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## INNOVATIONS IN EDUCATION ART PRACTICE AND PEDAGOGY: A TEXTILES EXPERIENCE

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### ABSTRACT

*This paper seeks to innovate the art practice especially in textiles and to make education textiles of much value in our society. It is observed that education plays vital roles in developing textile skills. The purpose of this study is to show the value of Textile skills education and to emphasize in the growth, development, expansion, impact it has on our society. Education itself, is the art of learning, it is also, the process of facilitating learning or the acquisition of knowledge, skills, values, beliefs and habits. However, arts just like education, stimulate an individual thought, emotions, beliefs, interests and ideas through the utilization of the senses. Also, the therefore highlight several interdependencies of arts and Textile education in fostering or merging human growth and development. The study therefore recommended that the study of textile arts in schools should be encouraged by government to enable our youth develop the textile skills and Schools should employ professional textile teachers, educators to impact students with needed knowledge.*

**KEYWORDS:** Innovations, Education, Art Practices.

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### Introduction

Innovation is an important reason to go from what seems to have been dormant to active, lively, functional, and much more appreciated. Education, on the other hand, is one of the most important factors that distinguishes man from animals. Ibia (2019) opines that education could be seen as one of the principal outcomes of man's rationality. According to Bob, (2017), education is held as a veritable tool to build up an individual's knowledge to a greater level. However, Umoren (2018) views education as seen as a veritable tool to build up individuals who are knowledgeable and intelligent, capable of sustaining themselves meaningfully and, at the same time, making conscious efforts to assist their environment and society to develop through skills acquired from education, so therefore, Obot (2020) asserts that education is an instrument of value, a unique asset sought after and pursued. How-be-it, he ended up by saying, without education, a man or an individual is nothing. Precious (2018) sees education as a valuable asset and a weapon for achieving success in life and in society as a whole. Furthermore, there are various forms of education, which include formal and informal education. Formal education is a body of knowledge acquired through organized study or through the school system. Informal education, on the other hand, arises from day-to-day experiences.

### Concept of Arts

The word "art" originated from the Latin word "art", which means "to do well. Activities involving art could be traced back to the early etymological perspective. According to Jones (2019), it is a means of self-expression of inner feelings, ideas, and skills. The importance of art through the ages, arts have played a crucial role in life. Art is universal because art is

everywhere. Art, according to James (2018), is a creation, an expression of what is beautiful and pleasing, a copy of nature, particularly in visual form. Eyefoki (2015) opines that no matter how bad an art work is, it cannot be termed completely bad because there must be an element of beauty in it. Okonufua (2018) sees art as a product of man's purposeful creation, an outward expression of inner feeling, drawing, carving, or a means of communication expression done through visual interpretation or through dramatization of human experiences. Kukoyi (2013) views art as a vast and diverse field of endeavor. Egonwa (2017) regards art as the stimulation of experience in forms and images expressed in fashion that is the result of the manipulative skill applied by man, usually a gifted person. Ogumor (2018) defines art generally as a way of life. This means that any skill, trade, craft or acquired expertise in textiles or fashion is an art experience. Art is the skilled manipulation of tools and materials to create a pleasing sensation of an object of aesthetics in the eye of the beholder. Although art serves many functions and adds many values to society, it is a universal language and, moreso, a means of communication through illustrations. Art is significantly tied to man's cultural expression, display, and technological advancement within the framework of textile interdependence.

### **The Concept of Textiles**

According to Bob, (2017) textile is the process of creating designs, patterns, and structures on materials. It could be a knitted pattern, woven (non-woven) or embellishment of fabrics. Precious, (2020) views that textile and fashion designing involve producing patterns on cloth used as attire, including household and decorated textiles. Austin, (2019) is of the opinion that some designs are created by machines in large quantities while others use traditional techniques like embroidery, tie and dye, batik, and printing to produce unique and better fashion materials. Akpan (2020) asserts that textiles, though they take time, change, revoke and can be repeated after a decade or so, are unique and reliable.

### **The Repeat Patterns in Textiles**

According to Kukoyi (2013), there are four major repeat patterns in textiles; however, every other repeat emanates from these four. These include Simple pattern, Half mirror pattern, Full mirror repeat pattern and Half drop of half slide. Austin (2019) opines that textiles and clothing go hand in hand, even older fashion re-surfaces after a period of time. Furthermore, fashion is frequently one-of-a-kind and fantastic, and a man cannot live without it. However, Williams (2021) is of the opinion that fashion comes and goes, but fashion trend setters do not rest. They seem to be up completely on the trend followers, to seek, be restless, be determined and more forward-looking at the next fashion coming up. However, men also do not relent. They wear assorted expensive clothes in order to compete with the women.

### **Education Interdependence and Textile Arts in Population Growth Development**

According to Williams (2021), education in the arts is an integral part of the development of human beings. However, education helps an individual to differentiate between good and wrong, with acceptable and unacceptable behaviors and characters in society. Archibong (2015) opines that those who studied learning processes throughout the ages, beginning with philosophers like Plato, emphasized the value of the arts in the educational process. Art education refers to education in the disciplines of music, dance, theatre and visual arts. Moreso, studies in art are an integral part of our society. They are a part of the cultural heritage of every society, which somehow includes the norms, values, growth, and development of a

people. Arts are what make us human, most compete with people everywhere. Art cannot be learned through occasional or random exposure. Therefore, education in fine art is an essential part of the school curriculum and an important component in the educational program of every student for his or her growth and also, in the arts, fine art textiles provide learners with non-academic benefits such as promoting self-esteem, motivation, aesthetic awareness, cultural exposure, creativity, innovativity, improved emotional expression, as well as social harmony and appreciation of natural diversity. These are the very roots of the fabric known as culture. Fiske (2019) suggests that the impact of art on learning is enormous and should be noted by parents, teachers, and school administrators. The interdependency of education and arts in human development could be observed in the following areas, they are as follows;

- (1) It changes the learning environment to one of discovery. This often re-ignites the love of learning in students tired of just being fed facts.
- (2) Art provides challenges to students of all ages, helping each student to find his or her own level.
- (3) Students armed with art skills learn to become sustained and self-directed learners.
- (4) These students do not just become an outlet for stored facts from direct instruction, but seek to extend their knowledge base to cover guided discovery and environmental explorers.

The study of fine arts textiles positively impacts the learning of students of lower socio-economic status more than those of higher socio-economic status. In fact, education is the art of learning, studying, practicing, and becoming perfect at it. Art is defined as any activity that demonstrates beauty, perfection, or excellence. It is a means of self-expression of inner feelings, ideas, skills, and everything in general. Education is essential for everyone. However, it is an indispensable part of societal life, both personally and socially. The importance of education is undeniable for every single person. It goes without saying that education has a positive effect on human life. Although, people need to study, struggling to learn, also, education can help people gain knowledge and enlarge their perception about life completely.

### **Musa Species Production for Entrepreneurship**

Akpan (2020) opines that Musa Species are from natural fibers. They are worked upon and weaved into different products for aesthetic usage and for adornment.

#### ***Method of Processes Musa Species Fibers***

The process of working with Musa Species and raffia is time-consuming, but the end result is usually alarming. The fibers are cut down (plantain and banana trees) with or without fruits. The fibrous leaf folds are separated from the pseudo stem and the central gumming inner code with a blunt knife against a wooden board, usually placed on a flat surface. However, a thigh could be used but for the pain it will cause due to the hair on it. Besides, a table or board is preferable.

## The Concept of Entrepreneurship

Egubule (2018) asserts that the word "entrepreneur" originated from the French word "entreprenre," which means "to undertake". The term was first used by a French-Irish economist, Richard Cantillon, and first appeared in the French Dictionary in 1923. However, initially, the term "entrepreneur" was taken to mean anyone who undertakes tasks in a production process. Udoh (2018) defines an entrepreneur as a person who makes money by starting a business, especially when it involves taking financial risks.

## Characteristics and Trait of Entrepreneur

Egubule (2018) opines that it is worthwhile to note that an entrepreneur is an independent person who starts his venture or business and enjoys the fruit of his success while bearing the full risk of his failure. Also, some core components of entrepreneurial activity are risk-taking, creativity, independence, and rewards. However, the characteristics or traits of entrepreneurs are numerous, some positive, others negative. Although successful entrepreneurs are known to possess certain positive characteristics, which are as follows:

- (1) Ambition
- (2) Self Confidence
- (3) Creativity
- (4) Decision Making
- (5) Risk Taking
- (6) Leadership
- (7) Aggressiveness
- (8) Character and Personality
- (9) Intelligence





### Conclusions and Recommendations

In this paper, the concept of art, textiles education has been examined in terms of the different conceptualizations. It has been asserted that education is an important criterion of developing art textiles skills. This paper therefore made the following recommendations;

- (1) Government should stage regular exhibitions to expose the art works done by art students.
- (2) The main thrust of government policy on fashion is to generate foreign exchange and promote rural fashion based artists.
- (3) Government should embark on a massive and aggressive publicity campaign about fashion.

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