



## An Expression...

Art is the flower that blooms from spirituality, for without the creativity there would be no art. Every time spirituality is used to create something from nothing, true art is born. Art allows us the ability to feel, touch, see and think in so many different ways. It helps us to show different emotions. Since the beginning of the cave drawings it has made us understand or sometimes confuse each other. It puts us in touch with the world. Without art there would be nothing.

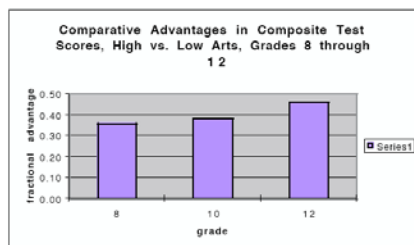
As parents, we always want the best for our children and strive to provide the best education possible. However, it is also time for us to stop and evaluate the world around us, the meaning of life and the importance of mental peace and happiness for our children in this fast paced world that has all the signs of getting faster and more stressful.

Recent work by UCLA Graduate School of Education and Information Studies suggests that

- i. Irrespective of income and educational level in the homes,

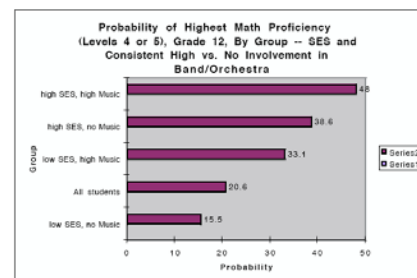
- children with involvement in arts and music show comparative gains in development over others
- ii. Involvement with music appears to be correlated with proficiency in Mathematics through Grade 12
- iii. Sustained involvement in theatre arts shows gains in reading, motivation and higher level of empathy and tolerance towards others

The chart below, excerpted from this study indicates that involvement in arts for Gr. 8, 10 and 12 children show a 25 to 40% incremental achievement advantage for all children.



The second chart shown below compares the probability of improvement for children who come from higher economic circles and those from lower economic circles with and without exposure to arts, and music. It is telling that

there is at least a 10-15% better performance.



\*SES refers to socio-economic status

This is all very well with scientific studies but here is an excerpt from a conversation that Nobel Laureates Rabindranath Tagore (poet, philosopher, painter) had with Albert Einstein (the greatest physicist of modern times) in 1930. The discussion was focused around how physics is very chaotic at particle level however there is order at a much higher level and the discussion turned towards music and harmony and relationship with physics.

**No Classes!!**

There will be no Classes on October 22, 2006 due to *Diwali*



# Newsletter ~ Vallabh Vidya Mandir ~



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....EINSTEIN: *Modern physics would not say they are contradictory. Clouds look as one from a distance, but if you see them nearby, they show themselves as disorderly drops of water. (chaos and harmony..)*

TAGORE: *Melody and harmony are like lines and colors in pictures. A simple linear picture may be completely beautiful; the introduction of color may make it vague and insignificant. Yet color may, by combination with lines, create great pictures, so long as it does not smother and destroy their value.....*

Education and art are thus, like melody and harmony. Everything starts with a concept, a thought and is followed by a sketch. From a spoon to a 747 jetliner, it all starts in our mind and ends up on paper, dance floor or in musical notes. Art gives us the ability to separate ourselves from the rest of nature's creatures. May be if there were more artists, musicians, dancers running our world it would be a more peaceful place to live and may be with one stroke, one musical note or one dance

movement we could create less hatred in the world.

References – "Involvement in the Arts and Human Development : General Involvement and Intensive Involvement in Music and Theatre Arts – Catterall, Chalpleua, & Iwanaga – July 1999.

<http://www.schoolofwisdom.com/tagore-einstein.html>

*Phalguni Kikani*

## Good News....!!

VVM Website is Now Running.  
Visit us at  
[www.vvmhouston.org](http://www.vvmhouston.org)

## March Goes On...

Due to excess workload and travel commitments this column is not published this month. Apologies

*Suresh Patel*

## VVM Youth Group

After a successful 'Startup Meeting' The Youth Group will have its next meeting on **October 27 at 7 PM.**

*For details please contact: VVM office.*

## Our Thanks..!!

To Dr. Kokila Parikh for a successful and well attended September Workshop on "Women's Health"

## Free Workshop

"Importance of Art and Music in Children's Growth" – by Houston's well known vocalist **Shri Udayan Parikh**  
**Oct 29<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM**  
*(Pls Register at the Front Desk)*

## UpComing Events..

November 12, 2006 – **Free** Workshop  
**Managing Personal Finance**  
*Mr Nitin Kapadia – Merrill Lynch*