10 weeks of arts participation to a stronger brain.

The arts literally make your brain grow. Participating in the visual arts for as little as 10 weeks has been shown to increase the resiliency and neural connectivity of the brain, making for increased self-awareness and better memory processing.

73% said the arts provide meaning.

The arts provide meaning in our lives. In a 2016 public opinion poll, 73% of Americans said that the arts provided meaning in their lives and were a positive experience in a troubled world.

Students who participate in the arts are 40% more likely to have diverse friends.

Participation in arts activities increases tolerance. 12th graders who participate in the arts are 40% more likely to have friends from different racial groups and 29% less likely to feel that it is ok to make a racist remark.

4 out of 5 young adults were more likely to vote after engaging in the arts.

The arts make young adults more civically engaged. 78% of young adults who had arts-rich experiences were more likely to vote or participate in a political campaign.

The arts improve your critical thinking by up to 18%.

Just looking at art improves your ability to think critically. Students from high-poverty schools, according to one study, experience an 18% effect-size improvement in critical thinking about art after a 1 hour tour of a museum.

Arts-engaged kids average 100 points higher on their SAT.

Students who take four years of arts and music classes average almost 100 points better on their SAT scores than students with only a half-year or less.


EXAMPLES OF PRACTICE

MOSAIC YOUTH THEATRE OF DETROIT

Detroit

Mosaic empowers young people by helping them develop patterns of cooperation, disciplined work habits, and effective problem-solving skills through the creation of high-quality, professional-level performances of theater and music.

ARTIST CORPS
NEW ORLEANS

GUIDANCE FOR MUSIC & ARTS EDUCATION IN NEW ORLEANS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

New Orleans

On December 15, 2020, Artist Corps New Orleans and the New Orleans Arts Education Alliance presented the work of the Music & Arts Education COVID-19 Response Working Group to the Orleans Parish School Board. The documents linked below include
NEW. NOT NORMAL: ARTISTS, THE CREATIVE SECTOR, AND INNOVATION AFTER THE PANDEMIC

Arts, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation Lab
Center for Cultural Affairs
O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs
The Arts, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation Lab is a project of the National Endowment for the Arts in cooperation with Indiana University, Purdue University—Indianapolis. This project was partially supported by Indiana University’s New Frontiers in the Arts & Humanities Program.

Bloomington

New. Not Normal is a virtual symposium about entrepreneurship, innovation, and reimagining the creative sector post-COVID-19. This event explored new ideas about both the challenges and opportunities for arts workers and the creative sector, how the

READING LIST

Something to Say: Success Principles for Afterschool Arts Programs From Urban Youth and Other Experts

Montgomery, Denise; Rogovin, Peter; and Persaud, Neromanie R. Montgomery, Denise; Rogovin, Peter; and Persaud, Neromanie R.
Publication Year: 2013

Something to Say: Success Principles for Afterschool Arts Programs from Urban Youth and Other Experts endeavors to answer these questions. The primary way we approached this project was by seeing... Show More [+] youth as consumers of OST activities, and

Show Less [-]

The Arts and Achievement in At-Risk Youth: Findings from Four Longitudinal Studies

Catterall, James S. Catterall, James S.
Publication Year: 2012

This report examines arts-related variables from four large datasets -- three maintained by
the U.S. Department of Education and one by the Department of Labor -- to understand the relationship... Show More ▼ between arts engagement and positive academic and social

Show Less ▲

Ten Reasons to Support the Arts (2017)

Cohen, Randy, 2017
Publication Year: 2017

Ten Reasons to Support the Arts - 2017 update

ORGANIZATIONS

AMERICAN ALLIANCE FOR THEATRE & EDUCATION (AATE)

AATE works to ensure that youth experience theater provided by talented artists and educators. Through its membership of theater artists, teachers, professors, directors, scholars, and playwrights, AATE provides services in 48 U.S. states and 19 countries.

NATIONAL ART EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

The leading professional membership organization exclusively for visual arts educators advancing visual arts education to fulfill human potential and promote global understanding.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

Established by Congress in 1965, the NEA is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities.

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