



## On the Importance of Art Education

"Beyond the qualities of creativity, self-expression, and communication, art is a type of work. This is what art is from childhood to old age. Through art, our children learn the meaning of joy to work—work done to the best of one's ability, for one's own sake, for the satisfaction of a job well done."

- NAEA, 2005\*

"Art is a language of visual images that everyone must learn to read. Complete literacy includes the ability to understand, respond to, and talk about visual images. Art education stimulates language—spoken and written—about visual images."

-NAEA, 2005\*

"You cannot touch art without touching values: values about home and family, work and play, the individual society, nature and the environment, war and peace, beauty and ugliness, violence and love. The great art of the past and the present deals with these durable human concerns. When we study the arts of many lands and peoples, we expose our students to the expression of a wide range of human values and concerns."

- NAEA, 2005\*

"Art helps children understand other subjects more clearly—from math and science to language arts and geography." \*\*

"Art nurtures inventiveness as it engages children in the process that aides in the development of self-esteem, self-discipline, cooperation, and self-motivation." \*\*

"Participating in art activities helps children to gain the tools necessary for understanding human experience, adapting to and respecting others' ways of working and thinking, developing creative problem-solving skills, and communicating thoughts and ideas in a variety of ways." \*\*

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\* Excerpts reproduced from The National Art Education Association, [www.naea.org](http://www.naea.org)

\*\* Excerpts reproduced from the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, [www.ascd.org](http://www.ascd.org)