



#ArtEdAdvocacy

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'Art makes the world a  
better place.  
It encourages human  
beings to make an  
'original' contribution  
to our world'

Bob and Roberta Smith RA OBE,  
NSEAD Patron

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[nsead.org](http://nsead.org)

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'The arts teach children  
that problems can have  
MORE than ONE  
solution and that  
questions can have  
more than one answer'

Elliot Eisner

## 10 Lessons the Arts Teach

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[nsead.org/community-activism/advocacy/elliott-eisner](https://nsead.org/community-activism/advocacy/elliott-eisner)

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'Children are natural artists,  
they draw, they play,  
they lack inhibition.

Art education develops and  
encourages that imagination. It helps  
students to look, to use all their  
senses and to develop a myriad of  
new neural pathways. Whatever  
career they choose, this lifelong  
knowledge is invaluable'

Cornelia Parker, RA OBE

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'Craft creates curiosity, builds connections, opens new perspectives, inspires innovation and supports wellbeing. Craft is joyous'

Nicky Dewar  
Learning & Skills director  
The Crafts Council  
AD Magazine, Issue 34

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[nsead.org/publications/ad-magazine](https://nsead.org/publications/ad-magazine)

[craftscouncil.org.uk/learning/craft-school-yinkas-challenge](https://craftscouncil.org.uk/learning/craft-school-yinkas-challenge)

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- 'BLACK LIVES MATTER. Art matters. Toward the achievement of social justice and the work of shaping human potential, the value of each life and every creative act indispensably enriches us all'

Dr. James Haywood Rolling, Jr.  
President of the National Art Education Association



Open Letter to Art Educators on  
Constructing an Anti-Racist Agenda



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[arteducators.org/advocacy-policy/articles/692-black-lives-matter](https://arteducators.org/advocacy-policy/articles/692-black-lives-matter)



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'Be proud of your story, and your upbringing and your culture. What makes your story special is that there's only one of you, so use that to your advantage and use that in your work. Don't be afraid to be vulnerable or tell stories that are quite personal to you.'

Yinka Ilori, artist

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[craftscouncil.org.uk/learning/craft-school-yinkas-challenge](https://craftscouncil.org.uk/learning/craft-school-yinkas-challenge)

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‘Cultural education subjects encourage pupils to express themselves, to build confidence and to develop creative thinking skills, unlocking young people’s potential and preparing them to succeed in life’

Dr Darren Henley OBE  
Chief Executive; Arts Council England

Art, craft & design: a guide for  
governing boards  
ACE, NGA, NSEAD

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'Young people tell us that arts and cultural learning in school is significantly different because: in arts lessons they have more agency, responsibility, independence and freedom to make decisions. They enjoy and are motivated by this'

### Time to Listen

Tracking Arts Learning and Engagement, TALE

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The background is a vibrant, abstract composition of colors including red, orange, yellow, green, and blue. A large, stylized handprint graphic is visible in the upper right corner, rendered in a halftone dot pattern. The text is overlaid on this background.

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'Art education is not a luxury because it is imperative to the future of humanity. Art education holds the creative key to rethinking how the world works and will allow us to create a generation of thinkers, crucial for the green revolution'

Patrick McDowell  
Fashion Designer

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'Art for me in the 21st Century is about Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging. We need artists and creative cultural practitioners to lead the way, and I wish for 2022 to be a year where we use our power as agents of change not just to support our communities but ensure they thrive'

Paula Orrell  
Director of CVAN

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'Teach a child to draw and  
you teach them the  
language that enables  
them to communicate with  
the whole world'

Liz MacFarlane, President,  
National Society for  
Education in Art  
and Design

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'How we teach the arts is as important as the fact we're doing it'

**Michael Rosen**

Children's author, poet,  
broadcaster and professor  
of children's literature

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'Art uses the hands and the mind and all the senses to coordinate an expression of the imagination. Every decent polymath of the last thousand years understood that art was integral to our relationship with the universe. The amazing Hildegard de Bingen used all of these things'

**Dr Janina Ramirez**

NSEAD patron, cultural historian,  
broadcaster, author

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'All education is an  
introduction to the future. It's  
a struggle over the future you  
want for young people'

Henry Giroux  
Scholar, writer, cultural critic

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[https://youtube/fU32KItL\\_b8](https://youtube/fU32KItL_b8)

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'I've realised that as I create artwork, dialogue emerges alongside. I make something. It doesn't work but it eliminates one way forward and presents another. And another. And another. I am shaped by that which shapes me. And so making art becomes an act of self-care'

Dr Rachel Payne, Senior Lecturer  
Art Education at Oxford Brookes University,  
Immediate-Past President NSEAD

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[nsead.org/publications/research-reports-and-reviews](https://nsead.org/publications/research-reports-and-reviews)

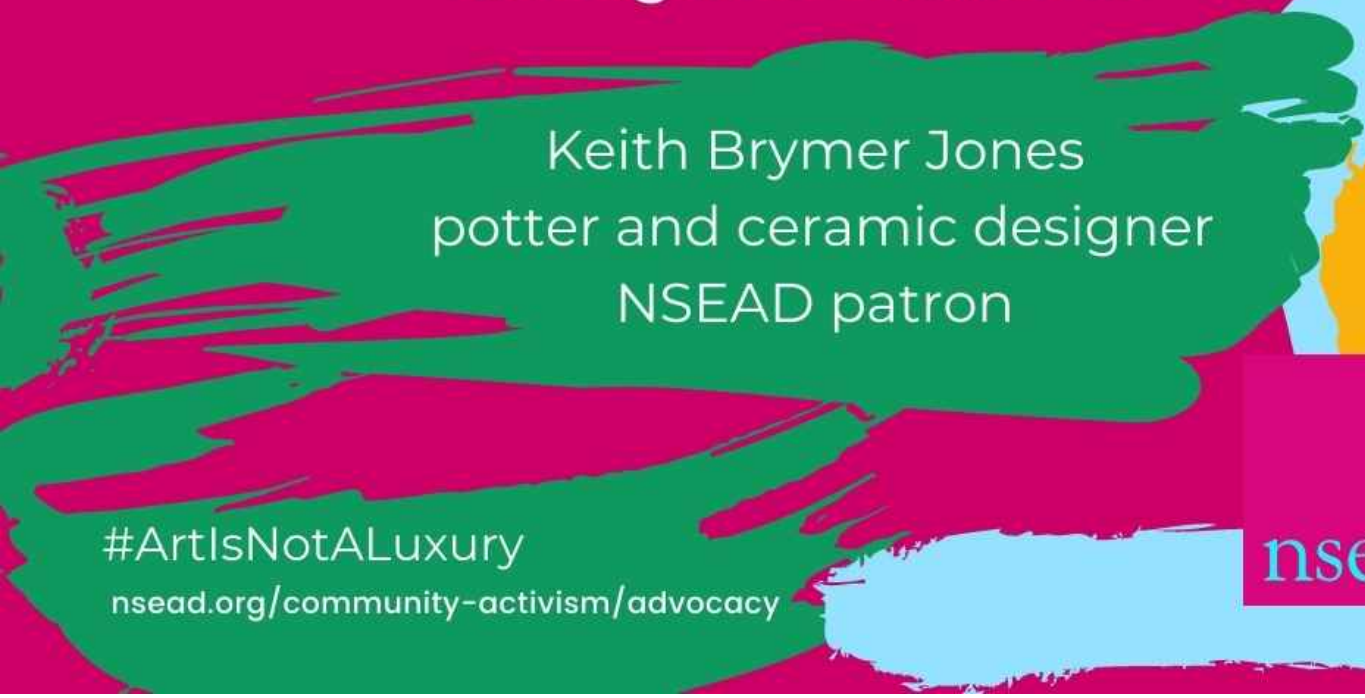
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'Teaching young people creative subjects stays with them forever..

The 'creative process' can help them on so many levels. It can bring pride, joy and wisdom and help visualise their own goals throughout their lives'



Keith Brymer Jones  
potter and ceramic designer  
NSEAD patron

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'The mainstream education system allows very little room for the imagination and creativity... In a new ecological educational system each and everyone of us will have the opportunity to be artists'

Satish Kumar

Peace and Environmental Activist

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NSEAD Inspirations  
[youtube/5dl5wKYibCI](https://youtube.com/5dl5wKYibCI)

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'Take a break for two minutes.  
Make some random marks on paper or  
a dusty surface, anything.  
Make a scrap piece of paper  
into something interesting.  
Don't think about 'art' or 'drawing'.  
Making helps thinking.  
You never know where it might lead...'

Glen Coutts  
President InSEA

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[insea.org/our-manifesto/](http://insea.org/our-manifesto/)

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‘Inclusive art and design practices are not optional but fundamental and essential if we want to carve a positive future for culture for all’

Dr Deborah Riding,  
Principal Editor, iJADE

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2020 Volume 39: Number 3  
[nsead.org/publications/ijade](https://nsead.org/publications/ijade)

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'Reading and writing may help shape us -  
but it is drawing which helps us see -  
and dream. There are many languages but  
only drawing, making marks with  
meaning, is truly universal and open to all.  
Drawing is the great democratiser,  
innately mercurial and creative in nature,  
with the power to truly change lives'

Kate Mason  
Director, The Big Draw

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[thebigdraw.org](http://thebigdraw.org)

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# 'Art is Power'

Paul Dash  
Artist, Writer, Art Educator

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'As a collective, we are stronger.  
When we support one, we  
support all. For art education to  
thrive, art educators must stand  
together. Our learning spaces  
need to be workplaces where  
art and people can flourish'

Michele Gregson  
General Secretary, NSEAD

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'Higher education level creative subjects provide individuals with skills and abilities leading to a plethora of career opportunities in interesting and sought-after roles employers need now and into the future'

Sandra Booth

Director of Policy, Council for Higher  
Education in Art and Design

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‘My aspiration is that every single child, regardless of their race and culture, has access to a high-quality art education that reflects them and their lived experience’

Marlene Wylie

NSEAD President Elect, 1 Jan 2022

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'The Creative Industries have been one of Britain's biggest exports and our biggest source of revenue. For the government to underfund art education in schools is such a false economy. It is like pulling up hedgerows to accommodate mono-cultures, undermining all kinds of rich habitats, and limiting many future possibilities'

Cornelia Parker, RA OBE  
NSEAD Patron

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‘The arts also help us to learn to say,  
show and feel what needs to be  
said, shown and felt, helping to  
advance the horizons of knowing,  
being, and communicating in and  
beyond the arts’

UNESCO, REPORT FROM THE  
INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON  
THE FUTURES OF EDUCATION

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Unesco, Reimagining our Futures Together:  
a new social contract for education



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'I'm all for positive change and improving access to art – education being the critical foundation for this.

I keep thinking of all my happy memories making art in primary school, it certainly gave me confidence and self belief, fundamental to my growth, not just as an artist, but as a person'

Sarah Graham  
Artist and mental health  
advocate

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[sarahgraham.info](http://sarahgraham.info)

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'Art history has the extraordinary ability to help children express insights and deepen their understanding across the curriculum.

If we want children to be inquisitive and independent thinkers, then art history can be a powerful tool in their armoury, helping them see the bigger picture long after an artwork fades from view'

Matthew Sanders  
Director, Magic Lantern  
[magiclanternart.org.uk](http://magiclanternart.org.uk)

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AD magazine, issue 32,  
[nsead.org/publications/ad-magazine/ad-issue-32](http://nsead.org/publications/ad-magazine/ad-issue-32)

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'The Arts can be the most powerful vehicle for change and should be respected as such'

Jamal Edwards  
SBTV founder and philanthropist

#ArtsIsNotALuxury  
dummymag.com, 1 Dec 2021

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'It is as important as ever that we give access to the soul-soothing, horizon-expanding power of art! Taking responsibility to respond to the needs and demands to inspire and grow our creative nation'

Lala Thorpe  
Learning Curator  
Arts Council Collection

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[artscouncilcollection.org.uk](https://artscouncilcollection.org.uk)

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'All learners are entitled to an art education that deeply connects them to their world, to their cultural history. It creates openings and horizons for them to new ways of seeing, thinking, doing and being.'

InSEA Manifesto

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[insea.org/our-manifesto/](https://insea.org/our-manifesto/)

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'Art in schools shouldn't be sidelined... it should be right there right up in the front because I think art teaches you to deal with the world around you. It's the oxygen that actually makes all the other subjects breathe'

Alan Parker  
Film Maker

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Why Study Art, TateShots  
[youtu.be/vKjKx6PzajE](https://youtu.be/vKjKx6PzajE)

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'Art is powerful. It offers a visual language for expression, as well as a better understanding of each other, our culture, our heritage and communities'

Dilys Finlay  
primary art  
specialist teacher

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Art Empowers

AD Issue 34

[nsead.org/publications/ad-magazine](http://nsead.org/publications/ad-magazine)

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'Creativity builds the resilience we need in times of crisis. It has to be nurtured from the earliest age to unlock the imagination, awaken curiosity and develop appreciation for the richness of human talent and diversity. Education is the place where this starts'



Audrey Azoulay,  
Director-General of UNESCO

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#InternationalArtsEducationWeek 23-29 May 2022  
<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/artseducationweek>



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'Art is a powerful  
communicator of emotion,  
truth and activism...it unites us,  
connecting us to humanity  
and making us powerful'

Lily Pfaffenzeller  
Finalist of the Articulation Prize 2022,  
young artist and speaker

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Speaking at the launch of the  
NSEAD Conference 2022  
[bit.ly/3v1vlfb](https://bit.ly/3v1vlfb)

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'It doesn't matter where you come from, it doesn't matter what tools you have, it doesn't matter what kit and equipment you have, you can still take a photo that makes somebody feel something'

Francis Augusto  
Professional photographer and  
Show and Tell mentor

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[thephotoaphymovement.com/project/show-and-tell/](http://thephotoaphymovement.com/project/show-and-tell/)

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The arts illuminate life's pathways, and practice makes both the material substance of culture and the affective and conceptual methods for mapping its existence. The arts in education continue to challenge comfort zones and extend learning into responsive, relational creative vitality'

Dr Miranda Matthews  
Head of the Centre for Arts and Learning  
Goldsmiths, University of London

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iJADE Vol. 39.4, Editorial  
<https://bit.ly/iJADE39-4>

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'The arts are important ways of knowing the world and of interpreting our experiences within it, and are therefore a vital part of a general education, the omission of which would be a fundamental betrayal of the children who would benefit from all that they offer'

The Arts in Schools:  
A new conversation on the value of the  
arts in and beyond schools  
Researched and written by  
Sally Bacon and Pauline Tambling

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[bit.ly/ANewDirectionArts](http://bit.ly/ANewDirectionArts)

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'It is the arts that provide the holistic quality of understanding necessary for social wholeness and cultural health. It is through the arts that we develop the sensibility, the unifying sense, the direction, in short the ability to use our tools'

Tom Anderson  
The Guernica Children's  
Peace Mural Project  
*iJADE* Issue 19 Vol 2

#ArtIsNotALuxury  
#InternationalDayofPeace2022  
kids-guernica.org

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'We are still living with the legacy of slavery. The World Reimagined Sculpture Trail can now be seen across the country, with artists – black and white – creating a globe, because slavery is all our history'

Yinka Shonibare CBE

AD magazine, issue 36, Jan 2023

The World Reimagined is a project to transform how we understand the Transatlantic Slave Trade and its impact through art education

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[theworldreimagined.org](http://theworldreimagined.org)

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