

Art as an occupation in Oz!

- 1) According to the finder.com.au Careers in Australia Report, the arts and recreational services industry is the strongest in Australia, recording the highest growth rate of full time positions out of 18 job industries in Australia. This industry grew by 20.59 per cent during the past two years, to 240,703 Australians employed full time as at February 2015.
- 2) This surprising growth brings greater potential to the creative kids who are dreaming about becoming a novelist, artist, performer, musician, producer or gallery owner.
- 3) Before you write off the next arts graduate that you see, just remember: it's people like them that are not only the most rapidly growing industry of professionals, they're also the most efficient and productive. The stereotypes are well and truly dead: <http://www.smh.com.au/money/saving/why-arts-students-can-now-be-taken-seriously>



Art Class Times

Tuesday Morning

7:50 - 8:40 am

Tuesday | Wednesday

Thursday | Friday

Afternoons

3:10 - 4:00 pm

New Thursday Afternoon

4:10 - 5:00 pm

Quality Arts = Exceptional Kids

Educational Research investigated the impact of quality arts programs on the academic progress of students, their engagement with learning and their school attendance. Their findings indicated that through involvement in arts programs, children's potential to engage in learning was enhanced and their self-esteem increased as they began to feel more self-confident. Throughout the arts programs, children were also observed to have developed their social, communication, team work and self-expression skills, indicating that when arts programs happen inside the classroom, significant and varied outcomes are achieved. This confirms the research over many years, as well as what many teachers have known, that sustained engagement in quality arts programs can enhance

Academic achievement

Involvement in the arts can help children actively engage in learning, understand the concepts being taught, develop deep understandings in whatever subject is being taught, and to express their understandings in different ways. Regular involvement in the arts develops the higher order skills of analysis, synthesis and evaluation, as well as critical-thinking, problem-solving and decision-making skills. Research also indicates sustained quality engagement in the arts enhances children's literacy and numeracy



Respect for themselves and others

Through involvement in quality arts programs, children are able to connect and empathise with others as they understand and appreciate their cultures, traditions and symbols. The arts are a way of changing children's perceptions and stereotypes of people who are different from them as they are exposed to different societies and cultures through their arts. They learn to respect and appreciate the differences and become more tolerant of other people, as well as accepting and respecting their own culture.

Self-Expression

Through self-expression in the arts, children learn focus, self-discipline, innovation, creativity and emotional expression as well as verbal and non-verbal communication skills. They learn to use a variety of media to express themselves and communicate using multi-literacies. They learn to use movements, symbols, visuals and sounds as well as words to convey meaning. They learn to get in touch with their own feelings and those of others. When they create or observe a work of art they respond emotionally, they feel good about themselves, and they learn that there is more to life than what can be assessed by quantitative measures. Reference: Oddliefson, E. (1994). What do we want our schools to do? Phi Delta Kappan, 75(5)

