

Art Advocacy Quotes

Art advocacy quotes can be used in a number of ways. Quotes can be printed as posters and hung throughout your room/building, as part of a newsletter, at the bottom of any parent communication, on your website, on invitations to arts events, or as mailings to board members and other officials. Quotes can also be typed in a small narrow format to be used in fortune cookies, strapped to a wrist like a bracelet or glued to a Hershey's kiss and given out at staff meetings or put into teachers' mailboxes.

"The same creativity that fuels our best inventions and our best business management techniques is the same creativity that provides our best art, literature, and music."

John C. Hampton, Chairman of the Board, Hampton Affiliates

"I see little of more importance to the future of our country and our civilization than full recognition of the place of the artist. If art is to nourish the root of our culture, society must set the artist free to follow his vision wherever it takes him."

John F. Kennedy, U.S. President

"Art is much less important than life, but what a poor life without it."

Robert Motherwell, Artist

"Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life."

Pablo Picasso, Artist

"Art is like a staple, like bread or wine or a warm winter coat in winter. Man's spirit grows hungry for art in the same way his stomach for food."

Irving Stone, Writer

"If we are to empower our youth. If we are to prepare them for a dynamic future – we must help them develop their creativity. As the essence of the human experience – it shapes the future... it is the building block that connects our human experience to life itself, a core discipline for developing human potential."

Bob Bates, Inner-City Arts

"An artist cannot fail; it is a success to be one."

Charles Horton Cooley, Sociologist

"There are more valid facts and details in works of art than there are in history books."

Charlie Chaplin, Actor

"Vita brevis, ars longa" (Art is long, life is short.)

Hippocrates

“It is art that makes life, makes interest, makes importance... and I know of no substitute whatever for the force and beauty of its process.”

Henry James, Writer

“Art is an adventure into an unknown world, which can only be explored by those willing to take the risks.”

Mark Rothko, Artist

“No artist is ahead of his time. He is his time. It is just that others are behind the time.”

Martha Graham, Dancer

“Science will... produce the data... but never the full meaning. For perceiving real significance, we shall need... most of all the brains of poets, (and) also those of artists, musicians, philosophers, historians, writers in general.”

Lewis Thomas, Scientist

“Pyramids, cathedrals and rockets exist not because of geometry, theories of structures or thermodynamics, but because they were first a picture – literally a vision – in the minds of those who built them.”

Eugene Ferguson, Historian

“When I examine myself and my method of thought, I come to the conclusion that the gift of fantasy has meant more to me than my talent for absorbing knowledge.”

Albert Einstein

“Art and Music are the drugs of choice for thousands of kids. If we expect them to just say no to a chemical high, we must recognize the healing alternative, their own creativity. Demand and support the real anti-drug program – Arts in education.”

Fred Babb in “What is Art?”

“When we teach a child to sing or play the flute, we teach her how to listen. When we teach her to draw, we teach her to see. When we teach a child to dance, we teach him about his body and about space, and when he acts on stage, he learns about character and motivation. When we teach a child design, we reveal the geometry of the world. When we teach children about the folk and traditional arts and the great masterpieces of the world, we teach them to celebrate their roots and find their own place in history.”

Jane Alexander, former Director for the National Endowment of the Arts

“To encourage literature and the arts is a duty which every good citizen owes to his country.”

George Washington, President

“I can honestly say I would have been a mess without an escape from reality day by day. Many times I would hate being home. The music room in school was my real home.”

Everardo Garcia

“I don’t think I’d have been president if I didn’t have the gift of school music when I was a boy. We cannot let music disappear from our schools.”

Bill Clinton, President

“The importance of the arts in No Child Left Behind is clear. They’re an important part of a well-rounded, complete education for every student. The knowledge and skills that learning in the arts imparts uniquely equip young persons for life. What’s more, combining music, art, dance, and drama with subjects such as math, reading, and language can be highly effective, enhancing student engagement and increasing academic achievement.”

Margaret Spellings, U.S. Secretary of Education

“The arts are a major area of human cognition, one of the ways in which we know about the world and express our knowledge. Much of what is said in the arts cannot be said in another way. To withhold artistic means of understanding is as much a malpractice as to withhold mathematics... Since schools traditionally develop only linguistic and logical/mathematical skills, they are missing an enormous opportunity to develop the whole child.”

Dr. Howard Gardner, Harvard Graduate School of Education (www.artworksforkids.org)

“From music and dance to painting and sculpting, the arts allow us to explore new worlds and to view life from another perspective... [they] encourage individuals to sharpen their skills and abilities and to nurture their imagination and intellect.”

George W. Bush, President

“We celebrate the creativity of America’s young people and the willingness of our cultural community to invest in making every child’s life a work of art.”

Laura Bush, First Lady, Honorary Chair, President’s Committee on the Arts and the Humanities

“We have never discovered a culture on this planet – past or present – that doesn’t have music, art, and dance.”

David Sousa, International Consultant in Educational Neuroscience and Author