

Kendall  
English 5  
Persuasive Essay  
Final Draft

### Value of the Arts in School

Imagine if you walk into a classroom, and the whole room is blank; no quotes, paintings, or drawings. There is only you, your classmates, a chalkboard, and a teacher. All day you would learn your core subjects but no music, art, or drama. This is how school would be like without the arts.

The arts, play production, drama, music, art, strings, vocals, clay, improvisation, stage craft, are a chance for the kids to express themselves. Whether you make a painting, or if you hang a painting by Pablo Picasso in your room, you are expressing yourself through art. The person who creates the art is expressing themselves. By the same token the choice of what art someone enjoys is also an expression of the person who is experiencing the art.

Last month the House of Representatives approved down-sizing the budget for the arts by 25%, about \$43 million, leaving the budget with about \$124.5 million. In 2005, Kentucky public schools funding for the arts decreased 18%. Also in 2005, 44% of all public schools in Kentucky had a room just for the visual arts, 60% had a room just for music, 28% had a room for dance parallel structure, and 51% of some schools had a room for just drama/theater.

The arts are important because it is an outlet for disabled children. If one has trouble with talking, he or she could express themselves by painting. If one couldn't walk, he or she could sing. Another reason why the arts are important is because it helps to relieve stress. To vent out feelings make people feel better. You can vent by drawing, writing, sculpting, and much more.

Some schools might say that the arts take away time from the core subjects and that the

schools need to improve on their academics. The argument to that is, students who study in the arts, score higher on the S.A.Ts. Also, if a child took place in a music program they would be more likely to score higher in reading, math, and English tests.

“We need people who think with the creative side of their brains—people who have played in a band, who have painted...it enhances symbiotic thinking capabilities, not always thinking in the same paradigm, learning how to kick-start a new idea, or how to get a job done better, less expensively,” said Annette Byrd. Annette Byrd is a consultant and an instruction/program designer, to support the health, energy, engagement and creativity of four generations. Without art we would not have singers, actors, artists, or authors. Art is everywhere and is a part of our culture. That is why parents should encourage schools to keep art programs and maybe enhance it more.

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