

# 10 Lessons the Arts Teach Evaluators

(after Elliot Eisner)



1. The arts teach evaluators to make good judgements about qualitative (and quantitative) relationships



2. The arts teach evaluators that problems have more than one solution, and that questions can have more than one answer



3. The arts celebrate multiple perspectives



4. The arts teach evaluators that in complex forms of problem-solving purposes are seldom fixed but change with circumstance and opportunity



5. The arts make vivid the fact that neither words in their literal form nor numbers exhaust what we can know



6. The arts teach evaluators that small differences can have large effects



7. The arts teach evaluators to think through and within a material



8. The arts help evaluators (and the evaluated) to say what cannot be said



9. The arts enable us to discover the range and variety of what we are capable of feeling



10. The arts' position in society symbolises what a culture feels to be important (i.e. our values)