



Did you know?

- **Arts education teaches critical skills.** Studies at 7 major universities have found strong links between arts education and cognitive development: thinking, problem solving, concept understanding, information processing and overall intelligence. *
- **Students in art classes hone mental habits not emphasized elsewhere in school.** Skills include persistence, expression, making clear connections between schoolwork and the outside world, observing, envisioning, and innovating through exploration. Each of these skills has a high value as a learning tool, both in school and elsewhere in life.
- **STEAM vs STEM.** STEAM takes the standard STEM's science, technology, engineering & math, and adds an A for arts. The arts spark students' imagination and help them innovate through hands-on STEM projects. It is about applying creative thinking and design skills to imagine a variety of ways to use STEM skills into adulthood. ****
- **Creativity** is one of the top three personality traits most important to career success, according to US employers. Yet 85% of the employers cannot find the creative applicants they seek. *
- **The arts improve academic performance.** Students who took four years of arts and music classes while in high school scored an average of 92 points higher on their SATs than students who took only ½ year or less. High school art students had a 15% higher GPA and averaged 6.5% higher than non-art students on SAT verbal tests. ***
- **Arts Education Is A Bridge connecting Cultures.** The arts have no boundaries. Creativity is the common ground. One of the most important benefits of arts education for students is that it helps them appreciate and understand the different cultures and values of our very diverse society. "They become the shared link, the glue that shapes our understanding of how we see ourselves and each other," The Education Fund explains. **
- **Art experiences help low-income and at-risk youth.** Art students on free or reduced lunch scored 33 points higher on SAT math and 51 points higher on SAT verbal than their non-art peers. They were 4 times more likely to have high academic achievement and 3 times more likely to have high attendance. The advantages of the arts on low-income students actually increased over time. Art students were more likely than their peers to have attended and done well in college, built careers, volunteered in their community and voted ("Re-investing in Arts Education: Winning America's Future Through Creative Schools", 2011).
- **Arts for a Complete Education.** 97% of superintendents surveyed agreed that music develops creativity, yet only 17% of their schools require music courses for graduation.
- **"No time for Art."** According to most teachers, schools are narrowing curriculum, shifting instructional time and resources toward math and language and away from subjects such as art, music, foreign language and social studies. The arts are necessary for a student's success in school, in work and in life.