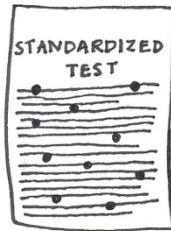
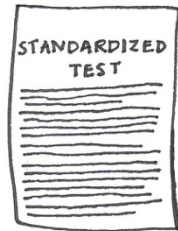
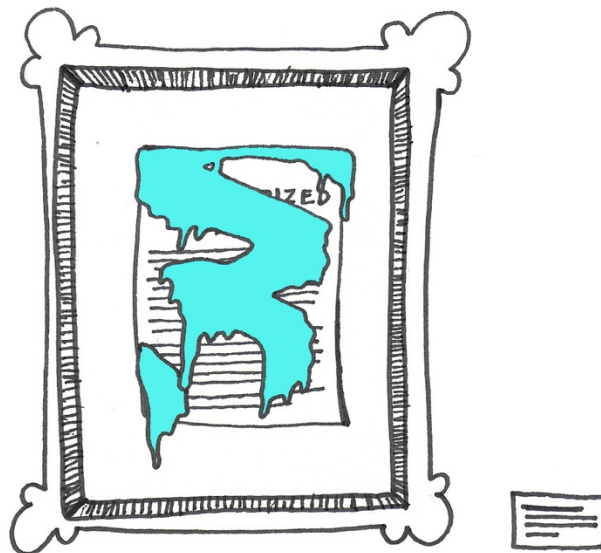


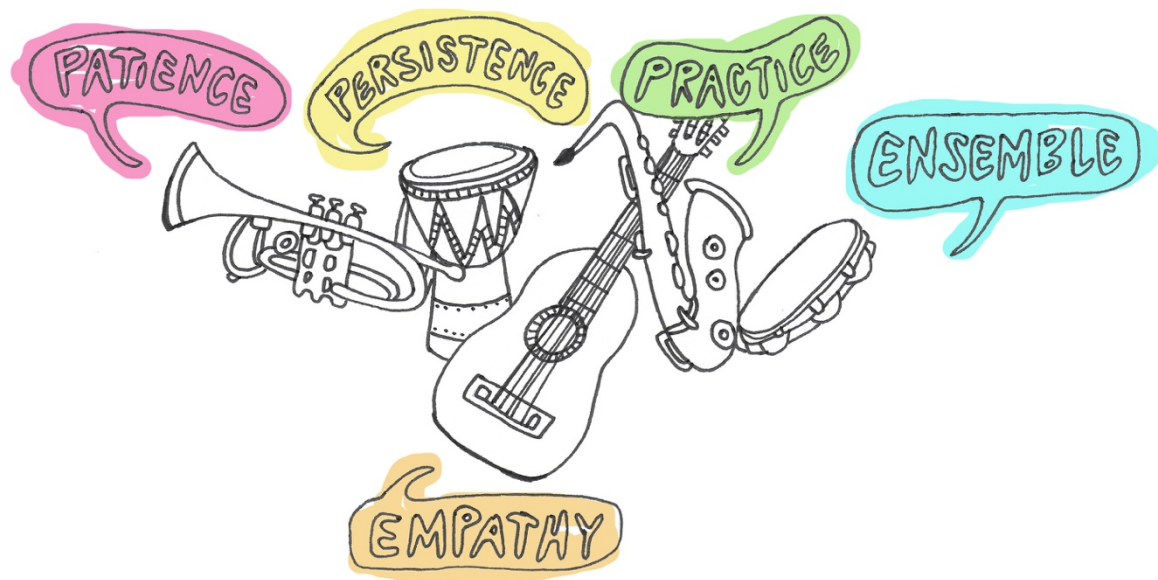
WHAT DOES ART GIVE US?



This summer, after graduating from Harvard Graduate School of Education's Arts in Education program, I worked with the Center for Artistry and Scholarship to make arts research easily accessible to educators interested in eliciting what arts can contribute to education. As a visual artist, I created images that I feel speak to the nuanced ideas concerning how art can improve both students' lives and capacity to learn.



What you will notice as you look through the arts resources that CAS provides is the unmistakable nuance in research about whether the presence of arts in classrooms has a measurable effect on standardized test scores. Upon further reading, you might instead start to wonder about how art is related to improved "executive function skills".



What often falls by the wayside are discussions about the role the arts play in creating a more socially just world. Quality arts curriculum offers the possibility of self-discovery, identity development, and socially responsive students. It is becoming increasingly important to examine how the arts can help students of all ages reimagine and reconfigure the world as we know it.



While researchers may not agree on what exactly the arts do or how to measure the clear benefits that the arts have on our classrooms, it is important to continue to ask and search for what arts has to offer our students. In reading CAS's resources, it is very possible that you will find yourself with more questions than answers. This excites me; my hope is that you would pursue these curiosities both with your students and in your personal practice through increased research, creative projects, and intentional reflection.



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