

STUDY OF FINE ART EDUCATION: NATURE AND CHALLENGES

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ABSTRACT

Arts education refers to education in the subjects of music, dance, theater and visual arts. Study of art is an integral part of our society. They are part of the cultural heritage of every human being. The arts are what make us most human, most fulfilled as individuals. The ultimate objective of education is the all-round development of the individual where art education helps in realizing this higher objective of education. In the present context the authors have focused on the research studies showing the importance of arts education in human personality development, what recommendations have been made by various national education policies and education committees to enrich arts education in India since independence. This paper also throws light on the present status of art education in our country and makes several suggestions for effective implementation to realize our goals and objectives through art education.

Keywords: Fine Art Education, Nature, Challenges.

Introduction

Education within the arts is an essential part of every person's improvement. Those who have studied learning processes through the ages since Plato have emphasized the importance of the humanities in the learning process. Arts education refers to schooling in the subjects of track, dance, theater and visual arts. Study in the arts is fundamental to our society. They are part of the cultural history of every human being. It is the arts that make us most human, most complete as human beings. Art can no more be learned through occasional or random exposure than mathematics or technical knowledge. Education and engagement in the fine arts is an important part of the faculty curriculum and an essential element within each student's learning application. There is ample record to support the belief that observation and participation in the extraordinary arts is an important factor in increasing knowledge in all academic fields. To reduce dropout number of students, increase attendance of students, develop high group players, promote love for acquiring knowledge, enhance dignity of students, and improve creativity of students and for workplace for the next day. Evidence of its effectiveness in creating a better organized citizenry can be seen documented in studies conducted in many different settings, from college campuses to corporate America. The evidence derived from brain research is one of the most effective for many purposes in schooling and engaging in the best arts is beneficial in an educational manner. The arts enhance neural structures that provide a wide range of benefits ranging from quality motor abilities to creativity and improved emotional stability. One needs to understand that these systems routinely take months or years to produce high-quality songs. In a study conducted by Judith Burton of Columbia University, studies have shown that subjects such as mathematics, technology and language require complex cognitive and innovative abilities to "master the art".

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Arts enhance the system of knowing. The systems they nourish, which involve our integrated sensory, attention, cognitive, emotional and motor abilities, are, in fact, the driving forces behind all the different studies. The great arts also provide non-academic benefits to newcomers including self-esteem, inspiration, aesthetic identity, cultural exposure, creativity, heightened emotional expression, as well as social harmony and appreciation of limits.

Art Education

The unique objectives of nurture and development of individuals are what we call schooling. It is a simple truth that there is a great relationship between the welfare of the society and education. Starting from the lifestyle of the character's relatives, it is able to adapt to social and cultural existence and to understand the universe and the world in which we live with proper values is possible only with a good education. As is clearly visible in the latest world, nations with high levels of education live in peace and prosperity. Arts education is a technique of efforts to systematically transform, enhance and empower the lives of individuals. As Ukan said that the art education process inspires a person to become a more forceful and harmonious person because moral values classes were taught during the period of the process. This enables more peaceful individuals to evolve so that those peaceful people can shape a society that lives in peace.

Demirtas expressed with these words how essential education is for peace; "To build a better international, cutting-edge children and young adults must be peace-oriented educated and reviewing current curriculum and schooling philosophies and implementing new and more peace-oriented teaching materials is also not behind the times. It is important that people understand that regardless of their race, age, gender, religion or social standing, each individual has an equal responsibility in creating a truly non-violent world and it no longer counts based on what training approach it takes. Formal or non-formal, each method has a large amount of interest in peace education.

In this context, when we remember art education we can say that it is a technique of developing a man or woman's ability to look excellent and aesthetic along with ethics and aesthetics. What is important here is what exactly is meant by "art education". The process no longer involves mere technical skills or technical expertise. Art education is a technology that embraces the best of life. What is focused here is to nurture people who can see, understand, take decisions effectively and are able to pay extra attention to ethical values rather than personal gain. Reduce the branches of art like art history, art philosophy and sociology of art etc. in art training. There is a need to acquire additional knowledge of. Art education has responsibilities and capabilities including personal, social, economic, psychological and communicative. In his study referred to as "Art Education" Kazim Artun indexed the tasks of art training as follows; "Improving creativity, acquiring a curious, inquiring and skeptical identity. This improve cultural and intellectual vision, spiritual, sensory, cognitive, intuitive power and self-confidence and hence making self-identity possible. Acquiring the ability to see things, predict possibilities, and establish healthy conversations and effective interactions. Creation and creation of an environment where individuals can achieve self-reliance, self-expression and self-discharge and contribute to social and emotional development. Acquire healthy thoughts and character development and to have a close approach to the development of modern works of artwork and to be able to view various works of art without any prejudice. As we can actually see, art schooling has various dimensions and every single measurement involves comprehensive understanding and responsibility.

Nature of Art Education

Art education encompasses a wide range of disciplines, including visual arts, performing arts, music, dance, and more. Its nature is multifaceted, encompassing both theoretical knowledge and practical skills. Here are some key aspects of the nature of art education:

- **Creativity and Expression:** Art education encourages creativity and self-expression. It provides a platform for individuals to explore their ideas, emotions, and perspectives through various art forms.
- **Skill Development:** Art education helps develop technical skills specific to each art form, such as painting techniques, musical proficiency, dance movements, and acting skills. These skills are honed through practice, guidance, and feedback.
- **Cultural and Historical Context:** Art education often includes learning about the cultural and historical context of different art forms. This involves studying art movements, styles, influential artists, and the societal impact of art throughout history.

- **Critical Thinking and Analysis:** Art education fosters critical thinking skills by encouraging students to analyze and interpret artworks. This includes understanding artistic techniques, symbolism, themes, and the messages conveyed by various art pieces.
- **Communication and Collaboration:** Many art education programs emphasize communication and collaboration skills. Students often work in groups, participate in performances or exhibitions, and learn how to effectively communicate their artistic ideas to others.
- **Personal Growth:** Art education plays a significant role in personal growth and development. It promotes self-confidence, resilience, problem-solving abilities, and a deeper understanding of oneself and the world.
- **Interdisciplinary Connections:** Art education often intersects with other disciplines such as history, literature, science, technology, and psychology. This interdisciplinary approach enriches the learning experience and encourages holistic understanding.
- **Cultural and Social Relevance:** Art education addresses cultural diversity and social issues, encouraging students to explore different perspectives, challenge stereotypes, and contribute to social change through artistic expression.

These aspects collectively contribute to the holistic nature of art education, making it a valuable and enriching field of study that promotes creativity, critical thinking, cultural awareness, and personal growth.

Challenges of Art Education

Art education faces several challenges that can impact its effectiveness and reach. Some of the key challenges include:

- **Funding and Resource Allocation:** Many art education programs struggle with limited funding and resources. This can lead to a lack of materials, outdated equipment, and limited opportunities for students to explore different art forms.
- **Curriculum Development:** Designing a comprehensive and engaging art curriculum can be challenging. It requires balancing foundational skills, art history, contemporary practices, and cultural diversity while ensuring alignment with educational standards.
- **Teacher Training and Retention:** Training art educators to effectively teach a wide range of artistic techniques and concepts can be complex. Additionally, retaining qualified art teachers in schools can be difficult due to budget constraints or a lack of emphasis on the arts in education policy.
- **Equity and Access:** Ensuring equitable access to art education for all students, regardless of their background or socioeconomic status, is a significant challenge. Disparities in resources and opportunities can limit some students' ability to participate fully in art education programs.
- **Integration with STEM and Core Subjects:** Integrating art education with science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) subjects, as well as core academic subjects, is important for providing a well-rounded education. However, achieving meaningful integration requires collaboration among teachers and support from school administrators.
- **Assessment and Accountability:** Assessing student learning in art can be challenging, as traditional standardized tests may not capture the full range of artistic skills and knowledge. Developing effective assessment methods that align with the goals of art education is crucial for measuring student progress and program effectiveness.
- **Community Engagement and Support:** Building strong partnerships with the community, including local artists, cultural institutions, and parents, is essential for enriching art education experiences and securing additional resources and support.

Addressing these challenges requires a multifaceted approach involving collaboration among educators, policymakers, communities, and stakeholders in the arts. Efforts to advocate for the importance of art education and secure adequate funding and resources are also crucial in overcoming these challenges.

Conclusion

Art school education should no longer be used by schools only as a showcase activity on extraordinary occasions like annual festivals, inspection days and many others. Art school education

should be implemented in those activities which involve arrangement of classrooms, galleries, halls, corridors etc. designing of college diaries, cards, school stuff and many more. Since it is a hobby-based, experimental subject primarily, it gives scope for narration, imagination and visualization in the way of creativity. Every child has all kinds of emotions that need to come out of the child's inner self; As a result art education helps them in this technique. Therefore the responsibility rests on the stakeholders to effectively implement arts education at the grassroots level.

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