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Art and education

Beyond the cathartic effect we attribute to some outstanding artworks, art today is also a tool for shaping both society and the personality of the individual person. The importance of this role of art has been steadily increasing since the dawn of the 20th century: art and education seem to be getting closer to one another. It all began with certain alternative schools not merely putting art at the core of their curricula, but also viewing it as an educational tool; Joseph Beuys later regarded artistic practice as a creative activity that could affect all of society. Then, socially sensitive artists, wishing to give art a way to influence society more efficiently, came up with new forms of artistic expression (political art, public art, interactive works etc.) Today, the current way for an artist to get involved in school education (known as “artist in the classroom”) is about to be replaced by a more efficient practice (Creative Partnerships – Szilvia Németh) where artists and other creative people offer schools to help solve actual pedagogical problems. Another recent instance of the joint efforts of art and education is the emerging “social (art )school” (Igazgyöngy – Nóra L. Ritók) which, beyond educating children through art, also makes efforts to improve the living standards of their (poor and unemployed) parents.

At the same time, the use of artistic approaches and techniques is becoming more and more prevalent in art therapy and in the education of students with disabilities. It is also noteworthy that increasing numbers of art teachers consider teaching an art activity.

The issues of art and education can be approached from many different directions; therefore, the program should only be finalized after the exact details have been discussed with the candidate and an agreement has been reached.