

NAME

ENG 200 Writing 2

Mrs. Bowlin

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Annotated Bibliography

Davis, Jessica Hoffmann. *Why Our Schools Need the Arts*. Teachers College Press, 2008.

According to Jessica Hoffmann Davis who is a member of the Teachers College Press, “Emotional intelligence is fostered through engagement in the arts - young people can learn how to express their feelings in a coherent way and in so doing become sensitive to the feelings of others.” To build credibility for Jessica Hoffmann Davis as an author, she is a graduate of Harvard’s School of Education. She was the founding director of the Arts in Education Program and first to hold the university’s new chair in arts in education. So, she is very aware of how the arts are positive for students. This is an area where pathos can come in because one quality that I love about myself is that I am very empathetic, and I feel as though the arts had a great deal to do with that. My involvement in the arts taught me about stepping into other people's shoes and experiencing life through different perspectives. This has led me to look at the world in an entirely different way because I am fully aware that the world is not built solely on my experiences, but on everyone’s around me. It's important as a society that we do our best to be empathetic and caring towards others and that comes through emotional growth within the arts. This will enhance my essay because part of my thesis is that the arts establish a positive mindset. By young people learning to express themselves through involvement in the arts it helps them have a more positive mindset because they have an outlet. Schools attempt to limit creativity these days but in reality, they are punishing the students by robbing them of them expressing themselves and experiencing emotional growth.

Dwyer, M. Christine. "Reinvesting in Arts Education: Winning America's Future Through Creative Schools." *Journal of the Arts and the Humanities*, iss. 7, no. 3, 2011, pp. 218-240.

According to Christine Dwyer who’s a part of the *President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities*, “Persistently high dropout rates (reaching 50% or more in some areas) are evidence that many schools are no longer able to engage and motivate their students. Students who do graduate from high school are increasingly the products of narrowed curricula, lacking the creative and critical thinking skills needed for success in post secondary education and the workforce. In such a climate, the outcomes associated with arts education — which include increased academic achievement, school engagement, and creative thinking — have become increasingly important.” Dropout is becoming more and more common simply because kids

aren't engaged in school. Work ethic is something that is simply lacking from a generous portion of my generation. I think a large part of this is because they don't care about what they are doing in schools. The arts have given me such a strong work ethic because you don't see the results until you put the work in. For an instrument you have to work at it, for a musical you have to work at it, and for a painting you have to work on it. If students can find something creative that they look forward to it will show them what it means to work hard towards something and even show them the passion that they should search for in their future lines of work. This will enhance my essay because part of my thesis is that the arts build a strong work ethic. When discussing this essay, you stressed to us that our ethos needed to be strong, so by having an academic source from MSU back me up on the strong work ethic it will make me more credible to my audience. It also delivers the harsh truth that school isn't great at engaging students in the way it should be to truly get them ready to function in the world.

Psilos, Phil. "The Impact of Arts Education on Workforce Preparation. Issue Brief." *Education and the Arts*, iss. 7, no. 3, 2011, pp. 72-89.

In "The Impact of Arts Education on Workforce Preparation. Issue Brief," Phil Psilos explained that "An even more compelling advantage is the striking success of arts-based educational programs among disadvantaged populations, especially at-risk and incarcerated youth. For at-risk youth, that segment of society most likely to suffer from limited lifetime productivity, the arts contribute to lower recidivism rates; increased self esteem; the acquisition of job skills; and the development of much needed creative thinking, problem solving and communications skills." This quote supports each of my main point in my thesis: Arts education should be protected, funded, and taught in schools since they are safe places for students by aiding in a positive mindset, establish a strong work ethic, and lead to better grades among students. It's important that school systems don't solely base their decisions based off the few natural creators who have positive/supportive home lives; administrators also need to look low-income/at-risk kids and recognize that the arts would shine a needed light on their lives. It would give them a passion to work towards something helping their work ethic, it would give them an outlet to express themselves aiding in their emotional growth, and it would create a safe space to bond with others through new communication skills creating a positive mindset and environment. This will enhance my essay because it is crucial that administrators recognize the needs of at-risk youth. I have seen firsthand through my involvement counseling a theatre program how the arts are good for these kids. We need more of that. Administrators are supposed to do the best by their students in the school systems and they can't do that when they completely disregard the benefits of arts education.

Smith, Fran. "Why Arts Education is Crucial, and Who's Doing it Best." *Edutopia: What Works in Education*, iss. 17, no. 1, 2009, pp. 34-53.

According to Fran Smith on "Why Arts Education is Crucial, and Who's Doing it Best," it's seen that "[i]nvolvement in the arts is associated with gains in math, reading, cognitive

ability, critical thinking, and verbal skill. Arts learning can also improve motivation, concentration, confidence, and teamwork. A 2005 report by the Rand Corporation about the visual arts argues that the intrinsic pleasures and stimulation of the art experience do more than sweeten an individual's life -- according to the report, they 'can connect people more deeply to the world and open them to new ways of seeing,' creating the foundation to forge social bonds and community cohesion." This quote was found on the MSU Library from an educational foundation. Part of my thesis is discussing how the arts contribute to better grades for students. By establishing that the arts lead to gains in those classes, it enhances my ethos. The quote also references the Rand Corporation which is a research organization showing that this wasn't just random information found by that it was actually searched for. It also adds to the fact that the arts build communications skills. This generation tends to lack how to empathetically communicate with other human beings and the arts are so wonderful at teaching kids how to express themselves. It also reiterates that the arts build your creativity to help everyone see the world in bright colors instead of just black and white. This will enhance my essay by making my thesis is credible. It's one thing for me to just say that the arts contribute to better grades but to look a school who has already implemented arts education and seen its impact in STEM programs will build the credibility of my academic essay.