The Art of LIVING

A MYSTERY SCHOOL FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

“artists of life” - the next generation

Created by Frankie Lee Slater

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GROUNDBREAKING TELEVISION FOR A NEW TIME ON THE PLANET

This powerful one-hour weekly program is the first to present the important human stories of our time within the context of our personal and planetary evolution.

The Art of LIVING will serve as “A Mystery School for the 21st Century” - synthesizing the wisdom teachings of many cultures, from all of time and creation, together with the leading communication and change technologies of our day.

“This society is going through a profound transformation, a global mind-change.”
- Willis Harman
The Art of LIVING is the next generation of the magazine and lifestyle show and hip social commentary - a new breed of information program designed to meet the needs of the 21st Century human by enhancing how we experience ourselves and our world, interact, and respond to the accelerating changes.

“Observed closely enough, all of life is interesting...Observed closely, small moments have large impact...When we practice the act of close observation, we gain an emotional palette that has more shades, more possibilities, than the screaming extremes of black and white headlines declaring catastrophe and crisis.”

- Julia Cameron
Author, The Artist’s Way
ESTABLISHING A NEW STANDARD

While other reality shows compete for the same “who did what to whom” stories, The Art of LIVING will establish a new standard, demonstrating “what is being done for, with and by whom, and how.”

Celebrating the beauty and divinity of the human spirit, this is television designed to effectively meet our needs in the 21st century - pro-active and value-driven, presenting stories that enlighten, empower, encourage and exhilarate viewers to make a smooth and successful transition in this new millennium.

“I think it's important each day to sing your highest visions, and make a point of communicating them - to encourage by example, and to be artists. So much of the way our destructive society is structured, it broadcasts a continuing message of limitation, it broadcasts, ‘can’t,’ it broadcasts ideas of scarcity and alienation and limitation.”

- Jas. Morgan
Founding Editor of MONDO 2000
The times are calling us to recreate our world, our communities, ourselves and our relations to meet the real needs of today, in accordance with the rich storehouse of knowledge we have available, to re-evaluate what we really want and leave behind that which no longer serves us.

The Art of LIVING moves beyond the linear models within which very few of us ever really fit anyway - revealing that each of our lives is its own unique composition, and bringing to conscious awareness the universals which move, inform and breathe meaning into the human journey we all share.

“Two roads diverged in a wood,
and I -
I took
the one
less
traveled by,
and that
has made
all the
difference.”

- Robert Frost
PROVIDING WHAT IS NEEDED

The climate is right
and a huge and enthusiastic audience
is ready and waiting for The Art of LIVING!

...Walter Cronkite calls The Art of LIVING,
“a superb idea.”

....Michael Crichton emphasizes,
“It looks like exactly the sort of thing
the media should be doing...”

...and over 90% of the people surveyed
specifically said this show is, “Needed!”

...socio-economic indicators are everywhere...

In America alone, 63 million adults -
nearly one-third of the country’s adult
population - have been identified as,
“Cultural Creatives...interested in
personal growth and development,
the environment and globalism.”
(Paul A. Ray, Ph.D., “The Emerging
Culture,” American Demographics)

Lifestyles of Health and Sustainability (LOHAS)
describes a $228.9 billion U.S. marketplace
for goods and services focused on health,
the environment, social justice, personal
development and sustainable living.

“Transformation of culture
depends on shifts in perception
and small acts of courage
on the part of ordinary people.”

- Jean Shinoda Bolen
TRANSFORMING VIEWERS INTO FULL-FLEDGED PARTICIPANTS

Information programming immediately evolves from a one-way passive medium into a two-way interactive mediaspace in which viewers are transformed into full-fledged participants - empowered to make the critical shift from being acted upon by life to becoming creatively involved in the process of living.

Infused with socially relevant programming which actively informs their lives, they can “bring it alive” - supported by an even more comprehensive grid of information, connecting and communicating directly with us and one another via the cross-media synergy made possible through www.artofliving.com

“You know, people spend their lives looking for meaning. They think it’s about money, or gaining power or about finding that one right relationship. I really think it’s about belonging.”

- Amalia Mesa-Bains
THE EMERGING WORLDVIEW

Sourced in the emerging worldview that life itself is a creative process and we are the literal co-creators of our reality, The Art of LIVING will act as a generative force, opening millions of viewers the world over to the essential understanding that each and every aspect of life can be elevated to the level of Art.

“Take heart! Unbeknownst to most of us, we’re traveling in the midst of an enormous company of allies: a larger population of creative people, who are the carriers of more positive ideas, values, and trends than any previous Renaissance period has ever seen.”

- Institute of Noetic Sciences

“Some people see things the way they are and say, ‘Why?’ I dream things the way they never were and say, ‘Why not?’”

- Bobby Kennedy
MAKING SENSE OF THE COMPLEXITY

The Art of LIVING
is the resource to which people will turn
in order to make sense of the complexity -
inviting the audience to experience
right along with us as we

...step into the lives of individual artists of life
and communities which exemplify artful living

...introduce new and evolving models
of what is working and what is possible throughout society

...weave three independent
yet interrelated features
together within a weekly theme
to help viewers discern important patterns,
and integrate the information on a deeper level

...explore perceptual reality itself
in “Monty Pythonesque”
moments known as Radicals

“...We cannot chart a hopeful course without meaningful models, without realistic images of what we can become.”
- Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi
The Evolving Self

radical: 1 a: a root part
b: a basic principle: Foundation
2: of or relating to origin:
Fundamental 3. going to the origin: Essential.

give voice to many of the inspired thinkers of our day,
in our weekly Guest Commentaries
THE SHOW

BEING ARTISTS OF LIFE

What gives The Art of LIVING the potential to actively enhance people’s lives beyond any information program that has ever existed, is the “Artist of Life” identity itself. For it works with the most basic understanding of how we create, which is that every action we take, every possibility we are even able to access, is determined by how we identify ourselves and our world. It gets us in touch with our highest identity - who we really came here to be, we human beings, six-billion strong and growing - Conscious Co-Creators with Creation itself! And it asks us, “What do we really want to create, with this as our unique and special gift?”

By presenting the greater story of our time within the framework of “the art of living” we provide a way for people to see that all the positive things which are taking place are actually expressions of the same thing, taught in the Mystery Schools of every great civilization of the Earth - The Art of LIVING.

Committed to taking consciousness mainstream and making it hip and involving at a whole new level, The Art of LIVING appears to be a one-hour weekly prime-time series, but it is actually a matrix for global connectivity, with actions built in to every element of its infrastructure, including the Circles Uniting project. The Art of LIVING Television Show, or “mothership” if you will, is composed of three feature stories, a submission-based guest commentary, and image-driven Monty Pythonesque shorts called Radicals, all of which are related within weekly sub-themes that include “Mastering Time,” “Rites of Passage,” “Water, Life Itself,” “Optimizing Our Connection” and “Becoming Visionaries.

FEATURE STORIES

The three weekly feature stories will reveal the dynamics of human perception itself and how we create, taking the audience into the lives of individual artists of life and communities which are exemplifying the artful living - people who balance their personal uniqueness with a healthy concern and commitment to others and the earth.

New and evolving models of what is working and what is possible bring to light the essential thoughts and feelings, strategies and behaviors which contribute to mutual success and fulfillment - drawing from every segment of society and continent throughout the world.

Recurrent segments such as Heros Have Heros Too and Artists of Life Partnerships allow for a perceptual shift that is more in touch with the truth of who we are and how we relate. And real life actions such as the Circles Uniting project provide palpable ways for people everywhere to bring their visions into reality.
GUEST COMMENTARY

This portion of The Art of LIVING will be a combination of op-ed and personal portrait, with each commentary being pro-active in nature and guest commentators drawing from their personal experience. These men, women and young people will offer insights and potential solutions, and will invigorate viewers to speak out and get involved. Commentators will include forward thinkers and exemplars in many diverse fields. Viewers will have an opportunity to be heard by submitting original three-minute videos for selection.

THE RADICAL

Until recently what someone thought and understood was largely the province of his or her own mind. However, advances in digital technology have changed this, allowing us to take what we imagine and interpret it visually for others to experience. This has created an unprecedented opportunity to explore the art of living through the senses, to literally step inside the creative process, examine and experience the nature of perceptual reality.

These image-driven Monty Pythonesque short segments of The Art of LIVING will be the first in which state-of-the-art visual and performance artists, experimental filmmakers, animators, video artists as well as innovators in computer technology have a forum to create thought-provoking pieces for today’s sophisticated television audience. Again, viewers will be invited to submit original pieces for inclusion.

AN INTIMATE SENSE OF EXPERIENCING RIGHT ALONG WITH US

The show will be shot on location with Frankie Lee Slater and our extended family of multi-generational and multi-cultural hosts - all of whom are artists of life in real life. Much like the ensemble casts of the most popular TV drama and comedy series, we are the bridge to the audience, providing the familiar ground that will keep viewers inviting us into their living rooms week after week, year after year.

To allow the most visceral experience possible, stories will be created in collaboration with the featured Artists - focusing on those aspects of life about which they are most passionate. Segments will be shot in a cinema verité style to create an intimate sense of “being there” for the people at home. An eclectic selection of music will add yet another dimension, metacommenting on the action and anchoring viewers more deeply into the experience we all share.

"If you have come here to help me, you are wasting your time...

But if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine...

Then let us work together."

- Lilla Watson,
Aboriginal educator/activist
A MYSTERY SCHOOL
...FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

“The job of the artist is always to deepen the mystery.”
- Francis Bacon

Since antiquity, Mystery Schools have been a mainstay of every great civilization on Earth - from the Egyptian Nile to the Greek Isles, the High Himalayas to the Americas. It is here that the men and women who were the lifeblood of these civilizations - the philosophers, the artists, the playwrights, the mathematicians - were infused with the wisdom of their people. Here they learned about “the living of a life,” the mystery and power of creation, the invisible world as well as the visible.

The Art of LIVING is here to serve this purpose in the 21st century - supporting humankind in fulfilling our highest potential by reconnecting us to the Mystery and Miracle of Creation we all share. It is the story of our Awakening to our Greater Humanity - not off on a distant star in some fictionalized future, but right here, right now, today. Evidence of the art of living is all around us and we’re here to map the territory to help free people to explore and experience it for themselves!

“...The teachings of all the mystical paths of the world would make it clear that there is within us an enormous reservoir of power - the power of wisdom and compassion...

If we learn how to use it - and this is the goal of the search for enlightenment - it can transform not only ourselves but the world around us.

Has there ever been a time when the clear use of this sacred power was more essential or more urgent?"

- Sogyal Rinpoche
The real crises of today, at the core and key to unraveling all the rest, are those of Perception and Separation. People in modern society are on the verge of overwhelm, and they know it. They recognize change is called for, but often don’t know HOW - how to reconnect, how to move beyond centuries of perceived limitation, how to flow with the accelerating changes, how to construct new realities, how to have a whole lot more fun in the process. We’re the transition team for a global paradigm shift.

While the results will be far-reaching and profound, what is required is precision - it is a simple course correction in how we identify ourselves - to knowing that it is not the rare exception, but in every one of us to be Artists of our own Lives - and bring the full force of our humanity to bear in creating our lives and world in the spirit of Love, Harmony and Beauty.

The Art of LIVING stands in the tradition of the best of Television - opening our world, raising us up to ourselves, reflecting the deeper meaning of the times. It is the consistent and comprehensive resource base people need to ride the wave which is already surging - immediately accessible right in their living rooms.

One day there wasn’t 60 Minutes, then there was...
   One day there wasn’t The Tonight Show, then there was...
      Or Murrow, Moyers, Monty Python or Saturday Night Live...
         One day there wasn’t The Art of LIVING, now there IS!
            ...ground-breaking television for a new time on the planet

            “An invasion of armies can be resisted, but not an idea whose time has come.”
            - Victor Hugo
an artist of life:

1: behaves daily in ways that support and enhance life
2: plays a pro-active, creative role in sculpting his reality
3: is courageously dedicated to being herself
4: “walks his talk,” and willingly accepts responsibility
   for his thoughts and deeds
5: lives her dream
6: has a rich and fulfilling existence
7: is fully present in the moment
8: loves himself and acts out of what is best in himself
9: passionately infuses love and vitality into everything she does
10: is grateful to be alive
11: measures his success by a balance of
    the personal and professional, societal and spiritual
12: thrives on change
13: assesses situations in terms of challenges and opportunities,
    rather than problems, and works to find viable solutions
14: is resilient and open to more than one "right" way
    of doing things
15: is authentic and honest with herself and others
16: embraces differences while affirming our essential connection
17: treads softly on the earth
18: honors and respects the freedom of each individual
19: extends compassion to all living things
20: is committed to doing “the best he can” to live these principles
21: teaches by example

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