



THE HEART OF CREATIVITY

Research Briefs and Reflections

Creative Courage

Creativity takes courage! Designing something new often requires educators and leaders to abandon traditional solutions in order to lean into new solutions and ways of thinking.

Creativity, at its heart, is about doing something new. That might be a work of art, classroom project, or finding a creative solution to a thorny educational challenge. Arts educators and other creative practitioners must have the courage to propose an idea or solution that represents new thinking (and to help others see their creative vision). As creative solutions are implemented, it is sometimes a messy process representing kinds of work or solutions that haven't been done before.

Accepting, or even embracing, that messiness is important and also takes courage. The best classrooms, schools, and districts are marked by innovative, creative solutions that come from arts educators and other creative practitioners who have the courage to imagine – and share – an innovative vision of what is possible.

Reflection Questions:

- How can arts educators encourage students and colleagues to take creative risks?
- How can arts educators and leaders reinforce for students and educational professionals alike that failure is an essential part of learning?

Key Points to Remember:

- ★ Introducing a new idea takes courage!
- ★ Creativity is about introducing a new idea, lesson, solution, or program.
- ★ New and creative ideas are often messy at first. Creativity can disrupt mental models in ways that produce new solutions.

Learn More:

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/creativity-the-art-and-science/202008/why-creativity-takes-courage>

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbescommunicationscouncil/2019/07/26/creativity-is-courageous-the-role-of-courage-in-managing-creative-teams/?sh=397d78269de0>

<https://medium.com/thrive-global/curiosity-courage-and-creativity-213690f7f337>