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importance of teaching art

teaching art

When it comes to teaching art to the youth, we often think of traditional teachers with their textbooks and lesson plans. But let's be honest—there's a whole other world of knowledge lurking in the minds of artists that's just waiting to be unleashed! Think of artists as the cool aunts and uncles of the education world. They bring creativity, passion, and a sprinkle of magic that your regular teacher might not know how to deliver.

First and foremost, artists understand the heartbeat of creativity. While a textbook can show you how to mix colors, an artist can inspire a student to splash those colors in a way that breathes life into their imagination. This isn't just about setting brush to canvas—it's about expressing feelings, exploring the unknown, and daring to think outside the proverbial box. By teaching creativity, artists help youth unlock potential they didn't even know existed!

Let's not forget about acceptance. In a world that can often feel judgmental, artists have a unique ability to foster a safe space for young minds. They teach that there's no wrong way to create. An artist can show students that every mark on paper, every stray line, and every accidental splash of paint contributes to the larger picture. This lesson in acceptance translates beyond art; it's vital for building self-esteem and encouraging individuality. Regular teachers can be great, but can they pull off a lesson that celebrates mistakes as a vital part of the learning process? Not often!

Dedication—now that's an artist's secret ingredient. Creating art isn't just a hobby; it's a commitment. When an artist teaches, they share their journey of perseverance, showing youth that dedication is what transforms a simple doodle into a masterpiece. They communicate the value of hard work and practice in a way that regular schooling sometimes overlooks. By sharing their ups and downs, artists instill a strong work ethic that can stick with students long after the last stroke of paint has dried.

Lastly, let's talk about passion. Artists don't just teach art; they convey their love for it in ways that ignite flames in the hearts of their students. Can a regular teacher show the same fervor when discussing the quadratic formula? Probably not! That spark can lead to a newfound enthusiasm for learning and self-expression. With an artist at the helm, students are likely to explore, experiment, and—dare I say it—enjoy the process of making art.

In conclusion, the role of artists in teaching art to youth is invaluable. They bring creativity, acceptance, dedication, and passion to the table. While real-life teachers offer vital knowledge, artists provide an emotional connection and inspiration that textbooks simply cannot compete with. So let's champion the artists—they're not just making art; they're shaping the future one colorful stroke at a time!



WHAT I LEARNED ABOUT CREATING PAY THE ARTIST MAGAZINE

What I Learned About Making My Own Artist Magazine: Insights and Lessons

Creating my own artist magazine has been a journey, filled with valuable lessons and experiences that have shaped my understanding of what it takes to put together a successful publication. My adventure into the world of art and community has taught me that while there are many hurdles to overcome, the rewards of connection and creativity far outweigh the challenges. I learned a lot for the good and few for the bad, I never liked gatekeeping my knowledge on what I discovered.

Community is Everything

The first and perhaps most important lesson I've learned is that community is everything. Building a network of support not only enriches the content of the magazine but also fosters a sense of belonging among artists. By reaching out and involving other creatives in the process, I discovered how collaboration can lead to vibrant discussions and innovative ideas. It's essential to cultivate relationships with fellow artists, as these connections can inspire and elevate the entire project.

The Power of Community in Independent Magazine Creation

Creating an independent magazine is like weaving a tapestry, with each thread representing a crucial aspect of community. The significance of community lies in its ability to provide a supportive network that fuels creativity and innovation. For artists, this community acts as a nurturing ground, where ideas are shared, talents are honed, and collaborations blossom. It's in this vibrant mosaic of support that artists find the courage to push boundaries and explore uncharted territories. The impact of such a community extends beyond the magazine itself; it fosters a cultural shift, inspiring others to contribute to the collective narrative. This symbiotic relationship not only enriches the magazine but also strengthens the community, creating an ever-evolving cycle of creativity and support. As we look to the future, the role of community in fostering artistic expression will continue to be a beacon, guiding independent creators toward new horizons of possibility.

Open Communication is Key

Being transparent and maintaining open lines of communication have proven to be crucial throughout this process. Whether discussing and expanding the deadlines, being honest, or addressing any questions or comments, communication helps to keep everyone on the same page. It ensures that all voices are heard and respected, which is especially important in a creative environment. I found that early and effective dialogue can prevent misunderstandings and create a collaborative atmosphere where everyone feels valued. Also being honest with artist about the process and who/ what we did. It was a fun experience,

Not Everyone Will Be as Nice as You

One sobering reality I encountered is that not every artist or participant in this journey will possess the same level of kindness and positivity that you may bring to the table. While many artists are generous and encouraging, there are those who may not be as supportive. It's essential to remain focused on your vision and objectives, regardless of occasional negativity. Surround yourself with individuals who uplift and inspire you, and don't let the discouragement of others derail your enthusiasm.

Patience is Key for Every Upcoming Artist

Perhaps the most significant lesson I've learned is the importance of having patience—both for myself and for every emerging artist involved. The journey to create something meaningful takes time, and every artist has their own unique path. Understanding this can help mitigate frustrations when timelines shift or when creative processes are slower than expected. Encouraging patience among peers fosters a nurturing environment that allows everyone to learn and grow at their own pace.

Social Media is everything

My relationship before the magazine was completely different than after let me explain, before i would post for fun, i would post dumb shit, i would post what i wanted and how ever times i wanted. But when you are trying to have a business, trying to explain to people you are not spam, that yes, this is for real your mentality changes. Also sadly because i never said who i was and who ran or how many people who ran the magazine was a mystery I saw first hand, how many times people thought I was a man, white or even well not me. **Social media is a tool, it is not life.** It was fun to change the pattern of social medias in Art Hop community, it was fun to see people copying whatever the magazine did and it was funny to see when artist would try to do the same, creating their own magazine (which many never went past the second issue, we had 24+ not including zines and special issues) the patterns you create on social media does change your art community around you. Social media made it a lot easier to communicate, promote and show what/ who we were.

the logistics

Office Depot is cheaper than Fed Ex kin. Office depot has free shipping if you spend more than \$300, and thats what i used.

*if you use a black background than the paper would atomically be thicker making the magazine look better.

*green paper and the pastel paper was 30 to 40 cents cheaper and i used that for the ads and etc to make the magazine more pages

*give free ads to artist, for bragging rights because no one would see the “vision” at first.

* using canva and i still do, its universally that everyone can use also its easier , people are haters -so you do any place you feel comfortable.

*if you hire a writer, ask for their work first, and Fresno State students cant write for shit. I am dyslexic, so i always assume i am the dumbest, never clear in my writing and well dumb BUT than I read some other people’s work haha . Always ask for a sample, trust me.

*use friends, friends are there to help- use that, its not a shame to ask for help.

*charge \$10 but have free stickers , etc not too little where you cant make any but not too much where people cant pay for it.

*websites are cool but you cant cuss, and thats not fun

*a lot artist are assholes especially minor famous cis dudes (beside Jason and Martin and Bobby obvi)

*Guy artist would be bitter, unhappy, and a different kind of jealous once they see you succeeding - prepare for that

*bolder the colors, better it looks

*always change your social media logo, it will keep things fresh

*have events , its good for business

*

Being an Independent Magazines

Creating your own magazine is a vibrant revolution that breathes fresh life into the art community, serving as a catalyst for diversity and authenticity. It offers an invaluable platform for untapped voices, shattering the confines of traditional media which often recycles the same perspectives. This grassroots movement welcomes an array of narratives, encouraging honesty and originality that resonate with local communities. Each page turns into a canvas, allowing creators to paint vivid stories that reflect the rich tapestry of human experience. As these magazines flourish, they challenge conventional media norms, fostering a more inclusive space where creativity knows no bounds. This transformation is significant, as it heralds a new era where the community takes the reins, crafting stories that matter. As we move forward, the proliferation of independent magazines promises to dismantle echo chambers, ensuring a broader spectrum of voices enriches the cultural landscape.

The Abundance of Creativity in the Golden Age of Social Media

In the flourishing landscape of social media's golden age, creativity blooms like never before, weaving a vibrant tapestry of innovation and expression. This era matters profoundly as it democratizes the creative process, empowering individuals to share their unique visions with the world. Platforms like Instagram and blog writing have become digital canvases, allowing creators to connect, inspire, and build communities that transcend geographical boundaries. The resurgence of zines and grassroots movements underscores the importance of creativity as a unifying force, fostering a sense of belonging and shared purpose. For individuals, expressing creativity can be transformative, offering an outlet for emotions and ideas that might otherwise remain hidden. At a community level, it sparks dialogue and encourages diversity of thought. Sharing your artwork, therefore, is not just an act of personal fulfillment; it is a vital contribution to a collective cultural narrative, enriching the tapestry of human experience and inspiring others to find their voice.

In conclusion, making my own artist magazine has been an enlightening experience filled with ups and downs. Through embracing community, ensuring open communication, managing expectations about interpersonal kindness, and cultivating patience, I have gained insight into not just the practicalities of publishing, but also the emotional resilience needed to support a vibrant artistic community. I am excited to continue this journey and apply these lessons to future endeavors, remaining optimistic about the role that art plays in bringing people together.

Here's to all the upcoming artists—let's create, collaborate, and support one another in our creative journeys!

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2025

ART HISTORY
IS NOT
BORING



ESSAY

Our art history is not like your boring college class we try to make it for fun.

Why Children Need Art History in Their Lives

Art history isn't merely a subject to be studied; it's a gateway to understanding the world, fostering creativity, and inspiring wonder. By introducing children to art history, we provide them the keys to explore diverse cultures, witness the triumphs of individuals who overcame adversity, and spark their curiosity about the world. This blog post explores ten compelling strategies for integrating art history into children's lives, emphasizing the importance of art and its profound impact on their personal growth and the future of our communities.

1. Understanding Diverse Cultures Through Art

Art history offers children a unique window into cultures beyond their own. Through the lens of art, they can explore the traditions, values, and aesthetics of societies around the globe.

Practical Implementation

- **School Lessons:** Incorporate art from different cultures into the curriculum. For example, study African masks or Japanese calligraphy.
- **Art Projects:** Encourage children to create their own art inspired by different cultures.

Real-World Example

A classroom project where students study Aboriginal dot paintings can lead to a discussion on Australian Aboriginal culture, fostering appreciation and respect for diversity.

2. Learning from Successful Artists Who Overcame Struggles

Artists like Frida Kahlo, Vincent van Gogh, Leonardo da Vinci, and Michelangelo faced significant challenges but persevered. Their stories teach children resilience and the power of perseverance.

Practical Implementation

- **Storytelling:** Share biographies of artists who overcame obstacles.
- **Discussion Groups:** Facilitate conversations about these artists' challenges and triumphs.

Real-World Example

A lesson on Frida Kahlo's life and art can inspire discussions on overcoming physical and emotional adversity, encouraging children to see challenges as opportunities for growth.

3. Sparking Curiosity and Wonder

Art history fuels curiosity, encouraging children to ask questions and seek answers about the world around them.

Practical Implementation

- **Interactive Museum Visits:** Organize field trips to art museums where children can engage with art firsthand.
- **Art Exploration Days:** Dedicate time for children to explore different art forms and artists.

Real-World Example

A visit to a local art museum, where children can participate in a scavenger hunt to find specific artworks, can ignite their interest and curiosity about art history.

4. Encouraging Creative Thinking

Studying art history encourages children to think outside the box and develop innovative solutions to problems.

Practical Implementation

- **Creative Assignments:** Assign projects that require creative interpretations of historical artworks.
- **Art Debates:** Host debates on different art movements, encouraging creative thinking and expression.

Real-World Example

A project where students reinterpret a famous painting in a modern context can foster creative thinking and adaptability.

5. Enhancing Visual Literacy

Art history helps children develop visual literacy skills, enabling them to interpret and analyze visual information effectively.

Practical Implementation

- **Visual Analysis Exercises:** Teach children how to analyze and interpret artworks.
- **Create Art Journals:** Encourage children to keep journals where they document and reflect on art they encounter.

Real-World Example

Analyzing a painting like da Vinci's "Mona Lisa" can help children learn to notice details and consider the artist's intent, enhancing their ability to decode visual messages.

6. Building Emotional Intelligence

Art connects with emotions, and studying art history can enhance children's emotional intelligence by helping them express and understand their feelings.

Practical Implementation

- **Art Reflection Sessions:** Allow children to express their emotions through art and discuss their feelings.
- **Emotion-Based Projects:** Create projects where children depict emotions through their art.

Real-World Example

Discussing the emotional impact of Van Gogh's "Starry Night" can help children articulate their emotions and develop empathy for others.

7. Developing Critical Thinking Skills

Art history encourages children to analyze and critique artworks, fostering critical thinking skills.

Practical Implementation

- **Art Critique Workshops:** Teach children how to critique art constructively.
- **Comparison Exercises:** Compare and contrast different artworks to develop analytical skills.

Real-World Example

A workshop where students compare different interpretations of the Last Supper can enhance their ability to analyze and critique visual information.

8. Inspiring Personal Expression

Art history inspires children to express themselves personally and creatively, providing them with a voice through art.

Practical Implementation

- **Self-Expression Projects:** Assign projects that encourage personal expression through art.
- **Artistic Journaling:** Encourage children to create art journals reflecting their thoughts and experiences.

Real-World Example

A self-portrait project inspired by various self-portraits from art history can help children explore their identity and self-expression.

9. Appreciating Historical Context

Studying art history provides children with a deeper understanding of historical events and contexts.

Practical Implementation

- **Timeline Projects:** Create timelines that connect historical events with corresponding art movements.
- **Historical Art Discussions:** Discuss how historical events influenced art and vice versa.

Real-World Example

A project connecting the Renaissance art movement with historical events of the time can provide children with a comprehensive understanding of history and its impact on art.

10. Fostering a Sense of Community

Art history can foster a sense of community by connecting children with shared cultural and artistic heritage.

Practical Implementation

- **Community Art Projects:** Organize collaborative art projects that celebrate local culture and history.
- **Art Exhibitions:** Host exhibitions showcasing children's art inspired by art history.

Real-World Example

A community mural project that incorporates elements of local history and art can foster a sense of pride and unity among children and community members.

Conclusion

Incorporating art history into children's lives is not just an educational endeavor; it's a journey that enriches their understanding of the world, nurtures their creativity, and inspires a lifelong love of learning. As we consider the importance of art and its impact on children, let us ask ourselves: How can we ensure that future generations continue to value and explore the rich tapestry of human expression that art history offers? What steps can we take today to cultivate a culture that embraces creativity and wonder in

our communities? By answering these questions, we can pave the way for a brighter, more inclusive future where art and creativity thrive.

As an Artist teaching art to children, is pinnacle for children to understanding they can create and pave their own life when they know it is possible. The importance of community and