

King's College London launches CultureCase



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The **Cultural Institute at King's College London** is happy to launch **CultureCase**: a new, free-to-use web resource that aims to put academic research to work in the cultural sector.

CultureCase was created in response to a growing demand from the cultural sector for access to research and it was designed to meet the sector's questions and challenges. The resource translates academic-standard research into **digestible 300-word summaries** and makes them available for the first time in one portal. Built in collaboration with the cultural and Higher Education sectors, CultureCase includes a selection of the most relevant and robust research into culture and aims to provide a practical tool to support evidence-based decision making and to help build the case for investment.

A screenshot of the CultureCase website. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for 'Impacts', 'Insights', 'Contents', 'How to use', 'FAQs', 'About us', and 'Other resources'. Below the menu is a search bar with the text 'Search...' and a magnifying glass icon. The main content area features a large orange banner with the text 'Arts engagement has a range of benefits for young people'. Below the banner, there is a breadcrumb trail: 'Home > Impacts > Educational impacts of arts and culture'. The main text of the article is partially visible, starting with 'This research was conducted by Andrew J. Martin and five other people at the University of Sydney and the Australia Council for the Arts'. A 'Summary' section follows, with the text: 'This paper is about the role of arts engagement on the academic and non-academic outcomes of children and young people. It reports a large and multi-faceted study that found that even after controlling for other relevant factors, arts engagement was associated with increased academic and non-academic performance (measured by enhanced self-esteem, life satisfaction motivation and engagement). The research found that the home life of the children made a bigger difference than school and community factors. In-school arts tuition tended to be associated more strongly with academic outcomes than non-school factors'. To the right of the main text is a 'Latest additions' section with three items: 'Choral singing promotes a healthy heart', 'Arts engagement has a range of benefits for young people', and 'The viability of a theatre depends on the character of its local population'. Below these are two more items: 'Cultural activity can improve the health of older people' and 'Increasing young people's attendance at performing arts events'.

CultureCase is an experiment in research communication. **It aims to bridge the gap between academic research and its potential users and beneficiaries**, by translating academic research into a form that is easily accessible by **practitioners and advocates in the cultural sector**. It was developed following wide consultation with the cultural and academic sectors. The Cultural Institute has drawn on the expertise of both academic and cultural sector advisers who have steered the creation of the pilot site.



The content on this site is authored and edited by **James Doeser**, a freelance researcher and writer working with the Cultural Institute, King's College London. James has a PhD from University College London and spent three years working in the research

team at Arts Council England. Through 2014 CultureCase will move to a multi-authored format by developing a cohort of researcher-writers drawn from the Cultural Institute's Knowledge Exchange Associates.

For more information visit: www.culturecase.org