

CLEAR THINKING You don't have to be an intellectual giant to become a successful thinker. Clear and creative thinking is learnable. Millions have become better thinkers by adopting the following guidelines:

- \* Think more slowly. You'll be less likely to reach erroneous conclusions.
- \* Don't limit yourself to two alternatives. Open your mind to different viewpoints.
- \* Don't confuse hindsight for insight. What worked before may not work next time. Be open to change.
- \* Think on paper. Write your thoughts down. Outline your thoughts if it's a tough problem.
- \* Don't set out to prove yourself right. Be self-critical. When you try to prove yourself wrong, your thinking skills benefit.
- \* Do learn from mistakes. When you discover how you thought wrong, you can avoid making similar thinking errors again. Look for faulty thinking when things don't turn out as planned.
- \* Ask questions. Be a little skeptical.

**There's a pure idea in every mind.**

THE MYSTERIOUS The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and science. He to whom this emotion is a stranger, who can no longer pause to wonder and stand rapt in awe, is as good as dead: his eyes are closed.  
Albert Einstein

TIMES FOR A GLIMPSE A glimpse is not a vision. But to a man on a mountain road at night, a glimpse of the next three feet of road may matter more than a vision of the horizon. C.S. Lewis

Living is a form of not being sure, not knowing what next or how. The moment you know how, you begin to die a little. The artist never entirely knows. We guess. We may be wrong, but we take leap after leap in the dark.  
Agnes de Mille

WHATEVER THE MIND DOES EVERY DAY, HOWEVER SMALL, BECOMES A HABIT. Just do your best to avoid self-criticism and doubt; self-condemnation is the most effective of all the inhibitors of creativity.

FEAR OF FAILURE An essential aspect of creativity is not being afraid to fail. Scientists made a great invention by calling their activities hypotheses and experiments. They made it permissible to fail repeatedly until in the end they got the results they wanted. In politics or government, if you made a hypothesis and it didn't work out, you had your head cut off.

Creativity is the expression of one's soul  
for the world to perceive.

Relate in time matters which are timeless.

VISUALLY BLESSED If you have your sight, you are blessed. If you have insight, you are a thousand times blessed.

• I would rather live in a world where my life is surrounded by mystery than live in a world so small that my mind could comprehend it.

-Harry Emerson Fosdick

Creative people who know exactly what they are doing aren't creative people.

Imagination . . . is more important than knowledge.

Albert Einstein

IMAGINATION lit every lamp in this country, built every church, performed every act of kindness and progress, created more and better things for more people. It is the priceless ingredient for a better day.

HENRY J. TAYLOR

Once in a man's life, for one mortal moment, he must make a grab for immortality; if not, he has not lived.

-Sylvester Stallone

His advice to young actors and actresses is "to visualize what you want and do something everyday to make it happen. Don't give up. The name of the game is believing in yourself. Just as Jesus said you can say to this mountain 'Rise up and fall in the ocean. If you believe and have faith it will be done for you'."

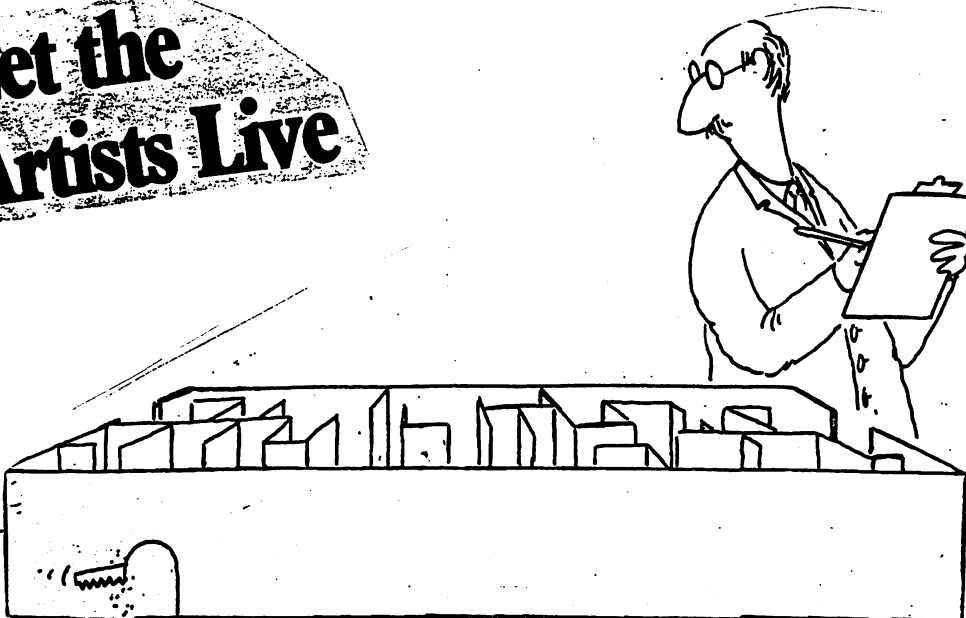
“I sacrificed marriage, children and country to be a ballerina, and there was never any misunderstanding on my part — I knew the price. I gave one hundred percent of myself to my art, and my art has repaid me.”

**EVEN A GREAT IDEA  
IS ONLY AN IDEA UNTIL  
YOU MAKE IT  
REAL.**

"Innovators and creative geniuses cannot be reared in schools. They are precisely the men who defy what the school has taught them."

—Ludwig van Mises

**Let the  
Artists Live**



*Don't be  
afraid to  
make  
mistakes.  
Art is a big  
mistake.*

#### IMAGINATION

There is no such thing  
As time  
It is just  
Imagination.  
There is a past  
Which is called reliving  
And a future  
That is called projecting.  
There is only now —  
This very moment  
That is called living.

— Patricia Melton

*"Everybody's a dreamer/  
Everybody's a star/  
Everybody's in movies/  
It doesn't matter who you are/  
There are stars in every city/  
In every house and on every  
street..."*

*("Celluloid Heroes" by  
Ray Davies from Everybody's In  
Show Biz by The Kinks)*

*Why do I drink?  
So that I can write poetry.*

*Sometimes when it's all spun out  
and all that is ugly recedes  
into a deep sleep  
There is an awakening  
and all that remains is true.  
As the body is ravaged  
the spirit grows stronger.*

*Forgive me Father for I know  
what I do.  
I want to hear the last Poem  
of the last Poet.*

#### VISION

About 350 years ago, a shipload of travelers landed on the northeast coast of America. The first year they established a town site.

The next year they instituted the town government.

The third year the town government planned to build a road five miles westward into the wilderness.

In the fourth year the people tried to impeach their town government because they thought it was a waste of public funds to build a road five miles westward into a wilderness. Who needed to go there anyway?

Here were people who had the vision to see three thousand miles across an ocean and overcome great hardships to get there. But in just a few years they were not able to see even five miles out of town. They had lost their pioneering vision.

With a clear vision of what we can become in Christ, no ocean of difficulty is too great. Without it, we rarely move beyond our current boundaries.

**“When you take stuff from one writer it's called plagiarism, but when you take it from many writers, it's called research.”**

**Wilson Mizner (1876-1933)**

**“You have to work on yourself more than you work on the music. Then whatever you're aiming at, you'll be able to hit between the eyes.”**

**'You Can  
Always Look at It the  
Other Way Around'**



**Discovery**  
consists in  
seeing what  
everybody has seen  
and thinking  
what nobody  
has thought.



**Albert  
Szent-Györgyi**

WITH A LITTLE  
ENCOURAGEMENT,  
A YOUNG MIND CAN  
SEE A LONG WAY.

"The test of a first-rate intelligence is the ability to hold two opposed ideas in the mind at the same time, and still retain the ability to function."

**F. Scott Fitzgerald**

*'Art is the affirmation of life.'*

Today's  
weirdness might  
be tomorrow's  
high art.'

—John Baskind

DEFINITION of a genius: a person who aims at something no one else can see and hits it.

I am never bored anywhere: being bored is an insult to oneself.

—Jules Renard

to quote Goethe:  
"Few people have the imagination  
for reality."



I see  
the role of  
the artist as shaman  
and scapegoat. People  
project their fantasies onto  
him and their fantasies  
come alive. People can  
destroy their fantasies  
by destroying  
him.

—Jim Morrison



Wonder, rather than doubt, is the  
root of knowledge.

—Abraham Joshua Heschel

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—Patricia Melton

Chaos often breeds life,  
when order breeds habit.

Whatever you can do,  
or dream you can,  
begin it.  
Boldness has genius,  
power and magic in it.

—Goethe

I USE THE CREATIVE POWER OF IMAGINATION.

### Imagination

All of us have marveled at the creative imagination of inventors. The spirit of creativity that contributed the plans for life-saving, time-saving, energy-saving devices first began with productive imaging—planning in thought the steps that would lead to complete, workable products.

Although we may not be inventors of world acclaim, we can use our imagination to help us live more joy-filled, health-filled lives. Imagination comes into play as we use this God-given power to help us rise above any pain or frustration that we may be feeling. Our imagination draws our thoughts away from the limitations of our physical and emotional natures, allowing the pure life and light of our spiritual nature to shine forth.

Let us use the creative power of our imagination to see ourselves as we truly are: God's creations of life, light, and wholeness.

*Be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and put on the new nature, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. —Eph. 4:23-24*

**"The higher the child's intelligence, the more vivid his imaginary companions."**

## Take Another Look

True insight is a moment of perceiving a situation before it freezes into similarity with something else.

—Rabbi A. Heschel

- (1) Creativity means "doing a common thing uncommonly well"
- (2) Attitudes are more important than facts.

*The most interesting results happen only once.*

**WHEN YOU KNOW HOW TO LISTEN, OPPORTUNITY ONLY HAS TO KNOCK ONCE.**

## Art's Ageless, Parties Aren't

ART IS  
PROBABLY THE  
MOST POTENT  
INSTRUMENT  
OF PERSUASION  
THAT EXISTS  
IN THE WORLD'

Expect  
the  
unexpected!

Just as appetite comes by eating, so work brings inspiration, if inspiration is not discernible at the beginning.

—IGOR STRAVINSKY

Since there is nothing new under the sun, creativity means simply putting old things together in a fresh way.

—SHERWOOD WIRT

*We are all, when very young, possessors of a splendid gift: a mind that knows no limits. It enables us, in the face of a new experience, to see beyond what is, to what might be. We make discoveries, gain insights and, with time, learn something more of the world around us. And, if we're truly fortunate, we'll never completely let go of the early innocence of mind that keeps us forever curious, and forever open to new ideas.*

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