

# A Sense of Place: 'Genius Loci' and Cultural Diplomacy in the Visual Arts

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## **Abstract**

**Abstract This paper discusses a recent Holocaust Memorial Project held in an International School in Prague, and sets forth a practical and inspiring model for how gallery spaces in schools can be used as a vibrant hub for multidisciplinary projects, and for uniting communities. Taking the multi layered history and location of Prague as its European context, we discuss how to source the unique 'genius loci' (spirit of a place), build partnerships, and promote holistic themes. This model presents a creative and diplomatic way forward for educators who believe that through cultural diplomacy and soft power, the Visual Arts have the capacity to enhance sensitivity towards the understanding of 'place'; a duty to develop an active social conscience, and the right to occupy a pivotal role in the 21st century school curriculum.**

## **Keywords**

Cultural diplomacy, Multidisciplinary, Place, Partnerships.