

Arts Education ‘Think Abouts’

1. Arts-based Teaching During the Regular School Day Makes Learning More Equitable.

A study of ten “high-poverty” American schools found that arts-based education contributed significantly to higher test scores and closing achievement gaps, especially in reading and math. *Deasy & Stevenson, 2005*

Arts-based teaching engages a wide range of learners, especially those who are at-risk and underachieving. Students who struggle with traditional instruction often find success in environments that include multiple ways to process information. *Deasy 2002*

A 3-year study of Artspartners Schools found that disadvantaged and struggling students performed better in reading comprehension than a matched control...Effects were most pronounced for low-achieving students. *Americans for the Arts, 2011*

Have significantly higher scores in math, reading and writing than non arts students. The arts have helped close the gap between minority and white students. *Students at Opening Minds through the Arts (OMA) schools, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2005*

2. Arts-based Learning Develops the Brain.

“Learning is enriched by stimulation and the arts provide an aesthetic environment and hands-on learning experiences that stimulate the synapses by creating networks that connect different areas in the brain. “Children who don’t play much or are rarely touched develop brains 20%-30% smaller than normal.” *Nash, 2002*

The implication for arts integration is that it provides “synapse-stimulating” environments rich with sensory stimulation that encourages students to experiment and make mistakes.” *Cornett, 2015*

3. Students With Arts Education Have Higher Tests Scores:

On average, have superior academic performance, improved memory skills, and higher GPAs, and SAT scores that are generally 100 points higher in reading, writing, and mathematics. *Corbett, Wilson, & Morse, 2005*

Score higher on academic achievement tests and increase tests scores in both science and writing *Ingram & Meath 2007*

Are 30% more inclined to pursue a professional career *Americans For the Arts 2016*

Are 3 times more likely to get a Bachelor’s Degree*

Longer and more intense work in the arts in school had more impact – especially for low income and ESL students*

Simple exposure to the arts did not have much effect on test scores. Increased amounts of arts were important, but the greatest difference in scores came when teachers delivered high caliber arts production and integration experiences. (*Burnaford, 2007; Corbett, Wilson, & Morse, 2005*)

Year-over-year comparisons of test scores (gains over time) were significantly higher for third, fourth and fifth graders in classrooms where the arts were integrated with other subjects -- *Ingram & Meath 2007*

4. Students With Arts Education Have Better Attendance

They're 5 times less likely to drop-out of school.

5. Arts Education Improves School Culture

Students who received high levels of arts training had better rapport with their teachers and were also better at expressing ideas, taking risks, and using their imaginations.*

Teachers in arts-rich schools demonstrated more interest in their work and were more likely to be innovative in their teaching. *Source: Champions of Change: The Impact of the Arts on Learning, Edward B. Fiske, 1999*

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8. Communities Benefit

Annually, creative industries produce over 1,100 jobs and over \$30 million in Napa County

Source: Profile of Immigrants in Napa County; Live Healthy Napa County

Students who are provided with a sense of community are more likely to create and positively affect their surroundings. *California Alliance for Arts Education*

Students with tangible creative skills or a college art degree are considered more employable, and are more likely to find a job post-graduation. *Americans For Arts Education, 2016*

Exposure to creativity results in higher general positivity among the population.*

Cities with strong arts programming have stronger communities, as seen through higher civic involvement, group cohesiveness and lower poverty rates.*

With Arts Education, students have higher levels of civic engagement i.e. volunteering, voting, local politics.