



The Power of Wisdom: Why It Matters in Education and Parenting

- Sareh Karami, PhD
- Mississippi State University

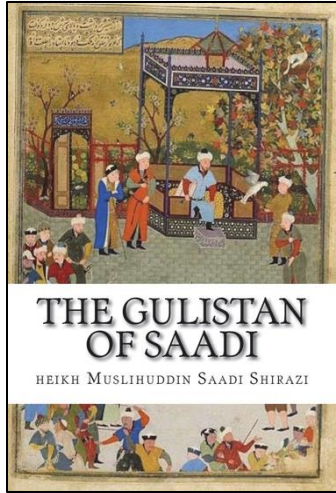
Sareh's Pathway



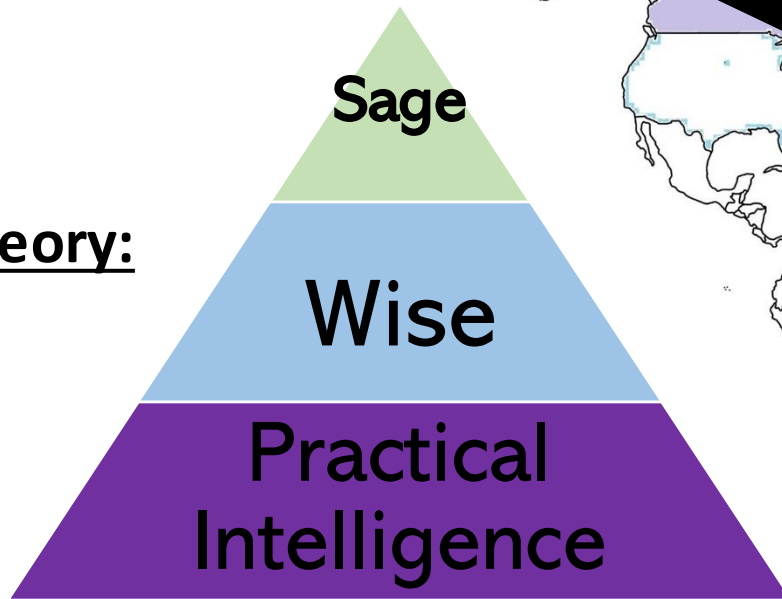
- I got my Masters in Clinical Psychology.
- I worked in the National Organization for Exceptional Talents.



Sareh's Pathway



Grounded Theory:

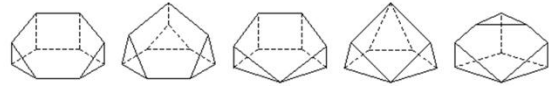
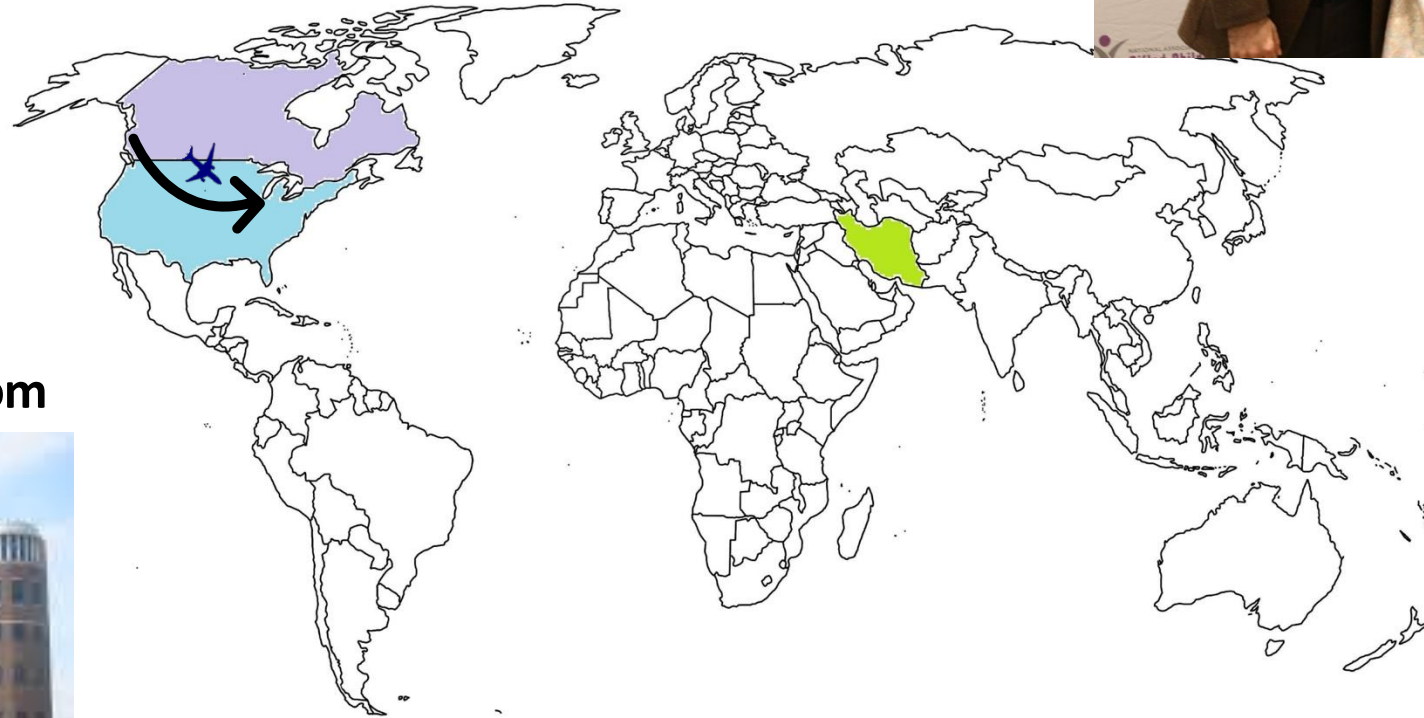
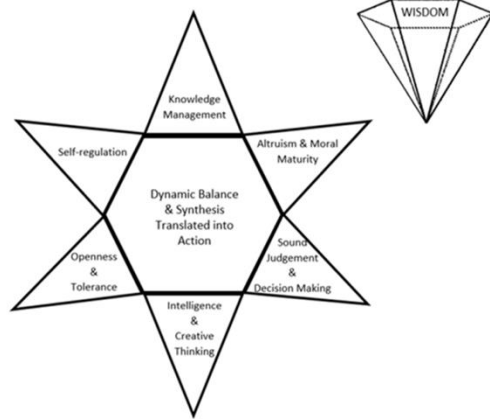


Iranian Hierarchical Wisdom Model



(Karami & Ghahremani, 2016, 2017; Strauss, & Corbin, 1994)

Sareh's Pathway



Polyhedron Model of Wisdom





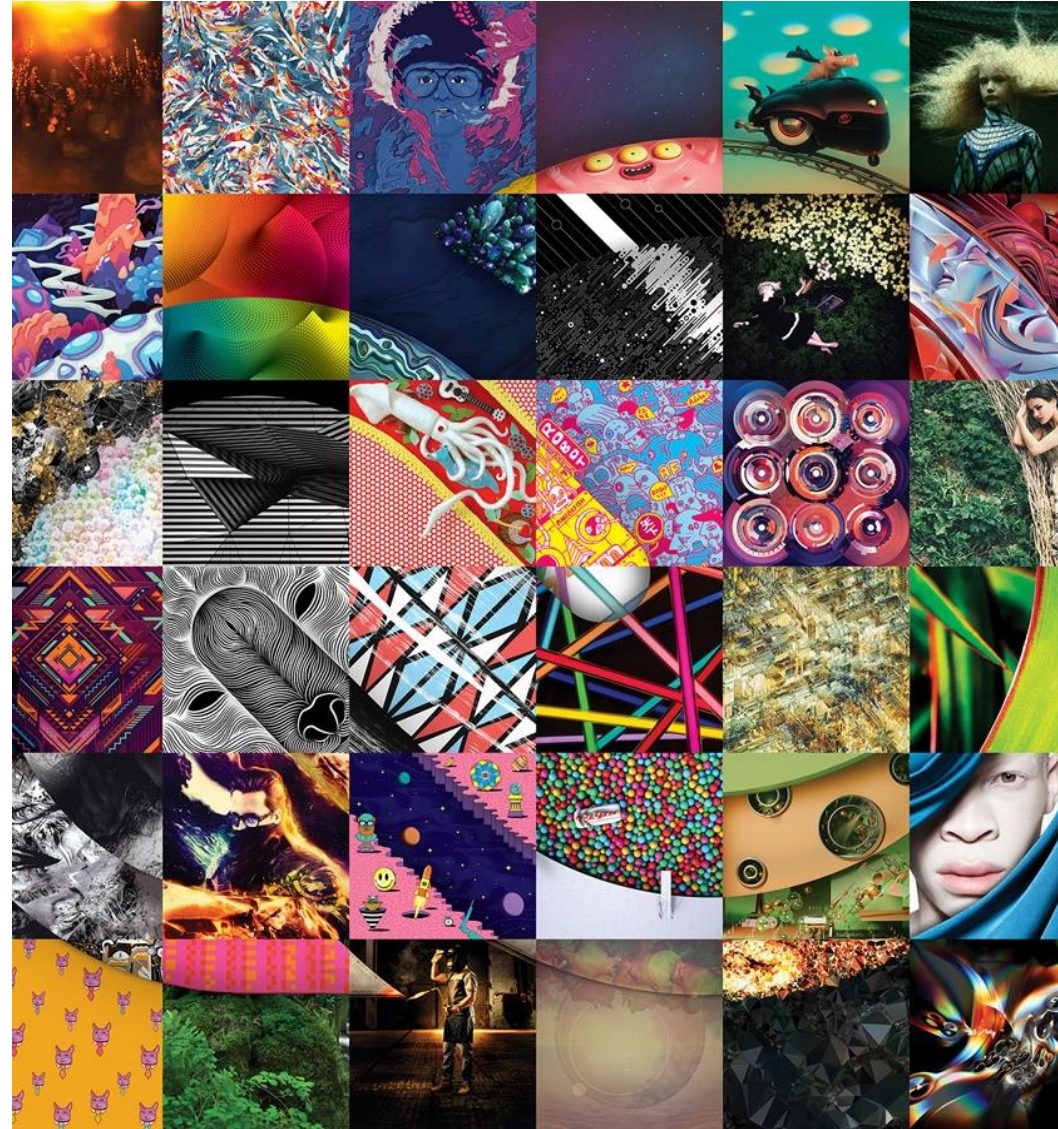
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Sareh's Pathway



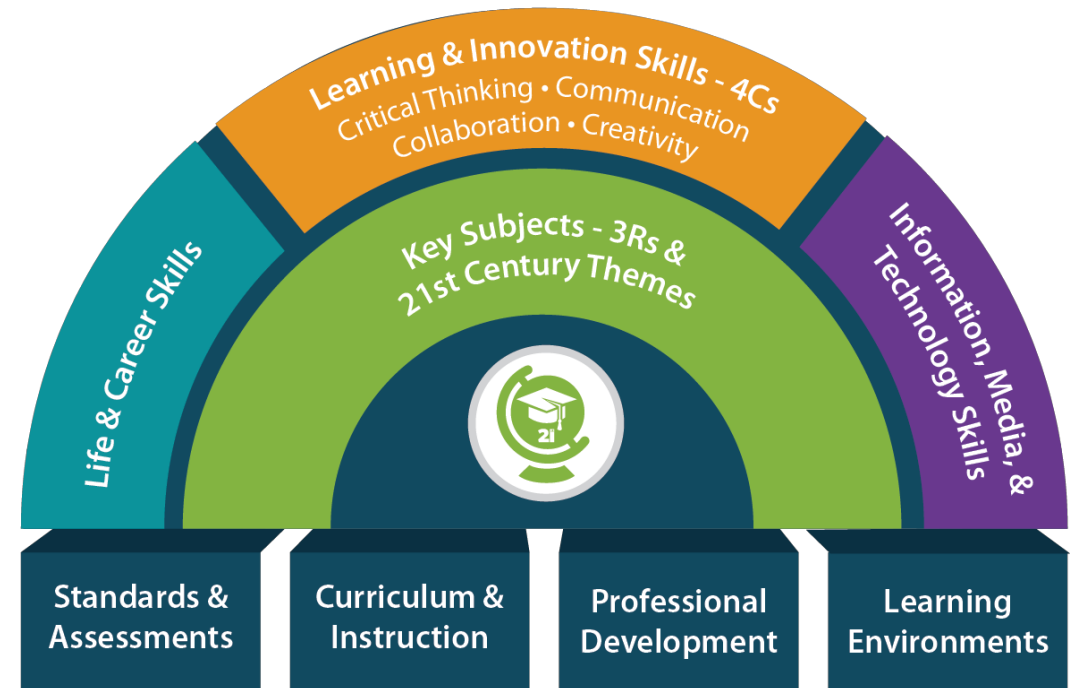
Renaissance of Global Creativity

- Creativity and innovation have become an essential agenda in public policy and education in many countries.



K-12 Frameworks

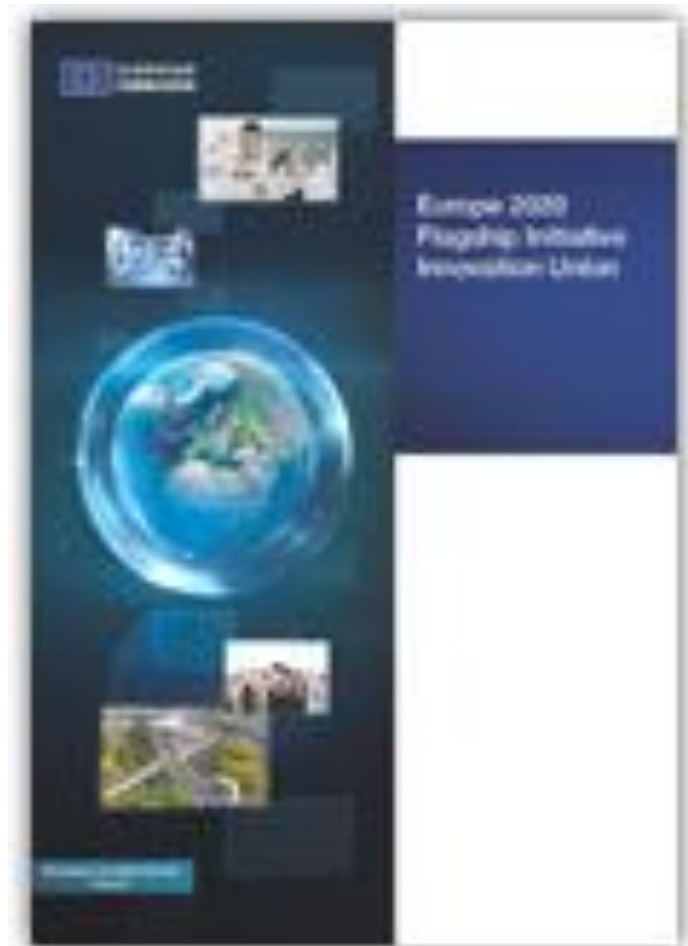
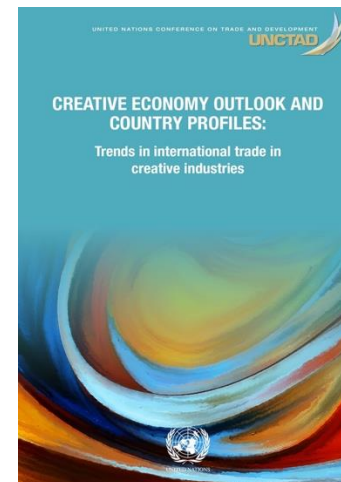
- P21's Frameworks for 21st Century Learning, 2021
- UNESCO Education 2030 Framework for Action, 2015



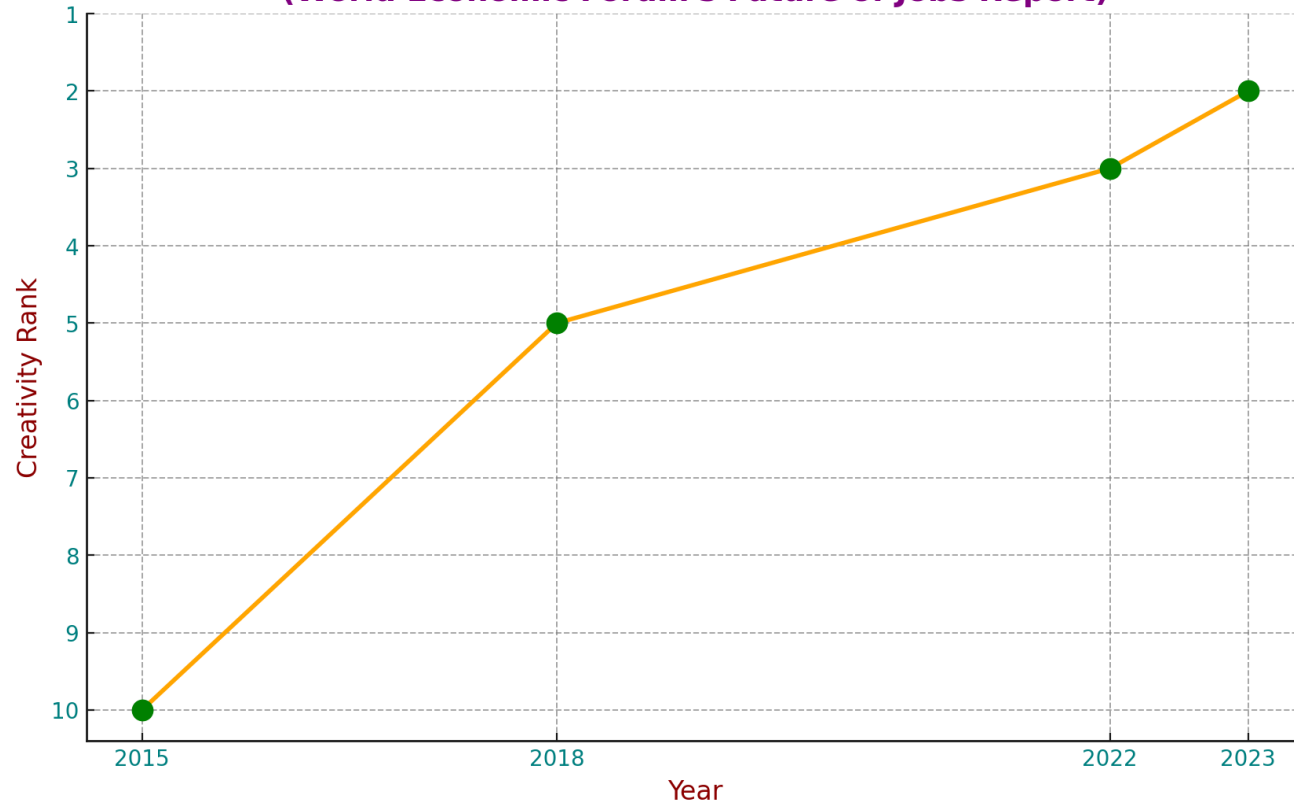
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Economy Documents

- Europe 2020 Flagship Initiative Innovation Union, 2020
- World Economic Forum, 2022
- UN Creative Economy Outlook, 2022



Ranking of Creativity in Skill Demands
(World Economic Forum's Future of Jobs Report)



Top 10 skills of 2023

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Analytical thinking | 6. Technological literacy |
| 2. Creative thinking | 7. Dependability and attention to detail |
| 3. Resilience, flexibility and agility | 8. Empathy and active listening |
| 4. Motivation and self-awareness | 9. Leadership and social influence |
| 5. Curiosity and lifelong learning | 10. Quality control |

Type of skill

■ Cognitive skills
 ■ Self-efficacy
 ■ Management skills
 ■ Technology skills
 ■ Working with others

Source
World Economic Forum, Future of Jobs Report 2023.

Note
The skills judged to be of greatest importance to workers at the time of the survey

Top 10 skills on the rise

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Creative thinking | 6. Systems thinking |
| 2. Analytical thinking | 7. AI and big data |
| 3. Technological literacy | 8. Motivation and self-awareness |
| 4. Curiosity and lifelong learning | 9. Talent management |
| 5. Resilience, flexibility and agility | 10. Service orientation and customer service |

Type of skill

■ Cognitive skills
 ■ Self-efficacy
 ■ Management skills
 ■ Technology skills
 ■ Working with others
 ■ Engagement skills

Source
World Economic Forum, Future of Jobs Report 2023.

Note
The skills judged to be increasing in importance most rapidly between 2023 and 2027



WORLD CREATIVITY INNOVATION DAY

APRIL 21

Therefore, the United Nations designated 21 April as World Creativity and Innovation Day to raise the awareness of the role of creativity and innovation in all aspects of human development.

- But Why?
- What does creativity mean?
- Why are many countries and organizations investing in promoting creativity and innovation?



Creativity is

- The generation of ideas and products that are:
- Novel (Surprises you)/Original





Is this product creative?

**Are these
products creative?**





What is missing?

- What is wrong with those products?
- Would you consider buying/using them?

Creativity is

The generation of ideas and products that are:

- novel,
- useful/valuable
- Or effective





Do you think these products are considered creative these days?

- They were groundbreaking 45 years ago.



A battery with the spare change

- Is it creative?
- Would you consider buying it?





Novelty is Contextual

What is novel in one place or time may well not be novel in another place or time.

Usefulness/Value

Usefulness also occurs in a sociocultural context.

Example?



Toilet Bidets





Alternative usages of Bidets



Manneke Pis

Creativity is

The generation of ideas and products that are:

- novel,
- useful or
- effective

In a given context (time and culture)



Creative thinkers

- produce novel and useful ideas
- introduce details to ideas (elaboration),
- all the while recombining them,
- adapting them,
- and sensing novel relationships among and between ideas.





The world is changing faster than ever before.



Socially Economically Politically





Environmentally



CNBC

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THE ART OF APPRECIATION

THE ART OF APPRECIATION

Part scary, part exciting: How artists are using AI in their work

PUBLISHED MON, APR 1 2024 11:17 AM EDT

Lucy Handley
@LUCYHANDLEY

SHARE f X in

KEY POINTS

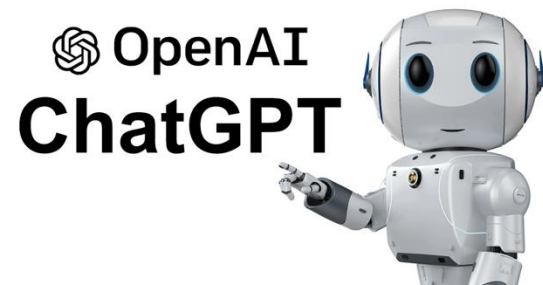
- Generative AI can create images from written prompts, which the art world has had a mixed response to, according to artists and gallerists CNBC spoke to.

NBC NEWS 2024 ELECTION MIDDLE EAST POLITICS U.S. NEWS WORLD BUSINESS HEALTH CULTURE & TRENDS WATCH LIVE

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Parents sue son's high school history teacher over AI 'cheating' punishment

The legal complaint said using artificial intelligence to assist in crafting an outline didn't violate school rules at the time.

A photograph of a large, leafy tree in front of a school building. The tree is the central focus, with its branches spreading across the frame. The school building is visible in the background, partially obscured by the tree.

Technologically

We are facing an uncertain future, and this is a significant challenge for the next generations to deal with.

Creativity and innovation enable people to

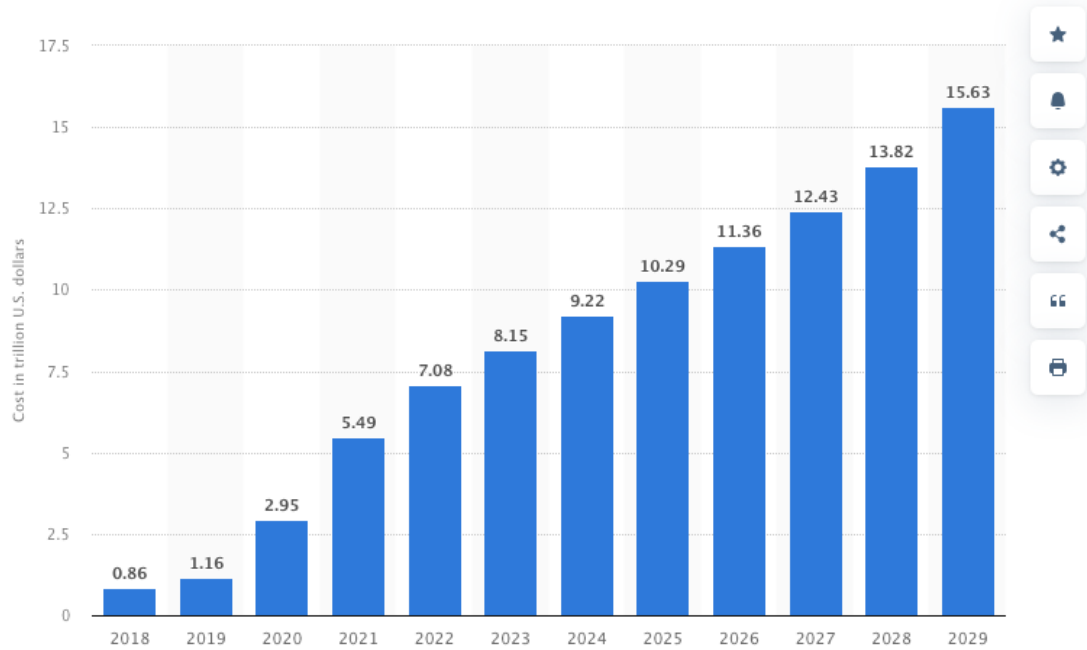
- Navigate through this uncertainty.
- Adapt to change rapid reskilling and upskilling
- Outthink the Competition: Embracing Fresh Approaches for Lasting Success

And It is Irreplaceable by AI (Higher level Strategy)



There is a dark side of creativity, too

- There can be no doubt that creativity has led to beneficial advances.
- We should invest in promoting Creativity.
- However, not all creativity is oriented toward positive goal.



© Statista 2024



- The global losses from cybercrime topped \$9 trillion in 2024.
- To Cost The World \$15.5 Trillion Annually By 2029
- Cybersecurity budgeting has become a high priority for most countries



- People who become involved in generating negative creativity are not necessarily monsters of evil.
- We are likely to have engaged in negative creativity ourselves at some point.

- What should we do?
- Should we stop promoting Creativity?



- Creative people challenge existing ways of seeing and understanding the world.
- Creative people doubt, question, and even change the social norms and rules that are not working.



Nelson Mandela (1918-2013)

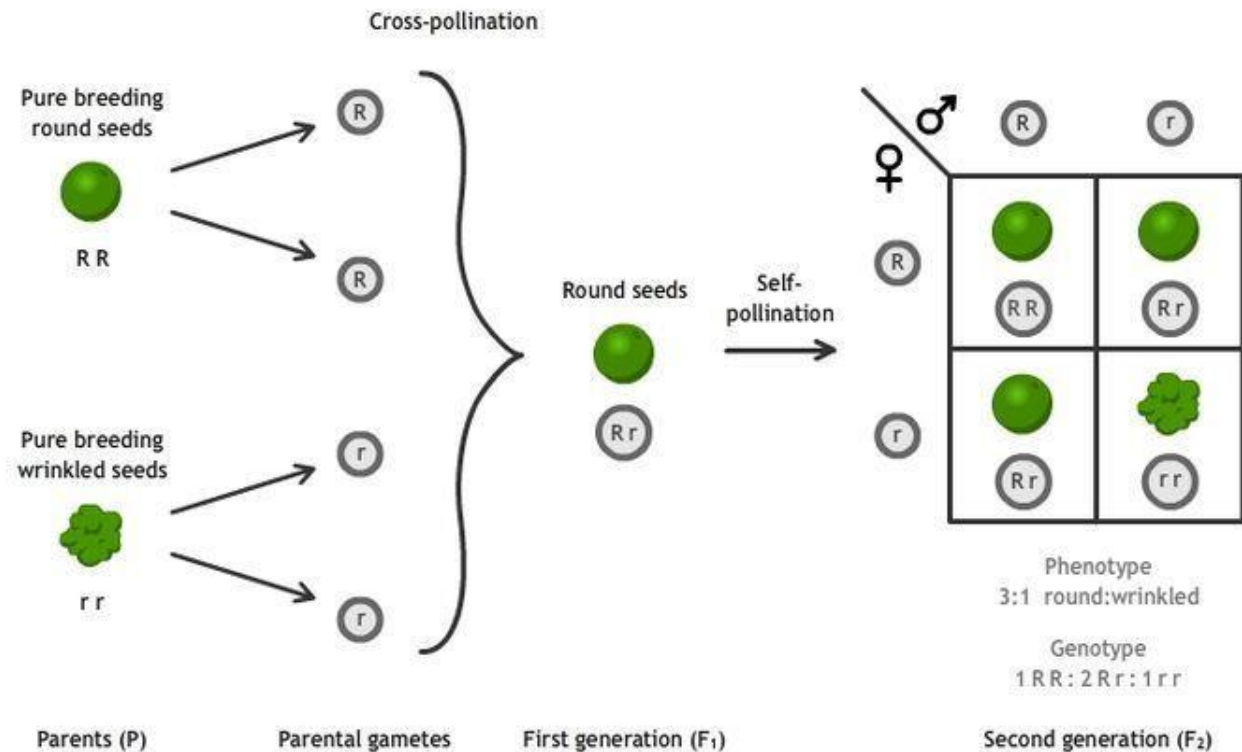


Anuna De Wever (2001)



Mendel's work on genetic inheritance (1822-1884)

- Even though Mendel attempted on many occasions to contact renowned scientists, they struggled to understand him and his theories



Ignaz Semmelweis(1818-1865)

- The death numbers could be lowered by surgeons washing their hands between patients
- he was disregarded and accused of calling them dirty. After years of trying, he finally gave up and ended his days in an insane asylum.



James Ensor (1860-1949)

- During the late 19th century, much of Ensor's work was rejected as scandalous, particularly his painting *Christ's Entry Into Brussels in 1889* (1888–89)





Vincent Willem van Gogh (1853-1890)

The work of Vincent van Gogh exerted a powerful influence on the development of much modern painting, notably Expressionism, in particular on the works of the Fauve painters, Chaim Soutine, and the German Expressionists



Positive Creativity is

The generation of ideas and products
that are:

- novel,
- useful or effective

In a given context (time and culture)

That also serves a constructive
function





Constructive for whom?

Their teams develop algorithms that increase user engagement.

These algorithms are **original and effective** in achieving the goal of maximizing the time users spend on the platform.

They may be **positively** creative from a business standpoint because they contribute to the company's profitability by attracting advertisers and boosting revenue.

However, they might promote misinformation and polarization as it doesn't discern the accuracy of the information.



Constructive for How Long?

- **Short-Term Positive Effect:** Plastic was introduced as a versatile, cheap, and durable material that transformed industries from packaging to healthcare.
- **Long-Term Negative Effects:** Plastic waste has become a significant environmental issue over time. In 2024, the world is expected to produce 220 million tons of plastic waste, a 7.11% increase from 2021.

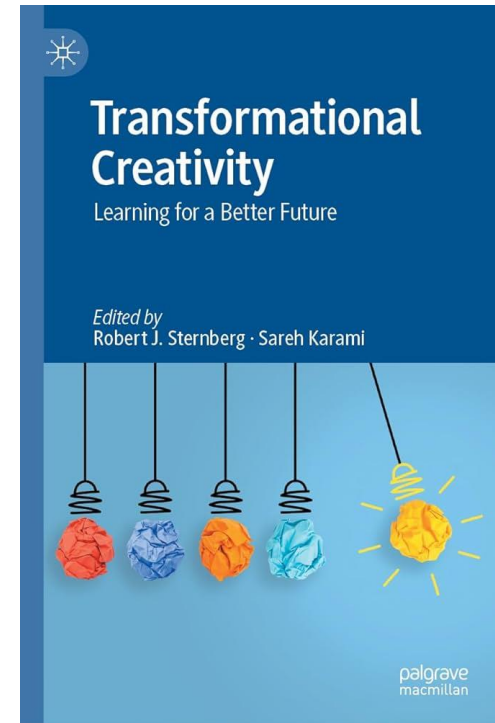
Transformational Creativity is

The generation of ideas and products that are:

- novel,
- useful or effective

In a given context (time and culture)

- that make the world a better place over the long- as well as the short-term.





- A Transformational individual seeks to make positive, meaningful, creative changes for common good.



- A Transactional Creative individual is expected to perform in a creative way in exchange for being identified or employed.



Creativity with Wisdom

- People who are Transformationally creative are often also transactionally creative.
- BUT
- They go beyond transaction — they use their creativity to affect positive change that seeks a common good.



What is the common good?

- No one can make such a judgment entirely free from sociocultural influences and potential bias.



Challenging Questions

- Who benefits from a course of action, and how great are the benefits?
- Who loses from a course of action, and how great are the losses?
- Who is unaffected by a course of action?
- What is an optimally fair and just assessment of the relative costs and benefits?



But we can Try!

- The world's first 100% transparent fashion label.
- Bruno Pieters' initiative has been widely praised for its innovative approach to ethical fashion.
- Honest By shows the origin of materials, their price, who made the product and how much money is made by each person along the supply chain



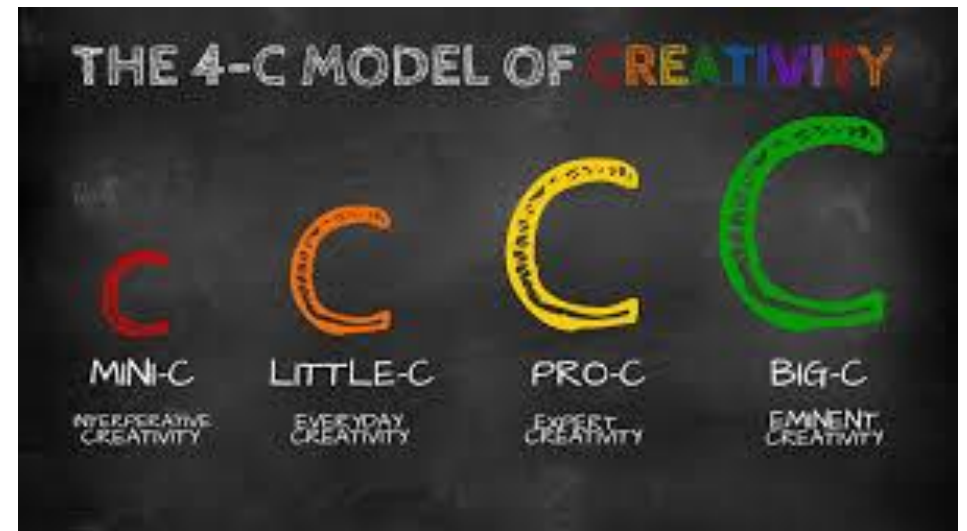


Flanders Marine
Institute (VLIZ)

Based in Ostend, VLIZ supports marine scientific research and promotes knowledge about oceans and coasts.

4-C's

- Mini-c: personally meaningful acts
- Little-c: everyday acts that others appreciate
- Pro-c: professional expertise that impacts a field
- Big-C: legendary genius that lasts for generations



4-C and Transformational Creativity

Mini-C Creativity: engaging in one of our daily creative practices to help improve your wellbeing, empathy, self-regulation etc.

Little-C Creativity: a teenager who starts a small community project to address local environmental issues, such as organizing neighborhood clean-ups.

Pro-C Creativity: At this level, an example could be a teacher who develops an innovative curriculum that significantly improves literacy rates among underprivileged students.



Mini-c

- Mini-c creativity refers to subjective self-discoveries—the new and personally meaningful insights that are part of the learning process. A person may initially be mini-c and then grow with feedback to become little-c (in which others recognize his or her creativity).

Transformational Mini-c

Engaging in one of our daily creative practices to help improve your wellbeing, empathy, self-regulation etc.

Example:

Journaling with a Twist: "Perspective Shifting"

Set aside 10-15 minutes daily to write about a recent interaction or event.

First, describe your perspective and feelings about the situation.

Then, imagine the perspective of someone else involved (e.g., a friend, colleague, or stranger).

Write about how they might have experienced it, their thoughts, and emotions.

Finally, reflect on what you've learned from seeing the situation through their eyes.

Transformational Little-C

- A teenager who starts a small community project to address local environmental issues, such as organizing neighborhood clean-ups.



Eneco Clean Beach Cup

This annual event unites volunteers, including surfers and supporters, to clean the Belgian coastline. In 2019, participants collected 11.5 tons of beach debris along 76.5 km of shoreline.



Veertigtal jonge vrouwen gaat uit protest uit de kleren voor ambassade van Iran in Brussel

Transformational Little-C

A teacher who develops an innovative curriculum that significantly improves literacy rates among underprivileged students.

Transformational Pro-C

- If that teacher influences a larger number of students and their impact extends beyond the boundaries of their school.

Ontmoet onze experts



Tania Gevaert

Coördinator | Psychotherapeut IHP | ECHA Spec.
in Gifted Education | Facilitator Peers4Parents |
Loopbaanbegeleider



Dr. Ophélie Desmet

Ph.D in Educational Psychology, major
Giftedness, Creativity and Talent. Minor
Psychological statistics and qualitative research
methods | Pedagogisch adviseur



- Steunpunt Onderpresteren is a non-profit organization founded in 2017, dedicated to being a resource and knowledge center for underperforming children and young people, their parents, and teachers.

How do we decide if something is Transformational?



balancing one's own, others', and larger interests;



over the long term as well as the short term;

Sternberg, 2001

We should simultaneously foster creativity and wisdom.



Creativity Trainings

Research on fostering creativity in general indicates numerous effective strategies.

e. g., Torrance (1976), Rose and Lin (1984; effect size=0.468), Scott et al. (2004a; effect size=0.68), and Swanson and Hoskyn (1998; effect size=0.70); Scott et al. (2004b; effect size=0.78); and Ma (2006; effect size=0.77).



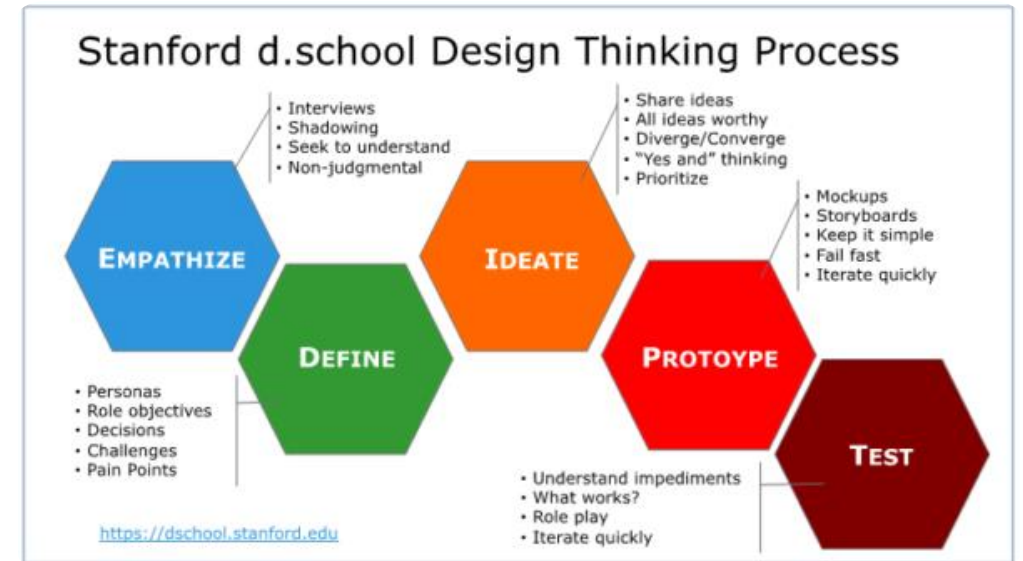
Research on Transformational Creativity

- Research on Transformational Creativity is limited, as it is a relatively new area of study
- We investigated Creativity Trainings to see if they also promote Wisdom (Balancing interests, Short/Long Term)



It is a good example of Positive Creativity

- Design thinking was the only training we found that included some aspect of balancing interests.
- Empathy is a “deep understanding of the problems and realities of the people you are designing for.” (1)



Transformational Creativity Goes Beyond Empathy

- Transformational creativity isn't just beneficial for one person or group; it aims to benefit all people, the planet, and even non-human life (As Much As Possible).



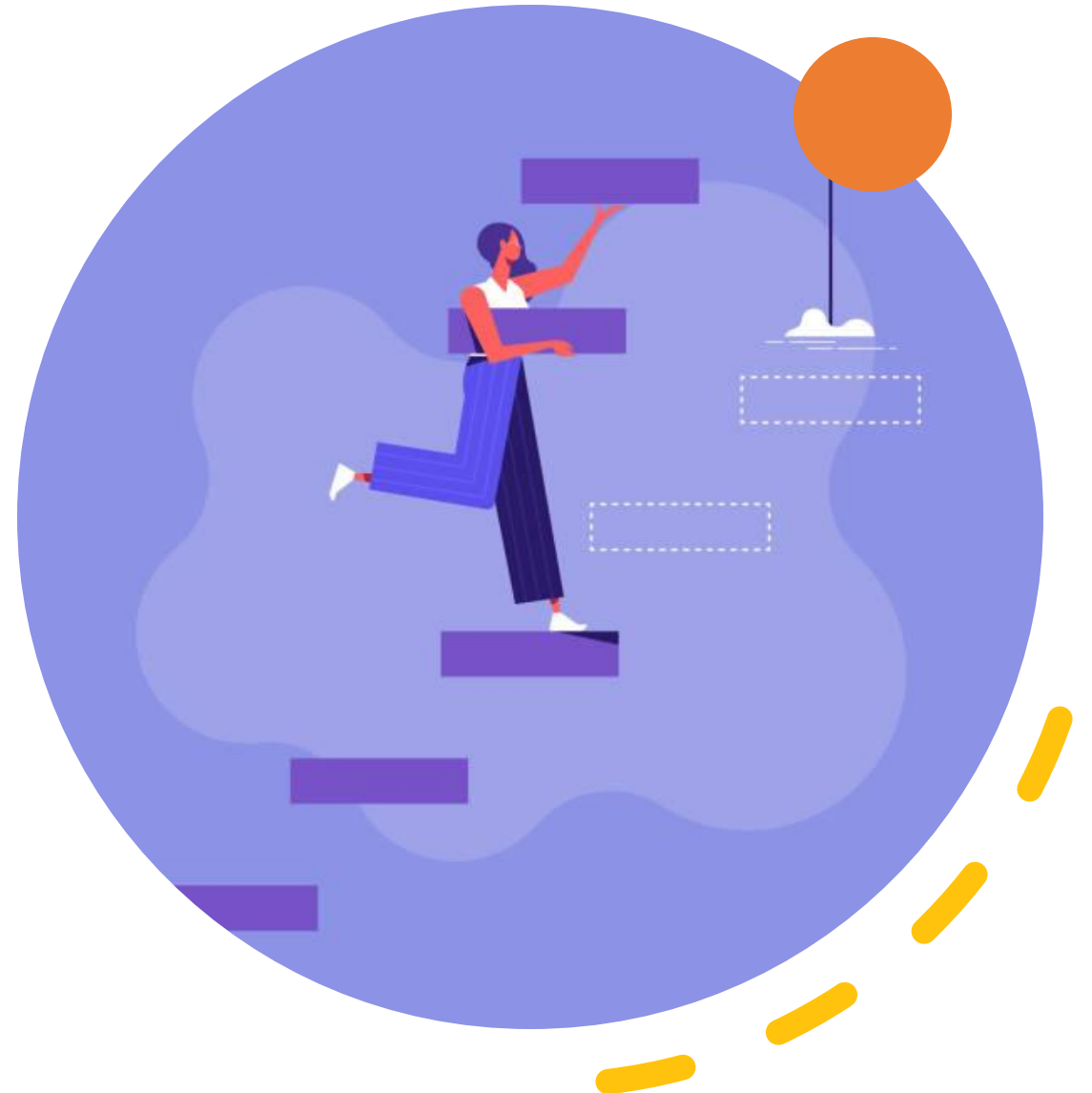
Identify Key-Skills



- Have Positive effects on Creativity
- Have Positive effects on Wisdom
- Promote Balancing Interests (Including outer groups)
- Promote Evaluation of Short-term, Long-term Consequences

To identify the key skills, we drew from research on:

- Creativity and Problem-solving
- Wisdom (Especially PVM & Balance Theory)
- Moral Decision Making





Along with promoting Creativity, we can Promote

- Perspective Taking and Getting (Especially for Balancing Interests)
- Counterfactual Imagination (Especially for Understanding Short-term and long-term consequences)

And

- Sense of Agency



What is Perspective Taking

It is the ability to understand how a situation appears to another person and how that person reacts cognitively and emotionally to that situation (1)

It has been shown to promote a range of positive outcomes, including (2)

- ❖ improving interpersonal and intergroup relations,
- ❖ reducing bias and prejudice
- ❖ blurring harmful perceptions of group boundaries
- ❖ increases pro-environmental attitudes and commitment to helping the environment



1: Batson et al. 1997; Batson 2012; Coplan 2011

2: Berenguer, 2007, 2010 Todd and Galinsky 2014; Gutsell et al. 2020; Simonovits et al. 2018; Gehlbach et al. 2014; Galinsky and Moskowitz 2000; Myers et al. 2014

Counterfactual Imagination

We define counterfactual imagination as embracing all thoughts about alternatives to the here and now, including, for example, thinking about the future and pretend or fictional worlds.



Amsel & Smalley, 2000; Chylińska, 2017;
Edgington, 2011; Gopnik, 2009; Harris, 2000;
Woodward, 2011;

‘What if I dare?’

- Sense of Agency (SoA) refers to the awareness of being the agent of our own actions.
- Empowers Individuals to Take Action
- Any act of Creativity will Build a future.





Any Questions or Suggestions

- Contact information:
- Skarami@colled.msstate.edu

