The longer you live, the less creative you become (unless you do something about it)

By the age of 40, most people are only 5% as creative as they were at the age of 5

“Arising creatives” are being taught by “declining creatives”
Learning is a choice!

• You cannot force a person to *learn* if they choose not to learn
• You cannot force a person to *think* if they choose not to think
• Thinking differently is a journey
• Thinking is the student’s choice
• The educator’s job is to give strategies and opportunities for thinking

Introduction to Creative Thinking

• Creativity is on a continuum

“Creativity is not possessed by only a few, but is universally found in every person and exists in matter of degree.”

Frank Williams
• Creativity is on a continuum

• No matter how creative you are, you can improve with training and practice

“Creativity is not possessed by only a few, but is universally found in every person and exists in matter of degree.”
Frank Williams

• Creativity is on a continuum

• No matter how creative you are, you can improve with training and practice

• Creativity is a limitless resource, no one ever reaches the end of their creative ability

“On any kind of creative scale, some individuals are found whose production exceeds that of their peers, not by simple percentages or multiples, but by more than 300 percent.”
Dr. John Gowan

• Creative thinking has long been considered the highest form of mental functioning

• Grades alone have zero correlation to success in life

• You have to do something with the information you learn to be successful in life

“Teaching for creative thinking is one of the most effective ways of implanting knowledge.”
Dr. Calvin Taylor
University of Utah

Grades + Thinking!
Creative Thinking in Schools

The Four Basic Elements of Creativity

• Fluency
• Flexibility
• Originality
• Elaboration

Certain structural strategies are more effective than others in producing creative responses in students.

Teaching Creative Thinking
Teacher Carmen’s Creative Teaching

- Your outlet for your adult-level creativity should be outside of your classroom
- If you make teaching your outlet, your adult-level creativity will suppress the creativity of your students
- It’s about the students, not us!

Teaching Creative Thinking

Is Creativity Happening In Your Classroom?

- It doesn’t matter what I see in your classroom or what presentation style you use! It matters what I hear as I listen to your students talk.
- It is the strategies you’re putting in place as you’re doing the teaching that gets the students to do the thinking.
- Are your students developing creative behaviors?
Creative Thinking In The Future

• Knowledge is no longer a competitive advantage
• Thanks to the internet, knowledge is accessible for everyone!
• Technology is now accessible for everyone!

Teaching for the Future

What Are Companies Looking For?

• Human capital
• Creative thinking is in the top 5 desired qualities
• Creative thinkers give the company an edge over their competition
“On-Your-Feet” Thinking

“What would you do to fix the problem I just described?”

Teaching for the Future
"I don't like it if teachers never think about the future. They only think about the past, and I think about the future all the time!"

• Our students will see more new knowledge and inventions created in their lifetime than all of the discoveries from the beginning of recorded history to the present.

That’s the year you are teaching for!

What am I going to do today that’s going to matter when they are 30?

Teaching for the Future

By the age of 30, people start getting more focus as to how they want to develop the rest of their lives.

We want students to have something more enduring than just being able to pass the test at the end of the year.

Making Creative, Innovative Thinking Our Focus
New Trends in the Industry:

• Schools still think students must learn in groups; but many creative thinkers will be working independently.

• Most of your bright, highly creative students will probably either be in small business or working individually.

Is this for the weak of heart?

• Our students are not going to compete with the students they’re going to school with today.

• They are going to compete with thinkers from all over the globe.

• We have to prepare international thinkers.

Your highly creative thinker can live in the Bahamas, bake in the sun with a computer, and make 100,000 dollars!

Teaching for the Future

• InnoCentive found that the odds of a solver’s success increased in fields in which they had no formal expertise.

• Colleges realize now that students will be better thinkers if they have understanding in several fields rather than deep understanding in one field.
Just get a degree, it doesn't matter which one!

- People will have many jobs in life
- Employers just want to know that you can
  - Complete a college course
  - Finish what you started
  - Manage your time
  - Attain goals
- When you study in just one area, you miss out on the connections with everything else

How then, can kids decide in 8th grade what they are going to do?

When you study in just one area, you miss out on the connections with everything else.

Employers just want to know that you can
- Complete a college course
- Finish what you started
- Manage your time
- Attain goals

We must think of their future world, not our present or our past!

- Students will not have to work for a big corporation unless they choose to
- Schools will need to prepare students to work in small business and to be individual thinkers

Module 1
- Dr. Juntune's background in the field of creativity
- Why it is important to nurture creativity in the classroom
- Developing creative thinkers for the future

Teaching for the Future

Developing Creative Thinking
In the Classroom
Dr. Joyce Juntune