

Calligraphy

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Creativity Quotations

Spirituality exists wherever we struggle with the issue of how our lives fit into the greater cosmic scheme of things. This is true even when our questions never give way to specific answers or give rise to specific practices such as prayer or meditation. We encounter spiritual issues every time we wonder where the universe comes from, why we are here, or what happens when we die. We also become spiritual when we become moved by values such as beauty, love, or creativity that seem to reveal a meaning or power beyond our visible world. An idea or practice is “spiritual” when it reveals our personal desire to establish a felt-relationship with the deepest meanings or powers governing life. — Robert C. Fuller

It is worth mentioning, for future reference, that the creative power which bubbles so pleasantly in beginning a new book quiets down after a time, and one goes on more steadily. Doubts creep in. Then one becomes resigned. Determination not to give in, and the sense of an impending shape keep one at it more than anything. —Virginia Woolfe

The key question isn't “What fosters creativity?” But it is why in God's name isn't everyone creative? Where was the human potential lost? How was it crippled? I think therefore a good question might be not why do people create? But why do people not create or innovate? We have got to abandon that sense of amazement in the face of creativity, as if it were a miracle if anybody created anything. —Abraham Maslow

Creativity is inventing, experimenting, growing, taking risks, breaking rules, making mistakes, and having fun. —Mary Lou Cook

Imagination is the beginning of creation. You imagine what you desire, you will what you imagine and at last you create what you will. —George Bernard Shaw

You must not for one instant give up the effort to build new lives for yourselves. Creativity means to push open the heavy, groaning doorway to life. This is not an easy struggle. Indeed, it may be the most difficult task in the world, for opening —Daisaku Ikeda

Creativity is not merely the innocent spontaneity of our youth and childhood; it must also be married to the passion of the adult human being, which is a passion to live beyond one's death. —Dr. Rollo May

Focus should be to encourage and develop creativity in all children without the ultimate goal begin to make all children inventors, but rather to develop a future generation of critical thinkers. —Faraq Mousa

Conditions for creativity are to be puzzled; to concentrate; to accept conflict and tension; to be born everyday; to feel a sense of self. —Erich Fromm

Creativity can solve almost any problem. The creative act, the defeat of habit by originality overcomes everything. —George Lois

Creativity arises out of the tension between spontaneity and limitations, the latter (like the river banks) forcing the spontaneity into the various forms which are essential to the work of art or poem. —Rollo May

One very important aspect of motivation is the willingness to stop and to look at things that no one else has bothered to look at. This simple process of focusing on things that are normally taken for granted is a powerful source of creativity... —Edward de Bono

The creative is the place where no one else has ever been. You have to leave the city of your comfort and go into the wilderness of your intuition. What you'll discover will be wonderful. What you'll discover is yourself. — Alan Alda

A rock pile ceases to be a rock pile the moment a single man contemplates it, bearing within him the image of a cathedral. — Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

I began by tinkering around with some old tunes I knew. Then, just to try something different, I set to putting some music to the rhythm that I used in jerking ice-cream sodas at the Poodle Dog. I fooled around with the tune more and more until at last, lo and behold, I had completed my first piece of finished music. — Duke Ellington

Nothing is done. Everything in the world remains to be done or done over. The greatest picture is not yet painted, the greatest play isn't written, the greatest poem is unsung. There isn't in all the world a perfect railroad, nor a good government, nor a sound law. Physics, mathematics, and especially the most advanced and exact of the sciences are being fundamentally revised. . . Psychology, economics, and sociology are awaiting a Darwin, whose work in turn is awaiting an Einstein. — Lincoln Steffens

High is our calling, friend! Creative Art
(Whether the instrument of words she use,
Or pencil pregnant with ethereal hues,)
Demands the service of a mind and heart,
Though sensitive, yet, in their weakest part,
Heroically fashioned.

—William Wordsworth, *Miscellaneous Sonnets*

Creativity is... seeing something that doesn't exist already. You need to find out how you can bring it into being and that way be a playmate with God. — Michele Shea

Every artist dips his brush in his own soul, and paints his own nature into his pictures. — Henry Ward Beecher

The most potent muse of all is our own inner child. — Stephen Nachmanovitch

Ideas are like rabbits. You get a couple and learn how to handle them, and pretty soon you have a dozen. — John Steinbeck

If you hear a voice within you say, 'You cannot paint,' then by all means paint, and that voice will be silenced. — Vincent van Gogh

I shall become a master in this art only after a great deal of practice. — Erich Fromm

Because of their courage, their lack of fear, they (creative people) are willing to make silly mistakes. The truly creative person is one who can think crazy; such a person knows full well that many of his great ideas will prove to be worthless. The creative person is flexible; he is able to change as the situation changes, to break habits, to face indecision and changes in conditions without undue stress. He is not threatened by the unexpected as rigid, inflexible people are. — Frank Goble

There is no use trying," said Alice. "One can't believe impossible things." "I daresay you haven't had much practice," said the Queen. "When I was your age, I always did it for half an hour a day. Why, sometimes I've believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast." — Lewis Carroll

Creativity is contagious. Pass it on. — Albert Einstein

Creativity is the quality that you bring to the activity that you are doing. It is an attitude, an inner approach – how you look at things . . . Whatsoever you do, if you do it joyfully, if you do it lovingly, if your act of doing is not purely economical, then it is creative. — Osho

Every day is an opportunity to be creative – the canvas is your mind, the brushes and colours are your thoughts and feelings, the panorama is your story, the complete picture is a work of art called, 'my life'. Be careful what you put on the canvas of your mind today – it matters. — Innerspace

The highest prize we can receive for creative work is the joy of being creative. Creative effort spent for any other reason than the joy of being in that light filled space, love, god, whatever we want to call it, is lacking in integrity. . . — Marianne Williamson

An artist paints, dances, draws, writes, designs, or acts at the expanding edge of consciousness. We press into the unknown rather than the known. This makes life lovely and lively. — Julia Cameron

When you are describing,
A shape, or sound, or tint;
Don't state the matter plainly,
But put it in a hint;
And learn to look at all things,
With a sort of mental squint. —Lewis Carroll

Be daring, be different, be impractical,
be anything that will assert
integrity of purpose and imaginative vision
against the play-it-safers,
the creatures of the commonplace,
the slaves of the ordinary. —Cecil Beaton

Releasing creativity

To be somebody is releasing creativity in people around you
Helping them to leave the boring life of status quo
Launching out to explore the exciting life of creative adventures
The adventure of expressing themselves
In words and motions
In dance and drama
In oral or written form
In black and white and sparkling colours
Using pens and brushes, hands and feet
To unleash the impulses of their inner being
When you help people to be themselves
And to dare to express what they feel on the inside
Helping them to tap into the limitless reservoir
Of creative ideas deep down in their own heart
Then you really are somebody
For you are helping people to become a creative somebody
—Erling Thu ... author of creativity quotes

You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have.
— Maya Angelou

You need chaos in your soul to give birth to a dancing star.
—Nietzsche

All children are artists. The problem is how to remain an artist once he grows up. —Pablo Picasso

Creativity comes from trust.
Trust your instincts.
And never hope more than you work. —Rita Mae Brown

Every child is an artist, before the artist is conditioned out of it. The child does not look. It sees. Every child is a seer: sees horses, angels, faces in a cloud, senses the spirits in tree and cave. The child is a maker of stories, draws and paints without hesitation, hums and dances its moods...Until it is plugged in and the artist is driven underground.
— Frederick Franck

Creativity...always involves a solemn compact between one's self and others or between one's self and the raw materials of nature and life. It is a pure form of self-other relatedness. However different, strange, and unordinary one's way may appear to others, when it is a genuine self=living and growing, it is also authentically related.
— Clark Moustakas *Creativity and Conformity*

One cannot create an art that speaks to men when one has nothing to say.
—Andre Malraux

Without this playing with fantasy no creative work has ever yet come to birth. the debt we owe to the play of imagination is incalculable.
—Carl Gustav Jung

As should be done in all design, when learning you must take the simplest elements and simply arrange them... Most civilised traditions and convention run counter to simplicity and therefore people try to run before they can walk...
—Edward Johnston

Unless the design arises out of the actual construction of a thing it is reduced to the level of extraneous ornamentation. Design, in fact, is inherent rather than applied and the 'application of design' to mechanical processes suggests an attempt to get the best of both worlds by trying to secure the appearance of craftsmanship without its substance.
—Edward Johnston

The most beautiful thing in the world is precisely, the conjunction of learning and inspiration. Oh, the passion for research and the joy of discovery!
—Wanda Landowska

When the creative urge seizes one—st least, such is my experience—one becomes creative in all directions at once.
— Henry Miller *The Books of My Life*

The whole difference between construction and creation is exactly this: that a thing constructed can only be loved after it is constructed; but a thing created is loved before it exists.
—Gilbert Keith Chesterton