

# Alfanerds – Art-Science Collaboration in Education

Emiel Heijnen, Melissa Bremmer, Hanna Salonen  
Amsterdam University of the Arts

## Abstract

**“Conceptual understandings developed within cross-disciplinary collaborations, offer a rich and creative method to acquire new tools to reflect on some of the bigger issues that concern us all.” (Hudson, Ben-Ary, Lawson & Hodgetts, 2013, p. 4) Interdisciplinary collaboration is a hot topic, both in education and in contemporary arts practice. Integrating arts and science subjects in education can stimulate the development of students’ creativity, critical thinking, problem solving and collaboration. At the same time, such integrations offer students a perspective on current, hybrid practices in which artists, scientist and engineers work together to solve complex societal problems. The Amsterdam University of the Arts has initiated a national platform in which a multidisciplinary group of researchers and practitioners seek for meaningful connections between art, science and technology in education. Some important research topics of the platform are: What is the added value of the arts in collaboration with non-art disciplines? How can teachers with different subject backgrounds collaboratively design transdisciplinary educational programs and curricula?**

**In this round table we will present and discuss: -The outcomes of the empiri-**

**cal research projects involving art-science collaborations in the Netherlands -  
Examples of arts and teaching practices at the intersection of art, science and  
technology**

**Keywords**

Interdisciplinary arts education, Cross-curricular, Art-science collaboration.