



Taylor V, Mount Desert HS



Margaret Ayers - Waynflete, Grade 8



Wells Elementary



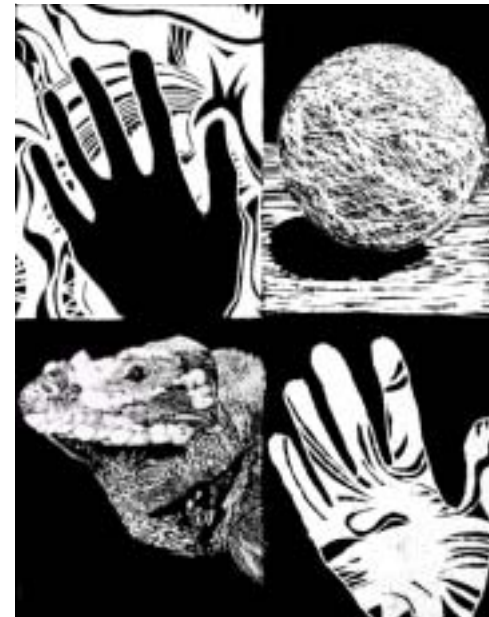
MAINE

EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

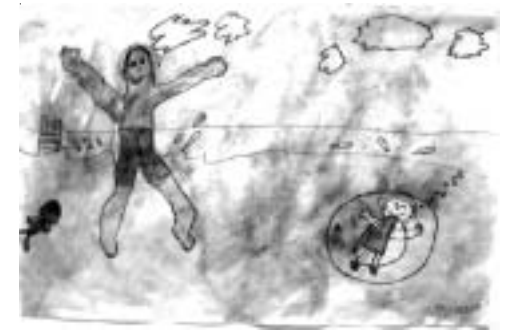
PO Box 10463  
Portland ME 04104

Maine Art Education Association - [www.mainearted.org](http://www.mainearted.org)

# ART is *Essential* EDUCATION



Caroline Robe - Waterville SHS, Grade 9



Brianna Cirone - Jonesport Elementary, Grade 3



Sarah Schrader - Rangely Lakes Regional, Grade 12



Sarah Zuschlag - Mast Landing School, Grade 5

# What is ART?

*"Art consists of ideas, embodied in autonomous objects, created with aesthetic intent."\**

**Art** is an intellectual activity demanding higher order thinking skills. Creating a work requires a complex process of reflection, evaluation and decision-making as well as physical creation. The artist attempts to visually communicate ideas, feelings and concepts.

**Art** is a visual language. Art is about all things, and we live art everyday. Every human made object has been designed with thought and planning.

**Art** effects all age levels and can touch students who are not otherwise being reached. Its' unique characteristics can engage and build self-awareness, self-esteem and connections between students.

Creating **Art** is active, fun, challenging and an intellectual activity.

\*Source: Building Support for School Art Programs, by Hope Irvine, PHD, Chairwoman, Dept. of Art Ed., Syracuse U.



# Why ART?

## Art Makes Learning Come Alive-

*Achievement in Art helps students to...*

- ✦ Respond to ideas and the environment.
- ✦ Understand the arts in historical, cultural and social contexts.
- ✦ Organize knowledge and creatively express ideas through the production of art.
- ✦ Identify, analyze, and use criteria for aesthetic judgments.
- ✦ "Find their voices" in visual art.
- ✦ Develop critical social and group skills.

## Art Provides Tools for the Future-

*Career opportunities and more...*

- ✦ Develops valuable reasoning, creative and communication skills necessary for the work place.
- ✦ Builds business and community participation
- ✦ Possible careers include communication, entertainment, education, marketing, advertising and many design fields.
- ✦ Develop attitudes, characteristics and intellectual skills required to participate effectively in today's society and economy.

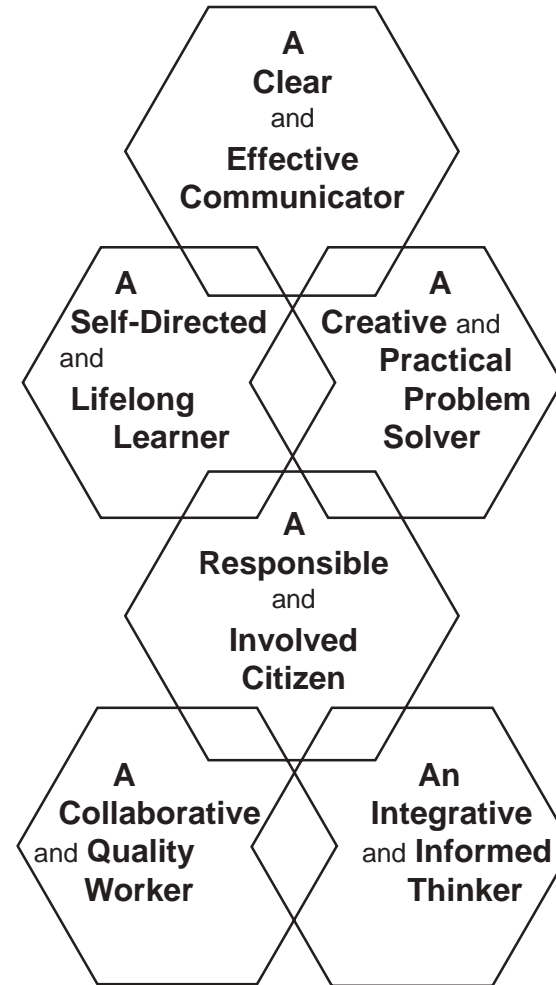
## Art is Basic to Life-

*Personally, culturally, socially...*

- ✦ **Art** is the language of human expression, understanding and functionality.
- ✦ We deal with **Art** every day in such things as advertising, architecture, fashion and media.
- ✦ **Art** gives meaning to the world around us.

Illustrations by Isana Kobayashi, Waterville SHS, Grade 11

# ART and the Maine Learning Results



# Support the ART Education

## of your Child

- ✦ Make certain that your child is taught by a certified art educator.
- ✦ Expect teachers who practice their own art and are supported by the district to grow as educators through conferences and workshops.
- ✦ Expect that sequential art instruction is offered beginning in Kindergarten (K-12).
- ✦ At the high school level, ensure that courses for Visual Art credit are taught by certified art educators and require common, local assessments. Look for breadth and depth of offerings as well as advanced classes such as Advanced Placement Studio Art.
- ✦ Know your school board representatives and let them know you support the visual arts programs in the schools.
- ✦ Attend visual arts exhibits at your school.
- ✦ Take your child to museums and galleries.
- ✦ Watch videos and television programs on the arts at home.
- ✦ Ask your child's art teacher for ways to talk about or share art with your child. Talk to your child about what he or she is learning in the school art program.
- ✦ Visit the school's art department and offer assistance in organizing and chaperoning field trips to galleries and museums or hanging shows of student work.

