

**Drama in education, visual arts and museum: interdisciplinary pedagogical synergies, focusing on creativity and social awareness.**

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The presence of the arts within the Greek educational system appears to be incomplete and fragmented over time. This finding creates reduced opportunities for students, on the one hand, to become familiar with the very language of arts and artistic expression, and on the other hand, to realize the social nature of the arts and the social dimensions of artistic creation. The essential opportunities for creativity and inter/cross-disciplinarity are constantly limited within the Greek school, thus limiting the possibility of a comprehensive understanding and substantial deepening of social issues, which prepare students as tomorrow's active citizens. This research focuses on the potential that creative drama offers in education, aiming, among other things, to an interdisciplinary approach to contemporary and timeless social issues, such as immigration and refugees, in combination with the visual arts and creativity. The specificity of the researched drama-pedagogical workshop

lies in the utilization of art works from national galleries and museums, as well as museum-pedagogical practices for the development of creative, interdisciplinary work plans, with the aim of a deeper, experiential and comprehensive understanding and knowledge of the proposed topic. The participants in the research are active teachers of different levels of education and specialization, and students of three university departments in the country (preschool and elementary education and theater studies). The research uses mixed methods and data collection tools such as questionnaires and reflective diaries. The analysis of the survey results showed a number of findings: research participants arrive with a general knowledge of the proposed topic while at the same time expressing low to moderate levels of awareness of art works and interest in visiting art spaces. After the implementation of the workshops, the participants demonstrate: a) a deeper understanding of the subject through empathy, embodied and experiential experience, due to the interdisciplinary, holistic approach (linguistic, artistic, drama-pedagogical); b) clear shift in the selection and cultivation of soft skills such as creativity and critical thinking; c) increased interest in enjoying works of art, as well as physically or digitally visiting art spaces (exhibitions and museums).