

The Museum of Modern Art

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About 200 high school principals, art chairmen, and other school officials will gather with parents, and educators from New York museums at a reception at The Museum of Modern Art Thursday, May 16 from 6 to 8 pm to honor Irving Anker, Chancellor of the New York City Public Schools and Dr. Edythe J. Gaines, Executive Director of the Division of Educational Planning and Support.

They are being honored for their encouragement of a comprehensive program of arts throughout the school curriculum, a program that many educators feel is threatened. In a letter to be distributed to all people attending the reception, Stanley Rose, Acting Assistant Director in Charge of the Bureau of Art, asks, "What do we have to do to convince our school system in financial crisis not to reflect in its austerity budget the low priority it seems to give the arts especially at the elementary level where they are needed the most?" He goes on to state that Mr. Anker and Dr. Gaines have responded to this crisis in the arts with a most enlightening and courageous proclamation on May 7, 1974, declaring the arts a priority in education in New York City.

Dr. Gaines, in her speech at the reception, will charge that "With our overweening emphasis on reading scores, we are slipping into a situation in which not only a child's reading ability is being defined by such tests, but also his intelligence, his creativity and -- in large measure -- his personhood are being defined by such scores." She calls this trend dangerous and destructive and says it should be resisted by all who truly care about children. "Artistic deprivation is no less an educational deprivation than is linguistic deprivation."

The reception is being sponsored by the Junior Council of The Museum of Modern Art and the Bureau of Art and is part of a series of events around the

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city between April 28 and May 17 called Focus on Education Through the Arts.

A description of The Museum of Modern Art's Educational Services, directed by William Burback, will be distributed to all guests.

In his welcoming remarks, Richard E. Oldenburg, Director of The Museum of Modern Art, will express the Museum's appreciation to the school administrators and teachers for their devoted efforts to provide substantive arts programs so basic to the personal development of young people.

Enclosures: Invitation

Laurie Johnston's article in The New York Times, 5/8/74 for Henry
Richard E. Oldenburg's letter
Dr. Edythe J. Gaines' remarks
Stanley Rose's remarks
"Education..." pamphlet
NYC Public School staff bulletin 5/15/72
NYC Public High School - Museum of Modern Art pamphlet
Educational Services at The Museum of Modern Art by William Burback
Junior Council statement
"An Invitation to See" book
Information and Plan
Books from The Museum of Modern Art
The Museum of Modern Art Members Calendar May 1974
Barbara Rose review from New York magazine on the reinstallation

Additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, Department
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