

Arts Education Research

Young people who perform in the arts for at least three hours on three days each week through at least one full year are ...

- 4 times more likely to be recognized for **academic achievement**
- 3 times more likely to be elected to **class office** within their schools
- 4 times more likely to participate in a **math and science fair**
- 3 times more likely to win an award for **school attendance**
- 4 times more likely to win an **award for writing an essay or poem**

Young artists, as compared with their peers, are likely to ...

- Attend **music, art, and dance classes** nearly three times as frequently
- Participate in **youth groups** nearly four times as frequently
- **Read for pleasure** nearly twice as often
- Perform **community service** more than four times as often

(Living the Arts through language + learning: a report on community-based youth organizations, Shirley Brice Heath, Stanford University and Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, an Americans for the Arts monograph, 11/98.)

The facts are that arts education ...

- **Makes a tremendous impact on the developmental growth of every child and has proven to help level the learning field across socioeconomic boundaries.**
(Involvement in the Arts and Success in Secondary School, James S. Catterall, the UCLA Imagination Project, Graduate School of Education & Information Studies, UCLA, Americans for the Arts Monograph, 1/98)
- **Has a measurable impact on youth at risk in deterring delinquent behavior and truancy problems while also increasing overall academic performance among those youth engaged in after school and summer arts programs targeted toward delinquency prevention.**
(YouthARTS Development Project, 1996, US Department of Justice, National Endowment for the Arts, and Americans for the Arts)
- **Enables students of the arts (for four or more years) to outperform their non-arts peers on the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT).**
(The College Entrance Examination Board)

Business understands that arts education ...

- Builds a school climate of high expectation, discipline, and academic rigor that **attracts businesses** relocating to your community
Strengthens student problem-solving and critical thinking skills, adding to **overall academic achievement and school success**
- Helps students develop a sense of craftsmanship, quality task performance, and goal-setting skills needed to **succeed in the classroom and beyond**
- Can help **troubled youth**, providing an alternative to destructive behavior and another way for students to approach learning
(Business Circle for Arts Education in Oklahoma, "Arts at the Core of Learning 1999 Initiative,")

*Many thanks to the New Mexico Advisory Council on Arts Education
and the New Mexico Alliance for Arts Education for supplying some of this information*

Web Sites

Many of these sites lead to other sites ...

[Arts Education Partnership](#)

The Arts Education Partnership provides information and communication about current and emerging arts education policies, issues, and activities at the national, state, and local levels. Their major projects and activities include: commissioning and disseminating research about critical arts and education issues; maintaining and linking databases on state-level policies for arts education; and convening national forums around significant themes and issues in the field. Their partners include federal arts and education agencies, state departments of education, state arts agencies, national arts and education organizations, and arts and education collaboratives at the state and local level.

[Artslynx International Arts Resources](#)

This website was created for The Colorado Council on the Arts, with funding from The National Endowment for the Arts, and includes links to research on the value of arts education programs.

[Dana Foundation](#)

A leading research organization that educates, informs and funds programs and research in the areas of brain science, immunology, and arts education.

[New Horizons for Learning](#)

This site lists a multitude of links to research on arts education and other resources.

[National Assessment of Educational Progress](#)

An assessment of what our nation's eighth grade students know and can do in the arts released by the Education Department's National Center for Education Statistics.

[Project Zero](#)

Project Zero's mission is to understand and enhance learning, thinking, and creativity in the arts, as well as humanistic and scientific disciplines, at the individual and institutional levels and is an educational research group at the Graduate School of Education at Harvard University. They also host symposia and workshops.

Reports

Champions of Change: Leading educational researchers examine the impact of arts experiences on young people in this report from the Presidents Committee on the Arts and Humanities and the Arts Education Partnership.

Gaining the Arts Advantage: This document makes the case for district-wide arts education by documenting lessons from school districts that value arts education, such as Las Cruces Public Schools. This report is from the Presidents Committee on the Arts and Humanities and the Arts Education Partnership.

Learning Partnerships: A Guide to Arts Education Collaboration that aims to improve learning in schools by working with arts partners in the community. This report is from the Arts Education Partnership.

Also check out the resources page for more programs and research resources.