Dimensions of ARCHITECTURE
Guest editor’s corner

Creativity is at its most Seussian period during childhood. For some, this time of exploration, imagination and whimsy continues into the teenage years and later into adulthood. Of all the arts where one may use their ability to transcend traditional ideas, rules, patterns, relationships and create meaningful new ideas, forms, methods, interpretations - architecture is the most complex to execute. It requires an understanding of economics, history, engineering science, construction, human behavior, visual perception in addition to drawing, color theory and composition. This issue of ChildArt Magazine is devoted to covering the multi-dimensional aspects of this profession, from its training to its application. It is also intended to articulate and illustrate the power of building design to affect our senses, our memories and our well-being at any age.

The authors who have written the articles you are about to read are a distinguished group of people whose accomplishments are briefly noted in the Credits section of this issue. They are still kids at heart and it was their intention to pass on their experience so that you would learn to appreciate the importance of having a built environment that is compatible with nature, aesthetically beautiful, and functional. Architecture comes in all shapes and sizes, and you will be exposed to projects of all scales from a single room to an urban center. You will also become aware of the value of saving and preserving our heritage, and the importance of making good architecture available to everyone.

It is a privilege for me to serve as guest editor of this special edition of ChildArt in my capacity as a member of The American Institute of Architects. Special thanks needs to go to the International Child Art Foundation (ICAF) who concluded that there would be valuable lessons for its magazine readers if the subject of architecture was presented.

Frederick Marks
Founding Member & President-elect
Academy of Neuroscience for Architecture
ANFA

Published since 1997, ChildArt is a commercial-free arts learning, self-discovery, and global education periodical expressly written for 10 to 14 year-olds, but useful as a teaching tool for educators and inspirational for creative individuals of all ages. Subscribe to ChildArt online at www.icaf.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.icaf.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 2018 International Child Art Foundation (ICAF), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

The American Institute of Architects (AIA) was founded in New York City in 1857 by a group of 13 architects to “promote the scientific and practical perfection of its members” and “elevate the standing of the profession.” Headquartered in Washington, DC, AIA offers education, government advocacy, community development, and public outreach. It has more than 90,000 licensed and associated professionals as members.

Included among AIA’s many programs is the K-12 Initiatives. Based on the belief that architecture and design education empowers children with the learning habits and critical thinking skills needed to thrive over a lifetime, this program works to develop strategic partnerships, share instructional resources, and engage architects and educators to help young students gain an early appreciation of architecture.

Cover: Mykolas Vasiliunas, Age 9 (detail)
Dimensions of ARCHITECTURE

02 Intro
Tom Vonier

03 Mankind Invents Architecture
Ewa Struzynska

04 Architectural Education
Tom Fisher

08 Why Buildings Remain Standing
Henry Petroski

10 Drawing as Thought
Steven Holl

14 Creativity + Place
Donald Rattner

16 Preserve
Conserv
Restore
Ashley Wilson

18 Unifying a Museum
Ian Bader

22 Supporting Environmental Sustainability
Mary Ann Lazarus

26 My Life as an Architect
Billy Ming Sing Lee

28 The Rooms of a House
Angela Brooks

30 Your Ideal Town
James Logan Abell

34 Themed Architecture
Michael Lingerfelt

36 Citizen Architect
Emily McGlohn

38 Architecture Without Architects
Michael Crosbie

40 Sacred Spaces
Fred Marks

43 Learning Resources

44 Credits