

## **The Relationship between Personality and Learning in Visual Art**

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**ABSTRACT** The purpose of the study was to determine whether a relationship exists between personality traits and the ability to learn visual art. The research conducted on a convenience sample operationalized art learning by subtracting the score of the first artwork from that of the eighth and last artwork per student, over a one year period thus creating the construct "difference score". All artworks were independently evaluated by external moderators. This difference score for art learning was statistically related to the personality traits of the participants as measured by the Basic Traits Inventory. One-tailed hypotheses were tested at a 0.05 level of significance. Control over confounding variables was obtained by building them into the design as independent variables. Results of regression analyses indicate an inverse relationship between the trait agreeableness and art learning and a positive relationship between conscientiousness and art learning. Unexpectedly the study indicated that more "learning" had taken place among females than among males. All results are discussed and informed by literature.