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Because of Arts Education

Posted by [Mr. Jeff M. Poulin](#)

(<http://www.americansforthearts.org/users/727>),

Sep 09, 2016

[1 COMMENT \(/2016/09/09/BECAUSE-OF-ARTS-EDUCATION#COMMENTS\)](#)



[Mr. Jeff M. Poulin](#)
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So often we talk about the impact of arts education in terms of *other* things. High school students who take arts classes in high school score better on the SAT. Middle schoolers who take arts classes are more likely to vote as adults. Young children who participate in the arts see an increase in cognitive development. Yes, all very true—but, it leaves me to wonder, if we as adults who partook in arts education growing up, see those benefits in life today...what is the **real impact** of those outcomes on our lives, work and society today?

Over the course of the next week, we have compiled numerous bloggers to tell their story.

Because of Arts Education...

Whether an educator, architect, doctor, volunteer, or accountant, we know the arts have had some impact on you. We know the arts develop certain skills in people that prove essential. We know that those skills lead to successes in work and life.

Now is our time as a field to share these stories of impact with decision makers. We must combine the vast amounts of data we have with the compelling stories. Together the stories and data will change the hearts and minds of those who we hope to influence for the next generation of students to come.

Why share the stories? Because it is our job as those who benefitted from our own arts education to be advocates for those less fortunate. Along with the research on the benefits of arts education, we also know the research on the equity gaps in arts education. Why is it that students of color have systematically less opportunity to have arts education than their white peers? Why is that students in rural areas have less access? Why is it that we provide less chances for students on the autism spectrum, or English language learners?

Share your story. Speak up. Advocate.

As part of [National Arts in Education Week](http://www.americansforthearts.org/by-program/networks-and-councils/arts-education-network/tools-resources/national-arts-in-education-week) (<http://www.americansforthearts.org/by-program/networks-and-councils/arts-education-network/tools-resources/national-arts-in-education-week>), the field of arts education will join together in one common voice with one common message. We stand united in our call for increased access, improved structures of equity, and more inclusive tactics of teaching and learning in arts education nation-wide.

My story is very simple. I was very fortunate to have grown up in an arts-rich community and in a family that participated in every opportunity offered. Being a performer, I learned to speak confidently. I learned to work diligently. I learned to be flexible and responsive. Through the arts, my interest was sparked in history, politics, and business. This all resulted in numerous opportunities on a professional level working in the performing arts. But do you know the big thing I learned while traveling the country as a performer? Not every community was like my community. Not every child had the access to the opportunities I had. Now, I have a position at Americans for the Arts that allows me to change that. I'm still fortunate; and I use that fortune to make a difference for others.

Individuals will tell their story not only here on ARTSblog, but also on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. Be sure to follow #BecauseOfArtsEd to read about these amazing individuals and their #BecauseOfArtsEd stories. Then it is time to share your story also. Tweet it, post it, snap it...I don't care, but get it out to the world. Be sure to use #BecauseOfArtsEd and #ArtsEdWeek in your posts. Together, we will use our voice to advocate for the future of arts education in America.



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1 responses for Because of Arts Education

jacksonamy315@gmail.com says**January 21, 2017 at 8:26 am**

The arts don't just increase a child's imagination the ability they learn because of them drop over into [buy assignment online \(http://www.readyassignment.co.uk/buy-assignment/\)](#) academic success. PBS says, a account by Americans for the Arts condition that youthful people who contribute frequently in the arts

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Americans for the Arts serves, advances, and leads the network of organizations and individuals who cultivate, promote, sustain, and support the arts in America. Founded in 1960, Americans for the Arts is the nation's leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts and arts education.

ArtsBlog

A forum for today's leading arts professionals sharing their knowledge, thoughts and comments on the topics shaping the arts in our communities, schools and nation.

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