

JOINING IN JOY

Words fascinate me...Joy...Joining...the ring of truth...the jingle-jangle of the bells...

How do Joy and joining contribute to enabling students in Catholic higher education to most fully develop all faculties a human being possesses as a birthright?

For over 35 years at Le Moyne College I have been building the philosophy of art education which I believe furthers the Jesuit aim of higher education...namely the education of the whole person.

Key to this process has been finding ways to move students from interacting with all data in a compartmentalized linear mode to viewing and dealing with a selected field of data in a holistic mode.

At the core of my thesis is the idea/fact that nothing exists in a vacuum. All discovery, whether physical or metaphysical implies seeking and finding relationships between at least two points, entities, facts, or realities.

I would like to expand a bit on these thoughts and experiences, as well as share what has been the result in aiding students from literally every discipline apply these practices in a wide variety of real-life activities.

Much of our problem-solving vocabulary has its roots in the visual arts. As students grow in their ability to see how the world is joined together on every level, they move towards experiencing the joy of knowledge of the world, and therefore knowledge of God the Creator.

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