

Art Speaks Out

Climate change and environmental destruction are serious threats that we as a community need to be weary of. Unfortunately, the general public does not have a strong grasp on the tragedies that are plaguing their very own planet. It's our moral obligation to spread awareness of the stress that is inflicted on Earth. One way of spreading this message is through the use of art. Implementing various forms of art into our society is a necessary tool that can be used to raise our voices about the environmental problems we face.

Art is a fantastic way of educating the public about the environmental destruction of our planet. Most of us aren't aware of the environmental problems we face such as global warming and habitat loss. Using art as a learning tool is a feasible possibility that can help educate naïve individuals. For example, posters could be displayed in public areas, depicting the harsh realities of ecosystem destruction. Moreover, implementing books on conservation into the school education system could help younger kids learn about environmental troubles. If people read and viewed images that explained the problem that Earth faces, then they'd be more inclined to conserve the very planet that gives them life. All of us are accountable for the environmental problems that threaten us; however, some of us are more liable than others.

Speaking out and spreading the word against environmentally degrading companies is one of the most influential forms of art that we can use. Big companies will exhaust a resource in favor of an immediate economic gain. This economic mindset hurts our planet, as resources aren't conserved and ecosystems are degraded. Ecologist Garrett Hardin coined this term as, "the tragedy of the commons." To Hardin, the tragedy of the commons was an economic theory, stating how people will use a combined resource for their own, short-term benefit, instead of considering the future or its impact on others. For example, if clear-cutting a forest yields a large

economic gain, then all the trees will be cut. Companies like these need to be spoken up against. Writing letters or using the media, are powerful tactics that can help to stop businesses from committing the tragedy of the commons. Individuals can send letters to these powerful businesses, detailing how their actions are selfish and environmentally destructive. Eventually, with enough people sending letters and sharing their stories, an influential message will be recognized. Furthermore, taking advantage of various forms of the media through peaceful events, such as protests, can let others know about how companies are putting our planet in danger. Most people are scared to raise their voices against these powerful groups. However, using a combined effort can guarantee that eventually, these corrupt corporations will stop damaging the world.

Planet Earth is a magnificent piece of artwork, releasing its beauty to all that care to look. Unfortunately, many people don't cherish what the natural world has to offer, leaving them somewhat detached. If people don't enjoy the natural art that surrounds their very lives, then they won't feel obligated to protect the Earth. Embracing and taking in the environment can give people a sense of purpose and motivation. If we could get people to understand that our planet is an irreplaceable and remarkable piece of artwork, then the general opinion of conserving the environment would change. Helping the public embrace the Earth's aesthetic value is the most important thing that we can do to slow down, and eventually, end environmental problems all together.

We, as a community, can use art to bring an end to the various environmental problems that torments our society. It's necessary to realize that individuals do matter. Whether it's educating the public on climate change, or writing a letter of disapproval to a corrupt factory, our voices are an influential form of art that will be heard. If we all work together and strive for the same goal, we will one day live in an environmentally friendly society.

