

## Fostering Resiliency Through Art Education for Children with Severe Physical Disabilities

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This poster session is based on research for a thesis paper written as a requirement of Moore College of Art and Design's M.A. in Art Education with an Emphasis in Special Populations. The purpose of the study was to measure the effects of fostering resilience through art education for students with severe physical disabilities ages 7-21. Of particular interest to the researcher is how efforts to foster resilience in the art classroom can be adopted to provide a more appropriate art pedagogy for working with students with severe physical disabilities. A proposal was set forth to conduct and collect research on an eight-week art club which combines a thematic pedagogy with the factors that protect from trauma. Observations, surveys, interviews, and photo documentation was collected from the art club which took place at HMS School for Children with Cerebral Palsy in Philadelphia, PA, USA. Presenter name: Sarah Swanson Affiliation: Moore College of Art and Design

### Bio:

Sarah Swanson is a recent graduate from Moore College of Art and Design's MA in Art Education with an Emphasis in Special Populations program located in Philadelphia, PA, U.S.A. She graduated with a B.F.A. in Fine Arts from Parsons School of Design/ The New School University in New York City in 2002. She has since gained fifteen years of experience working with children and young adults with special needs. She is an artist, educator and mother of three who currently works and resides in the city of Philadelphia.