

What Is the Relationship Between People with Physical
Disabilities and Their Creativity in the Arts?

By Ralph Wilson

A Masters Project

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University of Oregon

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Abstract

Creativity is undoubtedly among the most important and all-encompassing of human endeavors. This research project is a journey of discovery and inquiry that examines creativity and disability by reviewing evidence in literature pertaining to: models of disability, disability culture, disability aesthetic, creativity and very recent work concerning resilience and adaptability. The author conducted interviews with three artists with disabilities which adds a qualitative dimension to the project. Although this is a very small study, it does offer insight on how artists with disabilities do in fact achieve this unique and important type of optimal human functioning.

Keywords: art, creativity, disability aesthetic, disability culture, people with physical disabilities, resilience.

Curriculum Vita

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