

What you can do in Celebration of the
4rd UNESCO International Arts Education Week
“Arts Education for Sustainable Development”
May 25-31, 2015

UNESCO defines a sustainable future as one in which people:

- Care for each other and value social justice and peace
- Protect natural systems and use resources wisely
- Value appropriate development and satisfying livelihoods for all
- Make decisions through fair and democratic means.

These goals of education, for a sustainable future require a “dynamic balance between cultural differences and [an] emerging global ethic is a key concept in educating for a sustainable future” (UNESCO, 2002).

What can we, as educators, researchers and members of InSEA, do to promote the theme of “Arts Education through Sustainability”? The following suggestions are provided for immediate use by teachers, researchers, and educators in schools and other educational settings.

1. Hold or make definite plans to sponsor a child art exhibition, festival, installation or performance in your school, the local community center or museum, that proposes and celebrates ways the arts promote cultural sustainability.
 - Invite local business leaders, government representatives; local authorities and their relatives, parents, journalists to attend.
 - In the invitation, state in 5 sentences how important the arts are for a sustainable future.
 - Send a short description of the activities to InSEA Newsletter and InSEA webpage.
2. Have students create artworks that visually describe social justice in action, ways of caring for natural resources, appreciating and respecting diversity among peoples.
 - Submit digital versions of these artworks to gallery sites of children’s artwork, such as
 - The InSEA website: www.insea.org
 - Creatubbles: <https://www.creatubbles.com>
 - The USSEA Child Art Exchange: <http://ussea.net/child-art-exchange/>

3. Have students make video or write articles about the benefits of arts education. These may include interviews

with parents and others of the community.

- Ask them to relate a known example or describe a time in their lives when the arts provided comfort, inspiration, economic support, or understanding.
- Submit these to local (online or print-based), news papers and magazines. Post them on social media sites such as Facebook, Tumblr or YouTube.
- Send us a copy to be posted on www.insea.org

4. When you come across newsworthy items published by reliable sources, that describe research supporting the benefits of the arts, share this information in all social networks you might know, ask your friends to share similar posts in their social networks., and share new posts in InSEA Facebook.

5. Write an article about research or innovative teaching you have conducted, whereby art education was found to be of benefit to cognitive emotional or academic development, or the social well-being of individuals.

- Cite other supportive studies from IJETA and other art education journals, as well as journals from other fields, such as psychology, sociology and education .
- Choose one strong impact factor journal in the academic or general community and submit your work to the selected journal .

6. Submit papers/posters about art education in all sort of congress not related to art education.

While, only one week (May 18-24, 2015) has been proclaimed by UNESCO as the International Year of the Arts, these initiatives should be ongoing in constant reminders of the arts as essential to educating caring of one another in local and global communities, nurturers of the earth and of all citizens of all ages, genders, worldviews, cultures, ethnicities, societies and diverse human expressions of the world.

References

UNESCO. (2002). Teaching and learning for a sustainable future (Extract). Available at: http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=4029&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html