



Donna Murray-Tiedge

Abstract

In this panel presentation, we reflect on the evolution of our ideas as they travel across various disciplines of arts and education and their distinct cultures. We start with Elliot Eisner's conceptualizations of curriculum and qualitative research methodology in the 70s and 80s, tracing their journey through the work of Liora Bresler and five of her former doctoral advisees who develop their contributions in the respective fields of Art Education, Music Education, Design, Spirituality, Higher Education, and Expressive Arts Therapy. We note the confluence of individual researchers' backgrounds, expertise, and aspirations with academic mentorship and diverse institutional cultures.

Bio

Donna Murray-Tiedge, with an MFA and extensive expertise in Industrial Design, has further developed Bresler's 1994 curricular lenses, taking them into the design arena. Murray-Tiedge will chronicle her journey under the guidance of Bresler and her subsequent scholarship. Her doctoral dissertation (2014) examined how the use of the material world in Saturday art school illuminates connections between the physical environment, teachers' practice and communication of educational values, and students' motivations and skill acquisition. Methodologically, Murray-Tiedge accentuated the overlaps between her designer mindset and sound qualitative research principles such as inductive reasoning, active listening, thick description, and sitting with ambiguity. Methods developed throughout her journey were visually based and iteration-focused. She found that examining the objective qualities of the classroom through Bresler's lenses offers a productive way to understand educational environments.