Design Education: Creating Thinkers to Improve the World

Reviewer Comments

"Finally, a comprehensive look at the power of a design education. Vande Zande has compiled a pivotal text to engage teachers and students from all disciplines; to educate them on the successful, joyful, and fulfilling aspects of an art, architecture, and design based education. This book will undoubtedly lead the way for many generations of design-thinkers."

—Roy Young, Director of Operations and Visitor Experience, Fallingwater

"Children are growing up to live and work in a rapidly changing and increasingly technological world. Design thinking, allied to creativity and problem solving, are ever more essential tools for young people to develop and therefore good design teaching is ever more important. This book is an indispensable contribution to this important area of education and should be a constant companion to all those teaching it."

—Richard Green, Chief Executive, Design and Technology Association of England

"Teaching design through art education and through interdisciplinary design teams is more relevant today than it has ever been. Robin Vande Zande shows us how to think about and plan our lessons in ways that engage students in problem solving for daily living. I have used her methods to provide rich learning experiences in designing better products and community environments that my students will never forget. At a time when our students face the competition of a global economy and our curriculum calls for greater depth of knowledge, *Design Education: Creating Thinkers to Improve the World* is a well-timed answer for innovative educators and administrators who are looking for inspiration and guidance while building a project-based high school curriculum.

—Anne Jones, Art Department Chairperson, Brecksville–Broadview Heights High School

"Professor Vande Zande has written a comprehensive book on the value of design thinking as part of a creative curriculum. I especially appreciate that this detailed book addresses K-12 students and aligns with Common Core standards."

—Jack Lew, Dean Emeritus, Laguna College of Art and Design

"Robin Vande Zande uses this book to stimulate thinking about design, how it influences our societal values, and how to share design-based thinking with students in a reflective, observant, and practical way. It inspires, educates and creates a solid case for the teaching of design education to all students of all ages. The book challenges readers, teachers, and educators to think about design and evaluate the art of the everyday based on a solid understanding of design concepts."

—Monique Martin, art educator, international artist, recipient of the Prime Minister's and Governor General's awards for excellence in teaching, Georges Vanier Fine Arts School, Saskatoon, Canada K-8

“Robin Vande Zande challenges and expands the existing visual arts education, and rightly so. Design knowledge and competence is of vital importance in shaping the world. Creativity, entrepreneurial skills, innovation capacity, problem solving, and information gathering skills are key competitive advantages not just for the future designer, but as Vande Zande points out, for any citizen in making sustainable consumer choices and in building healthy communities. This book is a step towards, and a guide for educators to create, a new mindset in education.”

—Ingvild Digranes, Associate professor of Art and Design Education, Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences; Chair of Art and Design in Schools, Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training for “Design and Sustainability” in upper secondary school.

“In a compelling narrative Robin Vande Zande’s book merges history and theory with pertinent lesson plans full of focused activities and questions. It is a much-needed textbook that thoroughly communicates the wealth of design knowledge educators need in order to bring critical life skills into the 21st-century classroom. I’m confident that this book will not only help clarify and solidify the teaching methods necessary for meaningful design education but will also help broaden the very definition of design in the future.”

—Kevin Henry, Associate Professor, Design Department, Columbia College Chicago. Author of *Drawing for Product Designers*.