

Students *Learn & Are Kinder*: The Aesthetic Realism Teaching Method *SUCCEEDS!*

ON NOVEMBER 1ST, THE MOST IMPORTANT NEWS about education will be told: the Aesthetic Realism teaching method enables students on every grade level to learn successfully and become kinder! New York teachers who use this method will describe lessons from their own classrooms, and show how through it students not only pass standardized tests, but love knowledge. And that includes young people who were cynical, angry, and had just about given up on the goodness of their minds.

THE PURPOSE OF EDUCATION

Eli Siegel, the great American educator and the founder of Aesthetic Realism, explained that

“The purpose of education is to like the world through knowing it.”

He also showed that *contempt*—“the addition to self through the lessening of something else”—is the chief cause of a student’s failure to learn. And contempt for the world and other people is also the cause of the violence that has made America’s schools dangerous, fearful places.

Young people feel cheated and are furious. Many feel there is no future for them. They see their parents—brutalized by our contemptuous economic system—worry desperately about being able to feed and house the family. And there are estimates that 10 percent or more of NYC schoolchildren were homeless during the past year. So many students feel, “Why should I bother learning this stupid subject in a world as mean as this?”

Meanwhile, inwardly, young people are screaming,

“Please don’t give up on me!” They are thirsty for convincing evidence that the world can be liked, honestly respected, without leaving out any of the facts. The Aesthetic Realism teaching method resoundingly meets this hope—through the following principle:

**“The world, art, and self explain each other:
each is the aesthetic oneness of opposites.”**

FOR INSTANCE

Through the Aesthetic Realism method, students learn, for instance, that an algebraic equation like $3x + 4 = 19$ is a oneness of the *known* and the *unknown*—and so are people whom they may have summed up. They see that a mountain—with solid base rising to a peak—does topographically what they long to do: it’s substantial and light, high and low *at once*—opposites that can feel so painfully separate in their moods. They learn that a plump caterpillar, which goes into its chrysalis and emerges weeks later as a Viceroy butterfly, is a beautiful relation of *sameness* and *change*. As they see this, a world that seems unreliable—too changeable—makes more sense; and they feel too, “Maybe *I* can change and still be *me!*”

As students meet any subject through the Aesthetic Realism Teaching Method, they feel, “This is about the *world*, and it’s about *me!*” Two tremendous, urgently needed results are: 1) they feel closer to people, including those of different ethnic backgrounds—and instead of wanting to hurt them, become kind; 2) they welcome learning, and learn with new energy and ease!

Come and hear about the method that will make our schools alive with learning and kindness!

♦ SPEAKERS ♦

ZVIA RATZ (*mathematics, MS 223*) • LORI COLAVITO (*ELA, 6th grade, Southampton IS*)

ROSEMARY PLUMSTEAD (*science, NYC HS retired, current teacher educator*)

PATRICIA MARTONE (*ESL, NYC elementary schools*)

ARNOLD PEREY, Ph.D. (*instructor, The Aesthetic Realism Teaching Method*)

AESTHETIC REALISM FOUNDATION ♦ 141 GREENE ST. NYC 10012

212.777.4490
AestheticRealism.org

In SoHo, off West Houston
A not-for-profit educational foundation

Contri. \$10
©2018 Aesthetic Realism Foundation