to divert anyone from the purpose of the lesson (p. 36).

2007 Supportive Elements of Art Integrations

1. **Arts integrations allowed for multiple perspectives:** “I learned it is fun to be in someone else’s shoes for a while.” No matter what their cognitive bias or learning styles/preferences might be, the arts permitted students to interpret content in ways that were meaningful to them.

2. **Arts integrations helped create a safe atmosphere for taking risks:** “You don’t have to make your drawing look real … it’s great as long as you like it.” The principal observed, “It is the only opportunity for some of those children to attach meaning to what we’re doing … Because they’re not understanding the language … it’s hard for them to read a fifth grade content book, their reading level may not be fifth grade content, but they see it, they do it, they act it out, it’s fun, it’s engaging, they remember it. They’re able to attach meaning to that and build on their experiences.”

3. **Arts integrations demonstrated that learning can be a pleasurable experience:** “The best thing about the arts is it is creative and fun and that’s what keeps me going and staying on track.” … they encourage students to explore things –with hands, bodies, and voices.

4. **The arts and regular classroom curriculum naturally complement each other.** “The arts can help people for other classes such as math and science (p. 36-37).
When the arts become a vehicle for learning classroom content, the whole child is involved. Children are immersed intellectually, emotionally, physically, and therefore rigorously, in the learning experience. … the arts require children to assume greater responsibility for their own learning. When challenged to demonstrate their learning dramatically, visually, or musically, students must make important decisions about what is essential and what is not…. arts integrations are inclusive experiences that invite all students to participate in the learning process. Students who struggle academically experience success when given the opportunity to demonstrate their learning…(p. 37-38).

Both sides make a compelling case. But the evidence suggests that the stark choice between academics and the arts is a false dichotomy…recent research suggests a direct and systematic link between art experiences and literacy skills (p. 80).

Although it is increasingly common to expect music and art teachers to integrate literacy into their lessons, we also need to encourage content-area teachers to integrate the arts into their classes (p. 81).

Arts-integrated programs are associated with academic gains across the curriculum as reflected in standardized test scores, and they appear to have more powerful effects on the achievement of struggling students than more conventional arts education programs do (p. 60).

As artists and teachers begin working together, they often design lessons and units that connect subject matter to an arts project: Students might make a quilt, with each patch representing a key idea in the U.S. Constitution, or teachers might develop letter awareness by having students “dance” letter shapes (p. 61).

Pioneering artists and teachers in Chicago actively develop curriculum by identifying parallel processes in an art form or arts-related activity and a more traditionally academic activity, then crafting an elegant fit between these processes. For example, they might pair journal writing with sketching, reading literature with looking at art, and writing drafts with repainting (Burnaford, Aprill, & Weiss, 2001). The paired subjects engage the same cognitive processes attentive observation, identification of meaningful detail, selection of appropriate representational strategies, and student reflections, and self-critique. Setting these parallel processes in motion appears to
generate a cognitive resonance between the two subjects, deepening learning in both. Powerful social and emotional dynamics amplify this resonance. In arts-integrated classrooms, work more often clearly and meaningfully connects to students own experiences and feelings (p. 63).

2006 In harnessing the arts to other subjects, arts integration turns the curriculum toward work that does not merely reproduce knowledge, but uses knowledge in authentic intellectual ways. This kind of work is interesting and meaningful, promotes higher levels of engagement, raises students’ intrinsic standards, and motivates students to invest the energy that learning requires of them (p. 63).

2006 The best arts integration programs are developing a strategy that is helping to close the achievement gap even as it makes schools happier places. These programs successes demonstrate that this strategy is within reach of most schools, even those in the poorest communities (p. 63).

2006 Districts and schools should expand successful arts integration partnerships and launch new ones. They should compensate artists working in these partnerships for their high levels of experience and skill and give teachers time to plan units and lessons with artists. Principals should lead school-wide planning to bring arts integration into all classrooms and use multiple art forms in the school. Preservice teachers should learn about arts integration, and arts classes should be required for teacher certification. Art and music teachers should learn to integrate what they know about their art forms with other subjects (p. 64).
**Limitations to Previous Research**

**2008** Two primary issues relating to existing research approaches are the limitations of the current definitional scope of the impact of art and the corresponding lack of robust methodologies with which to interpret it (p. 22).

The approach to defining art as a function of institutions (an institutionalized perspective) generally only included the high arts or government-funded community arts programs. However, the way people experience art is broader than this (DiMaggio 2002; Guetzkow 2002; Jackson, Kabwasa-Green, and Herranz Jr. 2006; Jermyn 2001; Stern et al. 1994). Many of these broader encapsulations of art fall within the populist perspective, which incorporates popular arts, fringe arts, amateur arts, and minority and ethnic arts (Mulcahy 2006). Yet, in the study of the impact of art research, there has been limited inclusion of these populist definitions. Further, there has been little consideration of varying modes of experience (creating or passively perceiving art).

Additional methodological concerns identified during the Critique era include:
* A lack of consideration of negative impacts;
* Crude attempts to use quantitative measures as proxies for qualitative indicators;
* Lack of longitudinal research;
* Lack of evidence of causality); and
* Exclusive and nonrepresentative research samples (p. 22-23).


**2007** Scientific research is held up as model, despite the acceptance of much lower effectiveness levels in scientific fields. For example, pharmaceuticals are offered as research models even though 90% of drugs only work with 30-50% of the population. Imagine proposing an educational approach that only works with one third to one half of kids. The consequences of overreliance on “scientific research” have become apparent as more and more “proven” treatments, such as silicone implants and Vioxx, have been shown to have life-threatening side effects (p. 34).


**2007** A compelling argument is made that measuring complex thinking in the arts is beyond the capabilities of current tests. Hetland and Winner (2000) call the research on the arts-academics connection “inconclusive,” but make the case that the arts should not be justified by their ability to increase test scores. The arts have inherent merits such as an unquestioned ability to compel interest, induce empathy, and give new perspectives. These and many of the other important influences of the arts are not easily measured in standardized testing formats. Artistic processes resist standardization. As Eisner (2002) is quick to point out, that which is easily measured may not matter and what matters in not easy to measure. … Scripp (2003) argues further that “one-way cause and effect” models
of research are appropriate when it is only possible that the treatment affects the outcome. He points out, for example, that smoking causes cancer, but cancer does not cause smoking. Arts-based learning is not a one-way street. Learning in music enhances math, but math undoubtedly enriches music achievement. One-way transfer is unlikely and is a constricted view of learning. That said, most available research looks at what the arts might do for academics, not the other way around (p. 34).


2005 Here the question is whether it is simplistic to make declarations about causal links between skills learnt in an arts arena and subsequent enhanced performance in academic areas when such declarations are often based purely on the anecdotal reflections of those asked rather than on more rigorous data collection methods that may include a pre- and post-test measure (p. 9).

(Boyes, L. C. & Reid, I. (2005). What are the benefits for pupils participating in arts activities? The view from the research literature. Research in Education, 73, 1-14.)

2004 Overall we found that most of the empirical research on instrumental benefits suffers from a number of conceptual and methodological limitations:

• Weakness in empirical methods. Many studies are based on weak methodological and analytical techniques and, as a result, have been subject to considerable criticism. For example, many of these studies do no more than establish correlations between arts involvement and the presence of certain effects in the study subjects. They do not demonstrate that arts experiences caused the effect.

• Absence of specificity. There is a lack of critical specifics about such issues as how the claimed benefits are produced, how they relate to different types of arts experiences, and under what circumstances and for which populations they are most likely to occur. Without these specifics, it is difficult to judge how much confidence to place in the findings and how to generalize from the empirical results.

• Failure to consider opportunity costs. The fact that the benefits claimed can all be produced in other ways is ignored. Cognitive benefits can be produced by better education (such as providing more-effective reading and mathematics courses), just as economic benefits can be generated by other types of social investment (such as providing more-effective reading and mathematics courses), just as economic benefits can be generated by other types of social investment (such as a new sports stadium or transportation infrastructure) (p. xiv-xv).


1999 Although there is much material published that claims the arts cause academic achievement scores to increase or that the arts courses “strengthen” academic performance, it is often difficult to know the basis upon which the claims are made. … It is also of no small interest to note that what constitutes success is higher academic
achievement scores as a result of enrolling in arts courses, not accomplishment in the arts (p. 144).
Obstacles/Challenges to Arts

2008 Our culture is shaped by our language, our images, what we pay attention to and those people whom we raise to iconic status. The real contaminant in our culture today is what we choose to value and adore. Today’s American icons are business titans like Bill Gates and Warren Buffet, sports stars like Michael Jordan and Tiger Woods or pop idols like Britney Spears and Paris Hilton. Our values seem to be built around wealth accumulation, sports excellence (which leads to wealth accumulation) or fame (which also seems to make one wealthy). … The Bible says that where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. America has come to treasure treasure, and therein lies the problem. … At the child level, what our children are taught to value comes largely from the popular culture and what our schools emphasize tends to be shaped by the economic culture of our country. The result is that we have collectively raised a generation of children that knows the price of everything and the value of nothing (p. 36).


2008 “At times over the last half century, schools have been criticized for limiting America’s ability to compete in the global marketplace. In the late 1950s, America’s falling behind in the space race was largely blamed on our schools. There were panicked stories in the popular media about “what Ivan knows that Johnny doesn’t,” and there was a flurry of activity to improve America’s educational standing. Money poured into schools for new programs in science and for teacher preparation.

When a mere decade later America landed men on the moon, the schools were not given much credit for this achievement. And they probably shouldn’t have received credit. They were no more responsible for John Glenn and Neil Armstrong’s accomplishments than they had been at fault for Russia’s launching of a satellite before the United States had done so. Their space flights were the result of American ingenuity and know-how and a government that was focused on a successful outcome (p. 37). …

Schools again are targeted as the culprits of our supposed failure to compete. And, as usual, the pundits have it all wrong. It’s not the schools, it’s the culture (p. 38).


2008 While the United States has cut taxes that go to support education both at the state level and nationally, other countries in the world are increasing their investments in education (p. 39).


2008 Deasy suggested what’s most valued in America is “muscularity” or toughness. The math and science curricula carry with them this sense of muscularity through their
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inherent formulas, truisms and theories. By comparison, the arts experience seems less
tough, softer, more anecdotal (p. 33).

2008 NCLB requires schools to report student achievement test results for reading,
mathematics, and science. Because all students must meet state-determined standards in
these subjects in the next six years, the instructional time for other subjects, such as the
arts, has been in serious decline. A 2007 report by the Center for Education Policy
(Choices, Changes, and Challenges: Curriculum and Instruction in the NCLB Era) says
about 62 percent of school districts increased the amount of time spent in elementary
schools on English language arts and/or math, while 44 percent of districts cut time
devoted to science, social studies, art and music and other subjects. … 97 minutes for arts
and music compared to 568 minutes for reading (p. 29).
(Rome, N. W. (2008). Collecting arts education data under NCLB. School Administrator,
65, 3, p. 29.)

2008 Teachers in England use [the arts] to teach history and to advance both
interpersonal and intrapersonal communication, while in the United States, the arts are
typically connected with those who are particularly gifted in aesthetics (p. 13).
for the profession. The University of North Carolina Press. 12-25.)

2008 Some educators view integration of the arts into the curriculum as simple activities
that may be used as extras or time fillers. This misrepresentation or simplistic view of the
arts tends to trivialize the importance of the process. Students should be immersed in
meaningful ways with the arts throughout their school day (p. 16).
for the profession. The University of North Carolina Press. 12-25.)

2008 We know that when we teach students in and through dance, they, well, they bloom.
We know this, but we really don’t know how or why. … whether or not having had such
an educational experience, Suzie reads better, or adds better, or writes better. Such
connections are sought because we can measure better reading, better adding, or better
writing. The problem is that we haven’t determined a way to measure what better dancing
does for Suzie (p. 28).
(Hagood, T. K. (2008). Dance to read or dance to dance? Art Education Policy Review,
102, 5, 27-29.)

2007 Pressure to pass basic skills tests also leads teachers—often against their better
judgment—to substitute “drill and kill” for “problem solving” or to forfeit real literature
in favor of artificially sequenced textbooks filled with vapid, insignificant stories (p. 5).
Beyond the basics: Achieving a liberal education for all children (pp. 1-10). Washington,
D.C.: Thomas B. Fordham Institute.)
The challenge for school leaders is to offer every student a rich experience with the arts without sacrificing the academic opportunities students need (p. 80).

“Of all the art forms, dance is experienced the least.” … In terms of frequency of arts instruction, visual arts rank first, followed by music and theater; dance is in last place (p. 30).
Previous Research Design/Methods

2008 One proposed research method that recognizes the nature and context of the research problem, comprises two stages:

In stage one, a narrative inquiry is employed to make the perspective of the individual central to the research. This allows for the discernment of meaningful information about how individuals define art and how they perceive its impact on them. Narrative inquiry is a mode of exploring and representing human experience regarding a phenomenon by analyzing and presenting the subjective narratives of individuals. “Narrative is retrospective meaning—the shaping or ordering of past experience. Narrative is a way of understanding one’s own and others’ actions, of organizing events into a meaningful whole and of seeing the consequences of events and actions over time.”

The methodology uses a combination of narrative interpretation (where data collected is interpreted and presented in a narrative form) and analysis of the narratives to determine themes across them. This follows the process of developing a posteriori knowledge by generating specific knowledge (individual narrative interpretation) followed by a more general understanding based on that knowledge (thematic analysis of the narratives). Stage two-Impact and Enabler Development-further explores and refines the preliminary impacts identified in stage one to assess the generalization of the findings.

The first stage of the research explored the impact of art on eight individuals, which was deemed to be sufficient within the method of narrative inquiry. The participants were asked to reflect on and respond to three primary research questions during an initial two-week data collection phase. During this period they were asked to consider how they define art, how they experience art, and what impacts resulted for them. Participants were asked to record in a diary one entry per day about their experiences and thoughts.

The participants were also asked to submit up to twelve photographs (abstract or literal) to assist them in communicating their experiences.

In-depth semistructured interviews were conducted two to four weeks after this initial data collection phase.

The first stage of analysis was the narrative interpretation, which required premeditated inference, selection, structure, and interpretation of data to produce a representation of the experience being considered (p. 24-26).

... compare performance on academic measures with the number of arts courses taken. … students would need either to be randomly selected and randomly assigned to experimental and control groups or matched on academic achievement on the relevant achievement variables. Where random selection and assignment are not feasible, gain-scores-differences between pre-experimental and post-experimental scores would be used to compare the performance of students in each group at the end of the experiment.
To know what might make a difference in the academic achievement scores between the two groups, the form and content of the experimental treatment, in this case the curriculum of the arts courses in which students in the experimental group were enrolled, would need to be monitored and described. In addition, the course aims and content of the students in academic classes would have been monitored and described to ensure that they were comparable. … pay attention to the quality of teaching provided to students in each group (p. 145-146).

1998 Language skills were measured using the Primary or Intermediate Test of Language Development (TOLD-2). Social skills were measured using the Walker-McConnell Scale of Social Competence and School Adjustment (WMS). The experimental group participated in twelve 40-minute sessions of creative drama which targeted each of the four social skills in three sessions each. The speech and language pathologist, who had completed courses in theatre and used drama activities in instruction, led the drama sessions on Tuesdays (intermediate groups) and Fridays (primary group) (p. 90). During the treatment period, the comparison group was involved in a traditional curriculum for social and oral language skills development (p. 91).
Support for the Arts

2008 … Nike founder—Phil Knight … Apple’s Steve Jobs … Sidney Harman, founder of Harman Industries (a $3 billion producer of sound systems for luxury cars, theaters, and airports, … To Harman, Jobs and Knight, the arts mean business. These men realize that the arts are not only about aesthetics but about imaginative ideas, abstract thoughts and creative problem solving (p. 30).

2008 At Americans for the Arts, we launched Arts Vote 2008 to elicit arts education policy position statements from all presidential candidates, and it’s working. For the first time, presidential candidates were talking during the primaries about the importance of arts education and how they will promote it. Across the country, mayors are holding press conferences announcing the economic impact of the arts in their communities. Many cities, towns and regions have announced major new initiatives around building their creative industries. Business leaders, elected officials and citizens are rallying behind these efforts (p. 30).
Theories

2005 Monroe C. Beardsley … theorized that works of art of some complexity and quality possess the capacity to invite aesthetic experiences that may not only relieve various degrees of tension and conflict but may also refine perception and discrimination and stimulate the imagination. If works of art can have such a positive impact on human experience, it is reasonable to suppose that they might also affect mental health positively, foster a degree of sympathy and understanding among people, and provide an ideal for human life (p. 38).

2000 … researchers hypothesize that, because of neurological connections in the cortex, development of certain kinds of musical and spatial abilities are related. In particular, they argue that musical abilities are linked to “spatial-temporal” abilities, defined as processes that require mental manipulation of two- and three-dimensional objects in the absence of physical models, and that ‘music training at an early age is exercise” for such higher brain functions as spatial-temporal reasoning (p. 180).

2000 Another theory, the “rhythm” theory proposed by Lawrence Parsons and colleagues, also suggests a neurological connection between music and spatial processes that require mental rotation, a component of spatial-temporal ability. This theory proposes that the rhythmic element of music links musical and spatial processing. Parsons goes on to argue that rhythm is processed in the cerebellum, as is mental rotation. Hence, it is possible that processing rhythm stimulates the ability to perform mental rotation tasks, with the result that music enhances spatial tasks that require mental rotation (p. 180).

2000 Making music requires coordination over extended periods of at least six of the intelligences defined by Howard Gardner in *Frames of Mind*: musical (e.g., to think with tones, melodies, and timbres), visual-spatial (e.g., to understand musical notations and spatial relations such as those depicted on keyboards), bodily-kinesthetic (i.e., to exploit both fine and gross motor skills, as in fingered and conducting), logical/mathematical (e.g., to discern patterns, note values, and part-whole relationships), interpersonal (e.g., to communicate between student and teacher, performer and ensemble, or performer and audience), and intrapersonal (e.g., to express feelings through sound). … Because music-making and spatial abilities are both multi-dimensional processes, we might expect a range of spatial skills to improve because of direct practice during music instruction (p. 181).
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References


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Additional Arts Articles (Not Cited Above)


Hetland, L. & Winner, E. (2004). Cognitive transfer from arts education to nonarts outcomes: Research evidence and policy implications. In E. W. Eisner & M. D. Day (Ed.), Handbook of Research and Policy in Art Education, pp. 135-161. Mahwah, New Jersey: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Publishers.) (This article has some of the same information and findings as “Hetland, L. & Winner, E. (2001). The arts and academic achievement: What the evidence shows. Arts Education Policy Review, 102, 5. 3-6” which is cited in the references. This is just a more recent article with the information.)


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http://digitalcommons.uconn.edu/nera_2008/21/


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New Research Abstracts

21st-Century Skills


Since 2000, the impact of technologies on society has been critical, significant, and extensive. In this paper, the author explores art educators' perceptions and approaches to working with technology, in light of the emerging technology as a significant and increasingly prevalent art education tool, as a means of student communication, and as a means of personal, artistic expression. The author discusses technology programs within two separate Canadian schools and describes teachers' perspectives and "lived experiences" regarding technology usage, specifically pertaining to issues of authority and pedagogy. Processes of teaching are discussed from the perspective of art teachers working in innovative, digital cutting-edge art classrooms.


This timely book takes up the challenge of maintaining programs in the arts in the face of unrelenting pressure from two directions; the increasing focus on literacy and numeracy in schools, teamed with the cut-backs in public funding that often affect the arts most severely. Drawing on the wealth of evidence already available on the impact of the arts, including the findings of a landmark experimental study in Australia, this text considers: (1) The social and educational impact of neglecting the arts; (2) Research evidence on engagement in the arts; (3) Why there is a need for educational reform; and (4) How to transform schools through engagement in the arts. This challenge to arts education exists at a time where an increasing number of students are becoming disengaged from the traditional schooling model that appears ill-suited to the needs of the 21st century and to the ways young people learn in a globalised, high-tech knowledge world. "Transforming Education through the Arts" provides illustrations from around the world that clearly show how the arts have transformed learning for disengaged students and established their worth beyond doubt in settings where the disengagement of students has hitherto been presented as an intractable problem. "Transforming Education through the Arts" is an indispensible tool for policymakers and practitioners in school education and for academic and postgraduate students with an interest in the arts. It is also highly relevant to the work of individuals and organisations in the philanthropic sector and those in the wider community who place a priority in closing the gap between high and low performing students.

This article proposes a way to expand the study of arts education within new contexts of technology and globalization. Drawing upon theories that have informed arts and aesthetic education in the past, the authors suggest new applications for these ideas to ensure that arts education sustains its significance in twenty-first-century society. The article makes suggestions about how to redirect arts education policy to keep pace with rapid global and technological changes and developments in new media learning as students presently experience them. As an example of this change, a digital humanities project that uses Rembrandt's art as a teaching resource is highlighted, and suggestions are made on how the program may be used to advance arts education and arts policy.


This report presents results from the second year of CRESST's three-year evaluation of the WebPlay program. WebPlay is an online-enhanced arts education program for K-12 students. The evaluation occurred during the three-year implementation of the program in Grades 3 and 5 in California schools; this report focused on results from the second year of program implementation, 2006-07. Results show that WebPlay participation was significantly related to positive educational engagement/attitude. In terms of California Standards Test (CST) English Language Arts (ELA) scores, despite no overall WebPlay effects, a significant difference was found for limited English proficiency (LEP) students. The results support that a well-designed, theater-based education can improve student engagement; and that it may have academic benefits in language arts content, particularly for those students who are struggling with English proficiency.


In this article, the author explores the possibilities of teaching and learning through multiple literacies in an arts environment. Acknowledging that technologies have a profound effect on our society, and often outpace our ability to properly assess or understand their implications, the author asserts that young people can become critical and active agents in their interactions with new media. Arts education, specifically theater education, is uniquely positioned to substantially contribute to these interactions between teachers and students that acknowledge and explore the new forms of literacy that are essential to navigating our contemporary culture. To this end, the author calls on arts educators to effectively engage with their students' multimodal concerns through interactions that value new multimodal literacies.

It is a common acceptance that contemporary schoolchildren live in a world that is intensely visual and commercially motivated, where what is imagined and what is experienced intermingle. Because of this, contemporary education should encourage a child to make reference to, and connection with their "out-of-school" life. The core critical underpinnings of curriculum-based arts appreciation and theory hinge on educators and students taking a historical look at the ways artists have engaged with, and made comment upon, their contemporary societies. My article uses this premise to argue for the need to persist with pushing for critique of/through the visual, that it be delivered as an active process via the arts classroom rather than as visual literacy, here regarded as a more passive process for interpreting and understanding visual material. The article asserts that visual arts lessons are best placed to provide fully students with such critique because they help students to develop a "critical eye", an interpretive lens often used by artists to view, analyse and independently navigate and respond to contemporary society.


In this technological age, where mind and body are increasingly disconnected in the classroom, object-based learning--along with strong museum-school partnerships--provide many benefits for student learning. In this article, the author first outlines some of the special mind-body connections that object-based learning in museums affords learners and how this learning is specific to the kind of object-based learning one finds in museums. Next, she discusses how integral museum-school partnerships are to making a space for arts education in general school curriculum. Lastly, she makes a case for increased funding for museum-school partnerships and object-based learning school initiatives, as she thinks they should begin to be rightly seen as part of the future for arts education in the 21st century. Here, the author hopes to reinvigorate the argument that, in the current technological learning revolution of the early 21st century, educators do not forget the great benefits of learning from physical objects.


Online professional development (OPD) has great potential to improve teacher quality by improving teachers' knowledge and instructional practices, with the ultimate goal of improving student achievement. There is a dearth of scientific research, however, on the
effects of OPD. This article presents the results of a randomized control trial exploring the effects of a series of three learning-community model OPD workshops on teachers' knowledge and instructional practices in the context of fourth grade English language arts. There were significant effects on changes in teachers' knowledge and instructional practices, as they related to the targeted goals in vocabulary, reading comprehension, and writing instruction.


It would be a rare thing to visit an early years setting or classroom in Australia that does not display examples of young children's artworks. This practice serves to give schools a particular 'look', but is no guarantee of quality art education. The Australian National Review of Visual Arts Education (, ) has called for changes to visual art education in schools. The planned new National Curriculum includes the arts (music, dance, drama, media and visual arts) as 1 of the 5 learning areas. Research shows that it is the classroom teacher that makes the difference, and teacher education has a large part to play in reforms to art education. This paper provides an account of one foundation unit of study (Unit 1) for first year university students enrolled in a 4-year Bachelor degree program who are preparing to teach in the early years (0-8 years). To prepare pre-service teachers to meet the needs of children in the twenty-first century, Unit 1 blends old and new ways of seeing art, child and pedagogy. Claims for the effectiveness of this model are supported with evidence-based research, conducted over the 6 years of iterations and ongoing development of Unit 1.


Early childhood educators, in New Zealand and internationally, are increasingly using information and communication technology (ICT) to enhance learning opportunities for young children in their care. The types of ICTs being used in early childhood settings often include computers, digital cameras, video cameras, and DVD players. The Internet is also being accessed by teachers to assist inquiry-based learning or to find information that builds on children's learning interests. Interactive Whiteboards (IWBs), a relatively new type of ICT, are now being used in some early childhood programs in New Zealand, and this new technology has the potential to add a new dimension to children's visual art learning experiences. This article explores how ICTs, such as IWBs, can add new possibilities for both teaching and learning in the visual arts in early childhood settings.

Although goals change and reflect the issues of the time, two primary goals of education in a democracy have remained constant over time. The first goal is to educate for vocational competence and the second is to produce caring, intelligent, and wise citizens. Articulating the connection of design education concepts to the economy and social responsibility is beneficial in educating K-12 students. This article illustrates the ways in which design education fosters the skills needed in the global twenty-first century to help students make a better life for themselves and their community and improve the world. I articulate ways to incorporate design as an essential component into a comprehensive visual arts program.
Through the partnership of Art Access/VSA arts of Utah and the Arts Education Program of the Utah Division of Arts and Museums, a unique collaboration between artists and teachers was created. This collaboration allowed these professionals to learn of each other, bringing their individual expertise along with “unique insights and perceptions regarding children with disabilities.” (Batt, 2000) The artist and the teacher worked to develop and understand new ways of thinking about and teaching the children with whom they worked. They often began thinking of themselves in new ways as well.

Those who participated were some of the most experienced and best teachers and artists in Utah. Each set of partners were given two requirements: “to work together for a minimum of ten hours and to distill the knowledge gained through their experiences into lesson plans.” (Batt, 2000) These lesson plans focused on the artist’s individual discipline that had been adapted for the specific population with whom the educator worked. As evidenced from the earliest feedback on these plans, it was clear more had to be done then just create them and file them away and thus this book was created.

Along with the lesson plans created by the artist and teacher partners, each chapter contains interviews, conversations, or monologues about the experience and some memorable moments. Little editing was done on these excerpts allowing the reader to have a more organic experience. There is also an appendix which focuses on communicating and working with those with disabilities in a sensitive and professional manner and the unique challenges/rewards this demographic presents.

Each lesson was created around the needs of the students and the art form to be taught targeted areas where these students struggled. For example, the lesson “‘Me, I am’: A Multi-Sensory Art Experience was created for autistic children and allowed them to create through the use of many of their senses. This lesson allows the student to work with multiple colors, textures, and scents, all while creating something that expresses who they are. All these elements are essential to the growth of someone with autism. Other areas where students struggled that are addressed in these lessons plans include reading, social skills, physical movement, and language. There are also lessons that focus on different cultures; increasing the students’ knowledge of geography and the traditions of other people groups. The lessons are straightforward, easy to read and implement, and use materials easily accessed by the average teacher. The narrative pieces in each chapter give insight as to the process, discoveries made, and reasons behind the decisions.

This resource is available through Art Access/VSA arts of Utah and the Utah Division of Arts and Museums Arts Education Program.

Beyond having value as an assessment tool, engagement with the arts in the K-12 classroom can offer aesthetic experiences that have the potential to transform the way students encounter the world, engaging the imagination in acts of perception that stir them to "wide-awakeness." Advocates for the arts in education call for a variety of types of arts programs, some whose aim is to teach mastery of a specific art form, and others whose chief mode of interaction with the arts encourages children to "acquire from their consideration of works of art unique skills of analytic thinking and familiarity with a wealth of aesthetic texts." This latter type of arts program, called aesthetic education, seeks to awaken individuals to the possibilities contained in works of art. This article presents a vignette shared by Jeanette Del Valle, a high school English Teacher at the School for Community Research and Learning in the Bronx, New York. She writes about the importance of her students' involvement in an aesthetic education program offered at her school by Lincoln Center Institute.


In this article I present personalised socio-cultural inquiry in visual art education as a critical and expressive material praxis. The model of Visual Performative Pedagogy and Communicative Proficiency for the Visual Art Classroom is presented as a legitimate means of manipulating visual codes, communicating meaning and mediating values through imaging technologies. It identifies that visual art studio learning outcomes as exhibition artworks facilitate the mediation and communication of ideas, and support understanding of individual identities, social behaviours, culture and beliefs. A critical phenomenological methodology was used to explore longitudinal and case-study learning insights about student learning in a post-compulsory visual art curriculum in New South Wales, Australia. Through analysis of student artworks, reflective journals and post-schooling case-study interviews, the research identified that this unique learning environment developed visual communicative proficiency in the students. The findings affirm the significance of personalised imaging inquiry strategies to support understandings about the self, society and culture. The studio pedagogies and visual arts education curriculum in NSW represents an alternative approach to a prescribed and explicit values curriculum. This article will identify the key elements of the model of Visual Performative Pedagogy and Communicative Proficiency for the Visual Art Classroom. It will expand on the aesthetic and critical approach in arts learning as studio pedagogy and the exhibition process that generates public benefits through socially embedded and embodied inquiry.

Manurewa Intermediate students were given an experience only the arts can provide as they collaboratively researched, responded to and celebrated a school mural project. The mural project was initiated by Shane Hansen through the Principal Iain Taylor and coordinated by Dianne Macdonald, a Professional Learning Leader at Manurewa Intermediate School. The thrust of the project: To paint an artwork environment that told the school's story "Listen to Culture". The mural, titled "Pumanawatanga," which is 2.4 metres high and 20 metres long, was designed and painted by thirty Year 7 and Year 8 students in Terms 3 and 4 in 2009, in collaboration with local New Zealand artist Shane Hansen. The underpinning aim of this project was to support students' learning in arts education through a focus on "culture". Shane's influences include his Maori, Chinese and European heritage, the environment, his family and other New Zealand artists such as Gordon Walters and Dick Frizzell. Shane draws from a world of bold colours and what has been described as an optimistic post-modern playfulness.


This article stems from a story of arts education advocacy in the midst of a bureaucracy that misunderstood the purpose of art education at the launch of a new elementary school. Contemporary visual arts education practices overlap a unique period of change in neighboring social science disciplines, a turn of the tide that involves the embrace of narrative methods to rewrite prevailing working models and paradigms of social science practice. Here at the start of the 21st century, art education continues to be practiced in the thrall of a scientific paradigm that misunderstands the greater potential of the arts in education, often imposing a ceiling ill-fitted for arts praxis, arts-based research, or arts pedagogy. The author argues that art education is also at a turn of the tide and surmises some of the unexpected outcomes when new and ex-centric stories of learning and a "pedagogy of possibility" are more thoroughly explored, allowing practitioners to fully rethink an art education practice without taxonomic ceilings and within the shelter of the unexplored labyrinth.


Curiously, while the efficacy of the arts for the development of multicultural understandings has long been theorized, empirical studies of this effect have been lacking. This essay recounts our combined empirical and philosophical study of this issue. We explicate the philosophical considerations that shaped the development of the arts course we studied, which was grounded in rather traditional humanist educational thought, informed by Deweyan considerations for pedagogy and multiculturalism. We
also provide an overview of the course and of the study design: the ways in which the course worked to teach aesthetic theory through a combination of popular and canonical works, and the ways in which it sought to instill a sense of cross-cultural appreciation and solidarity among students through the inclusion of art from different cultures and generations. We then share our research findings and our return to the realm of philosophy to interpret them. Our postcolonial analysis incorporates emerging discussions of the arts as a tool for resistance and dialogue within the system of public education, and revisit and reconsider the very concept of education for pluralistic democracy. This approach problematizes traditional conceptions of pluralism, in which an attempt is made to dissolve difference in a common understanding, and instead advocates that works from among the contemporary popular arts and works drawn from the artistic "canon" alike must be considered and employed for their instrumental value to the educational process--especially for their ability to prompt an intersubjectivity that is accompanied by a heightened awareness of difference.


The author discusses the participation of theater, dance, and performance students during protest demonstrations at the University of California at Berkeley (UC) in 2009 and 2010. The author also explores reactions by students and faculty to threatened budget cuts to arts departments in California colleges and universities in the 1990s. The author discusses performance art by UC arts students during the 2009-2010 protests against proposed privatization, including the performance group UC Movement for Efficient Privatization (UC Me P).


In this article, the authors reflect upon the movement to implement art curriculum into STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education in the U.S. The authors express concern for the systematic elimination of arts electives from secondary and primary education. They argue that the arts are essential to innovation and creativity. Various educators are quoted including Audrey Bennett, Richard Ward and Doris Kennedy. Several resources for art educators looking to get involved in this issue are also provided.
Arts Advocacy


This study explores the presence and impact of nonprofit arts and culture programs in partnership with Arizona's public schools. Arts and culture offerings are limited by many facets of the educational system, including the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), as evidenced by researchers and participants' responses in this study. The author argues that arts and culture should not be permitted to disappear from schools. Community leaders and policymakers should continue to invest in the arts and culture educational programs offered by nonprofit organizations and, with public support, should enact sound public and educational policies to support arts and culture in communities and schools.


In this article the authors reflect on advocating for art education. They discuss the history of art education advocacy from the 1970s through 2012. Particular focus is given to the many ways in which art advocacy can be implemented into art education curricula and museum education. The authors also describe the impact that grassroots efforts from educators, parents and supporters can have on securing the future of art education. Additional topics discussed include insights on the importance of public awareness, policy making and professional development in art advocacy.


The article comments on the trend of fine arts classes being cut at public schools due to budget cuts, and examines nonprofit programs which provide art education to children including Little Black Pearl in Chicago, Illinois, Rosie's Theater Kids in New York City, and A+D Museum's ARkidTECTURE in Los Angeles, California.


The title of this article has been taken directly from Florence M. Hart's 1957 book "What Shall We Do in Art?" It echoes a question that has been faced by legions of Ontario teachers since the creation of grammar schools in the mid-nineteenth century. While it is true that, by their very definition, provincial subject guidelines have always been statements of governmental policy and not courses of study, guidelines for art have long
been notoriously vague. Producing art lessons and activities from skeletal subject
guidelines can be challenging tasks even for art specialists; for generalist teachers
charged with the responsibility of teaching art, however, they can seem to be
insurmountable. In this paper, the author will be investigating how publishers have tried
to help teachers answer the question, "What shall we do in art?"

Educators Journal, 98*(1), 26-29.

In times of difficulty, it is easy to see what many policymakers value. It would seem that
many of them view the arts as a noncrucial element of a child's school curriculum. They
want to cut music because they do not value music for its own sake, nor can they see how
music could possibly help students in math, reading, or science. But what do the
scientists say? According to neuroscientists from Harvard, Stanford, and the University
of Oregon, policymakers should think twice before cutting arts programs in the schools.
This article discusses the cognitive benefits of the arts and suggests some ways of
advocating brain-based-research music.

Cowdery, J. (2010). Using art to advocate and empower parents: This exit, no return.
*Exceptional Parent, 40*(3), 32-36.

Advocacy begins with an assumption that if a number of community members are
suffering, then there must be something wrong, not with the individual members, but with
the community as a whole; therefore, the community must be changed to help alleviate
that suffering. Advocacy creates a platform for change by allowing individuals to begin
the process of improvement through finding their voice and believing their voice can
produce change. Advocacy is essential for parents to address the imbalance of power and
control when their child has a disability and the community and schools see their child,
not as different, but as deficient. Traditional formats for advocacy have included multiple
public discourses. One of the most powerful forms of public discourse for producing
change can be achieved through performing arts. This medium transforms feelings,
thoughts, and images into aesthetic persuasion that allows participants and audience
members to experience a phenomenon in a new way and to ask questions that might not
have been asked. Performing stories has been a means of connecting audiences to lived
experiences in the language of ordinary people since the beginning of mankind. Readers'
theatre is "a form of group story-telling in which two of more readers present a piece of
literature by reading aloud from hand-held scripts." The strength of a readers' theatre
performance "lies in the transformation of each participant as she or he engages in
conversation, reflection, and action in community with others." Because the "action" of
the story takes place, not on a stage, but in the minds of the audience as enhanced by the
vocal and facial expressions of the readers, the staging can be as simple as stools and
Arts ladders in a cafeteria, library, or classroom or as elaborate as a stage supplemented by lighting and levels. This article presents a play, "This Exit, No Return," wherein each parent expresses individually their initial reactions to discovering that their child will grow up differently. They voice their fears, hopes, and dreams as they describe for an audience the frustrations and riches of their lives. The piece is intended to be used by groups to bring awareness to the general public and to teachers and other school personnel of the perception that children with disabilities are unique and whole individuals. While this may seem an unusual medium for advocating for children with disabilities, it has been proven to be very effective. This play has been read in many classes for special education and general education teachers.


The arts are often seen as peripheral to the "real business" of school and schooling. While this has been the case for some time now, the increasing pressures of high-stakes testing and ever-more draconian public funding schemes (particularly in the wake of 9/11) have created something of a "perfect storm" for those working in the arts. Arts proponents today live and operate within a culture of scarcity, having to justify their increasingly marginalized vocations while competing for continually shrinking resources. The result is an often deep-bodied sense of vulnerability, one which saturates the social field (both micro and macro) of arts education in ways not often publicly acknowledged. In this article, I explore this notion of "vulnerability" as a framework for understanding qualitative data which emerged from a three-year arts and education project I conducted in a large, northeast city in the USA beginning in 2003. In so doing, I look to open up a broader discussion about the oft-ignored intersection(s) between the material and aesthetic in arts and education--a discussion which is sober about the future of such work in times of economic scarcity and conservative retrenchment.


One of the traditional privileges for teachers in the United States has been control over the curriculum. Unlike most countries in the world, the United States does not have a national curriculum "per se", enabling teachers to make curriculum decisions that most benefit local students. However, the Elementary and Secondary Act, also known as the No Child Left Behind Act, has acted as a national curriculum policy by enabling school administrators to conceive of a curriculum that privileges reading and math, and neglects arts programming. Research has demonstrated that art teachers are being pushed into teaching reading and math skills in their classes. High schools that do not continually...
improve their students' reading and math test scores run the risk of losing whole art departments. And in junior high and middle schools, many students are allowed to take only one quarter or less of art. It is time to reclaim the curriculum. To do this, creative leadership by teachers, professors, and community educators who are willing to take action against policies and managerial decisions that diminish students' opportunities for learning through art is needed. For over a generation, scholars in education have been pointing to the disempowerment of teachers in the wake of public policy makers', school administrators', and other stakeholders' efforts to countermand the expertise of teachers and undermine the importance of teachers' knowledge about their students. Now, art educators need to draw on their expertise to ensure that they are included in educational decision-making in schools and out. The most important first step of art education leadership is to possess a clear vision of the future. That vision should be related to the leading edge of the field, reflect best practices, and be written in a curriculum rationale. This article discusses the critical components of successful leadership. Promoting any type of educational innovation takes courage and confidence. But effective leadership can transform a program and can help to protect it. The author suggests some places to start.


According to the national Education and the Arts Statement (Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs, 2007), all children and young people should have a high-quality arts education. The statement also supports the notion that arts experience can be the first meaningful point of engagement in the education system for students. To achieve quality arts education, teachers require a high level of skill and training (Andrews, 2004). This suggests teachers require significant training to help develop a strong sense of perceived capability towards teaching in the area of arts education. This study explores the beliefs of early childhood teachers in their first three years of teaching. Focusing on self-efficacy beliefs, this study used Bandura's (1997) model of self-regulated learning as a base from which to consider sources of an early childhood teacher's sense of agency related to teaching the arts. Findings suggest teachers develop beliefs about arts education during practical experience that shape attitudes towards teaching arts in the early years. These findings have important messages for improving arts education.

The self-efficacy beliefs teachers hold about their ability to teach subjects shapes their competence in teaching. Teacher self-efficacy is defined as teacher beliefs in their ability to perform a teaching task. If teachers have strong teacher self-efficacy in the teaching of arts education, they are more likely to incorporate arts in the classroom. Alternatively, if teachers have weak teacher self-efficacy in the teaching of arts education they are less likely to include aspects of the arts in their curriculum. Little is known about teacher self-efficacy beliefs towards arts education in early childhood education. Since arts education is an important element in the curriculum of any classroom—including all early childhood classrooms—investigation of the beliefs that shape teacher practice is desirable. In 2010, a survey was distributed using convenience sampling to early childhood teachers throughout Queensland. There were 21 respondents, representing a response rate of 27%. Each completed an adapted version of the Teachers' Sense of Efficacy Scale for Arts Education. Perceived competence towards each of the five arts strands (dance, drama, media, visual arts and music) were compared to perceived competence in maths and English. The number of hours taught in each of the arts strands was also investigated. Findings suggest all of the respondent early childhood teachers had greater perceived competence for teaching maths and English compared to any of the arts strands. Some early childhood teachers did not engage with some of the arts strands (particularly drama, dance, media) in their daily classrooms. These findings provide glimpses of the current day-to-day running of early childhood classrooms and the role of arts education in the current climate of policy reform and accountability.


According to the National Education and the Arts Statement (Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs, 2007), all children and young people should have a high-quality arts education. To achieve this teachers require a high level of skill and training, and the belief that they are self-efficacious in the teaching of arts education (Andrews, 2004). This points to the role of pre-service teacher education to develop the capability to teach arts education. This study utilises Bandura's (1997) model of self-efficacy beliefs. Novice early childhood teachers were invited to reflect on their professional practice experience during pre-service teacher education to provide insights into how this has contributed to the formation of their self-efficacy beliefs in the arts. Findings confirm that novice teachers develop beliefs about arts education during professional experience that shape their future beliefs towards teaching arts in the early years. These beliefs are likely to be negative, thereby contributing to the formation of negative emotional association and low self-efficacy beliefs for teaching arts. Furthermore, three main themes emerged from the data about the impact of professional
experience: 1) supervising teacher practice (vicarious experience); 2) supervising teacher feedback (verbal persuasion); and 3) the profile of arts as a subject experienced by the respondent (vicarious experience). The implications of these findings are considered in terms of pre-service teacher education and ongoing professional learning for teachers.


For students in Years 1-10 in Queensland, Australia, The Arts (hereafter referred to as "arts") is one of eight Key Learning Areas in the core curriculum. Yet, while arts--comprising five strands including music--is a mandatory component of the curriculum, implementation varies widely. This occurs for a range of reasons, one of which is the common practice that generalist teachers are allocated delivery of the arts programme in their teaching load. Furthermore, research reveals that music and the arts are frequently considered to be the "frills subject" in a school's timetable, often the first to be removed from the timetable when time is short and the first to feel the impact of budget cuts, including the engagement of specialist arts educators (Russell-Bowie, 2004). This study highlights the gap between policy rhetoric for music and the arts and the pedagogical reality in generalist classrooms. Using a narrative informed case study methodology, a story constellation derived from a beginning generalist teacher and a school principal is revealed. The discussion which follows provides a focus, through the generation of key values statements derived from the data, on the tensions this beginning teacher has experienced in his practice as a teacher responsible for teaching music and the arts, juxtaposed with a similar narrative of the school principal.


This paper examines and reports on beginning generalist teacher self-efficacy, which Bandura (1997) suggests plays an important part in student outcomes. In 2008, 201 beginning generalist teachers throughout the state of Queensland, Australia, participated in a study that aimed to provide a snapshot of current perceptions towards support in schools for the arts. Beginning teachers were asked to rank their school support for a number of different subjects in the school curriculum and provide written justification for these rankings. Results suggest that beginning teachers perceived a general lack of support for the teaching of the arts in their classroom, compared to English and math. They reported that schools provided greater financial support, assistance and professional development for the teaching of literacy and numeracy with a view to increase school performance in national testing. Findings provide key insights for school administrators and policy makers for the adequate delivery of arts education in Queensland schools,
particularly when this task falls to generalist teachers with little or no subject expertise in the arts.


This historical narrative tracks the evolution and devolution of visual arts education from Dewey's progressive era pedagogy and the theory of the arts as experience through the modern accountability movement. Archival material, state curricular documents, and conversations with policymakers show an increasing focus on core subject areas of reading, writing, and mathematics at the expense of arts education. Texas House Bill 3, the third generation of accountability legislation in the Lone Star State, provides a case study of the status of arts education after more than fifteen years of high-stakes testing and accountability. Policy considerations are offered for arts education and its future standing within the public educational curriculum.


The tendency to construct grand narratives makes participants in education politics unaware of the particularities of marginalized fields such as music education. One prominent reason for this trend is the discrepancy between the values underpinning education politics and the values of higher music education. This article discusses this problem by drawing on five concepts from the literature on quality in higher education: quality of teaching and learning, disciplinary competencies, relevance quality, generic competencies, and employability. The author proposes the idea of an "education policy of the particular," which conceives of education politics and higher music education as two self-referential but intercommunicative systems. Finally, some of the challenges and possible outcomes of such politics for higher music education are discussed.


Music education exists within a web of policies. Those most often identified by music teachers and professional associations are the policies imposed on the profession by governmental and regulatory bodies. Advocacy efforts to change policy are mostly directed toward these bodies. However, the practice of music education is perhaps more influenced by subtle policies that affect teachers' values, expectations, and practices. In this article, Nye's concepts of "hard" and "soft" power are adapted and used as a
paradigm for categorization and analysis of policy to illustrate this situation. Using this model reveals that while some hard policies specific to music education advocate a progressive music education, other hard policies may interfere with this agenda and soft policies seem to maintain the status quo. Recommendations are made for building the capacity of teachers to understand, study, and influence policy.


In this article, the author offers recommendations on how arts and arts education advocates can build real political power. His suggestions include, first, for advocates to create strong grassroots and grassroots network that transcend several factors including age, race and ethnicity. Second, they should position cultural organizations as centers of democracy. Third, they should look for policy levers in education policy, economic development, and community service, among other areas.


Nigerian educational policies continue to emphasize the development of science and technology. Arts are being relegated to the background as a result of this emphasis. This paradigm shift has affected visual arts education in Nigeria. The number of those seeking admission into science-and engineering-based courses has risen tenfold in spite of the limited infrastructural facilities available, while the number seeking admission to creative arts continues to dwindle yearly. Those who had been preparing for courses in engineering and science but could not secure admission are often absorbed into arts-based industrial design courses. Students in industrial design with science backgrounds are able to develop their creative potential, which is necessary in developing economies. This paper suggests that art training in Nigeria should embrace integrated science subjects.


Policy can be a useful tool for effecting change, but policy analysis, which shapes policy development, has been underused in music education research. This paper demonstrates how Bardach’s (2000) Eightfold Path can be used to develop solutions to problems in music education. Some have argued that school music programs do not prepare students to engage musically in today's society. To develop alternative solutions and project their outcomes, I analyze several current and past efforts to redefine music education and secure its place in the curriculum. Several alternatives, which include revising the National Standards, developing a national curriculum, improving professional development, and reconceiving advocacy, are evaluated, and policy recommendations are
made that will enable the profession to redefine music education to better serve today's students.


As educators deliberate on how to provide a well-rounded education for all, the idea of working more collaboratively with a range of arts education providers has become increasingly attractive. Allowing outside organizations and individuals to gain access to institutions in a more evenhanded way and create long-term relationships that reinforce the idea of education as a community-centered effort is a little new for schools. Yet many are finding it is worth exploring, as the process of creating alliances and partnerships with other community organizations places schools in a different light and allows them to appear less intimidating and more approachable. Arts organizations and teaching artists play an important role in realizing well-rounded educational strategies, and they are at the forefront of providing arts instruction in many classrooms. Now more than ever schools, teaching artists, and cultural workers must find common ground that allows them to share their practices. Through partnerships that draw on all of the resources within a geographic or cultural area, different kinds of knowledge and experience are shared, and communities are enriched by the exchange. This article presents the case of the Multicultural Arts School, which provides valuable insight into how arts partnerships can contribute to building a democratic learning community in which students, teachers, cultural workers, and artists are able to redefine their roles and obtain an alternative sense of community by expanding boundaries and definitions.


This content analysis examines how philosophy and advocacy articles published between 2005 and 2010 were influenced by current neuroscience research. The contents of twelve journals were explored, resulting in the inclusion of forty-five articles in this analysis. Recently, there has been a growing interest in neuroscientific research on music. Articles were coded for latent content and emerging themes to determine if this interest has begun to be expressed in philosophy and advocacy writings. The educational implications and issues of using neuroscientific findings are addressed, and recommendations are offered for using future research for advocacy purposes.


This article stems from a story of arts education advocacy in the midst of a bureaucracy that misunderstood the purpose of art education at the launch of a new elementary school.
Arts Education Research Compendium

Contemporary visual arts education practices overlap a unique period of change in neighboring social science disciplines, a turn of the tide that involves the embrace of narrative methods to rewrite prevailing working models and paradigms of social science practice. Here at the start of the 21st century, art education continues to be practiced in the thrill of a scientific paradigm that misunderstands the greater potential of the arts in education, often imposing a ceiling ill-fitted for arts praxis, arts-based research, or arts pedagogy. The author argues that art education is also at a turn of the tide and surmises some of the unexpected outcomes when new and ex-centric stories of learning and a "pedagogy of possibility" are more thoroughly explored, allowing practitioners to fully rethink an art education practice without taxonomic ceilings and within the shelter of the unexplored labyrinth.


The article presents a reprint of the article "Can Policy Lead in Music Education? Global Visions and Local Directions," by Patrick Schmidt, which appeared in the previous issue of the journal "Arts Education Policy Review." This context presents viewpoints and arguments that are diverse in form and content as well as in conceptualization. It also adopts varied philosophical, sociological, political, systemic and developmental framings.


The author reflects on the relevance of taking breaks from a hectic work or school day, and training, music and art in Physical Education (P.E.), Music and Arts. The author contends that these subjects should be regarded as a perspective from which a person can potentially expand his creativity. Recess, on the other hand, the author finds this essential particularly in recharging ones mind, as well as increasing energy.

Arts: An Important Part of Education


The purpose of this study was to profile secondary school music programs in the United States and investigate principals' perceptions of those curricula. A survey form was sent to 1,000 secondary school principals, yielding a 54% response rate. That form was designed to answer the following questions: What is the profile of secondary music programs in the United States? How effective do principals think music programs are in helping students attain specific learning outcomes and broad educational goals? To what degree do certain variables (e.g., standardized tests, teachers, parents) impact a given music program? Ninety-eight percent of respondents indicated that their schools offered
music courses, yet 34% required music. There were significant differences in the diversity of course offerings based on school socioeconomic status profiles. Standardized tests and No Child Left Behind were thought to have the most negative impact on music programs.


The author reflects on the deterioration of the arts in English education. Particular focus is given to how art and design, like all the fine arts, are suffering enormously in public education. Additional topics include how for many schools the arts are not considered a core course of study like math or science, the enrichment that art education brings to the lives of children, and examples of the ideology and pedagogy that support art advocacy. DOI: 10.1111/j.1476-8070.2011.01704.x.


This viewpoint proposes a model of art therapy integrated into an alternative art education program. Because of the pressure to meet educational standards, school systems may be less likely to support clinical programs that take students out of their classes. A blended model of art therapy and art education that utilizes effective strategies from both disciplines and provides students with a therapeutic process can support instruction, empower students, and produce art products the students can be proud to have created.


In this article, the author takes on what he considers to be the false dichotomy between direct instruction and arts integration. He contends that at a time when national issues of sustainability and conservation of energy and resources become ever more urgent, it is time that those committed to quality arts education stop squandering time, money, and paper on arguing "either/or" when schools are best served by a "both/and" approach. The author argues that they need to stop seeing direct instruction and arts integration as contrary positions that need to battle it out for limited dollars, and start seeing them as complementary strategies in the service of learners.

This study examined high-stakes test scores for 37,222 eighth grade students enrolled in music and/or visual arts classes and those students not enrolled in arts courses. Students enrolled in music had significantly higher mean scores than those not enrolled in music ($p < .001$). Results for visual arts and dual arts were not as conclusive. Further research is required to determine the effectiveness of academic remediation held during the instructional day that thereby denies arts instruction to students. The practice of recommending that students devote more time to English and math in lieu of music should be evaluated.


Drawing on Bruner's notion of folk pedagogy, this research explores how Chinese aesthetic education is perceived and valued at two elementary schools in Taiwan. Using qualitative methods, the research explores how arts teachers guide children to experience arts through the arts curricula in school and the local culture. The study reveals that the two schools share a respect for nature and a concern for local culture. The seven arts teachers' folk pedagogy includes the desire to connect beauty and arts learning, develop children's aesthetic feelings, cultivate children's character, and integrate arts into everyday life. The teachers' shared views provide a broad picture of these folk beliefs in Taiwan as well as a cultural lens for examining aesthetic education in Taiwan and the larger Asian culture.


The author presents reviews that identify success factors in music and arts education partnerships between cultural institutions and K-12 schools. She incorporates the evaluation of one Massachusetts partnership, Arts Can Teach (ACT), to examine the connection between partnerships and K-12 arts-program policy decisions. ACT is a collaborative effort among Boston's Wang Center for the Performing Arts, the Lynn Public Schools, and LynnArts, which matched music specialists and teachers in other disciplines with practicing artists for one year partnerships. Success factors of the ACT partnership are considered in terms of their similarity to success factors from the literature on music education partnerships. The author discusses implications for increasing and sustaining music and arts education programming and local arts education policy development.

Beyond having value as an assessment tool, engagement with the arts in the K-12 classroom can offer aesthetic experiences that have the potential to transform the way students encounter the world, engaging the imagination in acts of perception that stir them to "wide-awakeness." Advocates for the arts in education call for a variety of types of arts programs, some whose aim is to teach mastery of a specific art form, and others whose chief mode of interaction with the arts encourages children to "acquire from their consideration of works of art unique skills of analytic thinking and familiarity with a wealth of aesthetic texts." This latter type of arts program, called aesthetic education, seeks to awaken individuals to the possibilities contained in works of art. This article presents a vignette shared by Jeanette Del Valle, a high school English Teacher at the School for Community Research and Learning in the Bronx, New York. She writes about the importance of her students' involvement in an aesthetic education program offered at her school by Lincoln Center Institute.


Sounds of Learning: The Impact of Music Education is a research program designed to allow researchers to examine the roles of music education in the lives of school-aged children to expand the understanding of music's role in a quality education. The NAMM Foundation, the sponsoring organization, has provided more than $1,000,000 to fund research on the impact of music education on student achievement and success in school; all aspects of a child's growth and development; the uses and functions of music in daily life; and home, school, and community environments. Quality research about the role and impact of music education conducted by experienced researchers who publish in rigorous, peer-reviewed, scientific research journals plays a vital role in moving a public policy agenda forward to achieve expanded access to music education for all children. The goal is that this research will inform policy debates and development to achieve policies that support opportunities for every child to experience the power and benefits of learning music.


Most students attend summer school not because it's their idea of a good time, but because they need to in order to advance to the next grade. To many students--and even some teachers--summer school feels more like punishment than an opportunity to learn and explore. In July 2010, working with a nonprofit organization called Big Thought, officials at the Dallas Independent School District embarked on an approach to summer school they hoped would change that image and engage kids. The idea was to support
Arts teachers, artists, and others to replace worksheet-style instruction with teaching animated by music, visual arts, dance, and theater. The new arts-rich summer school program that resulted is just another sign of Dallas' initiative, spearheaded by Big Thought (www.bigthought.org), to bring together schools, cultural organizations, and others to restore high-quality arts instruction to the many classrooms from which it has long been missing.


In this article the author offers observations on the impact that art education has on people's lives. Particular focus is given to how art teachers make a difference by helping their students develop skills relating to inquiry and appreciating the natural and human landscape. The impact that art education can have on a student's future in the workforce is also discussed.


Reading and Writing for Adolescence and Adulthood is a course for teacher candidates that introduces them to arts-based literacy instruction. The purpose is to train teachers to enhance reading and writing skills in adolescents. The pre-service teachers were encouraged to study theory and perform practical exercises using the arts so that they could share their experience with their own high schools students. Evidence of their growth as teacher/leaders who understand and value the arts, regardless of the content area that they work in, is evident in their comments about arts-based literacy instruction. This study is a reminder that young teachers from all backgrounds represent a significant opportunity to change the course of literacy instruction so that more youth are successful in and outside of formal learning institutions.


It is a common acceptance that contemporary schoolchildren live in a world that is intensely visual and commercially motivated, where what is imagined and what is experienced intermingle. Because of this, contemporary education should encourage a child to make reference to, and connection with their "out-of-school" life. The core critical underpinnings of curriculum-based arts appreciation and theory hinge on educators and students taking a historical look at the ways artists have engaged with, and made comment upon, their contemporary societies. My article uses this premise to argue for the need to persist with pushing for critique of/through the visual, that it be delivered as an active process via the arts classroom rather than as visual literacy, here regarded as a more passive process for interpreting and understanding visual material. The article
asserts that visual arts lessons are best placed to provide fully students with such critique because they help students to develop a "critical eye", an interpretive lens often used by artists to view, analyse and independently navigate and respond to contemporary society.


In this article, the authors investigate how Korea's current educational policy's emphasis on artistic expression, and therefore music education, has been realized in the praxis of early childhood education. The authors view policy as discourses and texts that early childhood educators interpret and reinterpret within specific contexts. Policy rhetoric and practice fail to recognize the integration of musical conceptual development, expressive ability, creativity, and communication. The musical development of a child should be viewed as his or her right to nurture a musical self in a meaningful musical context.


Language: Spanish. Abstract (English): We have to study arts education from the perspective of education, without taking away the specific perspective of artistic products. The goal of this paper is to help form criteria about arts education in the general sense of understanding arts as a field of education. This pedagogical perspective demands looking carefully at the area of arts education and it means we have to keep a clear commitment to the educational values of art experience in their several forms of expression. To develop arts as field of education requires understanding and distinguishing three possible ways for considering the interactions between arts and education: 1) Arts as a general area of education; 2) Arts as an area of general education, 3) Arts as a vocational and professional development area.


The aim of this article is to bring attention to an important connection between art education programs and the development of social justice practices in K-16 classrooms. This article is organized into three sections. The first is an analysis of the hierarchical and unilateral approach to education that urban students experience throughout their schooling, and how this educational model fails to develop traits that can empower students to promote social justice for those who are marginalized or oppressed. The second section advocates for the promotion of art education programs infused with particular aesthetic experiences that can help students develop the missing traits. The closing section discusses the changes that will be required to institute these programs in
the United States in general and New York City (NYC) in particular, and the challenges this will entail.


Art education offers a way to reach students and make schools more relevant for them. Art teachers can create alternative formats that allow students to explore and learn about their lives. Thereby, students and their communities become the focus of the curriculum and students' responses are valued as individual expression. While teaching art in Philadelphia schools, the author began to explore connections between curriculum and teaching techniques and thought of strategies she believed would be beneficial to her students. Now in her new role as an art teacher educator, teaching prospective and practicing art teachers in the current climate of "reform" is a pressing challenge. In this article the author discusses critical literacy and its connections to art education. She provides examples from her own experience as a middle school art teacher in the School District of Philadelphia, and more recently as an art teacher educator.


On the occasion of Dewey's sesquicentennial anniversary, Kazuyo Nakamura explores Dewey's aesthetics, which holds the plurality of art and culture in high regard. Nakamura develops a theoretical foundation for art education in the present age of globalization based on educational insights drawn from Dewey's aesthetics. The theme of this essay unfolds based on three topics: Dewey's view of the educational value of art in general education, the fundamental viewpoint of art in relation to democracy, and the discussion of the educational aspect of individuality and community with respect to the experience of art. Based on Dewey's aesthetics, this essay presents new perspectives on art education that emphasize the realization of personal values, development of intelligent visual literacy, and enhancement of the quality of communication of art, in the context of globalization.


An approach to early childhood education that integrates visual and performing arts throughout the preschool curriculum--"Art as a Way of Learning"--was implemented in a program (Promoting and Supporting Early Literacy through the Arts) designed to improve the emergent literacy and school readiness of at-risk young children in community-based preschool settings. A quasi-experimental pre-post treatment-only
design was used to explore this program's potential effects in a real-world setting. Preliminary results revealed improvements in young children's emergent literacy on a number of targeted and standardized measures after participation in the program. This arts-integrated approach to the teaching of and learning in young children shows considerable promise and warrants a rigorous test of its effects.


The United States has a long proud history of innovation and creativity. This is one of its greatest assets and what will give its workforce an edge in an increasingly competitive global economy. But to do this, individuals need to prepare the next generation of inventors, designers and creators. Arts education is a solution to many of these problems that has been hiding in plain sight. This is largely because it remains siloed, from the macro to the micro level. At the policy level, arts education advocacy is seen as something different and separate from the larger conversation of educational reform. And in schools, arts specialists classes are too often marginalized as something that gives the classroom teachers a planning period, while teaching artists are asked to parachute in and out in two or three week residencies, without ever being able to build relationships and integrate into the school community. But in fact, the potential of arts education lies in exactly the opposite—a seamless marriage of arts education strategies with overall educational goals, a vibrant collaboration between arts specialists, classroom teachers and teaching artists to create collaborative, creative environments that allow each child to reach his or her potential, using all the tools at individuals' disposal to reach and engage them in learning. This report makes several recommendations to facilitate that vision.


The topic of incorporating arts into the curriculum has been an issue when it comes to providing an adequate learning experience for our youth. Arts Infused Education is based on the collaborative effort of the artist and teacher to co-teach the curriculum in a core subject area. This study, the qualitative part of a mixed methods investigations involves five public schools where students were interviewed with a structured schedule of questions. The quantitative part of this investigation included classrooms observations. The results of the study indicated that Arts Infused Education has a promising mission and that further research is encouraged.

In a time when schools are focusing on increasing their numeracy and literacy scores, teachers are often required to spend the majority of their time teaching Mathematics and English and have little time left for the arts and other subjects. This has led to some teachers developing integrated programs in order to cover all the required learning experiences. However, practitioners and researchers have found that in many cases, integration results in superficial learning with few subject-specific outcomes being achieved. This paper presents three models or levels of integration (service connections, symmetric correlations and syntegration) where curriculum subjects can work together to achieve subject-specific as well as generic outcomes, then gives examples of how these models can be used within the primary school curriculum. It concludes with a real-life example of a syntegrated learning project.


Creativity is the cultural capital of the twenty-first century. This article presents an argument for the arts to lead a new wave of education reform that repositions creativity as the centerpiece of an education that prepares a generation of change agents for doing good.


Interested in bringing the benefits of the arts as integral to quality education for all children, in 2004 the Ford Foundation launched the National Arts Education Initiative, a seven-year demonstration in nine communities across the United States. Building from arts education programs that serve "pockets" of children, Ford investments aim to leverage these arts programs to reach all children through increased public will, supportive policy systems, and community partnerships. The ultimate aim is to build sustainable, coordinated arts education delivery systems for all children as part of a quality education. This article presents some of the lessons from the internal evaluation of the first half of the initiative conducted by the OMG Center for Collaborative Learning.


Schools that bring in teaching artists often look beyond their school walls--to other sources of funding and for collaborative partnerships--to work with teaching artists from the community. For the teaching artist with an expansive vision and a willingness to try new approaches, opportunities may be opening up beyond the typical artist-in-the-school brief residency model. Comprehensive arts integration projects--which allow artists to
share expertise with teachers and which seek to sustain the arts in schools--are expanding to encompass the whole academic curriculum. Music, visual arts, theater, dance, and other arts experiences have been demonstrated to engage students unreachable in other ways and to promote academic achievement across all subjects. As large numbers of students remain disengaged from learning and continue to test poorly, landing schools on academic probation and threatening budgets further, it seems inevitable that schools will find a way to bring the power of arts directly to bear on academics. The arts integration approach has actually been around for a while, long enough to establish a promising track record. This article describes an arts integration program---Arts ABL--(the Arts Allies in Basic Learning and Excellence Program)--which partners teachers and teaching artists with the goal of sustainable arts experience for public school students.

**Arts Approach Learning Through Multiple Perspectives**


After winning a class-action lawsuit against unconstitutional prison conditions in Puerto Rico, Marco Abarca managed to direct part of the fine monies accumulated throughout years of litigation toward an investment that would improve the living conditions in one of the largest and poorest housing projects in Puerto Rico. With the participation of parolees and probationers, he began to transform a mosquito-infested badland into a natural haven. Then, with the help of science educators, the group designed a workshop for elementary school children on urban ecology. As the participants organized, what developed was a community-based, self-employed enterprise known as Aula Verde.


This viewpoint proposes a model of art therapy integrated into an alternative art education program. Because of the pressure to meet educational standards, school systems may be less likely to support clinical programs that take students out of their classes. A blended model of art therapy and art education that utilizes effective strategies from both disciplines and provides students with a therapeutic process can support instruction, empower students, and produce art products the students can be proud to have created.

In this article the authors reflect on the state of art education in the twenty-first century. Particular focus is given to the authors' opinion that art teachers need to adopt a businesslike approach and mentality about their work. They describe how school reform initiatives require strong leadership, strategic planning and performance accountability from teachers. Art advocacy issues are also discussed as is the importance of infusing reading, math, science, social studies and other disciplines into art education.


In this article the author offers insights on the importance of aligning the study of art closer to mainstream academics such as science, math, English and history. Particular focus is given to how shrinking educational budgets in the U.S. could impact public school art education in the twenty-first century. The subject is explored within the context of two artists and researchers including the painter Cheryl Goldsleger and the painter, sculptor and filmmaker Joe Peragine. The various connections between art and science practices are also examined.


This article focuses on the contribution literacy, linguistic, curriculum and pedagogic theories make to realising declarative knowledge outcomes for middle years visual arts students in one multi-age Australian classroom. Understandings of literacy as visual arts content and process, as articulated in the Queensland School Curriculum Council Years 1 to 10 Syllabus, are analysed in terms of the above-mentioned theories. This analysis reveals four significant tensions: an absence of linguistic knowledge for the construction of declarative knowledge written texts; the assumption that the subject English provides the skills base for the production of visual arts declarative knowledge written texts; slippage between the proposed curriculum orientation and teaching position for achieving high quality declarative knowledge outcomes; and a lack of specificity for the form of metaphor to be used in visual arts education. The article presents classroom data from one middle years teacher who takes up multiple curriculum orientations and teaching positions to facilitate high quality declarative knowledge outcomes. He commences the lesson by drawing on the students' life worlds, and then moves into the role of expert so as to provide arts-specific content and linguistic instruction before the students complete their written descriptions. The findings contribute to the worldwide debates surrounding teaching and learning practices for developing visual arts declarative knowledge outcomes by reissuing the call for syllabus planners to make the links between a content area and its literacy demands explicit and for teachers to reclaim spaces for subject-specific literacy instruction.

This report presents results from the second year of CRESST's three-year evaluation of the WebPlay program. WebPlay is an online-enhanced arts education program for K-12 students. The evaluation occurred during the three-year implementation of the program in Grades 3 and 5 in California schools; this report focused on results from the second year of program implementation, 2006-07. Results show that WebPlay participation was significantly related to positive educational engagement/attitude. In terms of California Standards Test (CST) English Language Arts (ELA) scores, despite no overall WebPlay effects, a significant difference was found for limited English proficiency (LEP) students. The results support that a well-designed, theater-based education can improve student engagement; and that it may have academic benefits in language arts content, particularly for those students who are struggling with English proficiency.


Most students attend summer school not because it's their idea of a good time, but because they need to in order to advance to the next grade. To many students--and even some teachers--summer school feels more like punishment than an opportunity to learn and explore. In July 2010, working with a nonprofit organization called Big Thought, officials at the Dallas Independent School District embarked on an approach to summer school they hoped would change that image and engage kids. The idea was to support teachers, artists, and others to replace worksheet-style instruction with teaching animated by music, visual arts, dance, and theater. The new arts-rich summer school program that resulted is just another sign of Dallas' initiative, spearheaded by Big Thought (www.bigthought.org), to bring together schools, cultural organizations, and others to restore high-quality arts instruction to the many classrooms from which it has long been missing.


This article explores the intersection of art education and place-based education as a means of developing ecological literacy. The author advocates the development of a model of place-based art education, one that integrates the real-world, community-centred learning of place-based education with the affective, subjective orientation of art education. Drawing inspiration from the work of environmentalists and eco-artists alike, this model is seen as a way for art and environmental educators to create powerful and memorable experiences for students by bringing self and community into dialogue with
place. Examples of place-based art education are cited, and an ongoing research study involving this model is introduced.


In this article, the author explores the possibilities of teaching and learning through multiple literacies in an arts environment. Acknowledging that technologies have a profound effect on our society, and often outpace our ability to properly assess or understand their implications, the author asserts that young people can become critical and active agents in their interactions with new media. Arts education, specifically theater education, is uniquely positioned to substantially contribute to these interactions between teachers and students that acknowledge and explore the new forms of literacy that are essential to navigating our contemporary culture. To this end, the author calls on arts educators to effectively engage with their students' multimodal concerns through interactions that value new multimodal literacies.


Nigerian educational policies continue to emphasize the development of science and technology. Arts are being relegated to the background as a result of this emphasis. This paradigm shift has affected visual arts education in Nigeria. The number of those seeking admission into science-and engineering-based courses has risen tenfold in spite of the limited infrastructural facilities available, while the number seeking admission to creative arts continues to dwindle yearly. Those who had been preparing for courses in engineering and science but could not secure admission are often absorbed into arts-based industrial design courses. Students in industrial design with science backgrounds are able to develop their creative potential, which is necessary in developing economies. This paper suggests that art training in Nigeria should embrace integrated science subjects.


Reading and Writing for Adolescence and Adulthood is a course for teacher candidates that introduces them to arts-based literacy instruction. The purpose is to train teachers to enhance reading and writing skills in adolescents. The pre-service teachers were encouraged to study theory and perform practical exercises using the arts so that they could share their experience with their own high schools students. Evidence of their growth as teacher/leaders who understand and value the arts, regardless of the content area that they work in, is evident in their comments about arts-based literacy instruction. This study is a reminder that young teachers from all backgrounds represent a significant
opportunity to change the course of literacy instruction so that more youth are successful in and outside of formal learning institutions.


Art education offers a way to reach students and make schools more relevant for them. Art teachers can create alternative formats that allow students to explore and learn about their lives. Thereby, students and their communities become the focus of the curriculum and students' responses are valued as individual expression. While teaching art in Philadelphia schools, the author began to explore connections between curriculum and teaching techniques and thought of strategies she believed would be beneficial to her students. Now in her new role as an art teacher educator, teaching prospective and practicing art teachers in the current climate of "reform" is a pressing challenge. In this article the author discusses critical literacy and its connections to art education. She provides examples from her own experience as a middle school art teacher in the School District of Philadelphia, and more recently as an art teacher educator.


On the occasion of Dewey's sesquicentennial anniversary, Kazuyo Nakamura explores Dewey's aesthetics, which holds the plurality of art and culture in high regard. Nakamura develops a theoretical foundation for art education in the present age of globalization based on educational insights drawn from Dewey's aesthetics. The theme of this essay unfolds based on three topics: Dewey's view of the educational value of art in general education, the fundamental viewpoint of art in relation to democracy, and the discussion of the educational aspect of individuality and community with respect to the experience of art. Based on Dewey's aesthetics, this essay presents new perspectives on art education that emphasize the realization of personal values, development of intelligent visual literacy, and enhancement of the quality of communication of art, in the context of globalization.


This paper describes the history and development of the Jersey City Public Schools creative arts therapy program. Creative arts therapists contributed examples of their work throughout the district that provide a window into their respective school settings. Examples include technology-based art therapy, an extended school year program, collaborations with school-based mental health workers, professional development, music
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therapy integrated with academics, community arts events, short term behavioral programs, and internship opportunities. The challenges of establishing and sustaining a creative arts therapy program in a large urban school district are addressed. The article affirms that creative arts therapists develop effective school programs through innovation, research, and collaborative efforts among peers and other professionals.


An approach to early childhood education that integrates visual and performing arts throughout the preschool curriculum--"Art as a Way of Learning"--was implemented in a program (Promoting and Supporting Early Literacy through the Arts) designed to improve the emergent literacy and school readiness of at-risk young children in community-based preschool settings. A quasi-experimental pre-post treatment-only design was used to explore this program's potential effects in a real-world setting. Preliminary results revealed improvements in young children's emergent literacy on a number of targeted and standardized measures after participation in the program. This arts-integrated approach to the teaching of and learning in young children shows considerable promise and warrants a rigorous test of its effects.


The United States has a long proud history of innovation and creativity. This is one of its greatest assets and what will give its workforce an edge in an increasingly competitive global economy. But to do this, individuals need to prepare the next generation of inventors, designers and creators. Arts education is a solution to many of these problems that has been hiding in plain sight. This is largely because it remains siloed, from the macro to the micro level. At the policy level, arts education advocacy is seen as something different and separate from the larger conversation of educational reform. And in schools, arts specialists classes are too often marginalized as something that gives the classroom teachers a planning period, while teaching artists are asked to parachute in and out in two or three week residencies, without ever being able to build relationships and integrate into the school community. But in fact, the potential of arts education lies in exactly the opposite--a seamless marriage of arts education strategies with overall educational goals, a vibrant collaboration between arts specialists, classroom teachers and teaching artists to create collaborative, creative environments that allow each child to reach his or her potential, using all the tools at individuals' disposal to reach and engage them in learning. This report makes several recommendations to facilitate that vision.

In a time when schools are focusing on increasing their numeracy and literacy scores, teachers are often required to spend the majority of their time teaching Mathematics and English and have little time left for the arts and other subjects. This has led to some teachers developing integrated programs in order to cover all the required learning experiences. However, practitioners and researchers have found that in many cases, integration results in superficial learning with few subject-specific outcomes being achieved. This paper presents three models or levels of integration (service connections, symmetric correlations and syntegration) where curriculum subjects can work together to achieve subject-specific as well as generic outcomes, then gives examples of how these models can be used within the primary school curriculum. It concludes with a real-life example of a syntegrated learning project.


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**Arts Complement Other Academic Areas**

After winning a class-action lawsuit against unconstitutional prison conditions in Puerto Rico, Marco Abarca managed to direct part of the fine monies accumulated throughout years of litigation toward an investment that would improve the living conditions in one of the largest and poorest housing projects in Puerto Rico. With the participation of parolees and probationers, he began to transform a mosquito-infested badland into a natural haven. Then, with the help of science educators, the group designed a workshop for elementary school children on urban ecology. As the participants organized, what developed was a community-based, self-employed enterprise known as Aula Verde.


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Creativity: what might this mean for art and art educators in the creative economies of globalisation? The task of this discussion is to look at the state of creativity and its role in education, in particular art education, and to seek some understanding of the register of creativity, how it is shaped, and how legitimated in the globalised world dominated by input-output, means-end, economically driven thinking, expectations and demands. With the help of Heidegger some crucial questions are raised, such as: How can art maintain its creative ontological and epistemological potential in the creative economies of globalisation? Is it possible for art and the creative arts to act as a process of ‘revealing’ and ‘becoming’ and ‘throwing light’ on the world while working within the market economies of innovation and entrepreneurship where creativity has become a generalised discourse? What matters in this discussion is to find a way to argue for the sustainability of art education as a creative mode of enquiry through which self and the world may be better understood, identity might be realised as difference and being-in-time might be possible.


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**Arts Contribute to the Development of the Whole Child**

This viewpoint proposes a model of art therapy integrated into an alternative art education program. Because of the pressure to meet educational standards, school systems may be less likely to support clinical programs that take students out of their classes. A blended model of art therapy and art education that utilizes effective strategies from both disciplines and provides students with a therapeutic process can support instruction, empower students, and produce art products the students can be proud to have created.


Quality arts education can produce positive learning outcomes, such as creating positive attitudes to learning, developing a greater sense of personal and cultural identity, and fostering more creative and imaginative ways of thinking in young children (Bamford, 2006; Eisner, 2002; Robinson, 2001). Arts-based processes allow children the opportunity to express their knowledge, ideas and feelings in ways that do not necessarily involve words (Livermore, 2003; Robinson, 2001). Unfortunately, the value of arts-based learning can often be overlooked because of the social and cultural dominance of literal language and written modes of expression (Eisner, 2002; Kress, 2000). Forming models of quality arts education in the early years of primary school can also be a highly problematic task. This has been highlighted in a series of recent national reviews that have investigated the current state of arts education in Australian schools. This national attention has in part focused on the level of preparedness of non-specialist teachers, in teaching the creative arts; music, dance, art and drama.


Although there is widespread recognition that arts experiences enhance children's social-emotional development, the mechanisms through which this process takes place are little understood. This article provides insight into the role of the arts in development, through a review of recent research on child development and interviews with inner-city elementary teachers who have participated in an artist-in-residence program. The author presents evidence that arts experiences—and drama activities in particular—help children to develop an enhanced understanding of the responses, emotional expressions, and actions of other people, as well as a comprehension of what to expect from others and what social scripts should be used in different situations.

This timely book takes up the challenge of maintaining programs in the arts in the face of unrelenting pressure from two directions; the increasing focus on literacy and numeracy in schools, teamed with the cut-backs in public funding that often affect the arts most severely. Drawing on the wealth of evidence already available on the impact of the arts, including the findings of a landmark experimental study in Australia, this text considers: (1) The social and educational impact of neglecting the arts; (2) Research evidence on engagement in the arts; (3) Why there is a need for educational reform; and (4) How to transform schools through engagement in the arts. This challenge to arts education exists at a time where an increasing number of students are becoming disengaged from the traditional schooling model that appears ill-suited to the needs of the 21st century and to the ways young people learn in a globalised, high-tech knowledge world. "Transforming Education through the Arts" provides illustrations from around the world that clearly show how the arts have transformed learning for disengaged students and established their worth beyond doubt in settings where the disengagement of students has hitherto been presented as an intractable problem. "Transforming Education through the Arts" is an indispensable tool for policymakers and practitioners in school education and for academic and postgraduate students with an interest in the arts. It is also highly relevant to the work of individuals and organisations in the philanthropic sector and those in the wider community who place a priority in closing the gap between high and low performing students.


Drawing on Bruner's notion of folk pedagogy, this research explores how Chinese aesthetic education is perceived and valued at two elementary schools in Taiwan. Using qualitative methods, the research explores how arts teachers guide children to experience arts through the arts curricula in school and the local culture. The study reveals that the two schools share a respect for nature and a concern for local culture. The seven arts teachers' folk pedagogy includes the desire to connect beauty and arts learning, develop children's aesthetic feelings, cultivate children's character, and integrate arts into everyday life. The teachers' shared views provide a broad picture of these folk beliefs in Taiwan as well as a cultural lens for examining aesthetic education in Taiwan and the larger Asian culture.


Stress is a major health problem in urban neighborhoods, but integrating the arts into education can help children deal with stress. Stress reduces or eliminates a child's ability
to learn by increasing the production of cortisol in the brain, while working in the arts has been shown to produce endorphin, which counteracts the effects of cortisol. Integrating the arts into education has been particularly effective with disadvantaged children.


This paper challenges the orientations and assumptions underpinning policies for disadvantaged young people (DYP) in Australia. We argue that policy interventions for young people generally exhibit a binary divide, some policies fostering leadership and creative endeavours targeted on "high-functioning" young people, especially within educational and arts milieus, while other policies, focusing on DYP, take a remedial orientation. The basis for this binary divide is, we argue, flawed social constructions of young people, constructions that pathologise or privilege behaviours, attitudes and lifestyles. The consequences for DYP are that remedial policies, designed to get and keep young people "on track", are often ignoring deeper developmental needs. Using recent research findings from arts programmes for young people, the paper argues for a broader policy orientation, including developmental needs, to strengthen remedial policies and programmes and open the potential for pathways to resilience.


This article examines relevant government policy documents on education and culture and discovers that Nigerian education authorities do not “discriminate” against art and culture in its articulation of educational policies per se, but lack of administrative machinery or political will has resulted in the deprivation of the Nigerian child in the process of creative activity in early childhood development. The article argues that lack of creative ability in our educational products is perhaps a major setback in the nation’s quest for industrial and technological development. In this article a new art curriculum for elementary schools is advocated as a means of engaging the young child in order to attain functional educational skills necessary in the world of work.


There is a paucity of literature on social skills therapy for students on the autism spectrum, revealing an urgent need for additional research. Past research has focused on the use of small groups or single-case study designs. The present study examines the effectiveness of a social skills therapy program for school-age children ages 11 through
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18. The program uses art therapy and cognitive-behavioral techniques in a group therapy format to broaden and deepen the state-of-the-art techniques used in helping children with social developmental disorders to improve their social skills. Pre- and posttest instruments were distributed to parents and teachers in October and May of the 2004-2005 school year. Scores revealed a significant improvement in assertion scores, coupled with decreased internalizing behaviors, hyperactivity scores, and problem behavior scores in the students. Implications for social work and policy are discussed.


Sounds of Learning: The Impact of Music Education is a research program designed to allow researchers to examine the roles of music education in the lives of school-aged children to expand the understanding of music's role in a quality education. The NAMM Foundation, the sponsoring organization, has provided more than $1,000,000 to fund research on the impact of music education on student achievement and success in school; all aspects of a child's growth and development; the uses and functions of music in daily life; and home, school, and community environments. Quality research about the role and impact of music education conducted by experienced researchers who publish in rigorous, peer-reviewed, scientific research journals plays a vital role in moving a public policy agenda forward to achieve expanded access to music education for all children. The goal is that this research will inform policy debates and development to achieve policies that support opportunities for every child to experience the power and benefits of learning music.


Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) has been at the forefront of integrating art therapy in schools since 1979, helping children with emotional/behavioral disabilities become more receptive to academic involvement while maximizing their social and emotional potential. This article describes the history, development, current configuration, and future outlook for school art therapy services provided by the M-DCPS Clinical Art Therapy Department.

This report takes the first ever look at the relationship between school-based arts education and high school graduation rates in New York City public schools. The findings, based on data collected by the New York City Department of Education (DOE), strongly suggest that the arts play a key role in keeping students in high school and graduating on time. The failure of public high schools to graduate students in four years has been a persistent problem in New York City and is a central concern for educators and policymakers across the nation. Once the worldwide leader in education, the United States is falling behind other countries in a number of educational categories, none of which is more troubling than high school graduation rates.

In this article the author offers observations on the impact that art education has on people's lives. Particular focus is given to how art teachers make a difference by helping their students develop skills relating to inquiry and appreciating the natural and human landscape. The impact that art education can have on a student's future in the workforce is also discussed.

No two artists think and feel alike or take the same path in their development as an artist. This also is true of children as they begin their artistic journey. For artists of any age, the passion that ignites and fuels the development of requisite skills defines a personal map of uncharted territories. Significant influences on the making of an artist are, in a scientific sense, unknown. Although retrospective accounts and other biographical research provide hypotheses and patterns for research, there is no proven recipe for talent development in any talent domain: empirical research on adult artists suggests that a recipe is unlikely. Different catalysts affect different learners at different times. With that caveat, there are environmental influences that can assist or impede talent development. In this article, the author discusses how parents, guardians, or educators seeking to encourage artistic talent can develop their own skills as an appreciator, curator, and advocate.

In this article, the authors investigate how Korea's current educational policy's emphasis on artistic expression, and therefore music education, has been realized in the praxis of early childhood education. The authors view policy as discourses and texts that early childhood educators interpret and reinterpret within specific contexts. Policy rhetoric and practice fail to recognize the integration of musical conceptual development, expressive
ability, creativity, and communication. The musical development of a child should be viewed as his or her right to nurture a musical self in a meaningful musical context.


The aim of this article is to bring attention to an important connection between art education programs and the development of social justice practices in K-16 classrooms. This article is organized into three sections. The first is an analysis of the hierarchical and unilateral approach to education that urban students experience throughout their schooling, and how this educational model fails to develop traits that can empower students to promote social justice for those who are marginalized or oppressed. The second section advocates for the promotion of art education programs infused with particular aesthetic experiences that can help students develop the missing traits. The closing section discusses the changes that will be required to institute these programs in the United States in general and New York City (NYC) in particular, and the challenges this will entail.


Art education offers a way to reach students and make schools more relevant for them. Art teachers can create alternative formats that allow students to explore and learn about their lives. Thereby, students and their communities become the focus of the curriculum and students' responses are valued as individual expression. While teaching art in Philadelphia schools, the author began to explore connections between curriculum and teaching techniques and thought of strategies she believed would be beneficial to her students. Now in her new role as an art teacher educator, teaching prospective and practicing art teachers in the current climate of "reform" is a pressing challenge. In this article the author discusses critical literacy and its connections to art education. She provides examples from her own experience as a middle school art teacher in the School District of Philadelphia, and more recently as an art teacher educator.


This paper describes the history and development of the Jersey City Public Schools creative arts therapy program. Creative arts therapists contributed examples of their work throughout the district that provide a window into their respective school settings. Examples include technology-based art therapy, an extended school year program, collaborations with school-based mental health workers, professional development, music
therapy integrated with academics, community arts events, short term behavioral programs, and internship opportunities. The challenges of establishing and sustaining a creative arts therapy program in a large urban school district are addressed. The article affirms that creative arts therapists develop effective school programs through innovation, research, and collaborative efforts among peers and other professionals.


An approach to early childhood education that integrates visual and performing arts throughout the preschool curriculum--"Art as a Way of Learning"--was implemented in a program (Promoting and Supporting Early Literacy through the Arts) designed to improve the emergent literacy and school readiness of at-risk young children in community-based preschool settings. A quasi-experimental pre-post treatment-only design was used to explore this program's potential effects in a real-world setting. Preliminary results revealed improvements in young children's emergent literacy on a number of targeted and standardized measures after participation in the program. This arts-integrated approach to the teaching of and learning in young children shows considerable promise and warrants a rigorous test of its effects.


The United States has a long proud history of innovation and creativity. This is one of its greatest assets and what will give its workforce an edge in an increasingly competitive global economy. But to do this, individuals need to prepare the next generation of inventors, designers and creators. Arts education is a solution to many of these problems that has been hiding in plain sight. This is largely because it remains siloed, from the macro to the micro level. At the policy level, arts education advocacy is seen as something different and separate from the larger conversation of educational reform. And in schools, arts specialists classes are too often marginalized as something that gives the classroom teachers a planning period, while teaching artists are asked to parachute in and out in two or three week residencies, without ever being able to build relationships and integrate into the school community. But in fact, the potential of arts education lies in exactly the opposite--a seamless marriage of arts education strategies with overall educational goals, a vibrant collaboration between arts specialists, classroom teachers and teaching artists to create collaborative, creative environments that allow each child to reach his or her potential, using all the tools at individuals' disposal to reach and engage them in learning. This report makes several recommendations to facilitate that vision.
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This article briefly describes the results of a study, funded in 2001 by The National Art Education Foundation, of arts education in juvenile correctional facilities in the United States. It summarizes the results of a national survey, and it presents the Northeastern Training School* and STUDIO 200* as a model for community-based arts education for juveniles in correctional facilities.

Arts Contribute to Preparation for the Workplace and Society


This article examines relevant government policy documents on education and culture and discovers that Nigerian education authorities do not "discriminate" against art and culture in its articulation of educational policies per se, but lack of administrative machinery or political will has resulted in the deprivation of the Nigerian child in the process of creative activity in early childhood development. The article argues that lack of creative ability in our educational products is perhaps a major setback in the nation's quest for industrial and technological development. In this article a new art curriculum for elementary schools is advocated as a means of engaging the young child in order to attain functional educational skills necessary in the world of work.


The article discusses the state of arts education for U.S. students living in poverty, particularly noting the connections between exposure to the arts, graduation, and positive social outcomes. It comments on the negative effects of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) on arts education, as well as considers the program Turnaround Arts, presented by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities (PCAH).


Beyond having value as an assessment tool, engagement with the arts in the K-12 classroom can offer aesthetic experiences that have the potential to transform the way students encounter the world, engaging the imagination in acts of perception that stir them to "wide-awakeness." Advocates for the arts in education call for a variety of types of arts programs, some whose aim is to teach mastery of a specific art form, and others
whose chief mode of interaction with the arts encourages children to "acquire from their consideration of works of art unique skills of analytic thinking and familiarity with a wealth of aesthetic texts." This latter type of arts program, called aesthetic education, seeks to awaken individuals to the possibilities contained in works of art. This article presents a vignette shared by Jeanette Del Valle, a high school English Teacher at the School for Community Research and Learning in the Bronx, New York. She writes about the importance of her students' involvement in an aesthetic education program offered at her school by Lincoln Center Institute.


Creativity: what might this mean for art and art educators in the creative economies of globalisation? The task of this discussion is to look at the state of creativity and its role in education, in particular art education, and to seek some understanding of the register of creativity, how it is shaped, and how legitimated in the globalised world dominated by input-output, means-end, economically driven thinking, expectations and demands. With the help of Heidegger some crucial questions are raised, such as: How can art maintain its creative ontological and epistemological potential in the creative economies of globalisation? Is it possible for art and the creative arts to act as a process of 'revealing' and 'becoming' and 'throwing light' on the world while working within the market economies of innovation and entrepreneurship where creativity has become a generalised discourse? What matters in this discussion is to find a way to argue for the sustainability of art education as a creative mode of enquiry through which self and the world may be better understood, identity might be realised as difference and being-in-time might be possible.


Nigerian educational policies continue to emphasize the development of science and technology. Arts are being relegated to the background as a result of this emphasis. This paradigm shift has affected visual arts education in Nigeria. The number of those seeking admission into science-and engineering-based courses has risen tenfold in spite of the limited infrastructural facilities available, while the number seeking admission to creative arts continues to dwindle yearly. Those who had been preparing for courses in engineering and science but could not secure admission are often absorbed into arts-based industrial design courses. Students in industrial design with science backgrounds are able to develop their creative potential, which is necessary in developing economies. This paper suggests that art training in Nigeria should embrace integrated science subjects.

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On the occasion of Dewey's sesquicentennial anniversary, Kazuyo Nakamura explores Dewey's aesthetics, which holds the plurality of art and culture in high regard. Nakamura develops a theoretical foundation for art education in the present age of globalization based on educational insights drawn from Dewey's aesthetics. The theme of this essay unfolds based on three topics: Dewey's view of the educational value of art in general education, the fundamental viewpoint of art in relation to democracy, and the discussion of the educational aspect of individuality and community with respect to the experience of art. Based on Dewey's aesthetics, this essay presents new perspectives on art education that emphasize the realization of personal values, development of intelligent visual literacy, and enhancement of the quality of communication of art, in the context of globalization.


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Creativity is the cultural capital of the twenty-first century. This article presents an argument for the arts to lead a new wave of education reform that repositions creativity as the centerpiece of an education that prepares a generation of change agents for doing good.


Although goals change and reflect the issues of the time, two primary goals of education in a democracy have remained constant over time. The first goal is to educate for vocational competence and the second is to produce caring, intelligent, and wise citizens. Articulating the connection of design education concepts to the economy and social responsibility is beneficial in educating K-12 students. This article illustrates the ways in which design education fosters the skills needed in the global twenty-first century to help students make a better life for themselves and their community and improve the world. I articulate ways to incorporate design as an essential component into a comprehensive visual arts program.

**Arts Contribute to Self-Discovery and Lead to Positive Societal Outcomes**

This viewpoint proposes a model of art therapy integrated into an alternative art education program. Because of the pressure to meet educational standards, school systems may be less likely to support clinical programs that take students out of their classes. A blended model of art therapy and art education that utilizes effective strategies from both disciplines and provides students with a therapeutic process can support instruction, empower students, and produce art products the students can be proud to have created.


Quality arts education can produce positive learning outcomes, such as creating positive attitudes to learning, developing a greater sense of personal and cultural identity, and fostering more creative and imaginative ways of thinking in young children (Bamford, 2006; Eisner, 2002; Robinson, 2001). Arts-based processes allow children the opportunity to express their knowledge, ideas and feelings in ways that do not necessarily involve words (Livermore, 2003; Robinson, 2001). Unfortunately, the value of arts-based learning can often be overlooked because of the social and cultural dominance of literal language and written modes of expression (Eisner, 2002; Kress, 2000). Forming models of quality arts education in the early years of primary school can also be a highly problematic task. This has been highlighted in a series of recent national reviews that have investigated the current state of arts education in Australian schools. This national attention has in part focused on the level of preparedness of non-specialist teachers, in teaching the creative arts; music, dance, art and drama.


Recent educational policy and practice have established an extended role for all subjects in addressing children and young peoples' academic and interpersonal development, with strategies facilitating key skills and wider learning across areas of Citizenship and Personal, Social and Health education providing an integrated approach to education and welfare. The significance of global development education within a holistic curriculum acknowledges the increased awareness of the interconnected nature of our relationship with each other and with the planet we share as world citizens. The arts have a strong track-record in addressing such key issues - challenging hierarchical paradigms which reinforce prejudice and stereotyping, the arts encourage reflexive processes and critical engagement with diversity and pluralist perspectives. This article investigates curricular approaches to the global dimension within education in relation to theoretical perspectives and policies, presenting an intercultural art case study as a model of practice.
in engaging diverse participants in reflection on their own and others' experiences across a range of socio-cultural contexts. Current political shifts reaffirming the centrality of the discrete disciplines over cross-curricular practice could potentially undermine a more holistic approach to education. The article argues that policy and practice, implemented in response to changing political and philosophical ideology, must nevertheless maintain a commitment to fostering interdisciplinary values of cultural awareness. Such practice must form part of an inclusive internationalist educational vision, impacting on social cohesion.


Although there is widespread recognition that arts experiences enhance children's social-emotional development, the mechanisms through which this process takes place are little understood. This article provides insight into the role of the arts in development, through a review of recent research on child development and interviews with inner-city elementary teachers who have participated in an artist-in-residence program. The author presents evidence that arts experiences—and drama activities in particular—help children to develop an enhanced understanding of the responses, emotional expressions, and actions of other people, as well as a comprehension of what to expect from others and what social scripts should be used in different situations.


This timely book takes up the challenge of maintaining programs in the arts in the face of unrelenting pressure from two directions; the increasing focus on literacy and numeracy in schools, teamed with the cut-backs in public funding that often affect the arts most severely. Drawing on the wealth of evidence already available on the impact of the arts, including the findings of a landmark experimental study in Australia, this text considers: (1) The social and educational impact of neglecting the arts; (2) Research evidence on engagement in the arts; (3) Why there is a need for educational reform; and (4) How to transform schools through engagement in the arts. This challenge to arts education exists at a time where an increasing number of students are becoming disengaged from the traditional schooling model that appears ill-suited to the needs of the 21st century and to the ways young people learn in a globalised, high-tech knowledge world. "Transforming Education through the Arts" provides illustrations from around the world that clearly show how the arts have transformed learning for disengaged students and established their worth beyond doubt in settings where the disengagement of students has hitherto been presented as an intractable problem. "Transforming Education through the Arts" is
an indispensible tool for policymakers and practitioners in school education and for academic and postgraduate students with an interest in the arts. It is also highly relevant to the work of individuals and organisations in the philanthropic sector and those in the wider community who place a priority in closing the gap between high and low performing students.


The article reports on an arts and advocacy initiative launched in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania by the Mural Arts Program of Philadelphia called A Place to Call Home. A discussion of the initiative's main objective, which was to engage and empower high risk young people and to allow them to voice their concerns about housing and health, is presented. The initiative featured 48 young people between the ages of 14 and 23 who worked consistently for six months, engaging in neighborhood photo documentation, photo-elicitation interviews regarding their own housing struggles and the creation of public art. Benefits which the young people received from participating in the initiative are discussed.


This report examines the academic and civic behavior outcomes of teenagers and young adults who have engaged deeply with the arts in or out of school. In several small-group studies, children and teenagers who participated in arts education programs have shown more positive academic and social outcomes in comparison to students who did not participate in those programs. Such studies have proved essential to the current research literature on the types of instrumental benefits associated with an arts education. A standard weakness of the literature, however, has been a dearth of large-scale, longitudinal studies following the same populations over time, tracking the outcomes of students who received intensive arts exposure or arts learning compared with students who did not. "The Arts and Achievement in At-Risk Youth" is a partial attempt to fill this knowledge gap. The authors use four large national databases to analyze the relationship between arts involvement and academic and social achievements. This report displays correlations between arts activity among at-risk youth and subsequent levels of academic performance and civic engagement. For this task, the authors relied on four large longitudinal databases. Each source has unique strengths and limitations in terms of study sample size, age range, and the types of variables included--whether related to arts involvement (in-school and/or extracurricular), academic progress, or social and/or civic participation. Yet after accounting for these differences, three main conclusions arise: (1)
Socially and economically disadvantaged children and teenagers who have high levels of arts engagement or arts learning show more positive outcomes in a variety of areas than their low-arts-engaged peers; (2) At-risk teenagers or young adults with a history of intensive arts experiences show achievement levels closer to, and in some cases exceeding, the levels shown by the general population studied; and (3) Most of the positive relationships between arts involvement and academic outcomes apply only to at-risk populations (low-SES). But positive relationships between arts and civic engagement are noted in high-SES groups as well. Meet the Databases is appended.


There is a paucity of literature on social skills therapy for students on the autism spectrum, revealing an urgent need for additional research. Past research has focused on the use of small groups or single-case study designs. The present study examines the effectiveness of a social skills therapy program for school-age children ages 11 through 18. The program uses art therapy and cognitive-behavioral techniques in a group therapy format to broaden and deepen the state-of-the-art techniques used in helping children with social developmental disorders to improve their social skills. Pre- and posttest instruments were distributed to parents and teachers in October and May of the 2004-2005 school year. Scores revealed a significant improvement in assertion scores, coupled with decreased internalizing behaviors, hyperactivity scores, and problem behavior scores in the students. Implications for social work and policy are discussed.


The article discusses the state of arts education for U.S. students living in poverty, particularly noting the connections between exposure to the arts, graduation, and positive social outcomes. It comments on the negative effects of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) on arts education, as well as considers the program Turnaround Arts, presented by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities (PCAH).


Creativity: what might this mean for art and art educators in the creative economies of globalisation? The task of this discussion is to look at the state of creativity and its role in education, in particular art education, and to seek some understanding of the register of creativity, how it is shaped, and how legitimated in the globalised world dominated by input-output, means-end, economically driven thinking, expectations and demands. With the help of Heidegger some crucial questions are raised, such as: How can art maintain its
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better understood, identity might be realised as difference and being-in-time might be
possible.

Grushka, K. (2009). Meaning and identities: a visual performative pedagogy for socio-

In this article I present personalised socio-cultural inquiry in visual art education as a
critical and expressive material praxis. The model of Visual Performative Pedagogy and
Communicative Proficiency for the Visual Art Classroom is presented as a legitimate
means of manipulating visual codes, communicating meaning and mediating values
through imaging technologies. It identifies that visual art studio learning outcomes as
exhibition artworks facilitate the mediation and communication of ideas, and support
understanding of individual identities, social behaviours, culture and beliefs. A critical
phenomenological methodology was used to explore longitudinal and case-study learning
insights about student learning in a post-compulsory visual art curriculum in New South
Wales, Australia. Through analysis of student artworks, reflective journals and post-
schooling case-study interviews, the research identified that this unique learning
environment developed visual communicative proficiency in the students. The findings
affirm the significance of personalised imaging inquiry strategies to support
understandings about the self, society and culture. The studio pedagogies and visual arts
education curriculum in NSW represents an alternative approach to a prescribed and
explicit values curriculum. This article will identify the key elements of the model of
Visual Performative Pedagogy and Communicative Proficiency for the Visual Art
Classroom. It will expand on the aesthetic and critical approach in arts learning as studio
pedagogy and the exhibition process that generates public benefits through socially
embedded and embodied inquiry.

Hodges, D. A., Luehrsen, M. (2010). The impact of a funded research program on music

Sounds of Learning: The Impact of Music Education is a research program designed to
allow researchers to examine the roles of music education in the lives of school-aged
children to expand the understanding of music's role in a quality education. The NAMM
Foundation, the sponsoring organization, has provided more than $1,000,000 to fund
research on the impact of music education on student achievement and success in school; all aspects of a child's growth and development; the uses and functions of music in daily life; and home, school, and community environments. Quality research about the role and impact of music education conducted by experienced researchers who publish in rigorous, peer-reviewed, scientific research journals plays a vital role in moving a public policy agenda forward to achieve expanded access to music education for all children. The goal is that this research will inform policy debates and development to achieve policies that support opportunities for every child to experience the power and benefits of learning music.


This article describes a culturally responsive music curriculum through which students and teachers affirmed diverse stories of individuals present in our public school community. An arts-integrated curriculum project helped make learning more meaningful while concurrently creating a safe learning space for students. This grant-funded project comprised three interwoven facets: a schoolwide focus on world cultures and U.S. immigrant populations throughout the academic year; community celebrations of student learning through arts-based, experiential activities; and a core group of students who met weekly with teaching artists each week to disseminate knowledge via community informances. The themes connecting disciplines, content areas, and the school community served as lenses through which students gained artistic and academic skills as well as conceptual understandings about elements of language, culture, and community.


Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) has been at the forefront of integrating art therapy in schools since 1979, helping children with emotional/behavioral disabilities become more receptive to academic involvement while maximizing their social and emotional potential. This article describes the history, development, current configuration, and future outlook for school art therapy services provided by the M-DCPS Clinical Art Therapy Department.


This paper re/considers empathy and its implications for learning in the art classroom, particularly in light of relevant neuroscientific investigations of the mirror neuron system recently discovered in the human brain. These investigations reinterpret the meaning of
perception, resonance, and connection, and point to the fundamental importance of the resonant body in understanding the world of objects (including objects of art and material culture), and the world of others (including an intersubjectivity of interdependence). Presenting research results and classroom experiences, this paper ultimately advocates a move toward an art education of empathy that integrates caring, cognitive growth, and sociocultural awareness. This art education would strive to promote a connectedness in the classroom community—an authentic and resonant kind of harmony—between self, object, and other, through which the worlds of objects and others are experienced and made meaningful.


In this article, the authors investigate how Korea's current educational policy's emphasis on artistic expression, and therefore music education, has been realized in the praxis of early childhood education. The authors view policy as discourses and texts that early childhood educators interpret and reinterpret within specific contexts. Policy rhetoric and practice fail to recognize the integration of musical conceptual development, expressive ability, creativity, and communication. The musical development of a child should be viewed as his or her right to nurture a musical self in a meaningful musical context.


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**Arts Elevate Learning**


The purpose of this study was to profile secondary school music programs in the United States and investigate principals' perceptions of those curricula. A survey form was sent to 1,000 secondary school principals, yielding a 54% response rate. That form was
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designed to answer the following questions: What is the profile of secondary music programs in the United States? How effective do principals think music programs are in helping students attain specific learning outcomes and broad educational goals? To what degree do certain variables (e.g., standardized tests, teachers, parents) impact a given music program? Ninety-eight percent of respondents indicated that their schools offered music courses, yet 34% required music. There were significant differences in the diversity of course offerings based on school socioeconomic status profiles. Standardized tests and No Child Left Behind were thought to have the most negative impact on music programs.


The author reflects on the deterioration of the arts in English education. Particular focus is given to how art and design, like all the fine arts, are suffering enormously in public education. Additional topics include how for many schools the arts are not considered a core course of study like math or science, the enrichment that art education brings to the lives of children, and examples of the ideology and pedagogy that support art advocacy. DOI: 10.1111/j.1476-8070.2011.01704.x.


In this article, the author takes on what he considers to be the false dichotomy between direct instruction and arts integration. He contends that at a time when national issues of sustainability and conservation of energy and resources become ever more urgent, it is time that those committed to quality arts education stop squandering time, money, and paper on arguing "either/or" when schools are best served by a "both/and" approach. The author argues that they need to stop seeing direct instruction and arts integration as contrary positions that need to battle it out for limited dollars, and start seeing them as complementary strategies in the service of learners.


This study examined high-stakes test scores for 37,222 eighth grade students enrolled in music and/or visual arts classes and those students not enrolled in arts courses. Students enrolled in music had significantly higher mean scores than those not enrolled in music (p < .001). Results for visual arts and dual arts were not as conclusive. Further research is required to determine the effectiveness of academic remediation held during the instructional day that thereby denies arts instruction to students. The practice of
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recommending that students devote more time to English and math in lieu of music should be evaluated.


This report examines the academic and civic behavior outcomes of teenagers and young adults who have engaged deeply with the arts in or out of school. In several small-group studies, children and teenagers who participated in arts education programs have shown more positive academic and social outcomes in comparison to students who did not participate in those programs. Such studies have proved essential to the current research literature on the types of instrumental benefits associated with an arts education. A standard weakness of the literature, however, has been a dearth of large-scale, longitudinal studies following the same populations over time, tracking the outcomes of students who received intensive arts exposure or arts learning compared with students who did not. "The Arts and Achievement in At-Risk Youth" is a partial attempt to fill this knowledge gap. The authors use four large national databases to analyze the relationship between arts involvement and academic and social achievements. This report displays correlations between arts activity among at-risk youth and subsequent levels of academic performance and civic engagement. For this task, the authors relied on four large longitudinal databases. Each source has unique strengths and limitations in terms of study sample size, age range, and the types of variables included--whether related to arts involvement (in-school and/or extracurricular), academic progress, or social and/or civic participation. Yet after accounting for these differences, three main conclusions arise: (1) Socially and economically disadvantaged children and teenagers who have high levels of arts engagement or arts learning show more positive outcomes in a variety of areas than their low-arts-engaged peers; (2) At-risk teenagers or young adults with a history of intensive arts experiences show achievement levels closer to, and in some cases exceeding, the levels shown by the general population studied; and (3) Most of the positive relationships between arts involvement and academic outcomes apply only to at-risk populations (low-SES). But positive relationships between arts and civic engagement are noted in high-SES groups as well. Meet the Databases is appended.


Drawing on Bruner's notion of folk pedagogy, this research explores how Chinese aesthetic education is perceived and valued at two elementary schools in Taiwan. Using qualitative methods, the research explores how arts teachers guide children to experience arts through the arts curricula in school and the local culture. The study reveals that the
two schools share a respect for nature and a concern for local culture. The seven arts teachers' folk pedagogy includes the desire to connect beauty and arts learning, develop children's aesthetic feelings, cultivate children's character, and integrate arts into everyday life. The teachers' shared views provide a broad picture of these folk beliefs in Taiwan as well as a cultural lens for examining aesthetic education in Taiwan and the larger Asian culture.


The author presents reviews that identify success factors in music and arts education partnerships between cultural institutions and K-12 schools. She incorporates the evaluation of one Massachusetts partnership, Arts Can Teach (ACT), to examine the connection between partnerships and K-12 arts-program policy decisions. ACT is a collaborative effort among Boston's Wang Center for the Performing Arts, the Lynn Public Schools, and LynnArts, which matched music specialists and teachers in other disciplines with practicing artists for one year partnerships. Success factors of the ACT partnership are considered in terms of their similarity to success factors from the literature on music education partnerships. The author discusses implications for increasing and sustaining music and arts education programming and local arts education policy development.


Stress is a major health problem in urban neighborhoods, but integrating the arts into education can help children deal with stress. Stress reduces or eliminates a child's ability to learn by increasing the production of cortisol in the brain, while working in the arts has been shown to produce endorphin, which counteracts the effects of cortisol. Integrating the arts into education has been particularly effective with disadvantaged children.


There is a paucity of literature on social skills therapy for students on the autism spectrum, revealing an urgent need for additional research. Past research has focused on the use of small groups or single-case study designs. The present study examines the effectiveness of a social skills therapy program for school-age children ages 11 through 18. The program uses art therapy and cognitive-behavioral techniques in a group therapy format to broaden and deepen the state-of-the-art techniques used in helping children with social developmental disorders to improve their social skills. Pre- and posttest
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instruments were distributed to parents and teachers in October and May of the 2004-2005 school year. Scores revealed a significant improvement in assertion scores, coupled with decreased internalizing behaviors, hyperactivity scores, and problem behavior scores in the students. Implications for social work and policy are discussed.


"Learning through Art" was a project that emerged from the OLLI @Berkeley "Learning to Learn" Interest Circle in the summer of 2009. More than 30 Interest Circle members explored their own learning styles and strengths, and explored the newest research in neuroscience and aging in order to seek ways of applying that science to their own everyday lives.


Sounds of Learning: The Impact of Music Education is a research program designed to allow researchers to examine the roles of music education in the lives of school-aged children to expand the understanding of music's role in a quality education. The NAMM Foundation, the sponsoring organization, has provided more than $1,000,000 to fund research on the impact of music education on student achievement and success in school; all aspects of a child's growth and development; the uses and functions of music in daily life; and home, school, and community environments. Quality research about the role and impact of music education conducted by experienced researchers who publish in rigorous, peer-reviewed, scientific research journals plays a vital role in moving a public policy agenda forward to achieve expanded access to music education for all children. The goal is that this research will inform policy debates and development to achieve policies that support opportunities for every child to experience the power and benefits of learning music.


This article describes a culturally responsive music curriculum through which students and teachers affirmed diverse stories of individuals present in our public school community. An arts-integrated curriculum project helped make learning more meaningful while concurrently creating a safe learning space for students. This grant-funded project comprised three interwoven facets: a schoolwide focus on world cultures and U.S. immigrant populations throughout the academic year; community celebrations of student learning through arts-based, experiential activities; and a core group of students who met
weekly with teaching artists each week to disseminate knowledge via community informances. The themes connecting disciplines, content areas, and the school community served as lenses through which students gained artistic and academic skills as well as conceptual understandings about elements of language, culture, and community.


This report takes the first ever look at the relationship between school-based arts education and high school graduation rates in New York City public schools. The findings, based on data collected by the New York City Department of Education (DOE), strongly suggest that the arts play a key role in keeping students in high school and graduating on time. The failure of public high schools to graduate students in four years has been a persistent problem in New York City and is a central concern for educators and policymakers across the nation. Once the worldwide leader in education, the United States is falling behind other countries in a number of educational categories, none of which is more troubling than high school graduation rates.


In this article the author offers observations on the impact that art education has on people's lives. Particular focus is given to how art teachers make a difference by helping their students develop skills relating to inquiry and appreciating the natural and human landscape. The impact that art education can have on a student's future in the workforce is also discussed.


No two artists think and feel alike or take the same path in their development as an artist. This also is true of children as they begin their artistic journey. For artists of any age, the passion that ignites and fuels the development of requisite skills defines a personal map of uncharted territories. Significant influences on the making of an artist are, in a scientific sense, unknown. Although retrospective accounts and other biographical research provide hypotheses and patterns for research, there is no proven recipe for talent development in any talent domain: empirical research on adult artists suggests that a recipe is unlikely. Different catalysts affect different learners at different times. With that caveat, there are environmental influences that can assist or impede talent development. In this article, the author discusses how parents, guardians, or educators seeking to
encourage artistic talent can develop their own skills as an appreciator, curator, and advocate.


The author argues that the gap in arts education should be addressed in order to increase graduation rates in New York City. He reveals the fact that graduation rates only reached 50% with students from advantaged families more likely to graduate than their poor counterparts. He mentions how the goals of U.S. President-elect Barack Obama for education offers hope to increase graduation rates.


In this article, the authors investigate how Korea's current educational policy's emphasis on artistic expression, and therefore music education, has been realized in the praxis of early childhood education. The authors view policy as discourses and texts that early childhood educators interpret and reinterpret within specific contexts. Policy rhetoric and practice fail to recognize the integration of musical conceptual development, expressive ability, creativity, and communication. The musical development of a child should be viewed as his or her right to nurture a musical self in a meaningful musical context.


Art education offers a way to reach students and make schools more relevant for them. Art teachers can create alternative formats that allow students to explore and learn about their lives. Thereby, students and their communities become the focus of the curriculum and students' responses are valued as individual expression. While teaching art in Philadelphia schools, the author began to explore connections between curriculum and teaching techniques and thought of strategies she believed would be beneficial to her students. Now in her new role as an art teacher educator, teaching prospective and practicing art teachers in the current climate of "reform" is a pressing challenge. In this article the author discusses critical literacy and its connections to art education. She provides examples from her own experience as a middle school art teacher in the School District of Philadelphia, and more recently as an art teacher educator.


On the occasion of Dewey's sesquicentennial anniversary, Kazuyo Nakamura explores Dewey's aesthetics, which holds the plurality of art and culture in high regard. Nakamura
develops a theoretical foundation for art education in the present age of globalization based on educational insights drawn from Dewey's aesthetics. The theme of this essay unfolds based on three topics: Dewey's view of the educational value of art in general education, the fundamental viewpoint of art in relation to democracy, and the discussion of the educational aspect of individuality and community with respect to the experience of art. Based on Dewey's aesthetics, this essay presents new perspectives on art education that emphasize the realization of personal values, development of intelligent visual literacy, and enhancement of the quality of communication of art, in the context of globalization.


The United States has a long proud history of innovation and creativity. This is one of its greatest assets and what will give its workforce an edge in an increasingly competitive global economy. But to do this, individuals need to prepare the next generation of inventors, designers and creators. Arts education is a solution to many of these problems that has been hiding in plain sight. This is largely because it remains siloed, from the macro to the micro level. At the policy level, arts education advocacy is seen as something different and separate from the larger conversation of educational reform. And in schools, arts specialists classes are too often marginalized as something that gives the classroom teachers a planning period, while teaching artists are asked to parachute in and out in two or three week residencies, without ever being able to build relationships and integrate into the school community. But in fact, the potential of arts education lies in exactly the opposite--a seamless marriage of arts education strategies with overall educational goals, a vibrant collaboration between arts specialists, classroom teachers and teaching artists to create collaborative, creative environments that allow each child to reach his or her potential, using all the tools at individuals' disposal to reach and engage them in learning. This report makes several recommendations to facilitate that vision.


The topic of incorporating arts into the curriculum has been an issue when it comes to providing an adequate learning experience for our youth. Arts Infused Education is based on the collaborative effort of the artist and teacher to co-teach the curriculum in a core subject area. This study, the qualitative part of a mixed methods investigations involves five public schools where students were interviewed with a structured schedule of questions. The quantitative part of this investigation included classrooms observations. The results of the study indicated that Arts Infused Education has a promising mission and that further research is encouraged.
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Schools that bring in teaching artists often look beyond their school walls—to other sources of funding and for collaborative partnerships—to work with teaching artists from the community. For the teaching artist with an expansive vision and a willingness to try new approaches, opportunities may be opening up beyond the typical artist-in-the-school brief residency model. Comprehensive arts integration projects—which allow artists to share expertise with teachers and which seek to sustain the arts in schools—are expanding to encompass the whole academic curriculum. Music, visual arts, theater, dance, and other arts experiences have been demonstrated to engage students unreachable in other ways and to promote academic achievement across all subjects. As large numbers of students remain disengaged from learning and continue to test poorly, landing schools on academic probation and threatening budgets further, it seems inevitable that schools will find a way to bring the power of arts directly to bear on academics. The arts integration approach has actually been around for a while, long enough to establish a promising track record. This article describes an arts integration program---Arts ABL--(the Arts Allies in Basic Learning and Excellence Program)--which partners teachers and teaching artists with the goal of sustainable arts experience for public school students.


This article briefly describes the results of a study, funded in 2001 by The National Art Education Foundation, of arts education in juvenile correctional facilities in the United States. It summarizes the results of a national survey, and it presents the Northeastern Training School* and STUDIO 200* as a model for community-based arts education for juveniles in correctional facilities.

Arts Shape Our World


After winning a class-action lawsuit against unconstitutional prison conditions in Puerto Rico, Marco Abarca managed to direct part of the fine monies accumulated throughout years of litigation toward an investment that would improve the living conditions in one of the largest and poorest housing projects in Puerto Rico. With the participation of parolees and probationers, he began to transform a mosquito-infested badland into a natural haven. Then, with the help of science educators, the group designed a workshop
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for elementary school children on urban ecology. As the participants organized, what
developed was a community-based, self-employed enterprise known as Aula Verde.


The purpose of this study was to profile secondary school music programs in the United
States and investigate principals’ perceptions of those curricula. A survey form was sent
to 1,000 secondary school principals, yielding a 54% response rate. That form was
designed to answer the following questions: What is the profile of secondary music
programs in the United States? How effective do principals think music programs are in
helping students attain specific learning outcomes and broad educational goals? To what
degree do certain variables (e.g., standardized tests, teachers, parents) impact a given
music program? Ninety-eight percent of respondents indicated that their schools offered
music courses, yet 34% required music. There were significant differences in the
diversity of course offerings based on school socioeconomic status profiles. Standardized
tests and No Child Left Behind were thought to have the most negative impact on music
programs.

Catterall, J. S. (2012). The arts and achievement in at-risk youth: Findings from four

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Nigerian educational policies continue to emphasize the development of science and technology. Arts are being relegated to the background as a result of this emphasis. This paradigm shift has affected visual arts education in Nigeria. The number of those seeking admission into science-and engineering-based courses has risen tenfold in spite of the limited infrastructural facilities available, while the number seeking admission to creative arts continues to dwindle yearly. Those who had been preparing for courses in engineering and science but could not secure admission are often absorbed into arts-based industrial design courses. Students in industrial design with science backgrounds are able to develop their creative potential, which is necessary in developing economies. This paper suggests that art training in Nigeria should embrace integrated science subjects.


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In this article, the authors investigate how Korea's current educational policy's emphasis on artistic expression, and therefore music education, has been realized in the praxis of early childhood education. The authors view policy as discourses and texts that early childhood educators interpret and reinterpret within specific contexts. Policy rhetoric and practice fail to recognize the integration of musical conceptual development, expressive ability, creativity, and communication. The musical development of a child should be viewed as his or her right to nurture a musical self in a meaningful musical context.


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literacy, and enhancement of the quality of communication of art, in the context of globalization.


They say desperate times call for desperate measures. But in this time of economic uncertainty, the desperate cutting of budgets for arts funding and, by extension, all types of arts education, including music, is not prudent. That is the consensus of several national and local studies, which converge on a single point— that the arts actually can elevate a floundering economy. Among the findings: A 2001 National Governors Association (NGA) Center for Best Practices report makes a solid case for not slashing support for the arts when the Dow dips. A 2007 Harris Interactive poll connects the dots between music, lifelong educational attainment, and higher income. And a 2008 study by the Texas Cultural Trust goes so far as to declare "an undeniable connection between support for the arts, a vibrant creative sector, and a strong economy."


The United States has a long proud history of innovation and creativity. This is one of its greatest assets and what will give its workforce an edge in an increasingly competitive global economy. But to do this, individuals need to prepare the next generation of inventors, designers and creators. Arts education is a solution to many of these problems that has been hiding in plain sight. This is largely because it remains siloed, from the macro to the micro level. At the policy level, arts education advocacy is seen as something different and separate from the larger conversation of educational reform. And in schools, arts specialists classes are too often marginalized as something that gives the classroom teachers a planning period, while teaching artists are asked to parachute in and out in two or three week residencies, without ever being able to build relationships and integrate into the school community. But in fact, the potential of arts education lies in exactly the opposite—a seamless marriage of arts education strategies with overall educational goals, a vibrant collaboration between arts specialists, classroom teachers and teaching artists to create collaborative, creative environments that allow each child to reach his or her potential, using all the tools at individuals' disposal to reach and engage them in learning. This report makes several recommendations to facilitate that vision.

"Art and Social Justice Education" offers inspiration and tools for educators to craft critical, meaningful, and transformative arts education curriculum and arts integration projects. The images, descriptive texts, essays, and resources are grounded within a clear social justice framework and linked to ideas about culture as commons. Essays and a section written by and for teachers who have already incorporated contemporary artists and ideas into their curriculums help readers to imagine ways to use the content in their own settings. This book is enhanced by a Companion Website (www.routledge.com/cw/quinn) featuring artists and artworks, project examples, and dialogue threads for educators. Proposing that art can contribute in a wide range of ways to the work of envisioning and making a more just world, this imaginative, practical, and engaging sourcebook of contemporary artists' works and education resources advances the field of arts education, locally, nationally, and internationally, by moving beyond models of discipline-based or expressive art education. It will be welcomed by all educators seeking to include the arts and social justice in their curricula.


In an attempt to develop tolerance and acceptance of other cultural groups, teacher educators from the University of Newcastle worked with members of the local African community and teachers from a local school to develop a Creative Arts and Geography program for young school children (aged 7-9 years). The program developed put together the research had gleaned about how attitudes and global Geographical knowledge were intertwined, together with researcher beliefs about the value of teaching Creative Arts in engaging students, to create a teaching program that would help allay fears about those who are different and perhaps counter stereotyping by addressing it before it has a chance to develop. This project used drawings, graphic representations, simple narratives, teacher reflective logs and knowledge and attitudes surveys to monitor changes in attitudes, knowledge and understandings. All assessment tasks with the students were repeated twice, once before the intervention, once shortly after the intervention, and again three months after the intervention. Students were asked to label all material so individual and well as group changes could be tracked. Teachers, community members, university staff, and the school principal filled out reflective logs after each meeting. The program had an immediate effect on the students' knowledge of the world, attitude to Africa and attitudes to others and some of that effect continued even after three months. It was felt that the tools used proved to be useful in assessing changes in cultural understandings and
that they could be applied to a variety of projects with young children including values studies.


Creativity is the cultural capital of the twenty-first century. This article presents an argument for the arts to lead a new wave of education reform that repositions creativity as the centerpiece of an education that prepares a generation of change agents for doing good.


Although goals change and reflect the issues of the time, two primary goals of education in a democracy have remained constant over time. The first goal is to educate for vocational competence and the second is to produce caring, intelligent, and wise citizens. Articulating the connection of design education concepts to the economy and social responsibility is beneficial in educating K-12 students. This article illustrates the ways in which design education fosters the skills needed in the global twenty-first century to help students make a better life for themselves and their community and improve the world. I articulate ways to incorporate design as an essential component into a comprehensive visual arts program.

**Focus on Testing Inaccurately Portrays Student Achievement and Stifles Creativity**


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This study examined high-stakes test scores for 37,222 eighth grade students enrolled in music and/or visual arts classes and those students not enrolled in arts courses. Students enrolled in music had significantly higher mean scores than those not enrolled in music ($p < .001$). Results for visual arts and dual arts were not as conclusive. Further research is required to determine the effectiveness of academic remediation held during the instructional day that thereby denies arts instruction to students. The practice of recommending that students devote more time to English and math in lieu of music should be evaluated.


The article discusses the state of arts education for U.S. students living in poverty, particularly noting the connections between exposure to the arts, graduation, and positive social outcomes. It comments on the negative effects of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) on arts education, as well as considers the program Turnaround Arts, presented by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities (PCAH).


One of the traditional privileges for teachers in the United States has been control over the curriculum. Unlike most countries in the world, the United States does not have a national curriculum "per se", enabling teachers to make curriculum decisions that most benefit local students. However, the Elementary and Secondary Act, also known as the No Child Left Behind Act, has acted as a national curriculum policy by enabling school administrators to conceive of a curriculum that privileges reading and math, and neglects arts programming. Research has demonstrated that art teachers are being pushed into teaching reading and math skills in their classes. High schools that do not continually improve their students' reading and math test scores run the risk of losing whole art departments. And in junior high and middle schools, many students are allowed to take only one quarter or less of art. It is time to reclaim the curriculum. To do this, creative leadership by teachers, professors, and community educators who are willing to take action against policies and managerial decisions that diminish students' opportunities for learning through art is needed. For over a generation, scholars in education have been pointing to the disempowerment of teachers in the wake of public policy makers', school administrators', and other stakeholders' efforts to countermand the expertise of teachers and undermine the importance of teachers' knowledge about their students. Now, art educators need to draw on their expertise to ensure that they are included in educational decision-making in schools and out. The most important first step of art education
leadership is to possess a clear vision of the future. That vision should be related to the leading edge of the field, reflect best practices, and be written in a curriculum rationale. This article discusses the critical components of successful leadership. Promoting any type of educational innovation takes courage and confidence. But effective leadership can transform a program and can help to protect it. The author suggests some places to start.


In a time when schools are focussing on increasing their numeracy and literacy scores, teachers are often required to spend the majority of their time teaching Mathematics and English and have little time left for the arts and other subjects. This has led to some teachers developing integrated programs in order to cover all the required learning experiences. However, practitioners and researchers have found that in many cases, integration results in superficial learning with few subject-specific outcomes being achieved. This paper presents three models or levels of integration (service connections, symmetric correlations and syntegration) where curriculum subjects can work together to achieve subject-specific as well as generic outcomes, then gives examples of how these models can be used within the primary school curriculum. It concludes with a real-life example of a syntegrated learning project.


The author investigates the condition of a public school's arts education program under the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act and obtains teachers' perspectives on their experiences under the federal policy. The author used qualitative and quantitative approaches to conduct a case study of an Ohio public school district. The data collected revealed changes in the arts education curriculum, particularly in music. Teacher interviews provided the context in which the changes occurred and a more accurate representation of the decrease in arts learning opportunities and the challenges that exist for arts education funding under NCLB. The information illustrated how administrative decisions made to improve test scores and accommodate policies mandated by NCLB threatened arts education.

**Imagination, Creativity, and Innovation**

After winning a class-action lawsuit against unconstitutional prison conditions in Puerto Rico, Marco Abarca managed to direct part of the fine monies accumulated throughout years of litigation toward an investment that would improve the living conditions in one of the largest and poorest housing projects in Puerto Rico. With the participation of parolees and probationers, he began to transform a mosquito-infested badland into a natural haven. Then, with the help of science educators, the group designed a workshop for elementary school children on urban ecology. As the participants organized, what developed was a community-based, self-employed enterprise known as Aula Verde.


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This study focused on behavior associated with young art students' developing artistic talent (skills and art-making behavior) and creativity (personal expressions of visual information). The study examined the relationships among age and the components of creativity (i.e., technical skill, problem finding, ideation, evaluation, and motivation). The study compared the artistic processing and products of 25 younger art students (9- and 10-year-olds) with those of 26 older art students (11- through 16-year-olds). The author recorded participants' behavior as they created drawings in two contexts—from imagination and from life. The author then administered a measure of the need for cognition (NCS). The observed behavior during the drawing activities provided scores on problem finding, evaluation, and ideation and three expert judges provided assessments.
of the technical skill and creativity revealed in the drawings. The score on the NCS and the number of years attending the art program provided two measures of motivation. Multivariate analyses of the effects of age on the developing components of creativity revealed changes related to the students' developing expertise. In both drawing situations, differences in technical skill explained the differences associated with age. This study found that technical skill explained age differences in life-drawing problem finding, creativity, and motivation. Technical skill also explained age differences in ideation and problem finding in drawings from imagination. There were significant correlations between life-drawing technical skill and each of the two measures of motivation. The number of years attending the art program also shared significant variance with life-drawing ideation, problem finding, and creativity and was a significant predictor of continued attendance in the art program. The findings are discussed within the context of competence motivation, artistic talent, developing creativity, emerging habits of mind, and art education.


In this article, the authors reflect upon the movement to implement art curriculum into STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education in the U.S. The authors express concern for the systematic elimination of arts electives from secondary and primary education. They argue that the arts are essential to innovation and creativity. Various educators are quoted including Audrey Bennett, Richard Ward and Doris Kennedy. Several resources for art educators looking to get involved in this issue are also provided.
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Arts for the Arts’ Sake


The visual arts can be an important and rich domain of learning for young children. In PreK education, The Task Force on Children's Learning and the Arts: Birth to Age Eight ("Young children and the arts: Making creative connections", Washington, DC: Arts Education Partnership, 1998) recommends that art experiences for young children include activities designed to introduce children to works of art that are high quality and developmentally appropriate in both content and presentation. This paper documents the teaching strategies utilized by a master art teacher at the Denver Art Museum to engage preschool-age students in art viewing experiences which were part of a museum-based art program. This research provides support for integrating rich, meaningful art viewing experiences as a regular part of young children's arts experiences while offering early childhood educators teaching strategies for early art viewing experiences.

López, José M. Touriñán. (2011). Keys to approach arts education in the educational system: *Education "through" the Arts and Education "for" an Art. (English), 21*, 61-81.

Language: Spanish. Abstract (English): We have to study arts education from the perspective of education, without taking away the specific perspective of artistic products. The goal of this paper is to help form criteria about arts education in the general sense of understanding arts as a field of education. This pedagogical perspective demands looking carefully at the area of arts education and it means we have to keep a clear commitment to the educational values of art experience in their several forms of expression. To develop arts as field of education requires understanding and distinguishing three possible ways for considering the interactions between arts and education: 1) Arts as a general area of education; 2) Arts as an area of general education, 3) Arts as a vocational and professional development area.
Arts Outcomes


In times of difficulty, it is easy to see what many policymakers value. It would seem that many of them view the arts as a noncrucial element of a child's school curriculum. They want to cut music because they do not value music for its own sake, nor can they see how music could possibly help students in math, reading, or science. But what do the scientists say? According to neuroscientists from Harvard, Stanford, and the University of Oregon, policymakers should think twice before cutting arts programs in the schools. This article discusses the cognitive benefits of the arts and suggests some ways of advocating brain-based-research music.

Abstract Reasoning


By means of a careful search we found several representations of dynamic contents of events that show how the depiction of the passage of time in the visual arts has evolved gradually through a series of modifications and adaptations. The general hypothesis we started to investigate is that the evolution of the representation of the time course in visual arts is mirrored in the evolution of the concept of time in children, who, according to Piaget (1946), undergo three stages in their ability to conceptualize time. Crucial for our hypothesis is Stage II, in which children become progressively able to link the different phases of an event, but vacillate between what Piaget termed 'intuitive regulations', not being able to understand all the different aspects of a given situation. We found several pictorial representations — mainly dated back to the 14th to 15th century — that seem to fit within a Stage II of children's comprehension of time. According to our hypothesis, this type of pictorial representations should be immediately understood only by those children who are at Piaget's Stage II of time conceptualization. This implies that children at Stages I and III should not be able to understand the representation of time courses in the aforementioned paintings. An experiment was run to verify the agreement between children's collocation within Piaget's three stages — as indicated by an adaptation of Piaget's original experiment — and their understanding of pictorial representations that should be considered as Stage II type of representations of time courses. Despite the small sample of children examined so far, results seem to support our hypothesis. A follow-up (Experiment 2) on the same children was also run one year later in order to verify other possible explanations. Results from the two experiments suggest that the study of the visual arts can aid our understanding of the development of
the concept of time, and it can also help to distinguish between the perceptual and the cognitive constraints (i.e. representational or cultural) in the representation of the succession of events.

**Brain Research**


By means of a careful search we found several representations of dynamic contents of events that show how the depiction of the passage of time in the visual arts has evolved gradually through a series of modifications and adaptations. The general hypothesis we started to investigate is that the evolution of the representation of the time course in visual arts is mirrored in the evolution of the concept of time in children, who, according to Piaget (1946), undergo three stages in their ability to conceptualize time. Crucial for our hypothesis is Stage II, in which children become progressively able to link the different phases of an event, but vacillate between what Piaget termed 'intuitive regulations', not being able to understand all the different aspects of a given situation. We found several pictorial representations — mainly dated back to the 14th to 15th century — that seem to fit within a Stage II of children's comprehension of time. According to our hypothesis, this type of pictorial representations should be immediately understood only by those children who are at Piaget's Stage II of time conceptualization. This implies that children at Stages I and III should not be able to understand the representation of time courses in the aforementioned paintings. An experiment was run to verify the agreement between children's collocation within Piaget's three stages — as indicated by an adaptation of Piaget's original experiment — and their understanding of pictorial representations that should be considered as Stage II type of representations of time courses. Despite the small sample of children examined so far, results seem to support our hypothesis. A follow-up (Experiment 2) on the same children was also run one year later in order to verify other possible explanations. Results from the two experiments suggest that the study of the visual arts can aid our understanding of the development of the concept of time, and it can also help to distinguish between the perceptual and the cognitive constraints (i.e. representational or cultural) in the representation of the succession of events.


"Learning through Art" was a project that emerged from the OLLI @Berkeley "Learning to Learn" Interest Circle in the summer of 2009. More than 30 Interest Circle members explored their own learning styles and strengths, and explored the newest research in
neuroscience and aging in order to seek ways of applying that science to their own everyday lives.


This paper re/considers empathy and its implications for learning in the art classroom, particularly in light of relevant neuroscientific investigations of the mirror neuron system recently discovered in the human brain. These investigations reinterpret the meaning of perception, resonance, and connection, and point to the fundamental importance of the resonant body in understanding the world of objects (including objects of art and material culture), and the world of others (including an intersubjectivity of interdependence). Presenting research results and classroom experiences, this paper ultimately advocates a move toward an art education of empathy that integrates caring, cognitive growth, and sociocultural awareness. This art education would strive to promote a connectedness in the classroom community--an authentic and resonant kind of harmony--between self, object, and other, through which the worlds of objects and others are experienced and made meaningful.


The effects of music training in relation to brain plasticity have caused excitement, evident from the popularity of books on this topic among scientists and the general public. Neuroscience research has shown that music training leads to changes throughout the auditory system that prime musicians for listening challenges beyond music processing. This effect of music training suggests that, akin to physical exercise and its impact on body fitness, music is a resource that tones the brain for auditory fitness. Therefore, the role of music in shaping individual development deserves consideration.


Studies on creative personality have revealed that the relationship between personality and creativity remains unclear, and various types of creative thinking have been associated with various personality traits. To assess the influence of dissociative experiences on creativity in the context of fine arts education, in which the creative process plays a key role, a sample of fine arts students received a test of creative potential and the dissociative experiences test. The results revealed significant differences in creativity (creative imagination and creative experiences) between students scoring high or low in the number of dissociative experiences. High dissociative experiences scores were associated to high scores in creative imagination and creative experiences, and low
scores in dissociative experiences were inversely related to creative imagination and creative experiences. Further studies are required to corroborate these findings.


This content analysis examines how philosophy and advocacy articles published between 2005 and 2010 were influenced by current neuroscience research. The contents of twelve journals were explored, resulting in the inclusion of forty-five articles in this analysis. Recently, there has been a growing interest in neuroscientific research on music. Articles were coded for latent content and emerging themes to determine if this interest has begun to be expressed in philosophy and advocacy writings. The educational implications and issues of using neuroscientific findings are addressed, and recommendations are offered for using future research for advocacy purposes.

**Collaboration**


In June 2007, the Arts Education Partnership (AEP) convened the directors of eight collaborative entities to discuss promising practices for integrating the arts into the lives and curricula of urban public schools as a means of fostering system-wide educational improvement. The seven school-community collaboratives and one higher education collaborative represented at the one-day seminar at Oklahoma City University were selected based on their participation in The Ford Foundation's "Integrating the Arts and Education Reform (Arts-Ed) Initiative". Each collaborative is partially supported, and in some cases was initiated, by grants from The Ford Foundation. This research and policy brief describes some of the strategies discussed during the directors' roundtable discussion. At the seminar, as the directors talked candidly about challenges and opportunities they face in managing their organizations during this start-up phase of the initiative, a general consensus emerged about particular approaches and practices that may be helpful to others in the field. The purpose of this brief is to share these ideas with a broader audience of those engaged and interested in using community-based arts education collaboration as an agent for system change. Profiles of the Collaboratives Participating in the Integrating the Arts and Education Reform Initiative are appended.

This paper describes the history and development of the Jersey City Public Schools creative arts therapy program. Creative arts therapists contributed examples of their work throughout the district that provide a window into their respective school settings. Examples include technology-based art therapy, an extended school year program, collaborations with school-based mental health workers, professional development, music therapy integrated with academics, community arts events, short term behavioral programs, and internship opportunities. The challenges of establishing and sustaining a creative arts therapy program in a large urban school district are addressed. The article affirms that creative arts therapists develop effective school programs through innovation, research, and collaborative efforts among peers and other professionals.


As educators deliberate on how to provide a well-rounded education for all, the idea of working more collaboratively with a range of arts education providers has become increasingly attractive. Allowing outside organizations and individuals to gain access to institutions in a more evenhanded way and create long-term relationships that reinforce the idea of education as a community-centered effort is a little new for schools. Yet many are finding it is worth exploring, as the process of creating alliances and partnerships with other community organizations places schools in a different light and allows them to appear less intimidating and more approachable. Arts organizations and teaching artists play an important role in realizing well-rounded educational strategies, and they are at the forefront of providing arts instruction in many classrooms. Now more than ever schools, teaching artists, and cultural workers must find common ground that allows them to share their practices. Through partnerships that draw on all of the resources within a geographic or cultural area, different kinds of knowledge and experience are shared, and communities are enriched by the exchange. This article presents the case of the Multicultural Arts School, which provides valuable insight into how arts partnerships can contribute to building a democratic learning community in which students, teachers, cultural workers, and artists are able to redefine their roles and obtain an alternative sense of community by expanding boundaries and definitions.

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Creativity


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Nigerian educational policies continue to emphasize the development of science and technology. Arts are being relegated to the background as a result of this emphasis. This paradigm shift has affected visual arts education in Nigeria. The number of those seeking admission into science-and engineering-based courses has risen tenfold in spite of the
limited infrastructural facilities available, while the number seeking admission to creative arts continues to dwindle yearly. Those who had been preparing for courses in engineering and science but could not secure admission are often absorbed into arts-based industrial design courses. Students in industrial design with science backgrounds are able to develop their creative potential, which is necessary in developing economies. This paper suggests that art training in Nigeria should embrace integrated science subjects.


In this article the author offers observations on the impact that art education has on people's lives. Particular focus is given to how art teachers make a difference by helping their students develop skills relating to inquiry and appreciating the natural and human landscape. The impact that art education can have on a student's future in the workforce is also discussed.


In this article, the authors investigate how Korea's current educational policy's emphasis on artistic expression, and therefore music education, has been realized in the praxis of early childhood education. The authors view policy as discourses and texts that early childhood educators interpret and reinterpret within specific contexts. Policy rhetoric and practice fail to recognize the integration of musical conceptual development, expressive ability, creativity, and communication. The musical development of a child should be viewed as his or her right to nurture a musical self in a meaningful musical context.


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This study focused on behavior associated with young art students' developing artistic talent (skills and art-making behavior) and creativity (personal expressions of visual information). The study examined the relationships among age and the components of creativity (i.e., technical skill, problem finding, ideation, evaluation, and motivation). The study compared the artistic processing and products of 25 younger art students (9- and 10-year-olds) with those of 26 older art students (11- through 16-year-olds). The author recorded participants' behavior as they created drawings in two contexts—from imagination and from life. The author then administered a measure of the need for cognition (NCS). The observed behavior during the drawing activities provided scores on problem finding, evaluation, and ideation and three expert judges provided assessments of the technical skill and creativity revealed in the drawings. The score on the NCS and the number of years attending the art program provided two measures of motivation. Multivariate analyses of the effects of age on the developing components of creativity revealed changes related to the students' developing expertise. In both drawing situations, differences in technical skill explained the differences associated with age. This study found that technical skill explained age differences in life-drawing problem finding, creativity, and motivation. Technical skill also explained age differences in ideation and problem finding in drawings from imagination. There were significant correlations between life-drawing technical skill and each of the two measures of motivation. The number of years attending the art program also shared significant variance with life-drawing ideation, problem finding, and creativity and was a significant predictor of continued attendance in the art program. The findings are discussed within the context of competence motivation, artistic talent, developing creativity, emerging habits of mind, and art education.


The author reflects on the relevance of taking breaks from a hectic work or school day, and training, music and art in Physical Education (P.E.), Music and Arts. The author
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contends that these subjects should be regarded as a perspective from which a person can potentially expand his creativity. Recess, on the other hand, the author finds this essential particularly in recharging one's mind, as well as increasing energy.


In this article, the authors reflect upon the movement to implement art curriculum into STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education in the U.S. The authors express concern for the systematic elimination of arts electives from secondary and primary education. They argue that the arts are essential to innovation and creativity. Various educators are quoted including Audrey Bennett, Richard Ward and Doris Kennedy. Several resources for art educators looking to get involved in this issue are also provided.

**Critical/Creative Thinking**


Quality arts education can produce positive learning outcomes, such as creating positive attitudes to learning, developing a greater sense of personal and cultural identity, and fostering more creative and imaginative ways of thinking in young children (Bamford, 2006; Eisner, 2002; Robinson, 2001). Arts-based processes allow children the opportunity to express their knowledge, ideas and feelings in ways that do not necessarily involve words (Livermore, 2003; Robinson, 2001). Unfortunately, the value of arts-based learning can often be overlooked because of the social and cultural dominance of literal language and written modes of expression (Eisner, 2002; Kress, 2000). Forming models of quality arts education in the early years of primary school can also be a highly problematic task. This has been highlighted in a series of recent national reviews that have investigated the current state of arts education in Australian schools. This national attention has in part focused on the level of preparedness of non-specialist teachers, in teaching the creative arts; music, dance, art and drama.


The article reports on an arts and advocacy initiative launched in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania by the Mural Arts Program of Philadelphia called A Place to Call Home. A discussion of the initiative's main objective, which was to engage and empower high risk
young people and to allow them to voice their concerns about housing and health, is presented. The initiative featured 48 young people between the ages of 14 and 23 who worked consistently for six months, engaging in neighborhood photo documentation, photo-elicitation interviews regarding their own housing struggles and the creation of public art. Benefits which the young people received from participating in the initiative are discussed.


In this article I present personalised socio-cultural inquiry in visual art education as a critical and expressive material praxis. The model of Visual Performative Pedagogy and Communicative Proficiency for the Visual Art Classroom is presented as a legitimate means of manipulating visual codes, communicating meaning and mediating values through imaging technologies. It identifies that visual art studio learning outcomes as exhibition artworks facilitate the mediation and communication of ideas, and support understanding of individual identities, social behaviours, culture and beliefs. A critical phenomenological methodology was used to explore longitudinal and case-study learning insights about student learning in a post-compulsory visual art curriculum in New South Wales, Australia. Through analysis of student artworks, reflective journals and post-schooling case-study interviews, the research identified that this unique learning environment developed visual communicative proficiency in the students. The findings affirm the significance of personalised imaging inquiry strategies to support understandings about the self, society and culture. The studio pedagogies and visual arts education curriculum in NSW represents an alternative approach to a prescribed and explicit values curriculum. This article will identify the key elements of the model of Visual Performative Pedagogy and Communicative Proficiency for the Visual Art Classroom. It will expand on the aesthetic and critical approach in arts learning as studio pedagogy and the exhibition process that generates public benefits through socially embedded and embodied inquiry.


In this article, the author explores the possibilities of teaching and learning through multiple literacies in an arts environment. Acknowledging that technologies have a profound effect on our society, and often outpace our ability to properly assess or understand their implications, the author asserts that young people can become critical and active agents in their interactions with new media. Arts education, specifically theater education, is uniquely positioned to substantially contribute to these interactions between teachers and students that acknowledge and explore the new forms of literacy that are
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essential to navigating our contemporary culture. To this end, the author calls on arts educators to effectively engage with their students' multimodal concerns through interactions that value new multimodal literacies.


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It is a common acceptance that contemporary schoolchildren live in a world that is intensely visual and commercially motivated, where what is imagined and what is experienced intermingle. Because of this, contemporary education should encourage a child to make reference to, and connection with their "out-of-school" life. The core critical underpinnings of curriculum-based arts appreciation and theory hinge on educators and students taking a historical look at the ways artists have engaged with, and made comment upon, their contemporary societies. My article uses this premise to argue for the need to persist with pushing for critique of/through the visual, that it be delivered as an active process via the arts classroom rather than as visual literacy, here regarded as a more passive process for interpreting and understanding visual material. The article asserts that visual arts lessons are best placed to provide fully students with such critique.
because they help students to develop a "critical eye", an interpretive lens often used by artists to view, analyse and independently navigate and respond to contemporary society.


In this article, the authors investigate how Korea's current educational policy's emphasis on artistic expression, and therefore music education, has been realized in the praxis of early childhood education. The authors view policy as discourses and texts that early childhood educators interpret and reinterpret within specific contexts. Policy rhetoric and practice fail to recognize the integration of musical conceptual development, expressive ability, creativity, and communication. The musical development of a child should be viewed as his or her right to nurture a musical self in a meaningful musical context.


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found that technical skill explained age differences in life-drawing problem finding, creativity, and motivation. Technical skill also explained age differences in ideation and problem finding in drawings from imagination. There were significant correlations between life-drawing technical skill and each of the two measures of motivation. The number of years attending the art program also shared significant variance with life-drawing ideation, problem finding, and creativity and was a significant predictor of continued attendance in the art program. The findings are discussed within the context of competence motivation, artistic talent, developing creativity, emerging habits of mind, and art education.

Cultural Awareness


Quality arts education can produce positive learning outcomes, such as creating positive attitudes to learning, developing a greater sense of personal and cultural identity, and fostering more creative and imaginative ways of thinking in young children (Bamford, 2006; Eisner, 2002; Robinson, 2001). Arts-based processes allow children the opportunity to express their knowledge, ideas and feelings in ways that do not necessarily involve words (Livermore, 2003; Robinson, 2001). Unfortunately, the value of arts-based learning can often be overlooked because of the social and cultural dominance of literal language and written modes of expression (Eisner, 2002; Kress, 2000). Forming models of quality arts education in the early years of primary school can also be a highly problematic task. This has been highlighted in a series of recent national reviews that have investigated the current state of arts education in Australian schools. This national attention has in part focused on the level of preparedness of non-specialist teachers, in teaching the creative arts; music, dance, art and drama.


Recent educational policy and practice have established an extended role for all subjects in addressing children and young peoples’ academic and interpersonal development, with strategies facilitating key skills and wider learning across areas of Citizenship and Personal, Social and Health education providing an integrated approach to education and welfare. The significance of global development education within a holistic curriculum acknowledges the increased awareness of the interconnected nature of our relationship with each other and with the planet we share as world citizens. The arts have a strong track-record in addressing such key issues - challenging hierarchical paradigms which
Arts reinforce prejudice and stereotyping, the arts encourage reflexive processes and critical engagement with diversity and pluralist perspectives. This article investigates curricular approaches to the global dimension within education in relation to theoretical perspectives and policies, presenting an intercultural art case study as a model of practice in engaging diverse participants in reflection on their own and others’ experiences across a range of socio-cultural contexts. Current political shifts reaffirming the centrality of the discrete disciplines over cross-curricular practice could potentially undermine a more holistic approach to education. The article argues that policy and practice, implemented in response to changing political and philosophical ideology, must nevertheless maintain a commitment to fostering interdisciplinary values of cultural awareness. Such practice must form part of an inclusive internationalist educational vision, impacting on social cohesion.


Drawing on Bruner's notion of folk pedagogy, this research explores how Chinese aesthetic education is perceived and valued at two elementary schools in Taiwan. Using qualitative methods, the research explores how arts teachers guide children to experience arts through the arts curricula in school and the local culture. The study reveals that the two schools share a respect for nature and a concern for local culture. The seven arts teachers' folk pedagogy includes the desire to connect beauty and arts learning, develop children's aesthetic feelings, cultivate children's character, and integrate arts into everyday life. The teachers' shared views provide a broad picture of these folk beliefs in Taiwan as well as a cultural lens for examining aesthetic education in Taiwan and the larger Asian culture.


In this article I present personalised socio-cultural inquiry in visual art education as a critical and expressive material praxis. The model of Visual Performative Pedagogy and Communicative Proficiency for the Visual Art Classroom is presented as a legitimate means of manipulating visual codes, communicating meaning and mediating values through imaging technologies. It identifies that visual art studio learning outcomes as exhibition artworks facilitate the mediation and communication of ideas, and support understanding of individual identities, social behaviours, culture and beliefs. A critical phenomenological methodology was used to explore longitudinal and case-study learning insights about student learning in a post-compulsory visual art curriculum in New South Wales, Australia. Through analysis of student artworks, reflective journals and post-
schooling case-study interviews, the research identified that this unique learning environment developed visual communicative proficiency in the students. The findings affirm the significance of personalised imaging inquiry strategies to support understandings about the self, society and culture. The studio pedagogies and visual arts education curriculum in NSW represents an alternative approach to a prescribed and explicit values curriculum. This article will identify the key elements of the model of Visual Performative Pedagogy and Communicative Proficiency for the Visual Art Classroom. It will expand on the aesthetic and critical approach in arts learning as studio pedagogy and the exhibition process that generates public benefits through socially embedded and embodied inquiry.


This article describes a culturally responsive music curriculum through which students and teachers affirmed diverse stories of individuals present in our public school community. An arts-integrated curriculum project helped make learning more meaningful while concurrently creating a safe learning space for students. This grant-funded project comprised three interwoven facets: a schoolwide focus on world cultures and U.S. immigrant populations throughout the academic year; community celebrations of student learning through arts-based, experiential activities; and a core group of students who met weekly with teaching artists each week to disseminate knowledge via community informances. The themes connecting disciplines, content areas, and the school community served as lenses through which students gained artistic and academic skills as well as conceptual understandings about elements of language, culture, and community.


In this article, the author explores the possibilities of teaching and learning through multiple literacies in an arts environment. Acknowledging that technologies have a profound effect on our society, and often outpace our ability to properly assess or understand their implications, the author asserts that young people can become critical and active agents in their interactions with new media. Arts education, specifically theater education, is uniquely positioned to substantially contribute to these interactions between teachers and students that acknowledge and explore the new forms of literacy that are essential to navigating our contemporary culture. To this end, the author calls on arts educators to effectively engage with their students' multimodal concerns through interactions that value new multimodal literacies.

Manurewa Intermediate students were given an experience only the arts can provide as they collaboratively researched, responded to and celebrated a school mural project. The mural project was initiated by Shane Hansen through the Principal Iain Taylor and coordinated by Dianne Macdonald, a Professional Learning Leader at Manurewa Intermediate School. The thrust of the project: To paint an artwork environment that told the school's story "Listen to Culture". The mural, titled "Pumanawatanga," which is 2.4 metres high and 20 metres long, was designed and painted by thirty Year 7 and Year 8 students in Terms 3 and 4 in 2009, in collaboration with local New Zealand artist Shane Hansen. The underpinning aim of this project was to support students' learning in arts education through a focus on "culture". Shane's influences include his Maori, Chinese and European heritage, the environment, his family and other New Zealand artists such as Gordon Walters and Dick Frizzell. Shane draws from a world of bold colours and what has been described as an optimistic post-modern playfulness.


This article examines some characteristics of art education in Korea. It takes the form of a historical overview using a postcolonial lens. The findings were that the predominant Western aesthetic concepts and theories as central culture embodied in Korean art education as local culture are: (i) ideas of art as self-expression developed in Europe and the USA between the 1920s and 1950s; (ii) the concept of art in daily living in the USA in the 1930s; (iii) design elements and principles by Arthur Wesley Dow in the USA in the 1920s; (iv) Bauhaus design theory in Europe in the 1920s; and (v) the appreciation of nature beauty by John Ruskin in the late nineteenth century in England. These educational ideas have been influential on policy-making in Korean art education, and therefore new concepts are integrated with these elements for curriculum changes. In this way, the characteristic of the colonised Korean art curriculum is so hybrid that it is difficult to understand the concepts and the practical implications of the various policies for art teaching. Consequently, it has not served the issues of cultural diversity and pluralism that are so problematic in twenty-first century Korean society.


In an attempt to develop tolerance and acceptance of other cultural groups, teacher educators from the University of Newcastle worked with members of the local African community and teachers from a local school to develop a Creative Arts and Geography
program for young school children (aged 7-9 years). The program developed put together the research had gleaned about how attitudes and global Geographical knowledge were intertwined, together with researcher beliefs about the value of teaching Creative Arts in engaging students, to create a teaching program that would help allay fears about those who are different and perhaps counter stereotyping by addressing it before it has a chance to develop. This project used drawings, graphic representations, simple narratives, teacher reflective logs and knowledge and attitudes surveys to monitor changes in attitudes, knowledge and understandings. All assessment tasks with the students were repeated twice, once before the intervention, once shortly after the intervention, and again three months after the intervention. Students were asked to label all material so individual and well as group changes could be tracked. Teachers, community members, university staff, and the school principal filled out reflective logs after each meeting. The program had an immediate effect on the students' knowledge of the world, attitude to Africa and attitudes to others and some of that effect continued even after three months. It was felt that the tools used proved to be useful in assessing changes in cultural understandings and that they could be applied to a variety of projects with young children including values studies.


Curiously, while the efficacy of the arts for the development of multicultural understandings has long been theorized, empirical studies of this effect have been lacking. This essay recounts our combined empirical and philosophical study of this issue. We explicate the philosophical considerations that shaped the development of the arts course we studied, which was grounded in rather traditional humanist educational thought, informed by Deweyan considerations for pedagogy and multiculturalism. We also provide an overview of the course and of the study design: the ways in which the course worked to teach aesthetic theory through a combination of popular and canonical works, and the ways in which it sought to instill a sense of cross-cultural appreciation and solidarity among students through the inclusion of art from different cultures and generations. We then share our research findings and our return to the realm of philosophy to interpret them. Our postcolonial analysis incorporates emerging discussions of the arts as a tool for resistance and dialogue within the system of public education, and revisit and reconsider the very concept of education for pluralistic democracy. This approach problematizes traditional conceptions of pluralism, in which an attempt is made to dissolve difference in a common understanding, and instead advocates that works from among the contemporary popular arts and works drawn from the artistic "canon" alike must be considered and employed for their instrumental value to
the educational process—especially for their ability to prompt an intersubjectivity that is accompanied by a heightened awareness of difference.

**Disadvantaged/Struggling Students**


This viewpoint proposes a model of art therapy integrated into an alternative art education program. Because of the pressure to meet educational standards, school systems may be less likely to support clinical programs that take students out of their classes. A blended model of art therapy and art education that utilizes effective strategies from both disciplines and provides students with a therapeutic process can support instruction, empower students, and produce art products the students can be proud to have created.


Although there is widespread recognition that arts experiences enhance children's social-emotional development, the mechanisms through which this process takes place are little understood. This article provides insight into the role of the arts in development, through a review of recent research on child development and interviews with inner-city elementary teachers who have participated in an artist-in-residence program. The author presents evidence that arts experiences—and drama activities in particular—help children to develop an enhanced understanding of the responses, emotional expressions, and actions of other people, as well as a comprehension of what to expect from others and what social scripts should be used in different situations.


The article reports on an arts and advocacy initiative launched in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania by the Mural Arts Program of Philadelphia called A Place to Call Home. A discussion of the initiative's main objective, which was to engage and empower high risk young people and to allow them to voice their concerns about housing and health, is presented. The initiative featured 48 young people between the ages of 14 and 23 who worked consistently for six months, engaging in neighborhood photo documentation, photo-elicitation interviews regarding their own housing struggles and the creation of
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public art. Benefits which the young people received from participating in the initiative are discussed.


Stress is a major health problem in urban neighborhoods, but integrating the arts into education can help children deal with stress. Stress reduces or eliminates a child's ability to learn by increasing the production of cortisol in the brain, while working in the arts has been shown to produce endorphin, which counteracts the effects of cortisol. Integrating the arts into education has been particularly effective with disadvantaged children.


In this follow-up to her bestselling book, "Why Our Schools Need the Arts", Jessica Hoffmann Davis addresses the alarming drop-out rate in our high schools and presents a thoughtful, evidence-based argument that increasing arts education in the high school curriculum will keep kids in school. Davis shares compelling voices of teachers and their adolescent learners to demonstrate how courses in the arts are relevant and valuable to students who have otherwise become disenfranchised from school. This important book points the way toward rescuing the American high school from inside out by insuring that all students benefit from the compelling and essential learning opportunities that the arts uniquely provide. In an engaging and accessible narrative, "Why Our High Schools Need the Arts" will inform the uninitiated, change the minds of doubters, and fuel the fight of those already committed to arts-related school reform. This timely resource: (1) Takes key foundational principles presented in "Why Our Schools Need the Arts" and describes how they work in high schools; (2) Presents research that indicates arts learning engages youth and provides them with a reason to stay in school and graduate; and (3) Provides real-life examples, with teacher and student voices, that school reformers need to hear.


This paper challenges the orientations and assumptions underpinning policies for disadvantaged young people (DYP) in Australia. We argue that policy interventions for young people generally exhibit a binary divide, some policies fostering leadership and creative endeavours targeted on "high-functioning" young people, especially within
educational and arts milieus, while other policies, focusing on DYP, take a remedial orientation. The basis for this binary divide is, we argue, flawed social constructions of young people, constructions that pathologise or privilege behaviours, attitudes and lifestyles. The consequences for DYP are that remedial policies, designed to get and keep young people "on track", are often ignoring deeper developmental needs. Using recent research findings from arts programmes for young people, the paper argues for a broader policy orientation, including developmental needs, to strengthen remedial policies and programmes and open the potential for pathways to resilience.


There is a paucity of literature on social skills therapy for students on the autism spectrum, revealing an urgent need for additional research. Past research has focused on the use of small groups or single-case study designs. The present study examines the effectiveness of a social skills therapy program for school-age children ages 11 through 18. The program uses art therapy and cognitive-behavioral techniques in a group therapy format to broaden and deepen the state-of-the-art techniques used in helping children with social developmental disorders to improve their social skills. Pre- and posttest instruments were distributed to parents and teachers in October and May of the 2004-2005 school year. Scores revealed a significant improvement in assertion scores, coupled with decreased internalizing behaviors, hyperactivity scores, and problem behavior scores in the students. Implications for social work and policy are discussed.


The article discusses the state of arts education for U.S. students living in poverty, particularly noting the connections between exposure to the arts, graduation, and positive social outcomes. It comments on the negative effects of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) on arts education, as well as considers the program Turnaround Arts, presented by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities (PCAH).


Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) has been at the forefront of integrating art therapy in schools since 1979, helping children with emotional/behavioral disabilities become more receptive to academic involvement while maximizing their social and emotional potential. This article describes the history, development, current
configuration, and future outlook for school art therapy services provided by the M-DCPS Clinical Art Therapy Department.


The author argues that the gap in arts education should be addressed in order to increase graduation rates in New York City. He reveals the fact that graduation rates only reached 50% with students from advantaged families more likely to graduate than their poor counterparts. He mentions how the goals of U.S. President-elect Barack Obama for education offers hope to increase graduation rates.


This paper describes the history and development of the Jersey City Public Schools creative arts therapy program. Creative arts therapists contributed examples of their work throughout the district that provide a window into their respective school settings. Examples include technology-based art therapy, an extended school year program, collaborations with school-based mental health workers, professional development, music therapy integrated with academics, community arts events, short term behavioral programs, and internship opportunities. The challenges of establishing and sustaining a creative arts therapy program in a large urban school district are addressed. The article affirms that creative arts therapists develop effective school programs through innovation, research, and collaborative efforts among peers and other professionals.


An approach to early childhood education that integrates visual and performing arts throughout the preschool curriculum--"Art as a Way of Learning"--was implemented in a program (Promoting and Supporting Early Literacy through the Arts) designed to improve the emergent literacy and school readiness of at-risk young children in community-based preschool settings. A quasi-experimental pre-post treatment-only design was used to explore this program's potential effects in a real-world setting. Preliminary results revealed improvements in young children's emergent literacy on a number of targeted and standardized measures after participation in the program. This arts-integrated approach to the teaching of and learning in young children shows considerable promise and warrants a rigorous test of its effects.

Over recent years, young people's participation in small-scale, locally based arts activities has increasingly come to be viewed by policy-makers as capable of playing a valuable role in both re-engaging 'at-risk' youth with mainstream education and providing a means through which communities might combat social exclusion. For some commentators, however, the political imperatives underpinning this approach sit uncomfortably with the multifarious uses and ambitions of creative youthful cultural participation, leading some to criticise the adopted approach as an 'instrumental' use of the arts. Presenting findings from three youth-based community music projects set in the north of England, this paper explores some of the ramifications of current policy relating to the community music participation of young people, particularly those considered 'at-risk'. The analysis reveals ways in which such use of cultural policy can have a negative impact on participatory activity, leaving community music projects in danger of missing their at-risk target.


This article documents the collaborative research and development of an apprenticeship model of learning for the arts. It focuses on teachers working in partnership with artists and other creative practitioners. The model is rooted in theories of social learning and cognitive apprenticeship. It was developed and tested through collaborative research, some of it action research. The aim was to explore and test the model for appropriateness and for its impact on the learning of all participants (children, teachers, creative practitioners). The model was found to be useful as a guide to the organisation of children's learning in the arts. Moreover, using the model had a positive effect on the inclusion of children on the margins into wider school learning. The model was also useful in facilitating the professional development of the adults concerned: teachers, artists and others.

English Language Acquisition


This report presents results from the second year of CRESST's three-year evaluation of the WebPlay program. WebPlay is an online-enhanced arts education program for K-12
students. The evaluation occurred during the three-year implementation of the program in Grades 3 and 5 in California schools; this report focused on results from the second year of program implementation, 2006-07. Results show that WebPlay participation was significantly related to positive educational engagement/attitude. In terms of California Standards Test (CST) English Language Arts (ELA) scores, despite no overall WebPlay effects, a significant difference was found for limited English proficiency (LEP) students. The results support that a well-designed, theater-based education can improve student engagement; and that it may have academic benefits in language arts content, particularly for those students who are struggling with English proficiency.

Generalized Student Achievement


In this article the authors reflect on the state of art education in the twenty-first century. Particular focus is given to the authors' opinion that art teachers need to adopt a businesslike approach and mentality about their work. They describe how school reform initiatives require strong leadership, strategic planning and performance accountability from teachers. Art advocacy issues are also discussed as is the importance of infusing reading, math, science, social studies and other disciplines into art education.


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This article describes a culturally responsive music curriculum through which students and teachers affirmed diverse stories of individuals present in our public school community. An arts-integrated curriculum project helped make learning more meaningful while concurrently creating a safe learning space for students. This grant-funded project comprised three interwoven facets: a schoolwide focus on world cultures and U.S. immigrant populations throughout the academic year; community celebrations of student learning through arts-based, experiential activities; and a core group of students who met weekly with teaching artists each week to disseminate knowledge via community informances. The themes connecting disciplines, content areas, and the school community served as lenses through which students gained artistic and academic skills as well as conceptual understandings about elements of language, culture, and community.


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Schools that bring in teaching artists often look beyond their school walls--to other sources of funding and for collaborative partnerships--to work with teaching artists from the community. For the teaching artist with an expansive vision and a willingness to try new approaches, opportunities may be opening up beyond the typical artist-in-the-school brief residency model. Comprehensive arts integration projects--which allow artists to share expertise with teachers and which seek to sustain the arts in schools--are expanding to encompass the whole academic curriculum. Music, visual arts, theater, dance, and other arts experiences have been demonstrated to engage students unreachable in other ways and to promote academic achievement across all subjects. As large numbers of students remain disengaged from learning and continue to test poorly, landing schools on academic probation and threatening budgets further, it seems inevitable that schools will find a way to bring the power of arts directly to bear on academics. The arts integration approach has actually been around for a while, long enough to establish a promising track record. This article describes an arts integration program---Arts ABL--(the Arts Allies in Basic Learning and Excellence Program)--which partners teachers and teaching artists with the goal of sustainable arts experience for public school students.
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Math


In this article the authors reflect on the state of art education in the twenty-first century. Particular focus is given to the authors' opinion that art teachers need to adopt a businesslike approach and mentality about their work. They describe how school reform initiatives require strong leadership, strategic planning and performance accountability from teachers. Art advocacy issues are also discussed as is the importance of infusing reading, math, science, social studies and other disciplines into art education.


The article presents the author's views concerning the importance of music education. She notes that both musicians and educators played an important role in developing a children to be an innovative thinkers and a creative problem solvers. She mentions that if a child was enrolled in a strong music and arts program, they have a higher score in mathematics and have a good reading comprehension skills.

Motivation


This viewpoint proposes a model of art therapy integrated into an alternative art education program. Because of the pressure to meet educational standards, school systems may be less likely to support clinical programs that take students out of their classes. A blended model of art therapy and art education that utilizes effective strategies from both disciplines and provides students with a therapeutic process can support instruction, empower students, and produce art products the students can be proud to have created.


This study focused on behavior associated with young art students' developing artistic talent (skills and art-making behavior) and creativity (personal expressions of visual information). The study examined the relationships among age and the components of
creativity (i.e., technical skill, problem finding, ideation, evaluation, and motivation). The study compared the artistic processing and products of 25 younger art students (9- and 10-year-olds) with those of 26 older art students (11- through 16-year-olds). The author recorded participants' behavior as they created drawings in two contexts—from imagination and from life. The author then administered a measure of the need for cognition (NCS). The observed behavior during the drawing activities provided scores on problem finding, evaluation, and ideation and three expert judges provided assessments of the technical skill and creativity revealed in the drawings. The score on the NCS and the number of years attending the art program provided two measures of motivation. Multivariate analyses of the effects of age on the developing components of creativity revealed changes related to the students' developing expertise. In both drawing situations, differences in technical skill explained the differences associated with age. This study found that technical skill explained age differences in life-drawing problem finding, creativity, and motivation. Technical skill also explained age differences in ideation and problem finding in drawings from imagination. There were significant correlations between life-drawing technical skill and each of the two measures of motivation. The number of years attending the art program also shared significant variance with life-drawing ideation, problem finding, and creativity and was a significant predictor of continued attendance in the art program. The findings are discussed within the context of competence motivation, artistic talent, developing creativity, emerging habits of mind, and art education.

**Problem Solving**


The article reports on an arts and advocacy initiative launched in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania by the Mural Arts Program of Philadelphia called A Place to Call Home. A discussion of the initiative's main objective, which was to engage and empower high risk young people and to allow them to voice their concerns about housing and health, is presented. The initiative featured 48 young people between the ages of 14 and 23 who worked consistently for six months, engaging in neighborhood photo documentation, photo-elicitation interviews regarding their own housing struggles and the creation of public art. Benefits which the young people received from participating in the initiative are discussed.

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Reading


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School Attendance


In this follow-up to her bestselling book, "Why Our Schools Need the Arts", Jessica Hoffmann Davis addresses the alarming drop-out rate in our high schools and presents a thoughtful, evidence-based argument that increasing arts education in the high school curriculum will keep kids in school. Davis shares compelling voices of teachers and their adolescent learners to demonstrate how courses in the arts are relevant and valuable to students who have otherwise become disenfranchised from school. This important book points the way toward rescuing the American high school from inside out by insuring that all students benefit from the compelling and essential learning opportunities that the arts uniquely provide. In an engaging and accessible narrative, "Why Our High Schools Need the Arts" will inform the uninitiated, change the minds of doubters, and fuel the fight of those already committed to arts-related school reform. This timely resource: (1) Takes
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The article discusses the state of arts education for U.S. students living in poverty, particularly noting the connections between exposure to the arts, graduation, and positive social outcomes. It comments on the negative effects of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) on arts education, as well as considers the program Turnaround Arts, presented by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities (PCAH).


Sounds of Learning: The Impact of Music Education is a research program designed to allow researchers to examine the roles of music education in the lives of school-aged children to expand the understanding of music's role in a quality education. The NAMM Foundation, the sponsoring organization, has provided more than $1,000,000 to fund research on the impact of music education on student achievement and success in school; all aspects of a child's growth and development; the uses and functions of music in daily life; and home, school, and community environments. Quality research about the role and impact of music education conducted by experienced researchers who publish in rigorous, peer-reviewed, scientific research journals plays a vital role in moving a public policy agenda forward to achieve expanded access to music education for all children. The goal is that this research will inform policy debates and development to achieve policies that support opportunities for every child to experience the power and benefits of learning music.


This report takes the first ever look at the relationship between school-based arts education and high school graduation rates in New York City public schools. The findings, based on data collected by the New York City Department of Education (DOE), strongly suggest that the arts play a key role in keeping students in high school and graduating on time. The failure of public high schools to graduate students in four years has been a persistent problem in New York City and is a central concern for educators and policymakers across the nation. Once the worldwide
leader in education, the United States is falling behind other countries in a number of educational categories, none of which is more troubling than high school graduation rates.

The author argues that the gap in arts education should be addressed in order to increase graduation rates in New York City. He reveals the fact that graduation rates only reached 50% with students from advantaged families more likely to graduate than their poor counterparts. He mentions how the goals of U.S. President-elect Barack Obama for education offers hope to increase graduation rates.

School Environment


This paper challenges the orientations and assumptions underpinning policies for disadvantaged young people (DYP) in Australia. We argue that policy interventions for young people generally exhibit a binary divide, some policies fostering leadership and creative endeavours targeted on "high-functioning" young people, especially within educational and arts milieus, while other policies, focusing on DYP, take a remedial orientation. The basis for this binary divide is, we argue, flawed social constructions of young people, constructions that pathologise or privilege behaviours, attitudes and lifestyles. The consequences for DYP are that remedial policies, designed to get and keep young people "on track", are often ignoring deeper developmental needs. Using recent research findings from arts programmes for young people, the paper argues for a broader policy orientation, including developmental needs, to strengthen remedial policies and programmes and open the potential for pathways to resilience.


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This article describes a culturally responsive music curriculum through which students and teachers affirmed diverse stories of individuals present in our public school community. An arts-integrated curriculum project helped make learning more meaningful while concurrently creating a safe learning space for students. This grant-funded project comprised three interwoven facets: a schoolwide focus on world cultures and U.S. immigrant populations throughout the academic year; community celebrations of student learning through arts-based, experiential activities; and a core group of students who met weekly with teaching artists each week to disseminate knowledge via community informances. The themes connecting disciplines, content areas, and the school community served as lenses through which students gained artistic and academic skills as well as conceptual understandings about elements of language, culture, and community.


The aim of this article is to bring attention to an important connection between art education programs and the development of social justice practices in K-16 classrooms. This article is organized into three sections. The first is an analysis of the hierarchical and unilateral approach to education that urban students experience throughout their schooling, and how this educational model fails to develop traits that can empower students to promote social justice for those who are marginalized or oppressed. The second section advocates for the promotion of art education programs infused with particular aesthetic experiences that can help students develop the missing traits. The closing section discusses the changes that will be required to institute these programs in the United States in general and New York City (NYC) in particular, and the challenges this will entail.
Social and Emotional Competence


Drawing on Bruner's notion of folk pedagogy, this research explores how Chinese aesthetic education is perceived and valued at two elementary schools in Taiwan. Using qualitative methods, the research explores how arts teachers guide children to experience arts through the arts curricula in school and the local culture. The study reveals that the two schools share a respect for nature and a concern for local culture. The seven arts teachers' folk pedagogy includes the desire to connect beauty and arts learning, develop children's aesthetic feelings, cultivate children's character, and integrate arts into everyday life. The teachers' shared views provide a broad picture of these folk beliefs in Taiwan as well as a cultural lens for examining aesthetic education in Taiwan and the larger Asian culture.


Stress is a major health problem in urban neighborhoods, but integrating the arts into education can help children deal with stress. Stress reduces or eliminates a child's ability to learn by increasing the production of cortisol in the brain, while working in the arts has been shown to produce endorphin, which counteracts the effects of cortisol. Integrating the arts into education has been particularly effective with disadvantaged children.


There is a paucity of literature on social skills therapy for students on the autism spectrum, revealing an urgent need for additional research. Past research has focused on the use of small groups or single-case study designs. The present study examines the effectiveness of a social skills therapy program for school-age children ages 11 through 18. The program uses art therapy and cognitive-behavioral techniques in a group therapy format to broaden and deepen the state-of-the-art techniques used in helping children with social developmental disorders to improve their social skills. Pre- and posttest instruments were distributed to parents and teachers in October and May of the 2004-2005 school year. Scores revealed a significant improvement in assertion scores, coupled with decreased internalizing behaviors, hyperactivity scores, and problem behavior scores in the students. Implications for social work and policy are discussed.

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Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) has been at the forefront of integrating art therapy in schools since 1979, helping children with emotional/behavioral disabilities become more receptive to academic involvement while maximizing their social and emotional potential. This article describes the history, development, current configuration, and future outlook for school art therapy services provided by the M-DCPS Clinical Art Therapy Department.


This paper re/considers empathy and its implications for learning in the art classroom, particularly in light of relevant neuroscientific investigations of the mirror neuron system recently discovered in the human brain. These investigations reinterpret the meaning of perception, resonance, and connection, and point to the fundamental importance of the resonant body in understanding the world of objects (including objects of art and material culture), and the world of others (including an intersubjectivity of interdependence). Presenting research results and classroom experiences, this paper ultimately advocates a move toward an art education of empathy that integrates caring, cognitive growth, and sociocultural awareness. This art education would strive to promote a connectedness in the classroom community—an authentic and resonant kind of harmony—between self, object, and other, through which the worlds of objects and others are experienced and made meaningful.


In this article the author offers observations on the impact that art education has on people's lives. Particular focus is given to how art teachers make a difference by helping their students develop skills relating to inquiry and appreciating the natural and human landscape. The impact that art education can have on a student's future in the workforce is also discussed.


In this article, the authors investigate how Korea's current educational policy's emphasis on artistic expression, and therefore music education, has been realized in the praxis of early childhood education. The authors view policy as discourses and texts that early childhood educators interpret and reinterpret within specific contexts. Policy rhetoric and
practice fail to recognize the integration of musical conceptual development, expressive ability, creativity, and communication. The musical development of a child should be viewed as his or her right to nurture a musical self in a meaningful musical context.


The aim of this article is to bring attention to an important connection between art education programs and the development of social justice practices in K-16 classrooms. This article is organized into three sections. The first is an analysis of the hierarchical and unilateral approach to education that urban students experience throughout their schooling, and how this educational model fails to develop traits that can empower students to promote social justice for those who are marginalized or oppressed. The second section advocates for the promotion of art education programs infused with particular aesthetic experiences that can help students develop the missing traits. The closing section discusses the changes that will be required to institute these programs in the United States in general and New York City (NYC) in particular, and the challenges this will entail.


Although goals change and reflect the issues of the time, two primary goals of education in a democracy have remained constant over time. The first goal is to educate for vocational competence and the second is to produce caring, intelligent, and wise citizens. Articulating the connection of design education concepts to the economy and social responsibility is beneficial in educating K-12 students. This article illustrates the ways in which design education fosters the skills needed in the global twenty-first century to help students make a better life for themselves and their community and improve the world. I articulate ways to incorporate design as an essential component into a comprehensive visual arts program.

**Spatial Thinking**


This study focused on behavior associated with young art students’ developing artistic talent (skills and art-making behavior) and creativity (personal expressions of visual information). The study examined the relationships among age and the components of creativity (i.e., technical skill, problem finding, ideation, evaluation, and motivation). The
study compared the artistic processing and products of 25 younger art students (9- and 10-year-olds) with those of 26 older art students (11- through 16-year-olds). The author recorded participants' behavior as they created drawings in two contexts—from imagination and from life. The author then administered a measure of the need for cognition (NCS). The observed behavior during the drawing activities provided scores on problem finding, evaluation, and ideation and three expert judges provided assessments of the technical skill and creativity revealed in the drawings. The score on the NCS and the number of years attending the art program provided two measures of motivation. Multivariate analyses of the effects of age on the developing components of creativity revealed changes related to the students' developing expertise. In both drawing situations, differences in technical skill explained the differences associated with age. This study found that technical skill explained age differences in life-drawing problem finding, creativity, and motivation. Technical skill also explained age differences in ideation and problem finding in drawings from imagination. There were significant correlations between life-drawing technical skill and each of the two measures of motivation. The number of years attending the art program also shared significant variance with life-drawing ideation, problem finding, and creativity and was a significant predictor of continued attendance in the art program. The findings are discussed within the context of competence motivation, artistic talent, developing creativity, emerging habits of mind, and art education.
Best Practices

In this article, the author takes on what he considers to be the false dichotomy between direct instruction and arts integration. He contends that at a time when national issues of sustainability and conservation of energy and resources become ever more urgent, it is time that those committed to quality arts education stop squandering time, money, and paper on arguing "either/or" when schools are best served by a "both/and" approach. The author argues that they need to stop seeing direct instruction and arts integration as contrary positions that need to battle it out for limited dollars, and start seeing them as complementary strategies in the service of learners.


In this article the authors reflect on the state of art education in the twenty-first century. Particular focus is given to the authors' opinion that art teachers need to adopt a businesslike approach and mentality about their work. They describe how school reform initiatives require strong leadership, strategic planning and performance accountability from teachers. Art advocacy issues are also discussed as is the importance of infusing reading, math, science, social studies and other disciplines into art education.

This article reports on the second UNESCO World Conference on Arts and Education held on May 25-28, 2010 in Seoul, Korea, which brought together approximately 650 arts educators from 95 UNESCO member states (countries) for a four-day summit of international diplomacy, cross-arts networking, global and regional strategic planning and professional development. The conference was hosted by the Korean Arts, Culture and Education Service (KACES) on behalf of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Korean Government, in collaboration with the United Nations Education, Science and Culture Organisation (UNESCO). The programme of the second UNESCO Arts Education Conference (Seoul Conference) encompassed high-level ministerial roundtables, UNESCO Arts Education Advisory Committee roundtables, international NGOs (Arts Education) forums, teacher and artists' panel presentations, regional research case studies, keynote addresses, arts education site visits, performances and displays. As a member of the World Dance Alliance and the elected dance representative on the Presidential Council of the World Alliance for Arts Education, the author currently represents dance education on the UNESCO International Advisory Committee for Arts Education. With the inclusion of an NGO dance representative on the UNESCO Advisory Committee for Arts Education, dance educators had a voice in planning for the Seoul Conference and developing policy that flowed from this event.


Drawing on Bruner's notion of folk pedagogy, this research explores how Chinese aesthetic education is perceived and valued at two elementary schools in Taiwan. Using qualitative methods, the research explores how arts teachers guide children to experience arts through the arts curricula in school and the local culture. The study reveals that the two schools share a respect for nature and a concern for local culture. The seven arts teachers' folk pedagogy includes the desire to connect beauty and arts learning, develop children's aesthetic feelings, cultivate children's character, and integrate arts into everyday life. The teachers' shared views provide a broad picture of these folk beliefs in Taiwan as well as a cultural lens for examining aesthetic education in Taiwan and the larger Asian culture.


While the arts in the United States are themselves often controversial, arts in public schools rarely are. That is to say that teachers, administrators, parents, students, and
community members tend to agree that the opportunity to participate in the arts is beneficial to students and to the wider society. Whether discipline-based arts education (DBAE or "art for art's sake"), integrated arts (art that promotes core content knowledge--literacy, numeracy, critical thinking--alongside self-expression), or somewhere in between, the desire to have art (including music and theater) in public schools is well-known. Also well-known, however, are the local and national pressures and mandates that place arts at the bottom of the list of school priorities and possibilities. In their thoughtful articles about the centrality of arts in education, Gulla, Milman, and Norman raise a series of interrelated issues amidst snapshots of best practices. In this paper, the author talks about these three articles that provide hopeful visions of what can happen when arts are included in the classroom, even amidst the funding crises, the standardized testing schedules, and the challenge of administering any innovative program in overburdened and under-resourced public schools.


This dynamic resource details the philosophy, rationale, and implementation of choice-based authentic art education in elementary and middle schools. To do the work of artists, children need opportunities to behave, think, and perform as artists. The heart of this curriculum is to facilitate independent learning in studio centers designed to support student choices in subject matter and media. The authors address theory, instruction, assessment, and advocacy in a user-friendly format that includes color photos of classroom set-ups and student work, sample demonstrations, and reflections on activities. Book features include: (1) Introduces artistic behaviors that sustain engagement, such as problem finding, innovation, play, representation, collaboration, and more; (2) Provides instructional modes for differentiation, including whole group, small group, individual, and peer coaching; (3) Offers management strategies for choice-based learning environments, structuring time, design of studio centers, and exhibition; (4) Illustrates shifts in control from teacher-directed to learner-directed; and (5) Highlights artist statements by children identifying personal relevancy, discovery learning, and reflection.


This paper revisits how late 20th-century attempts to account for conceptual and other difficult art-work by defining the concept 'art' have failed to offer a useful strategy for educators seeking a non-instrumental justification for teaching the arts. It is suggested that this theoretical ground is nonetheless instructive and provides useful background in searching for a viable approach to justification. It is claimed that, though definition may fail and grand theories not coalesce, one would be wise to emulate Passmore (1954,
1990) who argues for an aesthetic approach to works of art and who proceeds like the fox, from a specific work that becomes more complex through analysis. His approach is employed in describing a performance series by the Cellist of Sarajevo, which raises further questions regarding what it means to start from a specific art-work and how doing so exemplifies suggestion that in justifying the arts we connect them to our ethical lives. Passmore's strategy is then extended to the aesthetic experience of reading this essay and the paper concludes with the author's personal anecdote in response to call for genuinely aesthetic defences of aesthetic education.


This paper examines and reports on beginning generalist teacher self-efficacy, which Bandura (1997) suggests plays an important part in student outcomes. In 2008, 201 beginning generalist teachers throughout the state of Queensland, Australia, participated in a study that aimed to provide a snapshot of current perceptions towards support in schools for the arts. Beginning teachers were asked to rank their school support for a number of different subjects in the school curriculum and provide written justification for these rankings. Results suggest that beginning teachers perceived a general lack of support for the teaching of the arts in their classroom, compared to English and math. They reported that schools provided greater financial support, assistance and professional development for the teaching of literacy and numeracy with a view to increase school performance in national testing. Findings provide key insights for school administrators and policy makers for the adequate delivery of arts education in Queensland schools, particularly when this task falls to generalist teachers with little or no subject expertise in the arts.


This article documents the collaborative research and development of an apprenticeship model of learning for the arts. It focuses on teachers working in partnership with artists and other creative practitioners. The model is rooted in theories of social learning and cognitive apprenticeship. It was developed and tested through collaborative research, some of it action research. The aim was to explore and test the model for appropriateness and for its impact on the learning of all participants (children, teachers, creative practitioners). The model was found to be useful as a guide to the organisation of children's learning in the arts. Moreover, using the model had a positive effect on the inclusion of children on the margins into wider school learning. The model was also
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useful in facilitating the professional development of the adults concerned: teachers, artists and others.


Policy can be a useful tool for effecting change, but policy analysis, which shapes policy development, has been underused in music education research. This paper demonstrates how Bardach’s (2000) Eightfold Path can be used to develop solutions to problems in music education. Some have argued that school music programs do not prepare students to engage musically in today's society. To develop alternative solutions and project their outcomes, I analyze several current and past efforts to redefine music education and secure its place in the curriculum. Several alternatives, which include revising the National Standards, developing a national curriculum, improving professional development, and reconceiving advocacy, are evaluated, and policy recommendations are made that will enable the profession to redefine music education to better serve today's students.


This study demonstrates how action research can provide a means for teachers to undertake research for themselves to inform and enhance their work. The focus of the research was the self-critique of pedagogical practice in one-to-one classical instrumental music teaching within the context of the author's private studio. A series of lessons were videotaped and analysed, and each week goals were set for the improvement of practice in relation to theoretical propositions derived from both one-to-one teaching and general pedagogical literature. The author is an experienced classroom teacher as well as a violin teacher so is well placed to explore potential links between these teaching contexts. The development of a model of teaching modes, greater awareness of feedback quality and type and the challenge of monitoring change in action emerged as the key themes. Student engagement increased and teaching was enriched by perspectives and practices from wider educational theory and practice.


The aim of this article is to bring attention to an important connection between art education programs and the development of social justice practices in K-16 classrooms. This article is organized into three sections. The first is an analysis of the hierarchical and unilateral approach to education that urban students experience throughout their schooling, and how this educational model fails to develop traits that can empower
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students to promote social justice for those who are marginalized or oppressed. The second section advocates for the promotion of art education programs infused with particular aesthetic experiences that can help students develop the missing traits. The closing section discusses the changes that will be required to institute these programs in the United States in general and New York City (NYC) in particular, and the challenges this will entail.


In June 2007, the Arts Education Partnership (AEP) convened the directors of eight collaborative entities to discuss promising practices for integrating the arts into the lives and curricula of urban public schools as a means of fostering system-wide educational improvement. The seven school-community collaboratives and one higher education collaborative represented at the one-day seminar at Oklahoma City University were selected based on their participation in The Ford Foundation's "Integrating the Arts and Education Reform (Arts-Ed) Initiative". Each collaborative is partially supported, and in some cases was initiated, by grants from The Ford Foundation. This research and policy brief describes some of the strategies discussed during the directors' roundtable discussion. At the seminar, as the directors talked candidly about challenges and opportunities they face in managing their organizations during this start-up phase of the initiative, a general consensus emerged about particular approaches and practices that may be helpful to others in the field. The purpose of this brief is to share these ideas with a broader audience of those engaged and interested in using community-based arts education collaboration as an agent for system change. Profiles of the Collaboratives Participating in the Integrating the Arts and Education Reform Initiative are appended.


Although much has been written about professional development in general education and music education literature, little has addressed the benefits of music-making as meaningful professional development for music teachers. For music teachers, music-making and meanings of music-making have been connected with teachers' identity, well-being, beliefs, and effectiveness, as well as being a powerful pedagogical tool and a way to develop presence in teaching. Presence in teaching is linked with self-awareness, attentiveness, and pedagogical knowledge. The purpose of this article is to explore the benefits of music-making for music teachers in order to convince policymakers of the value of music-making as a professional development activity for music teachers. This article explores theories from psychology and education that link engagement, well-being, and identity to lay the foundation for a justification of broadening professional
development policies. Then, literature is presented that connects teachers’ art-making experiences (past and present), identity, teaching, and student learning. The third section draws on my previous work to illustrate the intersections between teachers’ music-making and teaching. Then, suggestions for implementing professional development programs with music-making components are made. Although there are many ways music-making could be included as professional development, I offer four suggestions: including music-making in departmental or district-wide meetings, granting professional development credit to music teachers who make music outside of the classroom, setting up in-classroom reflection opportunities/action research based on integrating music-making and music teaching, and initiating a collaborative teacher study group that includes chamber music collaboration.


This article documents the current classroom practice of creative arts education of respondent classroom teachers in the New South Wales Greater Western Region, Australia. The study provides a descriptive account of classroom practice in creative arts education through the employment of a quantitative methodology. A questionnaire was designed and distributed to teachers as the sole data collection instrument and analysed to identify innovative classroom practices that anticipate the needs and challenges of creative arts education and the young people it serves. A significant gap in the literature regarding the nature of creative arts education classroom practice was identified. The criticality that such a description of current practice be produced is asserted, with a view towards illuminating current classroom practices and working towards improved models and practices of creative arts education in K-6 classrooms.


"Art and Social Justice Education" offers inspiration and tools for educators to craft critical, meaningful, and transformative arts education curriculum and arts integration projects. The images, descriptive texts, essays, and resources are grounded within a clear social justice framework and linked to ideas about culture as commons. Essays and a section written by and for teachers who have already incorporated contemporary artists and ideas into their curriculums help readers to imagine ways to use the content in their own settings. This book is enhanced by a Companion Website (www.routledge.com/cw/quinn) featuring artists and artworks, project examples, and dialogue threads for educators. Proposing that art can contribute in a wide range of ways to the work of envisioning and making a more just world, this imaginative, practical, and
engaging sourcebook of contemporary artists' works and education resources advances the field of arts education, locally, nationally, and internationally, by moving beyond models of discipline-based or expressive art education. It will be welcomed by all educators seeking to include the arts and social justice in their curricula.


The topic of incorporating arts into the curriculum has been an issue when it comes to providing an adequate learning experience for our youth. Arts Infused Education is based on the collaborative effort of the artist and teacher to co-teach the curriculum in a core subject area. This study, the qualitative part of a mixed methods investigations involves five public schools where students were interviewed with a structured schedule of questions. The quantitative part of this investigation included classrooms observations. The results of the study indicated that Arts Infused Education has a promising mission and that further research is encouraged.


Many children in the United States have little or no opportunity for formal arts instruction, and access to arts learning experiences remains a national challenge. In addition, the "quality" of arts learning opportunities that are available to young people is a serious concern. Understanding this second challenge--the challenge of creating and sustaining high quality formal arts learning experiences for K-12 youth, inside and outside of school--is the focus of "The Qualities of Quality: Understanding Excellence in Arts Education," a recent research initiative commissioned by The Wallace Foundation and conducted by Project Zero at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. The study focuses on the character of excellence itself and asks three core questions: (1) How do arts educators in the United States--including leading practitioners, theorists, and administrators--conceive of and define high quality arts learning and teaching?; (2) What markers of excellence do educators and administrators look for in the actual activities of arts learning and teaching as they unfold in the classroom?; and (3) How do a program's foundational decisions, as well as its ongoing day-to-day decisions, affect the pursuit and achievement of quality? These questions were investigated through three strands of research: (1) interviews with leading arts practitioners, theorists and administrators; (2) site visits to exemplary arts programs across a range of settings; and (3) a review of published literature. This excerpt from the recent research study reveals the roles all stakeholders play and provides tools for strengthening the arts curriculum.

Schools that bring in teaching artists often look beyond their school walls--to other sources of funding and for collaborative partnerships--to work with teaching artists from the community. For the teaching artist with an expansive vision and a willingness to try new approaches, opportunities may be opening up beyond the typical artist-in-the-school brief residency model. Comprehensive arts integration projects--which allow artists to share expertise with teachers and which seek to sustain the arts in schools--are expanding to encompass the whole academic curriculum. Music, visual arts, theater, dance, and other arts experiences have been demonstrated to engage students unreachable in other ways and to promote academic achievement across all subjects. As large numbers of students remain disengaged from learning and continue to test poorly, landing schools on academic probation and threatening budgets further, it seems inevitable that schools will find a way to bring the power of arts directly to bear on academics. The arts integration approach has actually been around for a while, long enough to establish a promising track record. This article describes an arts integration program---Arts ABL--(the Arts Allies in Basic Learning and Excellence Program)--which partners teachers and teaching artists with the goal of sustainable arts experience for public school students.

**Community-Based Arts Initiatives**


In June 2007, the Arts Education Partnership (AEP) convened the directors of eight collaborative entities to discuss promising practices for integrating the arts into the lives and curricula of urban public schools as a means of fostering system-wide educational improvement. The seven school-community collaboratives and one higher education collaborative represented at the one-day seminar at Oklahoma City University were selected based on their participation in The Ford Foundation's "Integrating the Arts and Education Reform (Arts-Ed) Initiative". Each collaborative is partially supported, and in some cases was initiated, by grants from The Ford Foundation. This research and policy brief describes some of the strategies discussed during the directors' roundtable discussion. At the seminar, as the directors talked candidly about challenges and opportunities they face in managing their organizations during this start-up phase of the initiative, a general consensus emerged about particular approaches and practices that may be helpful to others in the field. The purpose of this brief is to share these ideas with a broader audience of those engaged and interested in using community-based arts education collaboration as an agent for system change. Profiles of the Collaboratives Participating in the Integrating the Arts and Education Reform Initiative are appended.

As educators deliberate on how to provide a well-rounded education for all, the idea of working more collaboratively with a range of arts education providers has become increasingly attractive. Allowing outside organizations and individuals to gain access to institutions in a more evenhanded way and create long-term relationships that reinforce the idea of education as a community-centered effort is a little new for schools. Yet many are finding it is worth exploring, as the process of creating alliances and partnerships with other community organizations places schools in a different light and allows them to appear less intimidating and more approachable. Arts organizations and teaching artists play an important role in realizing well-rounded educational strategies, and they are at the forefront of providing arts instruction in many classrooms. Now more than ever schools, teaching artists, and cultural workers must find common ground that allows them to share their practices. Through partnerships that draw on all of the resources within a geographic or cultural area, different kinds of knowledge and experience are shared, and communities are enriched by the exchange. This article presents the case of the Multicultural Arts School, which provides valuable insight into how arts partnerships can contribute to building a democratic learning community in which students, teachers, cultural workers, and artists are able to redefine their roles and obtain an alternative sense of community by expanding boundaries and definitions.
cultural workers, and artists are able to redefine their roles and obtain an alternative sense of community by expanding boundaries and definitions.

**Concerning the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001**


Since the Bush administration enacted the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) in 2002, lawmakers and school administrators have questioned what changes, if any, the Obama administration will make. This article discusses the effects of NCLB on nontested subjects, specifically music and arts in the general curriculum. Major effects on scheduling and funding policies have forced educators to reconsider how advocacy for the arts should be approached.


One of the traditional privileges for teachers in the United States has been control over the curriculum. Unlike most countries in the world, the United States does not have a national curriculum "per se", enabling teachers to make curriculum decisions that most benefit local students. However, the Elementary and Secondary Act, also known as the No Child Left Behind Act, has acted as a national curriculum policy by enabling school administrators to conceive of a curriculum that privileges reading and math, and neglects arts programming. Research has demonstrated that art teachers are being pushed into
teaching reading and math skills in their classes. High schools that do not continually improve their students' reading and math test scores run the risk of losing whole art departments. And in junior high and middle schools, many students are allowed to take only one quarter or less of art. It is time to reclaim the curriculum. To do this, creative leadership by teachers, professors, and community educators who are willing to take action against policies and managerial decisions that diminish students' opportunities for learning through art is needed. For over a generation, scholars in education have been pointing to the disempowerment of teachers in the wake of public policy makers', school administrators', and other stakeholders' efforts to countermand the expertise of teachers and undermine the importance of teachers' knowledge about their students. Now, art educators need to draw on their expertise to ensure that they are included in educational decision-making in schools and out. The most important first step of art education leadership is to possess a clear vision of the future. That vision should be related to the leading edge of the field, reflect best practices, and be written in a curriculum rationale. This article discusses the critical components of successful leadership. Promoting any type of educational innovation takes courage and confidence. But effective leadership can transform a program and can help to protect it. The author suggests some places to start.


From bipartisan origins and a laudable intent, the No Child Left Behind (Act) of 2001 has profoundly altered the condition of art education. A historical vantage point and review of literature reveals the current status of pending arts language revisions to the NCLB Act, as well as a pressing need to examine the key recommendations and to consider a blend of the proposals from the National Education Task Force, the Study Group on the Lost Curriculum, and the Arts Education Working Group. This current research possesses significant implications for NCLB arts language and provides the opportunity for a unified message for revisions, leaving no child behind in art education.


This historical narrative tracks the evolution and devolution of visual arts education from Dewey's progressive era pedagogy and the theory of the arts as experience through the modern accountability movement. Archival material, state curricular documents, and conversations with policymakers show an increasing focus on core subject areas of reading, writing, and mathematics at the expense of arts education. Texas House Bill 3, the third generation of accountability legislation in the Lone Star State, provides a case
study of the status of arts education after more than fifteen years of high-stakes testing and accountability. Policy considerations are offered for arts education and its future standing within the public educational curriculum.


The author investigates the condition of a public school's arts education program under the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act and obtains teachers' perspectives on their experiences under the federal policy. The author used qualitative and quantitative approaches to conduct a case study of an Ohio public school district. The data collected revealed changes in the arts education curriculum, particularly in music. Teacher interviews provided the context in which the changes occurred and a more accurate representation of the decrease in arts learning opportunities and the challenges that exist for arts education funding under NCLB. The information illustrated how administrative decisions made to improve test scores and accommodate policies mandated by NCLB threatened arts education.

**Future Research**


This study examined high-stakes test scores for 37,222 eighth grade students enrolled in music and/or visual arts classes and those students not enrolled in arts courses. Students enrolled in music had significantly higher mean scores than those not enrolled in music (p < .001). Results for visual arts and dual arts were not as conclusive. Further research is required to determine the effectiveness of academic remediation held during the instructional day that thereby denies arts instruction to students. The practice of recommending that students devote more time to English and math in lieu of music should be evaluated.


This article reports on the second UNESCO World Conference on Arts and Education held on May 25-28, 2010 in Seoul, Korea, which brought together approximately 650 arts educators from 95 UNESCO member states (countries) for a four-day summit of international diplomacy, cross-arts networking, global and regional strategic planning and professional development. The conference was hosted by the Korean Arts, Culture and
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Education Service (KACES) on behalf of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Korean Government, in collaboration with the United Nations Education, Science and Culture Organisation (UNESCO). The programme of the second UNESCO Arts Education Conference (Seoul Conference) encompassed high-level ministerial roundtables, UNESCO Arts Education Advisory Committee roundtables, international NGOs (Arts Education) forums, teacher and artists' panel presentations, regional research case studies, keynote addresses, arts education site visits, performances and displays. As a member of the World Dance Alliance and the elected dance representative on the Presidential Council of the World Alliance for Arts Education, the author currently represents dance education on the UNESCO International Advisory Committee for Arts Education. With the inclusion of an NGO dance representative on the UNESCO Advisory Committee for Arts Education, dance educators had a voice in planning for the Seoul Conference and developing policy that flowed from this event.


This report examines the academic and civic behavior outcomes of teenagers and young adults who have engaged deeply with the arts in or out of school. In several small-group studies, children and teenagers who participated in arts education programs have shown more positive academic and social outcomes in comparison to students who did not participate in those programs. Such studies have proved essential to the current research literature on the types of instrumental benefits associated with an arts education. A standard weakness of the literature, however, has been a dearth of large-scale, longitudinal studies following the same populations over time, tracking the outcomes of students who received intensive arts exposure or arts learning compared with students who did not. "The Arts and Achievement in At-Risk Youth" is a partial attempt to fill this knowledge gap. The authors use four large national databases to analyze the relationship between arts involvement and academic and social achievements. This report displays correlations between arts activity among at-risk youth and subsequent levels of academic performance and civic engagement. For this task, the authors relied on four large longitudinal databases. Each source has unique strengths and limitations in terms of study sample size, age range, and the types of variables included--whether related to arts involvement (in-school and/or extracurricular), academic progress, or social and/or civic participation. Yet after accounting for these differences, three main conclusions arise: (1) Socially and economically disadvantaged children and teenagers who have high levels of arts engagement or arts learning show more positive outcomes in a variety of areas than their low-arts-engaged peers; (2) At-risk teenagers or young adults with a history of intensive arts experiences show achievement levels closer to, and in some cases exceeding, the levels shown by the general population studied; and (3) Most of the
positive relationships between arts involvement and academic outcomes apply only to at-risk populations (low-SES). But positive relationships between arts and civic engagement are noted in high-SES groups as well. Meet the Databases is appended.


While much has been written about arts integration theory, and the various benefits of visual art in the curriculum, the literature is sparse regarding arts integration implementation, and the personal, professional, and school culture barriers to the persistence and dissemination of such interventions. Successful educational interventions are purposefully designed, taking into consideration the culture of the stakeholders, a school's or district's larger contextual factors, and the sequence and timing of program phases. Bronfenbrenner's theory of cultural ecology is employed as a framework to examine the steps involved in the introduction, instantiation, and persistence of an art integration program in an urban school system.


There is a paucity of literature on social skills therapy for students on the autism spectrum, revealing an urgent need for additional research. Past research has focused on the use of small groups or single-case study designs. The present study examines the effectiveness of a social skills therapy program for school-age children ages 11 through 18. The program uses art therapy and cognitive-behavioral techniques in a group therapy format to broaden and deepen the state-of-the-art techniques used in helping children with social developmental disorders to improve their social skills. Pre- and posttest instruments were distributed to parents and teachers in October and May of the 2004-2005 school year. Scores revealed a significant improvement in assertion scores, coupled with decreased internalizing behaviors, hyperactivity scores, and problem behavior scores in the students. Implications for social work and policy are discussed.


This study demonstrates how action research can provide a means for teachers to undertake research for themselves to inform and enhance their work. The focus of the research was the self-critique of pedagogical practice in one-to-one classical instrumental music teaching within the context of the author's private studio. A series of lessons were videotaped and analysed, and each week goals were set for the improvement of practice
in relation to theoretical propositions derived from both one-to-one teaching and general pedagogical literature. The author is an experienced classroom teacher as well as a violin teacher so is well placed to explore potential links between these teaching contexts. The development of a model of teaching modes, greater awareness of feedback quality and type and the challenge of monitoring change in action emerged as the key themes. Student engagement increased and teaching was enriched by perspectives and practices from wider educational theory and practice.


Studies on creative personality have revealed that the relationship between personality and creativity remains unclear, and various types of creative thinking have been associated with various personality traits. To assess the influence of dissociative experiences on creativity in the context of fine arts education, in which the creative process plays a key role, a sample of fine arts students received a test of creative potential and the dissociative experiences test. The results revealed significant differences in creativity (creative imagination and creative experiences) between students scoring high or low in the number of dissociative experiences. High dissociative experiences scores were associated to high scores in creative imagination and creative experiences, and low scores in dissociative experiences were inversely related to creative imagination and creative experiences. Further studies are required to corroborate these findings.


An approach to early childhood education that integrates visual and performing arts throughout the preschool curriculum--"Art as a Way of Learning"--was implemented in a program (Promoting and Supporting Early Literacy through the Arts) designed to improve the emergent literacy and school readiness of at-risk young children in community-based preschool settings. A quasi-experimental pre-post treatment-only design was used to explore this program's potential effects in a real-world setting. Preliminary results revealed improvements in young children's emergent literacy on a number of targeted and standardized measures after participation in the program. This arts-integrated approach to the teaching of and learning in young children shows considerable promise and warrants a rigorous test of its effects.

This article documents the current classroom practice of creative arts education of respondent classroom teachers in the New South Wales Greater Western Region, Australia. The study provides a descriptive account of classroom practice in creative arts education through the employment of a quantitative methodology. A questionnaire was designed and distributed to teachers as the sole data collection instrument and analysed to identify innovative classroom practices that anticipate the needs and challenges of creative arts education and the young people it serves. A significant gap in the literature regarding the nature of creative arts education classroom practice was identified. The criticality that such a description of current practice be produced is asserted, with a view towards illuminating current classroom practices and working towards improved models and practices of creative arts education in K-6 classrooms.


The topic of incorporating arts into the curriculum has been an issue when it comes to providing an adequate learning experience for our youth. Arts Infused Education is based on the collaborative effort of the artist and teacher to co-teach the curriculum in a core subject area. This study, the qualitative part of a mixed methods investigations involves five public schools where students were interviewed with a structured schedule of questions. The quantitative part of this investigation included classrooms observations. The results of the study indicated that Arts Infused Education has a promising mission and that further research is encouraged.


This article stems from a story of arts education advocacy in the midst of a bureaucracy that misunderstood the purpose of art education at the launch of a new elementary school. Contemporary visual arts education practices overlap a unique period of change in neighboring social science disciplines, a turn of the tide that involves the embrace of narrative methods to rewrite prevailing working models and paradigms of social science practice. Here at the start of the 21st century, art education continues to be practiced in the thrall of a scientific paradigm that misunderstands the greater potential of the arts in education, often imposing a ceiling ill-fitted for arts praxis, arts-based research, or arts pedagogy. The author argues that art education is also at a turn of the tide and surmises some of the unexpected outcomes when new and ex-centric stories of learning and a "pedagogy of possibility" are more thoroughly explored, allowing practitioners to fully rethink an art education practice without taxonomic ceilings and within the shelter of the unexplored labyrinth.
Teacher Preparedness/Professional Development


This paper details aspects of a research project that explored nineteen Australian primary (elementary) schoolteachers' perspectives of Creative Arts education. The study investigated the participants' personal Arts experiences and training, as well as their views of Arts pedagogy. In depth interviews with the participants highlighted the important influence that participants' own interactions with the various Arts disciplines had upon their role as facilitators of Creative Arts education. The findings of this study also identify multiple ways of approaching and facilitating teaching and learning activities. The research not only revealed insights into the educational value each of the teachers ascribed to individual Arts disciplines, but also the level of confidence and preparedness they felt to teach these disciplines. The generalist primary teachers participating in this research study identified a number of issues that they believed compromised their ability to teach the Creative Arts effectively.

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The Multimedia Arts Education Program (MAEP) was an innovative initiative for middle school students that used teaching artists as leaders in an apprenticeship-like teaching context. This article is about a second apprenticeship program supported by a University/Community Partnership grant from the Kellogg Foundation that engaged university students as student teaching artists (STAs). The introduction of STAs into this program created a unique dynamic in which these university students functioned in a multidimensional role: as apprentices to the teaching artists, as co-learners with both the teaching artists and the students, as model learners to the students and teaching artists, and as teaching artists to the students. Because professional development for teaching artists in all disciplines is an important priority, the author studied this dynamic apprenticeship model, focusing on the experiences and contributions of the novice STAs working in the extended program in multimedia. This article is about their experiences and their development as multimedia teaching artists. It is about their contributions to the curriculum of MAEP. It is also a reflection on the importance of this kind of practical experience in developing effective teaching artists in multimedia.


This article raises questions about the breadth and depth of content-area expertise in initial licensure programs for art teachers, K-12. An analysis of some of the promises made in the name of art education suggests that art teachers need a high level of expertise and deep understanding of art in order to deliver on these promises. To consider the odds of teacher preparation reflecting that depth, a study of art teacher preparation in the state of Maryland is used as an example of what may be the case in that state and may also reflect preparation elsewhere. Course requirements in the content area of art for all of Maryland's state-approved and nationally accredited programs for undergraduate and graduate certification are reported. The article concludes by posing ten questions to institutions of higher education, national accreditation agencies, and national leadership concerned with policy in art education.


"Drama for Schools" ("DFS") is a professional development program in drama-based instruction shaped by theories of critical pedagogy and constructivism. In 2007, the Director of "DFS" invited an educational psychology faculty member to develop a research and evaluation component for the program. This article discusses and troubles this interdisciplinary partnership through the lens of praxis, the continual cycle of
thought, action, reflection and response. In this article, we touch upon implications of activated praxis such as (a) how "DFS" has evolved in its identity as a research-based program model; (b) how outcome measurement was embedded into program implementation; (c) the experience of disseminating findings in both arts-based and educational research spaces; and (d) how long-range planning was guided both by research and program priorities. We conclude with identification of how this process has resulted in praxis for participants across all levels of the partnership.


The author presents reviews that identify success factors in music and arts education partnerships between cultural institutions and K-12 schools. She incorporates the evaluation of one Massachusetts partnership, Arts Can Teach (ACT), to examine the connection between partnerships and K-12 arts-program policy decisions. ACT is a collaborative effort among Boston's Wang Center for the Performing Arts, the Lynn Public Schools, and LynnArts, which matched music specialists and teachers in other disciplines with practicing artists for one year partnerships. Success factors of the ACT partnership are considered in terms of their similarity to success factors from the literature on music education partnerships. The author discusses implications for increasing and sustaining music and arts education programming and local arts education policy development.


An introduction to the journal is presented in which the editor discusses various issues published within the issue which include one by Ann Marie Stanley on the influence of collaborative teacher study groups on the professional development of music teachers, one by Kristen Pellegrino on the role of music-making in the professional development of music teachers, and one by Chad West on the definitions of action research and teacher research.


Teaching artists know that there are many more students who could benefit from learning in and through the arts, but school budgets as well as teaching artists' time and energy are limited. As years pass, teaching artists face the reality that they will reach only a fraction of the students in need. To extend their impact dramatically, some teaching artists turn
their attention to teachers; teaching artists recognize that teachers can also be an important force in the delivery of arts education to students. Teaching artists also recognize they can have a wider impact if they can help teachers include the arts in their own teaching. Teaching artists have found that teachers are particularly interested in, and enthusiastic about, the arts as instructional strategies that actively involve students in learning another area of the curriculum as well as learning about the art form. When teaching artists transfer a small part of what they know and do to teachers in professional development workshops/courses, teachers often come to see the power of the arts to actively engage and motivate students in learning while addressing multiple intelligences and diverse learning styles. Teachers also experience the arts as worthy areas of study that can be learned by all students—not just the "talented." To lead professional development workshops for teachers, it is necessary for teaching artists to be highly experienced in leading effective arts-integrated student residencies. Their experience teaching students in the classroom is the foundation for the professional development they will offer to teachers. This article describes a model for teaching artists professional learning from the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, in Washington, DC.


This article offers eight recommendations for teaching artist training programs. These recommendations based on the findings of the Ohio State Based Collaborative Initiative report may be useful to arts and education organizations as they design training experiences for teaching artists developing arts-integrated workshops for teachers; they may also inform the practice of individual teaching artists. Within the recommendations presented are the voices of the Ohio teaching artists—indented and enclosed in quotes.


According to the national Education and the Arts Statement (Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs, 2007), all children and young people should have a high-quality arts education. The statement also supports the notion that arts experience can be the first meaningful point of engagement in the education system for students. To achieve quality arts education, teachers require a high level of skill and training (Andrews, 2004). This suggests teachers require significant training to help develop a strong sense of perceived capability towards teaching in the area of arts education. This study explores the beliefs of early childhood teachers in their first three years of teaching. Focusing on self-efficacy beliefs, this study used Bandura's (1997) model of self-regulated learning as a base from which to consider sources of an
early childhood teacher's sense of agency related to teaching the arts. Findings suggest teachers develop beliefs about arts education during practical experience that shape attitudes towards teaching arts in the early years. These findings have important messages for improving arts education.


The self-efficacy beliefs teachers hold about their ability to teach subjects shapes their competence in teaching. Teacher self-efficacy is defined as teacher beliefs in their ability to perform a teaching task. If teachers have strong teacher self-efficacy in the teaching of arts education, they are more likely to incorporate arts in the classroom. Alternatively, if teachers have weak teacher self-efficacy in the teaching of arts education they are less likely to include aspects of the arts in their curriculum. Little is known about teacher self-efficacy beliefs towards arts education in early childhood education. Since arts education is an important element in the curriculum of any classroom—including all early childhood classrooms—investigation of the beliefs that shape teacher practice is desirable. In 2010, a survey was distributed using convenience sampling to early childhood teachers throughout Queensland. There were 21 respondents, representing a response rate of 27%. Each completed an adapted version of the Teachers' Sense of Efficacy Scale for Arts Education. Perceived competence towards each of the five arts strands (dance, drama, media, visual arts and music) were compared to perceived competence in maths and English. The number of hours taught in each of the arts strands was also investigated. Findings suggest all of the respondent early childhood teachers had greater perceived competence for teaching maths and English compared to any of the arts strands. Some early childhood teachers did not engage with some of the arts strands (particularly drama, dance, media) in their daily classrooms. These findings provide glimpses of the current day-to-day running of early childhood classrooms and the role of arts education in the current climate of policy reform and accountability.


According to the National Education and the Arts Statement (Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs, 2007), all children and young people should have a high-quality arts education. To achieve this teachers require a high level of skill and training, and the belief that they are self-efficacious in the teaching of arts education (Andrews, 2004). This points to the role of pre-service teacher education to develop the capability to teach arts education. This study utilises Bandura's (1997) model
of self-efficacy beliefs. Novice early childhood teachers were invited to reflect on their professional practice experience during pre-service teacher education to provide insights into how this has contributed to the formation of their self-efficacy beliefs in the arts. Findings confirm that novice teachers develop beliefs about arts education during professional experience that shape their future beliefs towards teaching arts in the early years. These beliefs are likely to be negative, thereby contributing to the formation of negative emotional association and low self-efficacy beliefs for teaching arts. Furthermore, three main themes emerged from the data about the impact of professional experience: 1) supervising teacher practice (vicarious experience); 2) supervising teacher feedback (verbal persuasion); and 3) the profile of arts as a subject experienced by the respondent (vicarious experience). The implications of these findings are considered in terms of pre-service teacher education and ongoing professional learning for teachers.


Significant research has been conducted into the positive effects of arts education on social and intellectual development of students across the ages of 10-15 years. Teacher competence for teaching the arts however does not appear to be as positive. A worldwide trend suggests pre-service teachers exhibit low confidence and content knowledge for the teaching of the arts (Hennessy, Rolfe & Chedzoy, 2001; Russell Bowie, 2004). Teacher self-efficacy is still forming within the beginning years of teaching and once developed, is resistant to change (Bandura, 1997). During this beginning phase, teachers create their own self-knowledge through efficacy beliefs as they reflect on teaching. Subsequently, efficacy beliefs determine how environmental opportunities and impediments are perceived (Bandura, 2006). From this assumption, the self-efficacy beliefs of pre-service teachers are important for investigation for recognition of confirming and disconfirming experiences that shape this motivational construct. Research suggests that an understanding of teacher self-efficacy beliefs for arts education holds the key to improving the current problem of instigation (Oreck, 2004). This paper will provide an exploratory investigation of the theoretical construct of pre-service teacher self-efficacy. Fifteen pre-service teachers completed an adapted questionnaire based on teacher self-efficacy beliefs for the arts and personal experiences associated with the arts. These results form the basis of exploration regarding the variances created by demographic characteristics, educational contexts and personal experiences. The establishment and advancement of this theoretical understanding will provide guidance, planning and direction for beginning teacher support, teacher education and administration. It will provide greater understandings of how self-efficacy beliefs of teaching capabilities create powerful influences on the overall effectiveness of the teacher with students. Thus, it is possible to advance understandings of how pre-service teachers' regulate their own
behaviour for teaching arts education through changes to their motivation, thought processes and actions.


In the middle years of schooling, spanning grades four to nine, it is common practice for generalist teachers to deliver integrated arts education. Research confirms that teacher effectiveness with the arts is influenced by their sense of efficacy, which is derived from a coalition of factors including confidence, competence, subject mastery and past experience. This paper investigates one of the factors contributing to teacher self-efficacy—their past experience of arts education, at six key life stages, culminating in their current experience as an arts educator. Two hundred and one beginning teachers in the middle years completed a questionnaire with open-ended questions designed to investigate past experiences as one of the factors contributing to teacher self-efficacy. Teachers were located in Queensland, Australia. Responses were analysed and categorised with a positive or negative valence. The results reveal that the cohort of respondents reported profoundly divergent past experiences with the arts over the life stages selected, ranging from a predominance of positive valence experiences during childhood, to predominantly negative valence experiences during pre-service teacher education and in the early months of teaching. The relationship between past experiences and the formation of teacher efficacy beliefs is outlined, and implications for teacher education shared.


This paper examines and reports on beginning generalist teacher self-efficacy, which Bandura (1997) suggests plays an important part in student outcomes. In 2008, 201 beginning generalist teachers throughout the state of Queensland, Australia, participated in a study that aimed to provide a snapshot of current perceptions towards support in schools for the arts. Beginning teachers were asked to rank their school support for a number of different subjects in the school curriculum and provide written justification for these rankings. Results suggest that beginning teachers perceived a general lack of support for the teaching of the arts in their classroom, compared to English and math. They reported that schools provided greater financial support, assistance and professional development for the teaching of literacy and numeracy with a view to increase school performance in national testing. Findings provide key insights for school administrators and policy makers for the adequate delivery of arts education in Queensland schools,
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particularly when this task falls to generalist teachers with little or no subject expertise in the arts.


Creativity, content, and policy have multiple relationships. Creativity and disciplinary content are inextricably linked. In dealing with creativity, the first education policy choice is whether to recognize and act on that fact. Care is needed in using the term creativity in advocacy contexts, lest the relationship between creativity and content become obscured or forgotten altogether. Creativity is central to the arts, and thus arts education is a natural curricular place to develop creativity. However, the development of creative potential requires work over time. Creativity development in all fields requires serious sustained study and practice with certain goals in mind. Other kinds of study may be valuable, but they will not develop creativity. If we want to develop creative potential in schools, we must want the necessary structures and means for its development as much as we want the results. A number of major adjustments are required. Necessary means include the provision of environments that philosophically and operationally support creativity, increased respect for local knowledge, and altered approaches to assessment and evaluation. Major policy decisions face us. Can we make the adjustments necessary?


Reading and Writing for Adolescence and Adulthood is a course for teacher candidates that introduces them to arts-based literacy instruction. The purpose is to train teachers to enhance reading and writing skills in adolescents. The pre-service teachers were encouraged to study theory and perform practical exercises using the arts so that they could share their experience with their own high schools students. Evidence of their growth as teacher/leaders who understand and value the arts, regardless of the content area that they work in, is evident in their comments about arts-based literacy instruction. This study is a reminder that young teachers from all backgrounds represent a significant opportunity to change the course of literacy instruction so that more youth are successful in and outside of formal learning institutions.


Swedish teacher education has undergone several reforms in recent decades aimed at incorporating teacher education into the university setting and strengthening the teaching profession. In view of earlier research that has shown how arts education in schools is ruled by dominant knowledge ideologies, the purpose of the project is to critically
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scrutinize current discourses related to arts learning and arts education in teacher education. The study is based on social constructionist theory and data were collected by various means, including 19 focus group interviews with teachers and students at 10 Swedish teacher education institutes. Our analysis shows that an academic discourse focusing on theory, reflection and textual production has pushed aside skills-based practice. A second discourse, characterized by subjectivity and relativism vis-a-vis the concept of quality, is also found in the material. Finally, a therapeutic discourse is articulated and legitimized based on an idea that student teachers should be emotionally balanced.


Online professional development (OPD) has great potential to improve teacher quality by improving teachers' knowledge and instructional practices, with the ultimate goal of improving student achievement. There is a dearth of scientific research, however, on the effects of OPD. This article presents the results of a randomized control trial exploring the effects of a series of three learning-community model OPD workshops on teachers' knowledge and instructional practices in the context of fourth grade English language arts. There were significant effects on changes in teachers' knowledge and instructional practices, as they related to the targeted goals in vocabulary, reading comprehension, and writing instruction.


It would be a rare thing to visit an early years setting or classroom in Australia that does not display examples of young children's artworks. This practice serves to give schools a particular 'look', but is no guarantee of quality art education. The Australian National Review of Visual Arts Education (, ) has called for changes to visual art education in schools. The planned new National Curriculum includes the arts (music, dance, drama, media and visual arts) as 1 of the 5 learning areas. Research shows that it is the classroom teacher that makes the difference, and teacher education has a large part to play in reforms to art education. This paper provides an account of one foundation unit of study (Unit 1) for first year university students enrolled in a 4-year Bachelor degree program who are preparing to teach in the early years (0-8 years). To prepare pre-service teachers to meet the needs of children in the twenty-first century, Unit 1 blends old and new ways of seeing art, child and pedagogy. Claims for the effectiveness of this model are
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supported with evidence-based research, conducted over the 6 years of iterations and ongoing development of Unit 1.


This study demonstrates how action research can provide a means for teachers to undertake research for themselves to inform and enhance their work. The focus of the research was the self-critique of pedagogical practice in one-to-one classical instrumental music teaching within the context of the author's private studio. A series of lessons were videotaped and analysed, and each week goals were set for the improvement of practice in relation to theoretical propositions derived from both one-to-one teaching and general pedagogical literature. The author is an experienced classroom teacher as well as a violin teacher so is well placed to explore potential links between these teaching contexts. The development of a model of teaching modes, greater awareness of feedback quality and type and the challenge of monitoring change in action emerged as the key themes. Student engagement increased and teaching was enriched by perspectives and practices from wider educational theory and practice.


Art education offers a way to reach students and make schools more relevant for them. Art teachers can create alternative formats that allow students to explore and learn about their lives. Thereby, students and their communities become the focus of the curriculum and students' responses are valued as individual expression. While teaching art in Philadelphia schools, the author began to explore connections between curriculum and teaching techniques and thought of strategies she believed would be beneficial to her students. Now in her new role as an art teacher educator, teaching prospective and practicing art teachers in the current climate of "reform" is a pressing challenge. In this article the author discusses critical literacy and its connections to art education. She provides examples from her own experience as a middle school art teacher in the School District of Philadelphia, and more recently as an art teacher educator.


This paper describes the history and development of the Jersey City Public Schools creative arts therapy program. Creative arts therapists contributed examples of their work throughout the district that provide a window into their respective school settings. Examples include technology-based art therapy, an extended school year program,
collaborations with school-based mental health workers, professional development, music therapy integrated with academics, community arts events, short term behavioral programs, and internship opportunities. The challenges of establishing and sustaining a creative arts therapy program in a large urban school district are addressed. The article affirms that creative arts therapists develop effective school programs through innovation, research, and collaborative efforts among peers and other professionals.


Although much has been written about professional development in general education and music education literature, little has addressed the benefits of music-making as meaningful professional development for music teachers. For music teachers, music-making and meanings of music-making have been connected with teachers' identity, well-being, beliefs, and effectiveness, as well as being a powerful pedagogical tool and a way to develop presence in teaching. Presence in teaching is linked with self-awareness, attentiveness, and pedagogical knowledge. The purpose of this article is to explore the benefits of music-making for music teachers in order to convince policymakers of the value of music-making as a professional development activity for music teachers. This article explores theories from psychology and education that link engagement, well-being, and identity to lay the foundation for a justification of broadening professional development policies. Then, literature is presented that connects teachers’ art-making experiences (past and present), identity, teaching, and student learning. The third section draws on my previous work to illustrate the intersections between teachers' music-making and teaching. Then, suggestions for implementing professional development programs with music-making components are made. Although there are many ways music-making could be included as professional development, I offer four suggestions: including music-making in departmental or district-wide meetings, granting professional development credit to music teachers who make music outside of the classroom, setting up in-classroom reflection opportunities/action research based on integrating music-making and music teaching, and initiating a collaborative teacher study group that includes chamber music collaboration.


The current focus on professional development for teaching artists is not a new development in the United States. Since the Lincoln Center Institute first coined the term "teaching artist" in the early 1970s, there has been increasing focus on the unique characteristics necessary for artists who choose to work in educational settings. This article describes several research studies that aim to answer questions about the quality
and quantity of professional resources for artists who teach. The questions raised through these studies include: (1) What defines a teaching artist?; (2) Why do artists teach, and what does a successful teaching artist look like?; (3) What do artists need to make a living that supports their dual roles?; (4) What challenges progress for the career teaching artist?; (5) Who in the non-arts environment cares about the teaching artist?; (6) How can generations of experience be effectively shared for a national profession?; and (7) Where are the threats to national professionalism of the teaching artist?


This article explores the process of using lessons learned about high quality, effective arts education programs to help local educational leaders and practitioners create their own policy statements. It raises questions about policy implications from those lessons and connects them to the readers' own experience. It provides an intellectual framework and an action agenda for developing local policy at the classroom, school, or district level that supports high quality arts education for every student. It argues that effective arts education programs must be supported by responsive policy and ongoing tax levy funds to have a greater chance for providing quality arts teaching and learning that endures.


This article interprets the repercussions of visual storytelling for art education and arts-based narrative research and, particularly, it approaches visual storytelling as a critical tool for pre-service teacher education. After reinterpreting storytelling from the perspective of visual critical pedagogy, I will narratively reconstruct the use of visual storytelling in three learning stories taking the form of students' portfolios. As a visual narrative researcher, I will examine the tactics for writing and reading that these students have developed in creating visual stories: the first narrative analyses the role of art during the reconstruction of the learning process by incorporating autobiography and reflexivity (Tanit's portfolio); the second narrative reflects on deconstruction and intertextuality in a multimedia portfolio, which mainly interrelates opera and cinema (Eulalia's portfolio); and the third narrative introduces virtual storytelling and connects self-awareness/meta-awareness with multi-literacy in narrative learning (Sonia's portfolios). This article also views improvisations, attempts, drafts and interactions in the process of writing and reading portfolios as part of visual experimentation to fabricate learning stories, in order to analyse the opportunities that visual storytelling offers for visual narrative pedagogy.

Arts education research over the years has highlighted the situation of non-specialist preservice primary arts teachers as having little confidence in their own artistic ability and their ability to teach the arts to children. Added to this, problems such a lack of resources, confidence, priority, time, knowledge and experience appear to inhibit the regular teaching of the arts by generalist classroom teachers while at the same time, face-to-face hours for preservice primary arts education have decreased significantly over the recent years. This paper describes how one subject within a Primary Teacher Education course responded to these challenges. This subject was based on Herrington, Oliver and Reeves' (2003) framework for creating authentic learning environments then triangulates this authentic learning framework with what students wanted to learn in the subject and how they perceived they had developed their confidence and competence in creative arts education.


The article analyzes professional development in music education considering the ways in which policy change depends on conditions where renewed practice can become self supporting. The authors situate professional development amid the current politico-educational climate while offering an interpretive framework based on key issues and actions identified by other authors in this issue of "Arts Education Policy Review". Further, they suggest a pragmatic policy agenda focused on the notion of a strategic architecture for professional development in music education, arguing that it may bring (1) greater confidence in teacher's capacity to adapt, engender concepts, intervene in instructional patterns, and establish positive feedback loops; and (2) improvement in teacher retention and productivity. The article calls for a professional development agenda that sees teachers as capable change agents and that is jointly incentivized by union leaders, government, and institutions of higher learning.


This study describes the experiences of nine school-based artists who took part in a six-day professional development course on ecology and the arts at an off-grid wilderness facility. The course was designed to increase artist-educators' awareness of issues surrounding energy use and consumption as well as to provide them with direction for approaching these topics through arts-based learning in schools. Analyzing participants'
views regarding renewable and non-renewable energy use, as well as documenting anticipated changes in personal and professional practices, were two important aspects of the research. Data were collected through observations and field notes over the six-day period, and through semi-standardized interviews which were conducted at the end of the course. Participants also completed an on-line survey regarding various energy conservation and consumption issues before arriving for the course. In the interviews, the artist-educators detailed what they learned about thermal mass, solar power, and consumer purchasing patterns. Most participants anticipated making changes in their home lives, such as cooking with locally available produce. Participants also described anticipated interactions with teachers and students upon returning to their local schools, both in terms of content related to energy conservation and ways that they would approach this topic through their respective art forms. Some participants also indicated how they anticipated changing their own artistic practices in their studio settings, such as switching to less toxic materials and using fewer consumable items. Having the opportunity to live at an off-grid wilderness facility was a key feature of the course for all of the artist-educators who took part in the experience.


This study explores how adapted action research could act as a catalyst for change in curriculum development and be used as an instructional strategy in a music teacher education programme to enhance the reflective practice of student-teachers. Two cases of in-service, part-time student-teachers of a music teacher programme who conducted an individually adapted action research project are documented. Qualitative data was collected. Triangulation and discussion with participants were used to verify the findings. The findings indicate that teachers valued the enhanced opportunity for them not only to reflect and improve professional practice in teaching, but also to help their students to learn better. Teachers experienced positive classroom changes and developed ownership of their professional growth. Constraints noted include the lack of experience in action research at the beginning, and the lack of time for teachers to prepare curriculum materials, given their heavy workload of teaching.
Theories


This article documents the collaborative research and development of an apprenticeship model of learning for the arts. It focuses on teachers working in partnership with artists and other creative practitioners. The model is rooted in theories of social learning and cognitive apprenticeship. It was developed and tested through collaborative research, some of it action research. The aim was to explore and test the model for appropriateness and for its impact on the learning of all participants (children, teachers, creative practitioners). The model was found to be useful as a guide to the organisation of children's learning in the arts. Moreover, using the model had a positive effect on the inclusion of children on the margins into wider school learning. The model was also useful in facilitating the professional development of the adults concerned: teachers, artists and others.


The recently completed review of visual education, First we see, makes recommendations that contrast sharply with most traditional forms of art teaching in Australian schools.
Although the review implicitly stands against a narrow conception of a visual education founded on artistic and aesthetic concerns, I argue that the concept of 'visuacy' that the review offers as a complement to literacy and numeracy is misconceived as an educational objective. Theories of art education today derive from a history of ideas about creativity and self-expression, while classroom practice is dominated by the uncritical imitation of the contemporary adult art world. The confusion of values shows most acutely in the way visual arts education culminates at Year 12 level with students being recruited into a large-scale art competition that lacks an educational justification even though it wins wide public approval.


Swedish teacher education has undergone several reforms in recent decades aimed at incorporating teacher education into the university setting and strengthening the teaching profession. In view of earlier research that has shown how arts education in schools is ruled by dominant knowledge ideologies, the purpose of the project is to critically scrutinize current discourses related to arts learning and arts education in teacher education. The study is based on social constructionist theory and data were collected by various means, including 19 focus group interviews with teachers and students at 10 Swedish teacher education institutes. Our analysis shows that an academic discourse focusing on theory, reflection and textual production has pushed aside skills-based practice. A second discourse, characterized by subjectivity and relativism vis-a-vis the concept of quality, is also found in the material. Finally, a therapeutic discourse is articulated and legitimized based on an idea that student teachers should be emotionally balanced.


On the occasion of Dewey's sesquicentennial anniversary, Kazuyo Nakamura explores Dewey's aesthetics, which holds the plurality of art and culture in high regard. Nakamura develops a theoretical foundation for art education in the present age of globalization based on educational insights drawn from Dewey's aesthetics. The theme of this essay unfolds based on three topics: Dewey's view of the educational value of art in general education, the fundamental viewpoint of art in relation to democracy, and the discussion of the educational aspect of individuality and community with respect to the experience of art. Based on Dewey's aesthetics, this essay presents new perspectives on art education that emphasize the realization of personal values, development of intelligent visual literacy, and enhancement of the quality of communication of art, in the context of globalization.

In this article, the author conceptualizes educational aesthetics in terms of two domains: educational aesthetics as arts education and educational aesthetics as a range of nonarts educational activities understood from artistic and aesthetic points of view. A lead is taken from Harry S. Broudy's midcentury essay "Some Duties of an Educational Aesthetics," which discusses what is involved in becoming conversant with aesthetics in contemporary society. First, the author indicates the relevance of aesthetic theories to arts education. Second, he addresses the similarities and differences between art and teaching and learning, educational criticism, and leadership. Policy relevance derives from an understanding of what is plausible and what is questionable when pondering the relationship of aesthetics and education.


This paper begins with a brief discussion of aesthetic theory, especially as it relates to art education. Then, to see how theory may apply to practice, it describes an investigation into the manner in which encounters with artworks unfold, how meanings are constructed and values articulated, based on the study of four volunteers' interactions with two artworks that lend themselves to variable responses, especially in regard to social and cultural issues. The study relies on participant mapping of the individual moments of their encounters and their subsequent reflections on the experience.
Additional Arts Articles (Not Cited Above)


This paper describes an experimental course in the preparation of art teachers. The goal of the course was to engage final-year art students in thinking about the fundamental questions in aesthetic education and in considering various views of their roles as teachers of art. The classes presented a dialogue between two teachers: a philosopher of art and an artist. We discussed the social justification of art, the place of art in education and more generally the portrayal of visual culture in philosophical thought. The bibliography for the course comprised a list of basic texts in aesthetic education, from Friedrich Schiller to Nelson Goodman. In class we linked the range of philosophical views examined to the artistic exploration of themes (mainly in contemporary and local art). The course also incorporated guest speakers who presented their own projects relating to different meeting points of art and education, including social-activist artists, curators, philosophers of education and school architects. The article presents the rationale for the course, its method and a sample of its content.

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A review of the book "The Richness of Art Education," by Howard Cannatella is presented, which is the 23rd volume in the Educational Futures series Rethinking Theory and Practice.


This qualitative study examines an art lesson in a multiage inquiry-based charter school. The arts curriculum focused on democratic process, dialogical interaction, aesthetic and imaginative understanding, and visual culture art education. Questions considered in the research were: Within an inquiry-based setting what might an art lesson look like? How does creating a dialogical/democratic art classroom support inquiry-based learning? How does an inquiry-based art classroom support and extend creativity and imagination? How might an inquiry-based elementary art curriculum incorporate visual culture? The inquiry process gave students the latitude to practice individual creativity. Imaginative processes were engaged as students planned their own lesson, created their own problems, and expressed their answers through a performance.


Creativity, content, and policy have multiple relationships. Creativity and disciplinary content are inextricably linked. In dealing with creativity, the first education policy choice is whether to recognize and act on that fact. Care is needed in using the term creativity in advocacy contexts, lest the relationship between creativity and content become obscured or forgotten altogether. Creativity is central to the arts, and thus arts education is a natural curricular place to develop creativity. However, the development of creative potential requires work over time. Creativity development in all fields requires serious sustained study and practice with certain goals in mind. Other kinds of study may be valuable, but they will not develop creativity. If we want to develop creative potential in schools, we must want the necessary structures and means for its development as much as we want the results. A number of major adjustments are required. Necessary means include the provision of environments that philosophically and operationally support creativity, increased respect for local knowledge, and altered approaches to assessment and evaluation. Major policy decisions face us. Can we make the adjustments necessary?


In recent years, the author relates how she had been on a journey to explore the role of art education in fostering ecological literacy. While she had tracked discussions about eco-
art education back over three decades in the literature, the author relates how she was still working through exactly what eco-art education is and how it contributes to developing learners' ecological literacy. She had previously reported on a pilot study in this area and had began mapping her journey into this emerging field of study. This map has continued to develop since that time. In this article, the author tracks some of the theoretical and pedagogical discourse she has found most intriguing in recent years. She also proposes new directions in which eco-art education can grow, hopefully encouraging other educators and scholars to expand it beyond its current boundaries, contributing to the greening of art education and to the growth of ecological literacy in general.

Jagodzinski, J. (2010). Badiou's Challenge to Art and its Education: Or, ‘art cannot be taught—it can however educate!’. Educational Philosophy & Theory, 42(2), 177-195.

This essay explores Badiou's writings on art and inaesthetics. It reviews his notion of the artistic event, comments on his 15 theses on contemporary art and examines his notion of inaesthetics. What follows is then applied to art and its education in terms of his search for a ‘third position’ that would challenge the extremes of capitalist design innovation and Romantic idealism that in his summation define the contemporary landscape.


A critical stage of the assessment process is the development of learning objectives. In this study, learning outcomes for general education in the arts and humanities were identified through content analysis with thematic networks. The findings provide additional support for qualitative approaches in developing program-level learning objectives.


The purpose of this study is to measure the effect of project-based learning that is used in visual arts course on students' academic success and permanence. The research was applied to students of Hasan Ali Yucel Primary School in the city of Trabzon during the fall semester of 2007-2008 academic year. Among the sample that had been selected randomly, class 8/D (n=30) was assigned as the experimental group, and class 8/E (n=31) as the control group. Pre-test post-test control group design was used in the research. Data of the research were collected by the achievement test and permanence test. "t-test" was used in the analysis of the data in order to show the differences between the means.
There is a significant difference between the experimental group, in which project-based learning method had been used, and the control group, in which conventional teaching had been used, in favor of the experimental group, in terms of students' achievement and permanence scores. While a significant difference between pre-test and post-test achievement scores of the experimental group was observed, no significant difference was found between pre-test and post-test scores of the control group. A significant difference between the scores of the students in experimental group and those in control group, who participated in the study was found in the repeated measures test, which was conducted to reveal time and group effect. When the change in in-group measures is searched without making a differentiation between experimental and control groups, it was seen that there is a significant change. When group and measure interaction scores were considered, it was determined that there is a significant interaction between participating in experimental or control group and the results found from the tests used. Based on the results, it was determined that students become more successful with the project-based learning method. The use of the of the method in visual arts courses was suggested. Additionally, few suggestions concerning future research were given.


This report presents the results of the 2008 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) in the arts, which was given to a nationally representative sample of 7,900 eighth-grade public and private school students. Approximately one-half of these students were assessed in music, and the other half were assessed in visual arts. The Music portion of the assessment measured student ability to respond to music in various ways. Students were asked to analyze and describe aspects of music they heard, critique instrumental and vocal performances, and demonstrate their knowledge of standard musical notation and music's role in society. The average responding score for music was reported on a NAEP scale of 0 to 300. Scores ranged from 105 for the lowest-performing students to 194 for the highest-performing students. The Visual Arts portion of the assessment included questions that measured student ability to respond to art as well as questions that measured their ability to create art. Responding questions asked students to analyze and describe works of art and design. The average responding score for visual arts was reported on a NAEP scale of 0 to 300 with scores ranging from 104 for the lowest-performing students to 193 for the highest-performing students. Creating questions required students to create works of art and design of their own. The average creating task score for visual arts was reported separately as the average percentage of the maximum possible score from 0 to 100 with a national average of 52. In general, students who performed well on the responding questions also performed well on the creating
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questions. Racial/ethnic and gender gaps were noted in both music and visual arts. Technical notes and data are appended.


This article identifies recent, mainly Nordic, research approaches to visual arts education. A concept map was developed as a heuristic tool in order to highlight salient traits and blind spots. Contemporary research typically has its origin either in education or in the art world, with an emphasis either on art as language or on art as text. These two dimensions were used to organise the studies and to select representative exemplars in different domains. The framework helped to chart the knowledge base of, and research approaches to, visual arts education. However, the result of blending subject matter and pedagogy tended to be a 'mixture' of viewpoints rather than emerging domains of subject-specific pedagogical knowledge (Lee Shulman: an 'amalgam').


In recent years, the concept of diversity has become prominent in cultural policy, echoing community arts philosophies of the 1960s and 1970s that questioned the notion of universal artistic value and argued for greater recognition of the relationship between cultural identity and inequality. Cultural diversity policies today implicitly challenge the liberal-humanist discourse of 'the best', and emphasise what is 'relevant' to particular communities. Official policy rhetoric can often hide contradictions that are only apparent in practice. How does 'diversity' shape the way organisations engage with audiences and does this contradict the still present discourse of 'universalism', with its emphasis on value judgements? This paper explores this tension through the study of Rich Mix, a multi-functional arts centre in London's multi-ethnic East End. It argues that Rich Mix is caught between discourses of universalism and diversity, leading to confusion over the project's rationale and ambivalence amongst artists about how their art is judged.


The scope of music education research has expanded significantly over the last 50 years. Nevertheless, many studies remain atomistic, with limited contexts for questions, methods, findings and implications. Such approaches may seek to validate instructional strategies within an established music education system, rather than developing a continuum of questions, perspectives and dynamic principles and applications that
radically challenge existing assumptions. Ironically, attempts at more holistic research may offer innocuous description of observed phenomena, thus bypassing the rigorous analysis that could help advance current practice. In a global society, music engagement and learning are studied across cultures, ages, and ranges of opportunities. This context demands a robust and catalytic research approach, one in which inquiry logically derives from the ways in which systematic music education - across the full gamut of learner characteristics and settings - may embrace a fundamental human intrigue with music. Research thus offers a foundation for music education that empowers musical choice, connects music learning with larger musical realities, nurtures both independent and social engagement across the lifespan, and enhances our quality of life and the societies in which we live.


Student access to arts education and the quality of such instruction in the nation's public schools continue to be of concern to policymakers, educators, and families. Specifically, research has focused on questions such as: To what extent do students receive instruction in the arts? Under what conditions is this instruction provided? What is the profile of arts education instructors? (Ruppert and Nelson 2006). This study is the third of its kind to be conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) in the Institute of Education Sciences (IES), U.S. Department of Education, to provide national data that inform these issues. The first study was conducted in the 1994-95 school year to provide baseline data on public schools' approaches to arts education. The second study was conducted during the 1999-2000 school year to provide broader coverage of arts education issues by collecting the first national data on educational backgrounds, professional development activities, teaching loads, and instructional practices of elementary school teachers--self-contained classroom teachers, music specialists, and visual arts specialists. To update the information from a decade ago, Congress requested that the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Innovation and Improvement (OII) and NCES conduct a new study that would borrow from and build on the previous studies. This study examines many of the issues from the previous studies, including the extent to which students received instruction in the arts; the facilities and resources available for arts education instruction; and the preparation, work environments, and instructional practices of music and visual arts specialists and non-arts classroom teachers. This study also addresses emerging issues such as the availability of curriculum-based arts education activities outside of regular school hours and the presence of school-community partnerships in the arts. In addition, the current study provides broader coverage of arts education instructors by including two new surveys for secondary music and visual arts
specialists. Selected indicators on arts education in public elementary and secondary schools are organized into four sections, one for each arts education subject area—music, visual arts, dance, and drama/theatre. Using its Fast Response Survey System (FRSS), NCES conducted the surveys during the 2009-10 school year, with the two school surveys and the collection of sampling lists for the teacher surveys starting in fall 2009. FRSS is a survey system designed to collect small amounts of issue-oriented data from a nationally representative sample of districts, schools, or teachers with minimal burden on respondents and within a relatively short period of time. The findings in this report have been chosen to demonstrate the range of information available from the FRSS study rather than to discuss all of the observed differences; they are not meant to emphasize any particular issue. The findings are based on self-reported data from public school principals and teachers. Where relevant, national findings are broken out by the poverty concentration at the school, measured as the percent of students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch.


Craft education in Finland is, in many aspects, in a state of change. This concerns the independent position of craft as a school subject, the content of the compulsory craft courses containing textiles and technical work, the implementation of the new concept of a holistic craft process in the National Core Curriculum and so on. This bears relevance to the question of how craft should be taught at school. This article explores the ways in which teachers can strengthen the relevance and meaningfulness of craft education at school. Teachers are challenged to provide more authentic instructional contexts and activities beyond the traditional curriculum in order to address successful living in today's society. One solution is to contextualise this teaching with the help of pedagogical models that realise the concept of holistic craft. The pedagogical models discussed in this article are based on curriculum publications, materials in print and research by other scholars.


The article reviews the book "International Handbook of Research in Arts Education," edited by Liora Bresler.

Arts Education Research Compendium

Education is never a passive, autonomous, or static activity. It manipulates, as much as it is manipulated, and reflects specific contexts. Education histories document continuities and changes over time, and are able to throw light on and inform contemporary practice. Prompted by perspectives on curriculum as a social and cultural construction, together with Efland's (2004) identification of the principal visions of nineteenth and twentieth century art education in the United States, the author traces the historical antecedents of art education in New Zealand. The author points out that the development of art education in New Zealand from the 1840s to the 1990s was essentially a selection from the culture--the way of life, the kinds of knowledge, and the attitudes and values of society--of a particular time. The author discusses how the current policies and practices in art education reflect the economic, social, cultural and educational changes, including curriculum reforms, promulgated in New Zealand by successive governments during the 1980s and 90s.


The author discusses the participation of theater, dance, and performance students during protest demonstrations at the University of California at Berkeley (UC) in 2009 and 2010. The author also explores reactions by students and faculty to threatened budget cuts to arts departments in California colleges and universities in the 1990s. The author discusses performance art by UC arts students during the 2009-2010 protests against proposed privatization, including the performance group UC Movement for Efficient Privatization (UC Me P).


This article explores the deep-rooted "night owl" image of art practitioners and calls for attention on a consideration of the time for learning in art. It has been recognised that the human body has its own internal timings and knowing the "time" pattern is important for better productivity in conducting creativity-related activities. This study surveyed 230 art students and 251 management students in a university and examined if there existed any cross-disciplinary differences in terms of self-confidence of creative ability, preferences of a particular time for creativity tasks, and routine patterns for daily activities such as getting up, going to bed and working. The results reveal that the art students have more confidence in their creative ability than the management students; about 58 per cent of the art students feel more creative after 10 p.m., as opposed to 29.2 per cent of the management students; and there exist significant differences between the two groups in terms of what time they get up, go to sleep and prefer to work.

Music education in K–12 school programs may continue to lose ground to other subjects unless music education and performance studies are viewed as interdependent. The author argues that the reinvigoration of both music education and performance requires that the studio experience integrate a research-based pedagogy, multi-stylistic range of repertoire, and improvisation studies.