What role does learning in the arts disciplines play in cultural development?

Through artistic processes, students engage in and develop important and corresponding social practices. These social practices are: developing craft, engaging and persisting, envisioning, expressing, observing, reflecting, stretching, and exploring and understanding art worlds (Hetland et al. 2013).

The arts provide ways for children to create and communicate their own individual cultures, to experience the differences and similarities among the cultures of family or nationality that are imprinted on different forms of art, and to discover the common features of expression that attest to a human connection contained in and beyond difference (2008).

... students are encouraged to explore and come to appreciate their own culture and community in rich ways by using local, primary resources such as community members, folk artists, authentic local documents, and community sites. By engaging with their community through the arts, students participate in the process of exploring, documenting, creating, and preserving their city’s cultural heritage (2009).

“...The features of the culture to which the child will be exposed and the manner in which the child will address that culture are the most powerful indicators of the kind of thinking and therefore the kind of mind a child is likely to develop during the course of childhood.”

—Elliot Eisner, professor of art and education (2002)

California Arts Education Framework for California Public Schools, Chapter 1

What cultural enrichment opportunities can rural, suburban, and urban community and cultural arts education assets provide to enhance cultural development?