



National Creativity Network

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

July 24, 2026

QUOTE(S) OF THE WEEK

"We keep moving forward, opening new doors, and doing new things, because we're curious and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths." – Walt Disney

"We've arranged a civilization in which most crucial elements profoundly depend on science and technology. We have also arranged things so that almost no one understands science and technology. This is a prescription for disaster. We might get away with it for awhile, but sooner or later this combustible mixture of ignorance and power is going to blow up in our faces." – Carl Sagan

"The central task of education is to implant a will and a facility for learning; it should produce not learned but learning people. The truly human society is a learning society, where grandparents, parents, and children are students together. In a time of drastic change it is the learners who inherit the future. The learned usually find themselves equipped to live in a world that no longer exists." – Eric Hoffer

"You have to know how to accept rejection and reject acceptance." – Ray Bradbury

"Never, ever rest on your laurels. Today's laurels are tomorrow's compost." – Tom Peters

"There's an old saying about those who forget history. I don't remember it, but it's good." – Stephen Colbert

"The cure for boredom is curiosity. There is no cure for curiosity." – Dorothy Parker

"Consistency is contrary to nature, contrary to life. The only completely consistent people are dead." – Aldous Huxley

VIDEO(S) OF THE WEEK

Watch a Mad Scientist YouTuber Make Lightning in a Bottle From Mercury and Neon

Culture | Gizmodo

How I Turn Catastrophic Data into Tangible Art | Yiyun Kang

TED

Original Disneyland Maps in the Imagineering Art Collection | We Call It Imagineering Bonus Clip

Walt Disney Imagineering

How Gary Gulman Turned Depression Into Comedy Gold | Better in Person

Freakonomics Radio Network

Why Creative People Can't Stick To One Thing

David Epstein

How Blackwing Pencils Are Made | Behind the Process

Blackwing

The Rick Rubin Interview

Rick Beato

Also

Rick Rubin - How to Build a Creative Career

Creative Mastery

Building uniqueness | Moshe Safdie

TED2002

Comic Books Fueled My Imagination & Math Creativity! #shorts

Democracy At Risk

The AI Economy Is Growing Faster Than the Internet Did | Azeem Azhar

The Next Big Idea Podcast

How the arts could shape children's brain health

11Alive

America's Scientists Are Disappearing

StarTalk

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

Creative Economy Pathways | 2026 Virtual Town Hall Series

Creating Abundance Collaborative

July 29 | Paid Internships and First-Jobs as Creative Youth Development

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

NEW 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

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

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

Patrick Dougherty's 'Stickwork' Installations Conjure Connections with Nature

Colossal

In memoriam: Kevin Dunbar, who traced the neural basis of human reasoning

The Transmitter

Policy Primer: How Private Philanthropy Drives Medical Innovation

Philanthropy Roundtable

The Path to Artistry Begins With a Single Word

Letters from the Future (of Learning) | Sam Chaltain

Some Kids Will Never Think AI Is Cool

WIRED

Twine Theft in Broad Daylight

Learning & Teaching Creativity | Dan Hunter

Higher Ed Is as American as Apple Pie

College Matters | The Chronicle of Higher Education

Before Cultural and Natural Wonders Earn UNESCO World Heritage Status, They Are Put on a 'Tentative' List. Here Are Five Nominees Worth Visiting Now

Travel | Smithsonian Magazine

Experimental Alzheimer's Drug That Fights a Tough-to-Target Protein Shows Promise at Slowing Cognitive Decline in a Clinical Trial

Smart News | Smithsonian Magazine

Four Young Mathematicians Receive Prestigious Fields Medals

The New York Times

China Rewrites the 'Soft Power' Playbook for the A.I. Age

News Analysis | The New York Times

Drug reverses autism-like brain changes in adult mice within hours, study finds

UCLA Health

The next shift in architecture is designing how people feel

Fast Company Executive Board

Why creative leadership drives business growth

Creativity At Work | Fast Company

20 underrated AI use cases to consider

Fast Company Executive Board

The 3 words that fuel innovation

Creativity At Work | Fast Company

Why uncertainty fuels great ideas

Creativity At Work | Fast Company

How do we remain human while using AI?

Creativity At Work | Fast Company

The skill every young creative needs

Creativity At Work | Fast Company

AI doesn't solve creativity

Creativity At Work | Fast Company

The CEO with a 'Peaky Blinders' playbook

Creativity At Work | Fast Company

The lost art of watching people work

IDEO Journal

Trump allies are poised to weaken protections for historic sites — not just in D.C.

National | NPR

People with rare 'hyperphantasia' condition share what having an incredibly vivid imagination is like

Upworthy

Should A.I. Move to Space?

Freakonomics Radio

Being Creative When You Have No Time

More Than Caregiving | Psychology Today

Why AI Can't Be Creative (Yet)

Beautiful Minds | Psychology Today

What Scientists Learned by Eavesdropping on Thousands of People

The New Yorker

The Smithsonian's Show Trial on Capitol Hill

The Atlantic

Meta is testing an AI bedtime story app for people with no imagination

TechCrunch

The Doors of Perception, Privatised: How Hierarchy Hides in How We Think

3 Quarks Daily

Iowa's Handmade Bicycle Lab, Homegrown at an Art School

Arts Midwest

Three Theses On the Literacy Crisis - Why The Atlantic and the Moral Panic Machine Are Misdiagnosing the "End of Reading"

Becoming Literary | Trevor Aleo

The Nautilus Guide to the Best Books on the Science of Art

Nautilus

Carl Jung on Creativity

The Marginalian

How Far Do Sneezes and Vomit Travel?

Gross Science | PBS

"Saving" the humanities

Flypaper | Thomas B. Fordham Institute

The real math crisis isn't the test scores. It's the test

Tech | Fast Company

Policy—not PR—will determine Gen Z's trust in AI

Brookings Institution

Comment: How to turn innovation into real-world value

Opinion | The Engineer, UK

Vanderbilt to establish the Jen-Hsun and Lori Huang College of Art, Architecture and Design in San Francisco

Vanderbilt University

Melding Digital Design and Music to Make Art

Dartmouth

The Art of Staying Human Together: On Joy, Creativity, Defiance, and What Actually Connects Us Across Borders

Charles F. Kettering Foundation

The Brain Can Reason Without Language, MIT Study Finds

SciTechDaily, MIT

China's Open AI Models Are Challenging Silicon Valley's Playbook

Business | WIRED

Also

The White House Is Trying to Figure Out What to Do About Chinese AI
Politics | WIRED

15 Things Neuroscientists Still Can't Explain About the Human Brain

Discover Wild Science

Hollywood has a creativity problem, and cheaper filmmaking tools could finally fix it

Creative Bloq

What Happens in Your Brain When You Experience Art

We and the Color

Happiness researcher explains how making a 'reverse bucket list' can change your life

Upworthy

Yesterday +1

Gapingvoid

Bringing Vocabulary to Life in High School

Vocabulary | Edutopia

Rescuing Middle School Math Students From Keyword Traps

Critical Thinking | Edutopia

A Field Trip Focused on Art and Poetry

Creativity | Edutopia

Scientists Finally Found the Universe's Missing 'Ordinary' Matter

Space & Spaceflight | Gizmodo

Search traffic has declined so much that some publishers are considering opting out of Google entirely

Nieman Lab

Alphabet Quadruples Profit to \$112 Billion, Fueled by A.I. Investments

The New York Times

Crypto Bill Mired in Debate Over Rules to Stop President From Selling Coins

The New York Times

The sale of this monumental Frank Gehry desk proves his legacy is stronger than ever

Design | Fast Company

Workers are interested in creative AI tools. But hardly any are using them

Creativity At Work | Fast Company

Where OpenAI, Anthropic, Google, Meta, and other AI giants stand on regulation
Tech | Fast Company

This anti-AI font was made with AI
Design | Fast Company

Motherhood makes women more creative. So why do we chase moms out of the workplace?
Creativity At Work | Fast Company

Industrialism and the slippery slope
Seth's Blog

NEH Announces \$41.4 Million for 81 Humanities Projects
National Endowment for the Humanities

'Do You Love America?': Smithsonian Museum Leader Grilled Over Gender, Diversity, Patriotism at Congressional Hearing
ARTnews

What comes after book bans? One school district questions traditional libraries
Morning Edition | WUSF

Judge Extends Order Blocking Paramount-Warner Bros. Merger for Another 14 Days
Variety

Also
Writers Guild Seeks Preliminary Injunction To Halt Paramount-Warner Bros Discovery Merger; Wants Case Timing Aligned With State AG Suit
Deadline

Paramount, Warner and Backward Antitrust - A judge blocks a media merger by defining the market for movies far too narrowly.
Opinion | The Wall Street Journal Editorial Board

European Commission Approves Paramount-Warner Bros. Merger
Variety

European Union gives its greenlight to Paramount and Warner's mega merger with some conditions
AP News

Dua Lipa's Freedom-to-Read Crusade
The Atlantic

A High-Definition Cinematic Video Relives NASA's Artemis II Mission
Colossal

Creativity and Curiosity Are Still Important in the Age of AI
Nurturing Resilience | Psychology Today

'Frozen' animator launches an interactive ASL learning app and vows to keep it free forever

Upworthy

Artists turned this vacant L.A. hospital into an immersive art therapy session

Design | Fast Company

Study: Few Americans engage in the arts on a typical day despite health benefits

UF News | University of Florida

Engineering materials for the quantum age

US National Science Foundation

How Brain Science Is Guiding the Latest Developments in AI

The Changing Brain | Psychology Today

A family crisis inspired Bill Ackman to spend \$260 million to create a massive brain research institute in Manhattan

Fortune

She Was About to Make Partner at a Top Law Firm. Then She Asked Herself One Question and Quit.

The Next Big Idea Club Book of the Day Newsletter

'The Odyssey' Anoints Christopher Nolan as Hollywood's Most Powerful Director — Here's How Universal Thwarted Warner Bros. to Land Him

Variety

Invent the Future: A National Pilot Pairing Invention Learning with AI-Supported Learner Insight

Connect. Catalyze. Change. | STEMconnector

OpenAI Says Its A.I. Models Went Rogue and Attacked a Digital Library

The New York Times

Monkeys Understand Shapes in Almost the Same Way as Humans

The New York Times

Plas Johnson, Saxophonist Behind 'The Pink Panther,' Dies at 94

Obituaries | The New York Times

Susumu Tonegawa Dies at 86; Nobel Laureate Showed How Antibodies Fight Infection

Obituaries | The New York Times

Bill Maher Feuded With Trump. Did He Get the Last Laugh?

The New York Times Magazine

The Storm Is Here: 90 Days Later - The predictions aren't predictions anymore. An update.

Bob Morrison

Tom Still: Dollar rankings not always best way to judge value of academic research

Inside Wisconsin | Eagle Herald

No, the Olive Garden Pasta Pass is not like voting

Fast Company

Are you suffering from creativity paralysis?

Creativity At Work | Fast Company

These ingenious new robots are helping fishing crews catch salmon more humanely and sustainably

Design | Fast Company

What the FIFA World Cup teaches us about the future of gathering

Fast Company Executive Board

A Harvard mathematician and an AI model may have cracked an 87-year-old math problem

Tech | Fast Company

Anthropic AI copyright lawsuit: Update as judge approves massive settlement and payout for authors

Fast Company

Socrates shared the one reason he knew he was intelligent. It's surprisingly relevant today.

Upworthy

France logs off children under 15 in EU's first nationwide social media ban

DesignTAXI

Expanding Our Sense of Change

A Wider Lens | Psychology Today

National Book Ban Bill Introduced in Senate Committee

Publishers Weekly

The Rise of Fashion Slop

The New York Times

Sony Music sues Udio again, asserting over 30,000 recordings a judge barred the major from adding to its original case

Music Business Worldwide

‘People are picking the dumbest fights’: the tortured history of America’s culture wars

The Guardian

How to Spend \$50 Million on the Nonprofit Literary Arts

Publishing Perspectives

Birmingham City Football Club, UK, by Heatherwick Studio and Manica Architecture

Ten stadiums of the future that rewrite the playbook

dezeen

Disney Cutting Several Hundred Jobs; Pixar And National Geographic Among Most Affected Divisions

Deadline

Los Angeles Public Library Unveils the World’s Largest Pop-Up Book

Colossal

Pittsburgh’s Pickleball Courts by Sharmistha Ray Are an Abstract Riot of Color

Colossal

Beckett the Prophet - We are all, it seems, still waiting for Godot

The American Scholar

Against Slop: An Interview with Meghan O’Gieblyn

The New York Review of Books

6 dementia symptoms that can show up years before a diagnosis

The Washington Post

George Brecht to Game Boy: A history of play and playfulness

UMinnPress

How Brain Chemistry Changes What We Taste

UConn Today

Redefining underrepresentation in global neuroscience

The Transmitter

Stop Saying Kids Can’t Read - Everyone is talking about the reading crisis. But inside the “Mississippi Miracle,” it’s all about comprehension.

The Big Story | WIRED

What do you know about the brain? Our neuroscientist intern weighs in.

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

What if hunger were treated like a vital sign?

Impact Council | Fast Company

Post-World Cup, can host cities turn their investments into long-term social impact?

Fast Company

Judy Chicago

Bullseye with Jesse Thorn | NPR

World Heritage Committee 2026

UNESCO

Accelerating action for Indigenous languages

UNESCO

The Human Judgment Economy

Human-Centered Change and Innovation

A photographer walks the roof of the world

Photography | Exposure | National Geographic

How one tiny lyric change made the ‘Piña Colada Song’ one of the biggest hits of the ’70s

Upworthy

Annie Leibovitz sues Observer after Justin and Hailey Bieber portrait stayed online for years despite takedown requests

DesignTAXI

Texas Book List: See What Students Will Be Required to Read

The New York Times

What Makes American Architecture American?

The Nation

Have we seen the last Einstein?

Big Think

Judge Pauses Paramount-Warner Bros. Merger

Variety

The Emmys ‘F—ed This Up’: Streamers and Networks Are Outraged as Five Categories Get Cut From the Telecast

Variety

Scientists Were Wrong About Fireflies’ Light. The Impact Could Ripple Across All of Science.

Popular Mechanics

After 700 Interviews With the World’s Top Leaders, Ryan Hawk Found One Thing They All Share

The Next Big Idea Club Book of the Day Newsletter

A Man With Paralysis Has Regained Feeling and Movement in His Hands After an Experimental Brain Implant

Smart News | Smithsonian Magazine

Earth's Oceans Are Rapidly Losing Oxygen. It Could Destabilize the Planet

Earth Science | Gizmodo

How Kei Henderson is rewriting the rules of music management

Bizwomen

You're Not Stuck *In* Traffic, You *Are* Traffic

Gapingvoid

The 25 most influential works of American culture

The Washington Post

Why recruiters can't find workers and new grads can't find jobs (it's not AI)

The Washington Post

Guest Blog Post: Kinda Studios

Neuroarts Resource Center

Theatre to Reduce Discrimination in Healthcare

Jameel Arts & Health Lab

A Mathematician Found an Easier Way to Solve Quadratic Equations

MSN, Popular Mechanics

Also

Carnegie Mellon mathematician unveils simpler quadratic equation method

MSN

Guest Column | Rebuilding the Innovation Engine: How We Got Here And What Comes Next

Life Science Leader

America's math and reading scores tanked after schools ditched textbooks for screens—and AI could worsen the brain rot

Fortune

3 learning habits backed by neuroscience that high performers use

Work Life | Fast Company

The surprising benefits of a five-minute dance break

BBC News

How Artists Are Using A.I. and Where They Are Drawing the Line

Observer

Apps Marketed to US Troops Are Shipping Chinese and Russian Code

WIRED

The Human Brain Can Do Incredible Things You Never Imagined

Discover Wild Science

Science Says Purple Is Not Real and Your Brain Is Just Making It Up

Discover Wild Science

Caltech Mourns the Passing of Nobel Laureate Rudy Marcus (1923–2026)

Caltech

This glue bonds to nonstick surfaces and wipes clean with ethanol

Chemical & Engineering News

How to deal with failure and stick with hard things

Work Life | Fast Company

3 learning habits backed by neuroscience that high performers use

Work Life | Fast Company

The World Cup tech innovations that will outlast the tournament

Tech | Fast Company

A material in Spanish World Cup star Pedri's cleats could also repair your colon

Design | Fast Company

How flexible funding can help communities and people thrive

Impact Council | Fast Company

“Zooza will stay with me”: How Art Is Helping Internally-displaced Children Heal and Recover

UNESCO

Notes from TED Democracy Philadelphia: Why democracy is worth fighting for

TED Blog

Constrained Innovation is Beating Unconstrained Innovation – Again

Human-Centered Change and Innovation

The power of positive argument

Seth's Blog

Was Odysseus actually a hero? What classicists say most people get wrong about the Odyssey

History & Culture | National Geographic

What is UNESCO World Heritage?

Travel | World Heritage | National Geographic

My summer best list for 2026

Gates Notes

Why Fearing Failure Makes It More Likely

The Evolving Self | Psychology Today

The future of physical games is not looking great

The Verge

X and Music Publishers Retreat From Lawsuits

The New York Times

The mail-order catalog disappeared. Can it be revived?

Commentary | Salon

The 2000s called. They want their digital camera back

Business | NPR

Writer Behind \$2 Million Kickstarter Talks Bringing Beloved Podcast to Life as a Graphic Novel

CBR

Which Emmy Awards Are Actually Getting Televised This Year?

Vulture

‘Voices in the Mirror’ Honors the Legacy of Pioneering Photographer Gordon Parks

Colossal

As Natural Disasters Expand, a Disaster-Tracking App Is Booming

The New York Times

The Comforting Resurgence of ‘Grandma Hobbies’

The New York Times

Why Is Syracuse, N.Y., Such a Haven for Legendary Writers?

The New York Times

Joe Melson, 91, Dies; Wrote ‘Only the Lonely’ and Other Hits With Roy Orbison

The New York Times

Pointless banality and the uncanny valley

Seth’s Blog

My teenager hated it when I used AI to create art for my business. She taught me the dangers, and now I quit AI for good.

Business Insider

Which Would You Rather Give Up: Electric Light or Electric Washing Machines?

Virginia’s Newsletter | Virginia Postrel

How the brain shifts gears to appreciate the beauty of poetry

PsyPost

Neuroscience Says the Feeling You Get When Music Gives You Chills Is Not an Emotional Response – It Is a Neurological Event With a Specific Name

Discover Wild Science

The Ancient Greek Mathematician Who Was Killed for Revealing a Dangerous Truth

Greek Reporter

Backrooms and Obsession changed the rules of filmmaking – now the tools are finally catching up

Creative Bloq

China's Latest A.I. Breakthrough Threatens America's Lead

The New York Times

Meta in Talks to Lease Computing Power to Anthropic in Potential \$10 Billion Deal

The New York Times

X and Music Publishers Retreat From Lawsuits

The New York Times

Why Are This Legendary Artist's Books for Kids So Hard to Find?

The New York Times

When Will the Smoke End? Our Meteorologist Explains Why It's Complicated.

The New York Times

Opinion | Zoomers Are Going to the Movies. This Is Great News for Everyone.

Guest Essay | The New York Times

Chicago's Creative Workforce: Economic Conditions and Outcomes

SMU DataArts

Imminent, urgent, trending and important

Seth's Blog

Today's Clever is Tomorrow's Cringe

Gapingvoid

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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!

For more information, please go to our web site: <http://nationalcreativitynetwork.org>

Visit our [Facebook page](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#).