The relationship between democratic principles and liberal arts is like that of a manufacturing system. The former of the two lays down the basic guidelines of what should be present in the hearts and minds of people while the latter embellishes those guidelines and creates a collective of individuals; each their own soul, but mindful of the those around them. Producing well prepared adults of the future, liberal arts reinforces the ability to think freely and act independently of the very government that granted the freedom to do so. It places heavy value on the community and creates an air of openness among people, chiefly their pupils.

Encouraged alongside the independency of the students, the well-being of the community in which the students live must be taken into account. As students are polished for civic obligation, they are encouraged to grow together and mold the community in which they live in. Everyone has their own role to play within their commonality. Everyone has a method of generating good for the entirety of the group.

Democratic principles are grounded in equality. Black or white, young or old, male or female, all have the right to be heard. All people have the right to present their ideas as well as the right to be heard. Everyone’s words should carry the same weight, for a word uttered by a man is still the same word when spoken by a woman; it does not change when it is communicated through dissimilar persons. Thus, through liberal arts, students are trained and invigorated to listen to the ideas and scrutinize the actions of their peers, thoughtfully contemplating them. In doing so, we are able to ripen our own thoughts and actions.

Creating this environment in which students are allowed to speak their minds allows an air of broad-mindedness to emanate. They are given the skills they need to listen to the thoughts of others from different backgrounds, world views and cultures. Bridges are erected from one culture to another, leaving little room for any sort of inscrutability.