Sustainability and Art Education: Connecting Art Education and Environmental Education Through Pre-Modern Art Processes

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Abstract

The focus of this contribution is to discuss the foundations of what I have defined as Environmental and Socially Conscious Art Practices in Education (ESCAPE). A community-centered form of teaching art that reconnects art and science as a means for developing self-sufficient and sustainable art processes. As a form of art education, ESCAPE rests on four focal elements: the study of pre-modern art processes, which broadens and nurtures our ability to identify potential in the resources available for the production of art materials; the exploration of the immediate natural and built environment, which informs our ability to use it as a tool for teaching and learning; interbeing, which is the act of bonding with others and our environment; and our ability to connect art education with environmental education. Lastly, I will discuss the curricular possibilities that exist in integrating ESCAPE into educational programs and the various pedagogical implications.

Keywords

Processes, Sustainability, Art, Environmentalism, Community.