Intersection of Art and Science in School

Nina Ostan
The National Education Institute, Slovenia

Abstract

It is very common, also in schools, that people still conceptualize the worlds of science and art as two separate worlds, the former being a beautiful world of paintings and sculptures put on display in art galleries, the latter a lab inhabited by white-coated scientists, conducting their experiments. How to override such stereotypic perceptions and show that science and art can connect, intersect, cross-fertilize and inspire? In the wide field of contemporary art we can detect tendencies, of which common denominator is to connect science, art and technology. How to bring this contemporary research art, which is hardly present within a wider social context, closer to young people?

In our project students familiarized themselves with these issues during a series of workshops on a monthly-/weekly basis. Their goal was straightforward enough: firstly, help students become more sensitive to science through art, and, crucially, to allow them a better insight into the backgrounds of new technologies we all live with, and secondly, to bring them in touch with inspiring art ideas. In addition, various organized activities guided the students’ attention to other related topics: robotics, computer science, biotechnology and art. The artists and scientist, who took part in these workshops, encouraged the
students to approach science in a creative way, for it is the artists who enable us to reflect upon the effects of applied science in an unconventional way.

The presentation will include examples of intermedia artworks, as well as students’ own projects.

Keywords

Sensitivity, Science, Art, Creative approach.