

Welcome to Volume 6, Issue 1, of the *Journal for Learning through the Arts*. This issue was co-edited by Liane Brouillette of the University of California, Irvine, and Karen Gibbs of the National Geographic Education Foundation. There are three sections: Arts and Geography, Teaching and Learning through the Arts, and Opinion.

The Arts and Geography section was inspired by a Model Programs in Geography Education grant given by National Geographic to a coalition of campuses that were members of ArtsBridge America, a 10-state network of 19 universities and their surrounding schools that have united to confront the problem of the elimination of the arts from K-12 schools. Geography (literally “describing the Earth”) is a powerful perspective for examining and understanding our world. This grant enabled both established artists and advanced university arts students to use the arts to learn about people and places, as well as to explore human-environment interaction. Not all of the articles in this section grew out of that project, but all explore these core issues.

Our continuing Teaching and Learning through the Arts section was designed to embrace a wide range of articles that focus on how the arts deepen and support learning, whether for students or teachers, within or outside of educational institutions.

This issue also introduces a new Opinion section, in which scholars and practitioners are invited to express their views about policy issues that affect arts education and research.