

Does Back To School Mean Back To Work For Your Teen?

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By Annette Yen

It is back to school time and for most teens that means hitting the books and more for the next ten months. Get ready for homework, tests, sports, debate club, student council, after school meetings and everything else that life as a high school student brings.

And, since these busy high school years lead toward college, and college expenses are going up, up and up, this also means that your teen will need to start exploring and looking for some type of work to support their current activities as well as sock away for the increasing college expenses.

Are your teens looking for jobs or will they be among those who use their time, talents, brain power and abilities to start their own business instead? Why in the world would any teen want to do that? After all, isn't it easier just to fill out a job application and go work at the local movie theater or pizza joint?

Let's explore just some of the fabulous benefits of choosing to start your own business as a teen rather than take on an hourly job this school year.

** It's Flexible – With the demanding schedule that an involved high school student has, it is often extremely inconvenient to work around a typical teenage hourly job. Why not turn the tables and start a home business where your teen along with you determines which hours he can or cannot work so it fits into the sports, homework and other activities schedules.

** It's Fun – By starting his own business, your teen can work at something he would really enjoy instead of flipping greasy burgers or scooping popcorn.

** He can take it with him – If your teen starts a successful business during his high school years, he will be able to take that business with him into his college years and beyond.

** It's educational – When your teen creates a business plan from scratch and he works it to a success point he will have learned more than most people do in a lifetime. And he can add that to the college applications too. They will love it!

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**** The Money is nice!** – When your teen owns a business of his own, he determines his pay, not someone else or the state. He will be paid much better than any hourly job out there!

So take some time before school gets into full swing and get your teen started on his own business! You and he will have fun, learn tons and make more money... and still have time for homework and having fun with his friends!

Annette Yen is a work at home mom with two fabulous business assistants – her daughters! Find out tips on how you can get your teens started in their own business at her site:

<http://www.showkidsthemoney.com>

I've Learned To Love Teen Art

By Martin Stoleman

I have loved art for as long as I can remember. As a child I spent hour after hour doing art projects of all kinds with my mother and my siblings. We would paint, practice sewing or create things out of clay for hours on end. I never knew that the amount of art projects we worked on was abnormal until I got a bit older and heard all of my friends and school talking about their years of playing with trucks and action figures or being outside building forts. I guess our mother wanted us to be well rounded individuals so she started us on all things art from the start. I don't remember exactly what kind of teen art I created during my formative years, but I do know that it wasn't until recently that I learned to appreciate teen art.

To the surprise of no one that I knew, I decided to become an art teacher when I went to college. I loved art so much that I couldn't think of a better way to spend my days than on teaching children and teens more about the things I loved. I enjoyed my elementary aged students immensely from the beginning. I loved their curiosity and I enjoyed the way they saw art. It was the teen art that my junior high aged students were creating that took me a while to adjust to.

The thing about teen art is that it is less than traditional and often it needs to be classified outside of any established genres of art. The teens in my art classes saw art in a much different way than I expected, and hence their work was much different as well. I would give them an assignment and they would create work so unlike what I had asked for and yet so creative that I couldn't complain.

I have realized that teen art needs to be a genre of art all by itself. Why? I've determined that teen art is so unique because of the time of life that it represents. Teens are going through the ultimate time of transition, so it makes sense that their art would have a particular perspective and slant. And as different as teen art can often be, I have learned to appreciate it. I have learned to see it through the eyes of a teenager exploring the world and trying to make sense of their place in the world.

If you have a teenager who likes to play around with any art form, then you probably know exactly what I'm talking about with teen art. In fact, you've probably had similar issues in trying to recognize, define or categorize the art work that seems to make your teen come alive. My advice to you is this: teen art

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is something entirely of its own kind. Stop trying to make teen art into something else, and instead just enjoy it for what it is.

Martin Stoleman is an elementary and junior high school art teacher. He loves working with students and seeing what kinds of teen art they will come up with next. See

<http://www.teenarthub.info>

for more

details.



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