Spotlight On: Gendered Income Inequality in the Arts

SNAAP researchers analyze and write about SNAAP data to advance our understanding of the value of an arts degree. A scholarly article published in March 2017 in Social Currents by Danielle J. Lindemann (Lehigh University), Carly A. Rush (Vanderbilt University) and Steven J. Tepper (Arizona State University) led to articles in two respected magazines: The Atlantic and The Economist.

"An Asymmetrical Portrait: Exploring Gendered Income Inequality in the Arts" used the 2011 SNAAP dataset of 33,000 respondents to assess the gendered earnings gap for both artists and non-artists.

The authors write: "We find that the gendered earnings gap is comparable for artists and non-artists, and that artistic careers are subject to some of the same social forces that drive disparity in other occupational realms. Yet in the arts, we do not find the wage penalty to motherhood that has been documented in virtually every other field. Broader implications for scholarship on gender and work, as well as suggestions for further research and policy, are discussed.

The Atlantic (July 13, 2016)

A Field Where Working Moms Aren't Punished

Women in the arts don't see their wages fall after having children. What's keeping the "motherhood penalty," which is so common in other professions, at bay?
A new study reveals that pay inequality is just as present in the arts as it is in virtually every other field. But the field is distinct in one aspect. The researchers discovered that while women in nearly every field see a pay cut come motherhood, artists do not.

SNAAP Update

SNAAP is on the road in October and November 2016, with presentations at conferences of the International Council of Fine Arts Deans, Grand Rapids, MI (October 6), Arts Schools Network, Dallas (October 27), and the Alliance for the Arts in Research Universities, Denver (November 3). The SNAAP+ Leadership Forum will take place October 5 at Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University in Grand Rapids.

The 2016 SNAAP survey opens in October and arts alumni of these institutions will be invited to take the survey:

1. Arizona State University
2. Baltimore School for the Arts*
3. Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts*
4. Colorado State University
5. DePaul University
6. George Fox University
7. Hope College
8. Indiana University - Arts Administration
9. Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Culture
10. Interlochen Arts Academy*
11. James Madison University
12. The Juilliard School
13. Kennesaw State University
14. Kent State University
15. Louisiana State University
16. Manhattan School of Music
17. Massachusetts College of Art and Design
18. Michigan State University
19. Pace University
20. Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts
21. Pennsylvania State University
22. South Carolina Governor’s School for the Arts and Humanities*
23. Southern Methodist University
24. Southern Utah University
25. Texas Center for Arts + Academics*
26. Texas Tech University
27. University of Colorado Denver
28. University of Connecticut
29. University of Mary Washington
30. University of Michigan, School of Music, Theatre, & Dance
31. University of North Carolina at Greensboro
32. University of North Carolina School of the Arts
33. University of North Texas
34. University of Texas at Austin
35. University of Texas at Rio Grande Valley
36. University of Toledo
37. University of Wisconsin-Madison
38. University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
39. Virginia Commonwealth University
40. Wayne State University
41. Weber State University
42. Western Carolina University
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Alberta College of Art + Design, Arizona State University, Art Academy of Cincinnati, California Institute of the Arts, College of Charleston, Colorado State University, Drexel University, Emily Carr University of Art and Design, Hope College, Indiana University Bloomington Jacobs School of Music, Kansas City Art Institute, Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University, Kennesaw State University, Kent State University, Louisiana State University, Manhattan School of Music, Maryland Institute College of Art, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Messiah College of Art, Michigan State University, New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts, NSCAD University, Pacific Northwest College of Art, Penn State University, San Diego State University, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Southern Methodist University, Southern Utah University, Tufts University, University of Colorado Denver, University of Delaware, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, University of Mary Washington, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, University of New Mexico, University of North Carolina School of the Arts, University of Texas at Austin, University of Utah, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Virginia Tech, Weber State University, and Western Carolina University.

Thank You!