
March 3rd, 9:00-9:50 @ the Hilton /Nassau West, 2nd floor

The purpose of this panel is to showcase the views of four prominent art educators (Dr. Blair, Dr. Kindler, Dr. Pariser, Dr. Snider) on a recent and controversial publication by Kamhi (2014). The panelists will respond to a proposition about the utility of the book and will also comment on some perennially contested issues in art education that are raised in Kamhi’s book.

Professional learning outcomes. The professional learning outcomes of this panel will be to:

a) expose and critically consider an approach to visual art that, while not popular within academic circles, is in fact accepted as uncontroversial among the lay public; and

b) to expose audience members to a polished, structured and thought provoking debate about topics that remain of vital concern to all art educators.

Background and content of the debate. The book has had mixed reviews in a number of North American publications.

And, having used it in his graduate seminars Pariser found that some of his students shared Kamhi’s views and positions, as they felt alienated from prevailing academic discourses. For those students who disagreed with Kamhi’s stance, (the majority) the exercise of deconstructing her arguments was useful, as it forced them to reflect on their own *a priori*’s.

Thus there are benefits in providing a forum inside art education’s “Big Tent” where views such as these should be addressed.

Substance for the debate will consist of key material from Kamhi’s book and material from the vast literature on pedagogical, aesthetic and critical responses to art (e.g. Green, Barrett, Smith, Tavin). Panelists will give audience members a brief bibliography upon which they have based their response to Kamhi’s book.

The Session will be organized in debate form with each of the three prominent art educators responding to the following resolution:

“Resolved, that there is much useful to be learned from Kamhi (2014) and that it can profitably be read and studied by art educators at any level of their professional formation.” Pariser will be the moderator. In the first three minutes he will introduce the topic and set the ground rules for the debate.
Each of the three panelists will have eight minutes to present her response to the debate resolution.

Then each panelist will have three minutes to comment on their colleagues’ statements.

For the remaining fourteen minutes, audience members will question the panelists.

**Resources needed**: For panelists who wish to make a brief power point presentation, a projection system will be required.