

"The last few decades have belonged to a certain kind of person with a certain kind of mind - computer programmers who could crank code, lawyers who could craft contracts, MBAs who could crunch numbers. But the keys to the kingdom are changing hands. The future belongs to a very different kind of person with a very different kind of mind - creators and empathizers, pattern recognizers and meaning makers. These people - artists, inventors, designers, storytellers, caregivers, consolers, big picture thinkers - will now reap society's richest rewards and share its greatest joys.

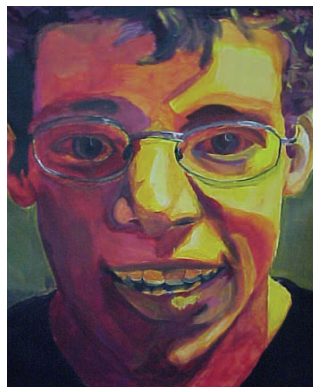
- Excerpt from Daniel Pink's
"A Whole New Mind."

PROMOTE YOUR ART PROGRAM

Advocacy Tips:

- * Display and exhibit student artwork in the school, and in local businesses
- * Hold receptions for exhibits or art events
- * Invite students, parents, staff, administration, and school board members to art events.
- * Display student art in the office of your Superintendent, your State Senator or State Representative
- * Post student art quotes and State Standards around the school
- * Design a webpage for your art room to communicate with parents and post student work
- * Publish information in your school newsletter and your community newspaper
- * Start a National Art Honor Society chapter
- * Get involved—PTO / PTA, MAEA, school committees, and with student groups
- * Send positive note cards home to each student's parent with their artwork displayed on the card.

WHY THE VISUAL ARTS?



ARTWORK FROM THE TOP MAEA STATE ART EXHIBITS



WWW.MIARTED.ORG

t a l k i n g p o i n t s

THE VISUAL ARTS...

- 1 ...give students the tools to process an increasingly visual world.
- 2 ...teach communication skills that are vitally needed in today's society.
- 3 ...foster cross-cultural understanding through knowledge of civilizations past and present.
- 4 ...celebrate multiple perspectives—there are many ways to see and interpret the world.*
- 5 ...teach children that problems can have more than one solution and that questions can have more than one answer.*
- 6 ...require students to use both hemispheres of the brain and develop cognitive, affective, and psychomotor skills.
- 7 ...increase creative, innovative, even visionary thinking, and promote the ability to solve visual and conceptual problems.
- 8 ...teach students that small differences can have large effects.*
- 9 ...give students opportunities to realize connections between the arts and other disciplines.
- 10 ...provide a safe place for students to explore their identities, take risks, and develop self-esteem — the arts give students a voice.

* From Elliot Eisner's Ten Lessons the Arts Teach

talking points

This document and the “Talking Points” postcard are intended to be used as tools for MAEA members in their school district and in their community.

The “Talking Points” can be internalized and serve as a speaking guide when discussing the importance of the visual arts. Each talking point has a highlighted key phrase to assist recall.

You can utilize the “Talking Points” in any of the following situations:

1. To individual school board members
2. Presenting at a school board meeting
3. Talking to the parents in your school district
4. Working with your administrator (Superintendent, Principal, or Curriculum Director)
5. During a job interview
6. Sharing with your curriculum council
7. Discussing during a staff meeting
8. Publishing the information:

*As a part of your parent newsletter

*Through your school district newsletter

*In your community paper during *Youth Arts Month*

*Displayed on signs during your exhibits

MAEA recognizes that each school and community is diverse, and teachers can utilize these talking points to empower themselves to be creative in working within their unique situation. The goal is to use the “Talking Points” in a way that will benefit your specific school, students or community.