



MUSIC STUDIO

Music Education Top 10 List

10. Two research projects have found that music training – specifically piano instruction – can dramatically enhance children’s spatial-temporal reasoning skills, the skills crucial for greater success in subjects like math and science.

–Shaw, Grazianow, and Peterson, Neurological Research, March 1999.

9. Students with band and orchestra experience attend college at a rate twice the national average.

– Bands Across the USA.

8. Music students out-perform non-music on achievement tests in reading and math. Skills such as reading, anticipating, memory, listening, forecasting, recall, and concentration are developed in musical performance, and these skills are valuable to students in math, reading, and science.

– B. Friedman, "An Evaluation of the Achievement in Reading and Arithmetic of Pupils in Elementary School Instrumental Music Classes," Dissertation Abstracts International.

7. A ten-year study indicates that students who study music achieve higher test scores, regardless of socioeconomic background.

– Dr. James Catterall, UCLA.

6. In a 1999 Columbia University study, students in the arts are found to be more cooperative with teachers and peers, more self-confident, and better able to express their ideas. These benefits exist across socioeconomic levels.

– The Arts Education Partnership, 1999.

5. College admissions officers continue to cite participation in music as an important factor in making admissions decisions. They claim that music participation demonstrates time management, creativity, expression, and open-mindedness.

– Carl Hartman, "Arts May Improve Students' Grades," The Associated Press, October, 1999.

4. Researchers at the University of California and the Niigata Brain Research Institute in Japan have found an area of the brain that is activated only when reading musical scores.

- *"Musical Brain – Special Brain Area Found for Reading Music Scores," NeuroReport, 1998.*

3. Nine out of ten adults and teenagers who play instruments agree that music making brings the family closer together.

- *Music Making and Our Schools, American Music Conference, 2000.*

2. A two-year Swiss study involving 1,200 children in 50 schools showed that students involved in the music program were better at languages, learned to read more easily, showed an improved social climate, demonstrated more enjoyment in school, and had a lower stress level than non-music students.

- *E.W. Weber, M. Spychiger, and J.L. Patry, 1993.*

1. The Kettle Moraine school district in Wales, Wisconsin is requiring piano lessons for all K-5 pupils after seeing encouraging results from a district pilot program. District officials based their pilot program on research findings that show music training – specifically piano instruction – is far superior to computer instruction in enhancing children's abstract reasoning skills.

- *Karen Abercrombie, Education Week, October 14, 1998.*

Taken from www.childrensmusicworkshop.com