

KNOWHOW

crosses boundaries between cultural worlds.

Each partner institution has a rich heritage and store of experience that it brings to the project. Each school operates in its own country; thus each one is based on a unique cultural background, despite the fact that all of the partner institutions belong to the larger worlds of art and education. Because of this, the project is a sort of melting pot for the collective

understanding of education and cultural uniqueness. KNOWHOW has found that, there are material-based learning and teaching strategies common to each of the partner schools.

This suggests that these methods have educational significance despite historical and cultural differences.

The methods employed in KNOWHOW are creative, thus reflecting the creative work that is the subject of the research project. This commitment to creation - in method, process, and product - is a salient characteristic of the project. KNOWHOW represents a contribution to educational research that is based on visual and written narratives at all stages of the study.

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KNOWHOW VERKLAG

E U f u n d e d L e o n a r d o d a V i n c i p i l o t p r o j e c t



A 30 month project with partnership of 6 art schools in Europe lead by The Reykjavík School of Visual Art focused on creative teaching / learning in the studio environment of art schools

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MYNDLISTASKÓLINN
Í REYKJAVÍK

P R O J E C T K N O W H O W

A collaborative project among six art schools in Europe focused on workshop/studio teaching and learning

The project KNOWHOW emphasises the foundations of the teaching/learning that takes place in the studios and workshops of art schools.

The workshop events that form the focus of the KNOWHOW project are a collaboration between the partner art schools of the project.

Forming a large element of the project is a formal research study that focuses on understanding and defining the relationship among learning, creating, and studio teaching. Art schools draw from extensive experience and expertise centred on a hands-on practical education in creative thinking and working with materials. The research project focuses on the workshop/studio as an educational venue, and on what takes place there. The aim of the project is to share the information gleaned from this formal study of creative learning/teaching in the art school studio setting. Its purpose is to draw attention to the value of art education in general, with specific focus on the particular educational approach, well-known in art schools, but that could have significance in other educational contexts. Furthermore, information on this approach will be publicised and made available to professionals in a variety of educational and scholarly fields.

Continuing teacher education

As part of their participation in KNOWHOW, the partner schools initiate various projects with the aim of taking the approach and methodology that are characteristic of art school and sharing them both with the regular school system, at as many educational levels as possible, and with professionals engaged in education and teaching. The project is designed to appeal to teachers and their continuing education.

The study of creative thinking

Within the field of education, there is a growing interest in the role that creativity plays in learning and teaching, in the interactive experience between



teacher and student. The aim of KNOWHOW is to gain an understanding of this interactive experience and to show/tell the story that describes the educational environment that is the studio. Though the term “practical study” is often used to describe the process of gaining knowledge and proficiency through direct physical contact with materials and tools (and though the term is used in the formal title of the project), it is becoming ever clearer that this phrase in no way encompasses the complex interactions that characterise teaching and learning in a studio environment.

Who are the partners participating in the KNOWHOW project?

Six art schools in four European countries: Iceland, Estonia, Hungary and Great Britain.

- Reykjavík School of Visual Art, Iceland
- Iceland Academy of the Arts, Iceland
- The Estonian Academy of Arts, Tallinn, Estonia
- The International Ceramic Studio, Kecskemét, Hungary
- The Glasgow School of Art, United Kingdom
- The Cumbria Institute of the Arts, United Kingdom

The partner schools were chosen both to meet the requirements of the Leonardo da Vinci programme and with an eye to broadening the social and cultural environments included in the research project. The project is steered by the Reykjavík School of Visual Art, which also initiated and developed it. The research project is in the hands of the Glasgow School of Art.

What is the significance of the KNOWHOW project?

The project’s significance is rooted in what it can reveal not only about the nature of study and teaching, but also about the meaning of creation and creativity as they relate to study and teaching.