



Research and Evaluation from Systemic Arts Education Initiatives

Across the country, knowledge is accumulating in the work of over a dozen systemic urban initiatives that integrate the arts within overall education reform. This knowledge comes from individual research projects and evaluations.

This document is a beginning directory of reports and informational Websites, as well as a source of vital information on the context of education reform. Virtually all the cited sources are online and accessible via the hyperlinks in blue text. Click to read, and check back here for frequent updates.

Research and Evaluation Reports

Arts Education Collaborative. (2008). [Professional Development Report](#). Pittsburgh: AEC.

Belden Russonello & Stewart Research and Communications. (2005). [To Educate the Whole Child, Integrate the Arts](#). The Ford Foundation and Douglas Gould & Company.

Brown, A. S., and Daniel, T. M. (2008). [The Arts Activities of Dallas ISD Students](#). Dallas: Big Thought.

Ingram, D., and Meath, J. (2007). [Arts for Academic Achievement: A Compilation of Evaluation Findings from 2004-2006](#). Center for Applied Research and Educational Improvement.

Nelson, A. L. (2008). [The Art of Collaboration: Promising Practices for Integrating the Arts and School Reform](#). Washington, DC: Arts Education Partnership.

Pinto, M. F. (2009). [Equity of Opportunity: Creative Learning Census](#). A report from the Thriving Minds Research and Evaluation Team. Dallas: Big Thought.

Spilka, G., and Long, M. (2009). [Arts Education for All: Lessons from the First Half of the Ford Foundation's National Arts Education Initiative](#). OMG Center for Collaborative Learning. Presents reflections based on an internal evaluation of the Ford Arts Ed Initiative's first phase (2004–2008).

Waldorf, L. (2009). [Arts Education District Case Studies](#). Los Angeles County Arts Commission.

Wolf, D. P., and Denson, K. (2009). [Nurturing Creative Capital: Successful Children, Strong Families, and Vibrant Neighborhoods](#). Dallas: Big Thought.

Wolf, D. P., and Denson, K. (2009). [Thriving Minds Year Two: Improving Quality](#). Dallas: Big Thought.

Wolf, D. P., Bransom, J., and Denson, K. (2007). [More Than Measuring. Program Evaluation as an Opportunity to Build the Capacity of Communities](#) (executive summary online). Dallas: Big Thought. In this book, researchers share findings illustrating the positive outcomes of collaborative arts integration, as well as outline the ways Big Thought has conducted evaluation to drive improvement. The Dallas ArtsPartners Longitudinal Study was conducted over four years in cooperation with the Dallas ISD, the city of Dallas and more than 50 cultural organizations.

Wolf, T., and Wolf, D. P. (n.d.). [Building a System of Opportunities for Creative Learning: Year 2 Research and Evaluation Report](#). Big Thought's Research and Evaluation Team, in conjunction with a broad set of community partners, developed a set of tools to track progress of the Thriving Minds system. This report highlights two years of growth as well as opportunities for future programmatic development.

Evaluation/Research Websites of Arts Ed Initiatives

[Arts Education Collaborative](#) (Pittsburgh)

[Big Thought Research and Assessment](#) (Dallas)

[Boston Public Schools Arts Expansion Initiative](#)

[The Results of Arts for Academic Achievement](#) (Minneapolis)

[Arts for Children and Youth in Greater Philadelphia: Research](#)

New for Grantees – Data Portals

Following are some of the sites that provide data on the context of education reform:

[Council of the Great City Schools](#)

[The Economic Benefits of Reducing High School Dropout Rates in America's Fifty Largest Cities](#). Washington, DC: Alliance for Excellent Education.

[Leaders and Laggards: A State-By-State Report Card of Educational Innovation](#). Washington, DC: Center for American Progress.

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