



National Creativity Network

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

July 31, 2026

QUOTE(S) OF THE WEEK

"All great truths begin as blasphemies." – George Bernard Shaw

"No man really becomes a fool until he stops asking questions." – Charles Steinmetz

"If you only read the books that everyone else is reading, you can only think what everyone else is thinking." – Haruki Murakami

"The future is here. It's just not widely distributed yet." – William Gibson

"Imagination does not become great until human beings, given the courage and the strength, use it to create." – Maria Montessori

"Whenever a theory appears to you as the only possible one, take this as a sign that you have neither understood the theory nor the problem which it was intended to solve." – Karl Popper

"On two occasions I have been asked [by members of Parliament!], 'Pray, Mr. Babbage, if you put into the machine wrong figures, will the right answers come out?' I am not able rightly to apprehend the kind of confusion of ideas that could provoke such a question." – Charles Babbage

"Failures, repeated failures, are finger posts on the road to achievement. One fails forward toward success." – C. S. Lewis

"I believe in the imagination. What I cannot see is infinitely more important than what I can see." – Duane Michals

VIDEO(S) OF THE WEEK

The debate over who made the earliest cave art is heating up
History & Culture | Stones & Bones | National Geographic

How architecture can create dignity for all | John Cary
TEDWomen 2017

The Mind-Bending Physics of Origami
NOVA PBS Official

How Harlan Coben Keeps Readers Up Until 4 A.M. | Better in Person
Freakonomics Radio Network

Revealing a rare look at an elusive giant panda
Photography | National Geographic

Where joy hides and how to find it | Ingrid Fetell Lee
TED2018

34 Years Of Strandbeest Evolution
Veritasium

Six Drawing Lessons – William Kentridge
Harvard University Press

Why Alabama Shakes took a 10 year break | Brittany Howard
Alchemy with Anthony Mason

Explore an underwater kelp paradise in this 360-degree video
Environment | National Geographic

A playful solution to the housing crisis | Sarah Murray
TED@Westpac

Behind the Bot: Exploring the Infrastructure Powering AI in Education
STEMconnector

FEATURED EVENTS/OPPORTUNITIES

Welcome to the Art of Being Human - A collective art project for 2026
The Art of Being Human | Jane R. Shore and Sam Chaltain
Begins January 2, 2026

Tough Stuff: Women in the American Glass Studio
Corning Museum of Glass, LinkedIn
Through January 10

Inside IDEO's Approach to Creative Storytelling with AI
Creative Confidence Podcast | IDEO
August 3

From the First U.S. Patent to the Next 250 Years of American Innovation

United States Patent and Trademark Office

August 4

Creative Economy Pathways | 2026 Virtual Town Hall Series

Creating Abundance Collaborative

August 19 | Creative Youth Development Building Backstage, Media, and Production Pathways

September 23 | Creative and Durable Skill Development for the Future of Work

October 14 | Creative Youth Development Launching the Next Generation of Artists

November 18 | Innovative Creative Economy Networks and Ecosystems

Artists and Cultural & Creative Professionals at the Centre: Rethinking Work, Policy, and Cultural Ecosystems

ENCATC Congress 2026

September 23 - 25 | Nice, France

CMU's AI Institute for Societal Decision Making presents Creative AI and the Ethics of Art

Free to the People | Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

November 17

TED 2027

TED

March 1 – 4, 2027 | San Diego, CA

Also

Join us at TED2027 in San Diego, March 1-4

TED Blog

March 1 – 4 | San Diego, CA

CreativeMornings | a monthly breakfast lecture series

CreativeMornings

Various

Nesta Talks to...

Nesta

Various

Interactive Map | Science Festivals

Science Festival Alliance

Various

Call for Articles | General Issue

European Journal of Cultural Management and Policy | ENCATC

Deadline: Ongoing

Twenty-Four Smithsonian Shows to See in 2024

At the Smithsonian | Smithsonian Magazine

Various

Idea Jams 2025/2026

Canadian Network for Imagination and Creativity

Series

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Get What's on the Inside Out

Passion! | Psychology Today

"Shrink It and Pink It": The Design Phrase That's Putting Women at Risk

The Next Big Idea Club Book of the Day Newsletter

Seven lessons from women entrepreneurs on starting and running a business

UN Women | Europe and Asia

NASA Awards 2026 Innovative Technology Concepts

NASA

Congress must pass a new federal law on AI governance

Commentary | Brookings

How Musical Improvisation Rewires Brain Activity

Neuroscience News

Retaining Neurodivergent Talent Will Strengthen the STEM Pipeline

Opinion | The Scientist

Science and the American Experiment: 250 Years of Innovation

Issues in Science and Technology

How Space Is Opening a Window Into the Brain

Center for the Advancement of Science in Space | ISS National Laboratory

Cornell researchers teach 'microwave brain' a new language

Cornell Chronicle

Building a Personal AI for the Messiness of Life: Sida Li

Creative Confidence Podcast | IDEO U

How High-Agency People Get What They Want Without Just Working Harder | Cate Hall

The Next Big Idea Podcast

Do the Kangaroo

Learning & Teaching Creativity | Dan Hunter

4 newsletters that earn their place in my inbox!

Daniel H. Pink

Conservatives Like the Liberal Arts, Actually. They Just Don't Like the Phrase.
The New York Times

New AI-based program is a shrink ray for proteins
Chemical and Engineering News

American workers are more disillusioned with AI the more they use it
Work Life | Fast Company

Is it time for the B-school case study to die?
Leadership | Fast Company

Hollywood was too afraid to distribute this movie. So the director built her own company and did it herself
Fast Company

What is Your Problem?
Human-Centered Change and Innovation

De-Googlize Your Company
Human-Centered Change and Innovation

"That doesn't work"
Seth's Blog

In the New Space Race, Who Makes the Rules?
Freakonomics Radio

The Value of Literal Humor
Alone Together | Psychology Today

Say Hello to Your Brain
A Different Lens | Psychology Today

Major Record Labels Call to Disqualify AI Slop Songs From Global Charts
The Hollywood Reporter

Your worst fears about cultural collapse might be true – here's what you can do about it
The Guardian

Gertrude Stein Is Having a Moment
Publishers Weekly

International Dance League's First Media Rights Deal Is With ESPN (Exclusive)
The Hollywood Reporter

How art invented humanity - When early humans first painted cave walls, they began to find out who they really were: our minds emerged from our images
Aeon Essays

Opinion | The Hidden Cost of China's Free A.I.

Guest Essay | The New York Times

Opinion | The Paramount Deal Is in Trouble. It's Not About the Movies.

Guest Essay | The New York Times

The Impending, Inescapable Deluge of A.I.

The New York Times

Salman Rushdie's Attacker Found Guilty of Aiding a Foreign Terror Group

The New York Times

Ma Rainey, Mother of More Than Just Blues, Comes Alive on New Release

The New York Times

Trump Administration Is Repurposing Federal Land for A.I. Data Centers

The New York Times

Stuck With an Empty Storefront? Make It Art.

The New York Times

Generative AI could boost creativity, but only for some workers

Creativity At Work | Fast Company

Scientists say they've discovered a way to stop cavities—without drilling

Fast Company

41 million names, 528 LED screens: This memorial recognizes every U.S. veteran from the Revolutionary War to today

Design | Fast Company

Remote work, flexibility influence whether women apply for a job more than men

Work Life | Fast Company

Serena Williams wants to find the next trillion-dollar company

Rapid Response | Fast Company

Why More Companies Are Designing for Human Moments, Not Just Fixing Problems

Fast Company Executive Board

'Odyssey' translator Emily Wilson says Nolan shouldn't have written the movie himself

Fresh Air | NPR

'Machines are collaborators' at this new museum of AI art

Morning Edition | NPR

Safeguarding the voices that shaped a nation

UNESCO

UNESCO's World Heritage Committee concludes with renewed global commitments
UNESCO

Organizations that need you
Seth's Blog

6 old-school Boomer hobbies that Gen Z is reviving and reinventing
Upworthy

Why Writing Feels So Hard (and How to Make it Easier) - April Dávila on the Neuroscience Behind Writer's Block and What We Can Do to Conquer It
Literary Hub

Mount Olympus, Italian Theaters Among 25 Sites Granted UNESCO World Heritage Status
Artnet News

US musicians' union files amended lawsuit against Universal and Warner over Suno and Udio AI deals
Music Business Worldwide

The future is scrappy: Montréal's Fantasia Film Festival hints at what's next in media
The Conversation

How Bots Took Over Our Lives
The New Yorker

Tome policing - Why are university administrators advising academics to get rid of their books?
The Critic, UK

Dalí in Dorms: Midwest Museum Loans Art to College Students
Arts Midwest

Character Study - The burgeoning field of fiction character biographies.
Los Angeles Review of Books

4 Ways to Design Instruction for the Teenage Brain
Brain-Based Learning | Edutopia

AMC Theatres Chief Adam Aron Pushes for Paramount Warner Bros. Merger, Says 'Thanks, But No Thanks' to State AG's Blocking Deal
Variety

This Alligator-Infested Swamp in the American South Just Joined the UNESCO World Heritage List, Along With the Home of the Greek Gods
Smart News | Smithsonian Magazine

How A.I. Will Reshape Radiology—Without Replacing Radiologists

Innovation | Smithsonian Magazine

Physicists Discover Previously Unknown Substance Born From Hiroshima Atomic Bombing

Physics & Chemistry | Gizmodo

The Art of Staying Well: How Creative Practice Shapes Personal Recovery Beyond Clinical Remission in Bipolar Disorder

Cureus

UC San Diego Team Awarded \$50K to Explore Connections Between Art and Neuroscience

UC San Diego Today

What I found when I scanned the brains of kids creating tunes on the piano

The Conversation

How will Trump's new science strategy change US research?

Dispatches | Atlantic Council

The changing face of technology innovation

TechRadar Pro

Yvonne Fang Tests AI's Nonhuman Imagination

Art Plugged

Neuroscientists reveal limits of human compassion for global crises

Phys.org

Grok Creator SpaceXAI Sues Minnesota AG to Stop Ban on Nudification

Artificial Intelligence | Gizmodo

Scaling Maker Learning: Key Insights from Our July Webinar, Plus Our Latest Quarterly Newsletter

Connect. Catalyze. Change. | STEMconnector

18 stunning wildlife images from the Mangrove Photography Awards

Popular Science

An Artist Uses Plants as Her Muse

The New York Times

In This Costa Rican Forest, Monkeys Come Face-to-Face With A.I.

The New York Times

Booker Prize Nominees Include Novels by Marlon James and Elizabeth Strout

The New York Times

Mark Zuckerberg Blasts Centralization of A.I. Power

The New York Times

Flexibility is the new creative infrastructure

Creativity At Work | Fast Company

Duffy's 'DEI bike lanes' comment politicizes urban design. The policy won't make roads faster

Design | Fast Company

Shift your PR strategy for the changed media landscape

Fast Company Executive Board

UNESCO World Heritage: 25 new sites inscribed

UNESCO

A Tale of Two Narratives on Polarization

Human-Centered Change and Innovation

'Peter Rabbit' author Beatrix Potter's surprising second job: Groundbreaking mushroom scientist

Upworthy

Vogue Presents 'United Flags of Fashion' With Top Designers For All 50 States

DesignTAXI

When the Tool Becomes the Threat

Restorative/Transformational Psychiatry | Psychology Today

Pompeii archaeologists reconstruct frescoed ceiling of a banquet hall, with more fragments to come

AP News

The Artist and Filmmaker Helping Trump Reshape Washington

The New York Times

WLRH, Huntsville's public radio station, making major programming change after dropping NPR

AL.com

Why Paramount delayed its Warner Bros. takeover, what the latest legal twist means | Analysis

MSN, The Wrap

What will more intelligence actually do for us?

Noahpinion | Noah Smith

Artist Joyce Kozloff Revealed as Founding Member of Guerrilla Girls

Ocula

Bullshit Jobs and Chickenshit Jobs

Arrowsmith Press

AI scores 100% in math contest?: Robert J. Marks explains
Mind Matters

The U.S. Is Still Winning the A.I. Race. Trump Could Blow It.
The New York Times Editorial Board

Opinion | This Teen Took on a \$10 Trillion Industry. We Might All Be Healthier Because of Him.
Guest Essay | The New York Times

How a Novelist of the American Past Recovered His Faith in Its Future
The New York Times Magazine

Should We Make Daylight Saving Time Permanent?
The New York Times

Study reveals why DNA damage from smoking and UV rays may cause cancer in some people but not others
Research | University of Cambridge

The First Named Person in History Wasn't a King — He Was an Accountant
The Next Big Idea Club Book of the Day Newsletter

AI Is Creative. But Can It Replace Human Creativity? Maybe Only If We Let It.
Discovery & Impact | Georgetown University

Your Brain Can Rewire Itself to Allow True Multitasking
ScienceAlert

'Your cognitive peak isn't in your 20s': A landmark study just demolished everything we thought about brain ageing
BBC Science Focus

This skill may keep your brain younger. Here's how to learn it.
The Washington Post

How Does a Bilingual Speaker's Brain Process Two Languages? New Research Suggests That Both Rely on the Same Neural Wiring
Smart News | Smithsonian Magazine

Ramaswamy Reframes Controversial College Consolidation Proposal
The EDU Ledger

Three Millennia Ago, Humans May Have Spoken Thousands More Languages Than We Have Today, During a Linguistic 'Golden Age'
Smart News | Smithsonian Magazine

A.I. Disproves a Decades-Old Mathematical Idea, the 'Biggest Conjecture' That the Tech Has Played a Role in Yet
Smart News | Smithsonian Magazine

All Maps Lie

Gapingvoid

Librarians are hosting viral 'Avoiding AI' workshops for people who are fed up with Big Tech

TechCrunch

This stunning map shows the world's electric grid in detail

Tech | Fast Company

The 'dead internet theory' is real. And it's killing the web as we know it

Tech | Fast Company

The creator economy needs the Hollywood treatment

Impact Council | Fast Company

Gen Z uses AI every day. They trust it less every week

Leadership | Fast Company

You have a big idea. Here's how to turn it into impact

Work Life | Fast Company

Balanced Nonprofit Board: How to Build the Right Mix for the Future

NonProfit Pro

How Science Happens—Inside the 2026 International Society of the Learning Sciences Conference

The Science of Learning With Keith Sawyer

Authors have mixed feelings about the \$1.5B Anthropic copyright infringement ruling

All Things Considered | NPR

The smush

Seth's Blog

Why Collective Intelligence is the New Scarce Resource in an Age of Abundant AI

Human-Centered Change and Innovation

Paul Nicklen wants to inspire us to stop "thrashing the planet"

Photography | National Geographic

3 Clever Things You Can Do With an Old Amazon Kindle

WIRED

I've visited the Smithsonian hundreds of times. Warnings aren't needed.

The Washington Post

College professors face an emerging challenge: We know students are no longer reading entire books

The Conversation

Three Theses On the Literacy Crisis

Becoming Literary | Trevor Aleo

AI Companies Are Buying Antique Books, Ingesting Their Contents to Train Models, and Then Destroying Them at Incredible Scale

Futurism

Can Art Exist in the AI Era?

Castalia | Sam Kahn

Living Fully in the Math World Means Threading the Needle

2026 Fields & Abacus Medals | Quanta Magazine

A planetarium for the brain

The Transmitter

Google thinks maths proves its AI is genuinely creative... but is it?

Creative Bloq

Marquette faculty receive National Science Foundation grant for a smart hyperspectral imaging system

Marquette Today | Marquette University

Trump administration concedes that it canceled research grants in blue states

NBC News

Why Universal Gene Synthesis Screening Protects American Biotech

Commentary | American Enterprise Institute

For innovation, purpose matters more than machinery

Wonkhe

Skills for a Shared Future: Young People as Agents of Change

UNESCO

A Stanford Business School Professor Just Gave the Best Definition of Leadership I've Ever Heard

Inc.com

The One Hundred Milliseconds Between the World and You: Oliver Sacks on Perception

The Marginalian

Mira Murati's Inkling AI Model Review: Best Open-Source Model in the West

Decrypt

The Man Who Thought with His Heart: George Forster and the Birth of Sensitive Science

The Marginalian

Show Don't Sell

Gapingvoid

Why Paramount Paused Its Blockbuster \$111 Billion Deal for Warner Bros.

The New York Times

Also

Why Paramount's Warner Bros. deal suddenly looks less certain

MSN, Los Angeles Times

Paramount Agrees to Postpone Warner Bros. Merger Until After Antitrust Trial

Variety

Paramount Faces Drawn-Out Battle With State AGs: 'They Saw the Writing on the Wall'

Variety

David Ellison Addresses Paramount-Warner Bros. Merger Delay Amid State AGs' Lawsuit in Staff Memo: 'The Facts and the Law Are on Our Side'

Variety

He Was One of America's Most Important — and Most Divisive — Scientists

The New York Times

Silicon Valley Splits Over Closing the Borders to Chinese A.I.

The New York Times

'Hadestown' Brings Broadway's Underworld to the Big Screen: The Show's Original Cast and Creator on Making the Movie That's a Surprise Box Office Hit

Variety

Greece Is Paying for the Outcome, Not the Art. Wales May Be Next.

Return on Art | Angela Meleca

Fourteen Fellows Selected for 2026 NALAC Leadership Institute

National Association of Latino Arts & Cultures

How Toniebox and Hasbro built games kids can play without a screen

Design | Fast Company

Stop designing your company around the people you have

Ask the Experts | Fast Company

AI may finally make 'women's work' valuable. But will women benefit?

Work Life | Fast Company

This feminist translation of 'The Odyssey' is controversial. And it's flying off shelves

Fast Company

The hidden money financing your favorite songs

It's Been a Minute | NPR

Rage-giving, innovation and cuts: How public media has survived without federal funds

Media | NPR

Meet the robots programmed by kids to speak their Indigenous languages

Weekend Edition Sunday | NPR

How The Illharmonic's mix of hip-hop and classical builds community, one show at a time

All Things Considered | NPR

How to Keep Learning as a Leader

Human-Centered Change and Innovation

Optimizing yourself into a corner

Seth's Blog

The Lego problem, revisited

Seth's Blog

More interesting

Seth's Blog

The ancient Nigerian sculptures that rewrote African history

History & Culture | National Geographic

Memories from an inspiring trip to Rwanda

Gates Notes

Why Due Dates Motivate Progress and How to Benefit From Them

The Naked Creative | Psychology Today

Arts Engagement in Trauma Recovery Can Benefit Mental Health

International Arts + Mind Lab | The Arts Effect | Psychology Today

How to Build Sustainable Resilience in Creative Work

Mindful Leadership | Psychology Today

How Moments of Awe Unlock Creative Thinking

Creative Insights | Psychology Today

Being Creative When You Have No Time

More Than Caregiving | Psychology Today

Why AI Can't Be Creative (Yet)

Beautiful Minds | Psychology Today

Warner Bros. is suing Amazon for poaching employees

The Verge

How the Role of Book Cover Design Has Changed in the Age of Social Media Or, Judging a Reader by Their Book Cover

Literary Hub

Why Paramount's Warner Bros. deal suddenly looks less certain

MSN, Los Angeles Times

The Unfailing Optimism of My Neighbor Totoro

Reactor Magazine

The Piece of Art That Inspired One of Theater's Greatest Works

The New York Times

In Pompeii, Tom Hiddleston, 'Amateur Classicist,' Sees Lessons for Today

The New York Times

Also

Why Tom Hiddleston can't stop thinking about Pompeii

History & Culture | National Geographic

Group preserving George Floyd protest murals fights to survive

Minnesota Public Radio

The Science of Norm Design

Design Thinking | Stanford Social Innovation Review

The Backup Speech Nixon Was Prepared to Give if Apollo 11 Failed

Mental Floss

Alex Byrne Wants You to Know He's Not a 'Smug and Condescending Dickhead'

The Chronicle of Higher Education

Beyond Greece and Rome

Aeon Essays

Silicon Valley Splits Over Closing the Borders to Chinese A.I.

The New York Times

Trump Administration Admits Canceling Grants to States That Did Not Vote for Him

The New York Times

Life of Alan Turing Emerges in Richer Detail From Short Story

The New York Times

Can This New Enzyme Turn Back the Clock in the Human Body?

The New York Times

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Have you found an article you'd like to share? Email the link to george.tzougros@wisconsin.gov.

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The **National Creativity Network** believes that by fostering creativity in our society as a whole, and specifically with future generations, America can remain a leader in innovation and free enterprise. The very future of our communities and institutions depends on our ability to nurture and harness imagination to creatively solve problems. If creativity is to be nurtured, systems, institutions and networks must be transformed.

The opportunities that emerge to transform our nation are largely dependent upon the degree to which we are connected to each other. Our connection will become a catalyst:

- to enhance the flow of relevant information,
- and to improve the ease with which key nodes of creativity, be they in the domains of Education, Commerce, Culture or across disciplines, can gain access to the best thinking, best questions, and most successful practices as well as other resources their ventures may require.

Our strategy is to engage thought leaders across North America to create a powerful network for transformation.

Join Us!

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