

ChildArt

**Your
brain
on art**



Download the HoloTats app, scan the images on this cover and see hidden surprises come to life!



Guest editor's corner

It is a privilege to serve as guest editor of the Arts + Mind edition of *ChildArt* Magazine. For more than 20 years the International Child Art Foundation (ICAF) has been an essential organization recognizing and valuing the power and dignity of the arts for children around the world.

This issue of *ChildArt* shares the marriage of the arts and brain research, a newly emerging field of study called neuroaesthetics. Neuroaesthetics explores the impact of the arts, architecture and music on the human brain and behavior. The applications for neuroaesthetics research are limitless. While there is so much about the brain we don't understand, it is an exciting time to be thinking about what is going on at the intersection of the arts and brain research. I hope the stories in health, wellbeing and learning will open your mind to the possibilities for the arts, architecture and design as solutions for intractable problems, approaches to enhance your life and answers to questions long asked.

We are all makers, designers and creators regardless of our age, interests, studies or career paths. The evolution of the human species revolves around the stories we create and share, the ways we communicate, environments we build and language we use.

Understanding how our brains work and how they are sculpted and changed through art making and aesthetic experiences enables us to build a better world. When we decide to create a new product, design a shopping center, home or park, paint a room, or a million other actions, we have the ability to use what we know about how the brain works to create smarter, more productive, creative, healing and learning solutions. The benefits to people everywhere are beyond measure, transcending class, gender, race and culture.

The arts, in all forms, are not just "nice to have" but are who we are. The field of neuroaesthetics is at the heart of unleashing humanity's greatest potential.



Susan Magsamen
Executive Director
International Arts + Mind Lab
Brain Science Institute
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine



INTERNATIONAL
CHILD ART
FOUNDATION

Published since 1997, *ChildArt* is a commercial-free arts learning, self-discovery, and global education periodical

expressly written for 8 to 12 year-olds, but useful as a teaching tool for early educators and inspirational for creative individuals of all ages. Subscribe to *ChildArt* online at www.icafe.org.

When a child's creativity is ignored, it could be lost forever. Tax-deductible donations support children's creative and empathic development. You can donate online at www.icafe.org or make your check to ICAF and mail it to: ICAF, P. O. Box 58133, Washington, DC 20037.

All rights reserved. Reproduction of the whole or any part of the contents without written permission is prohibited. *ChildArt* (ISSN 1096-9020). Copyright 2017 International Child Art Foundation (ICAF), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.



WHO WE ARE

International Arts + Mind Lab (IAM Lab) is a multidisciplinary research-to-practice initiative from the Brain Science Institute at Johns Hopkins University accelerating the field of neuroaesthetics. Our mission is to amplify human potential.

WHAT WE DO

IAM Lab is pioneering impact-based thinking, an outside-in approach to health, well-being and learning.

HOW WE DO IT

IAM Lab brings together brain scientists and practitioners in architecture, music and the arts to collaborate in multidisciplinary research, foster dialogue and spur continued innovation by sharing these findings with a broader community.

Join the neuroaesthetics conversation.
www.artsandmindlab.org
facebook.com/artsandmindlab
twitter.com/artsandmindlab

The Arts + Mind

HEALTH: THE ARTS HEAL US

02

What is neuroaesthetics?

04

Your brain on the arts

08

A safe space to be a kid
HEART – Save The Children

10

High-tech healing
BLAM

12

Coloring outside the battle lines
Creative Forces

14

Art + architecture as medicine
Johns Hopkins Hospital

WELLBEING: THE ARTS KEEP US HEALTHY

18

Use your hidden superpowers!
Richard Louv

20

Developing empathy
Ashfaq Ishaq

22

Signs of the times
Erin Cooper

24

The art + science of architecture
Fred Marks

26

A new lens on high school
Wide Angle Youth Media

28

Tools for any trade
Art With A Heart Sarah Pitcock

LEARNING: THE ARTS TEACH US

30

The art of good ideas
MICA

34

Going "pro" in beats
OrchKids

36

Architecture of learning
Learning Landscapes

38

The Hokey Pokey: What it's really all about
Too Small To Fail

40

STEAMing up learning
Destination Imagination

42

The ABCs of you + me
New World Kids Susan Marcus