



Common Arts Education

with Chris Hall, MAT

Webinar Show Notes

Agenda

- A. Synopsis:** Master educator and author Chris Hall provides a history of the common arts, identifies its place among the liberal and fine arts, and describes its importance in education for thinkers from Ancient Greece through today. Expounding on his book *Common Arts Education: Renewing the Classical Tradition of Training the Hands, Head, and Heart*, Chris provides compelling philosophical and theological determination for bringing the liberal arts and common arts together for a whole education.
- B. Personal Announcements:**
- Book: [Common Arts Education: Renewing the Classical Tradition of Training the Hands, Head, and Heart](#)
 - CU course: [Common Arts Education](#)
 - Website: [Always Learning Education](#)
- C. Main Goals Tonight (30-35 mins):**
- Artifacts and the nature of the common arts
 - Relationship between the liberal and common arts and the fine arts as their



highest intersection

- We are embodied creatures meant to thrive as well as survive

D. Q & A to follow (15-20 mins)

TONIGHT'S OUTLINE

- I. Prologue: modernity, the common arts, and reality
- II. Ancient Artifact: acheulean ax, the evolution of flint mapping, and the arts of language and apprenticeship
- III. Arts of "Thrival" - How the arts intersect
 - a. liberal arts seen as descending from an ordained order
 - b. common arts as service performed in charity lead back to cosmic order reflected in liberal arts
 - c. fine arts is the culmination of goodness, truth, and the beauty of the aesthetic encounter evoked in the intersection of liberal and common arts
- IV. Historical arc of common arts preserved in ancient conversations
 - a. Hugh of St. Victor
 - b. Bonaventure
 - c. Milton
 - d. Tolkien - LOTR
 - i. language of
 - ii. creatures
 - iii. notion of craft descending from language
 - e. Lewis - Abolition
 - i. acting as sub-creators in our craft



Q & A

Some questions that were answered in the webinar

- Can you give advice on how to teach hands on real world topics in an online classroom?
- How do we encourage older adults to be able to share their knowledge in these common arts?
- What do you mean when you say that sometimes the common arts don't involve moving hands, they involve still ones?
- What are practical ways to practice the common arts tomorrow?

Encore Resources

I. You can find Chris Hall at:

- A. Website: [Always Learning Education](#)
 1. [Courses](#)
 2. [Apprenticeships](#)
- B. Scholé Academy: [Common Arts I](#)
 1. [Part A \(Fall\)](#)
 2. [Part B \(Spring\)](#)
 - 3.

II. Chris's Resources

- A. Books
 1. [Common Arts Education: Renewing the Classical Tradition of Training the Hands, Head, and Heart](#)
 2. [A New Natural Philosophy: Recovering a Natural Science and Christian Pedagogy](#)
- B. Articles & Essays
 1. [Publications](#)
 2. Podcast & Radio Interviews
 1. [Classical Education Podcast](#)
 2. [Humility & Doxology](#)



C. Recommended Reading:

1. [Common Arts Education: Renewing the Classical Tradition of Training the Hands, Head, and Heart](#) by Christopher Hall, MAT
2. [You Are Not a Gadget: A Manifesto](#) by Jaron Lanier
3. [The Abolition of Man](#) by C.S. Lewis
4. [Last Child in the Woods](#) by Richard Louv
5. [The Unsettling of America: Culture and Agriculture](#) by Wendell Berry
6. [To Ride, Shoot Straight, and Speak the Truth](#) by Jeff Cooper
7. [The Call of the Wild + Free](#) by Ainsley Arment
8. [Beatrix Potter Originals](#)
9. [The Burgess Bird Book for Children](#) by Thornton Burgess

D. Related Resources:

1. [Common Arts Education Suggested Resources](#)
2. ["The Land": A Movie and Discussion about Adventure Play, Part 1 & Part 2](#)
3. [Project Wildlife](#)
4. [National Audubon Society](#)
5. [Exploring Nature with Children](#) curriculum
6. [Nature Adventures!](#)
7. [Promise of Place: Place-Based Education](#)
8. [Acheulean hand ax](#)