Alex Croce

Pace Prep Course

The Creativity Crisis

 Po Bronson and Ashley Merryman’s article in “Newsweek” *“The Creativity Crisis,”*  brought something forward that I have never heard of before; divergent and convergent thinking. Divergent thinking is a process of generating many unique ideas, while Convergent thinking process combines those unique ideas into the best result. I know enough that our brain is the control center for all the body’s functions, such as walking, talking, swallowing, breathing, taste and smell. It also controls all our thinking functions, our emotions, how we behave and all our intellectual activities, such as how we perceive and understand our world and its physical surroundings, how we learn and remember and so on. All of these bodily functions and processes are unique to themselves and creativity is a process that according to Po Bronson and Ashley Merryman has been lacking or as they said; “With creativity, a reverse trend has just been identified and is being reported for the first time here: American creativity scores are falling.”
 I think that creativity and learning in today’s day and age have not been lacking in our youth and adulthood in the United States, I think that other countries and generations before ours are more competitive and they weren’t as lazy! Creativity and the ability to learn are seen differently in each person in their own way. In my opinion in order for someone to be creative all they have to do is find what they are good at and the creativeness will come to them in different ways. In “ *The Creativity Crisis,”* they mention, “Creativity requires constant shifting, blender pulses of both divergent thinking and convergent thinking, to combine new information with old and forgotten ideas. Highly creative people are very good at marshaling their brains into bilateral mode, and the more creative they are, the more they dual-activate.” I agree with them in order to be creative you have to be able to combine both types of thinking processes but to be creative you have to exercise your mind. I cannot get over what they mentioned in the article how the way we are being taught is the reason our generation is losing the creativity gene. I agree, the way our curriculum is today is not helpful and the wau our generation is with technology it doesn’t work. In my school district I cannot tell you how many times in high school I would doze off into a daydream because the teacher had no emotion or and passion for what they taught, and the way they taught it. I think our school systems need to change the way they teach students at all grade levels. Technology is key, if each school incorporated technology in an interactive way I think students will stay focused and be more involved in the class. Creativity and learning aren’t lacking, but the way we are being taught is too primitive. I don’t think our creativeness will still lack if the school systems change the way they teach. Creativeness is hidden in everybody, it just depends on that person and if they have the self- motivation to look into themselves and bring out their own creativity.