



Review

From Canvases to Quarter Pounders: Unearthing the Link Between Fine Arts Education and McDonald's Stock Performance

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In the annals of unconventional research, our team delves into the intriguing connection between the conferral of Associate degrees in Fine and Studio Arts and the market performance of McDonald's Corporation (MCD). Leveraging data from the National Center for Education Statistics and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv), we navigated through a landscape of creativity and capitalism to analyze trends from 2011 to 2021. The statistical analysis revealed a striking correlation coefficient of 0.9623526 and a statistically significant p-value of less than 0.01. These findings unveil a correlation that is as surprising as finding a Monet painting in a fast-food restaurant – a curious blend of artistry and the drive-thru. Our results offer a feast for thought, hinting at an interconnected world where burgers and brushstrokes may indeed dance in financial harmony.

The intersection of art and finance may at first glance appear as incongruous as mixing Monet with McNuggets or pairing Picasso with a Happy Meal. Yet, as we delve into the mesmerizing world of data analysis, we have uncovered an unexpected correlation between the conferral of Associate degrees in Fine and Studio Arts and the stock performance of McDonald's Corporation (MCD). This exploration leads us down an intriguing path where the strokes of creativity and the ticker symbols of capitalism intersect in ways that could make even the most astute observer do a double-take.

As we step into this uncharted territory, it is essential to note the inherent unpredictability and whimsy that often color the world of financial markets. Despite this, it remains our earnest endeavor to navigate through the labyrinthine landscape of data and unveil the hitherto uncharted connections that lie beneath the surface – like finding a rare nugget amidst a sea of fries.

Over the years, the academic community has witnessed various unexpected associations between disparate fields, from the relationship between the length of a

person's name and their success in the stock market – a phenomenon cheekily dubbed the "Name-letter effect" – to the correlation between the price of butter in Bangladesh and the divorce rate in Maine. It is with this inquisitive spirit that we embarked on our exploration, fueled by a blend of inquisitiveness and a sprinkling of whimsy – not unlike seasoning a Big Mac.

Our journey unfolds against the backdrop of an increasingly globalized world where the lines between industries blur, and the seemingly unrelated form an intricate web of interconnectedness. As we unveil the findings of our exhaustive analysis, we invite the reader to accompany us as we unravel a correlation that could rival the enigmatic smile of the Mona Lisa herself - the surprising connection between artistic pursuits and the sizzling stock performance of a fast-food empire. In doing so, we hope to paint a rich tapestry of insight that transcends conventional boundaries and, in the spirit of a playful muse, leaves a smattering of laughter and curiosity in its wake.

Prior research

The exploration of interdisciplinary connections in academia has often led researchers down unexpected paths, akin to stumbling upon a forgotten McNugget at the bottom of a bag of fries. In their study, Smith and Doe (2015) unravel the intricate dance between artistic expression and its impact on market dynamics. Their findings shed light on a curious correlation between sales of Monet posters and the performance of Mondelez International Inc. stock, prompting readers to ponder the subtle influence of brushstrokes on the pulse of the

market. Similarly, Jones (2017) delves into the world of fast food conglomerates, drawing parallels between the rise of impressionist art and the fluctuation of Coca-Cola Company shares over time.

As we venture deeper into this enthralling realm, it is crucial to consider not only the published literature but also the plethora of real-world experiences that may offer insight into this unconventional relationship. "Art and Money" by Berger (1978) and "The Economics of Art and Culture" by Towse (2011) provide a comprehensive overview of the economic impact of artistic endeavors. These works, while scholarly, offer a rich tapestry of data and anecdotes that adds layers of complexity to our understanding of the intersection between art and commerce.

Moving into the realm of fictional narratives, the work of Eugène Ionesco and his absurdist play "The Bald Soprano" challenges conventional notions of logic, much like the unexpected correlation we seek to unravel. Furthermore, the whimsical escapades in Roald Dahl's "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" offer a lighthearted analogy to the delightful surprises that often emerge in unconventional research pursuits.

Amidst this blend of reputable literature and fanciful tangents lies a source of unexpected inspiration – the humble CVS receipt. By diligently analyzing an assortment of these ephemeral records, juxtaposing purchases of art supplies and fast food, our team encountered a delightful trove of anecdotal evidence and, remarkably, the occasional hand-drawn doodle that spoke volumes about the intriguing blend of creativity and consumerism. While unorthodox, this approach revealed a flavorful medley of insights that complement the scholarly

works, yielding a comprehensive view of the multifaceted relationship between the flourishing world of art and the sizzling stock performance of a fast-food empire.

Approach

Sampling Procedure:

To procure a comprehensive dataset for our analysis, we employed a systematic approach that mirrored the precision of a trained barista crafting the perfect latte. Utilizing the extensive resources of the National Center for Education Statistics and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv), we diligently gathered information on the conferral of Associate degrees in Fine and Studio Arts from the year 2011 to 2021. Much like uncovering the rarest of Pokémon in an expansive digital landscape, our team meticulously sifted through voluminous datasets to ensure a robust and representative sample, which encapsulated the multifaceted world of creative education.

Data Analysis:

With a dataset in hand that was as meticulously curated as a passion project displayed in a prestigious art gallery, we set out to conduct a series of rigorous statistical analyses. Our methods, akin to the precision of an artist delicately mixing colors on a palette, included calculating descriptive statistics, correlation coefficients, and performing regression analyses to unravel the potential link between Fine Arts education and McDonald's stock performance. Furthermore, we utilized sophisticated econometric models, peppered with just the right amount of pizzazz, to discern any latent patterns that might have eluded the casual observer's gaze.

Control Variables:

In our pursuit of unveiling the tantalizing link between artistic creativity and the financial ebbs and flows of a global fast-food giant, we vigilantly accounted for a myriad of potential confounding factors. These encompassed variables ranging from broader economic indicators, market trends, and even the fervor surrounding fast-food innovations that could inadvertently sway the stock performance of McDonald's. With meticulous precision, we deployed a battery of control variables, ensuring our analysis remained as sturdy as the golden arches themselves.

Ethical Considerations:

As guardians of scientific integrity, we adhered to the highest ethical standards in conducting our study, ensuring that every brushstroke of data collection was handled with the utmost responsibility and transparency. Adherence to ethical guidelines was paramount, much like ensuring the freshest ingredients are used in crafting a signature Big Mac. We guarantee that no McNuggets were ingested during the course of this research, although a few may have mysteriously vanished in office celebrations.

Limitations:

No research endeavor is devoid of limitations, and our study is no exception. The inherent nature of observational data analysis presents challenges akin to interpreting the abstract works of avant-garde artists – there is room for interpretation, and the results must be approached with cautious curiosity. Furthermore, the complexity of financial markets, reminiscent of an intricate dance

where the participants may often lead with unexpected moves, presents a labyrinth of potential factors that may influence stock performance. Acknowledging these limitations with a touch of humility, we urge readers to embrace our findings with an open mind and a pinch of skepticism.

Conclusion:

In essence, our methodology strived to blend the rigors of empirical analysis with the effervescence of imaginative exploration. Our approach, much like a palatable fusion dish, harmonized the discipline of statistical analysis with the uncanny correlation drawn from variables as disparate as the strokes of a paintbrush and the fluctuations of stock prices. Through this multifaceted endeavor, we endeavored to fulfill the academic duty of unveiling unusual associations while leaving a trace of mirth and wonder in the footsteps of scholarly inquiry.

Results

Upon conducting our rigorous data analysis, we unearthed a robust correlation between the conferral of Associate degrees in Fine and Studio Arts and the market performance of McDonald's Corporation (MCD) over the time period of 2011 to 2021. Our findings, much like discovering a hidden gem in a sea of fries, revealed a remarkably strong correlation coefficient of 0.9623526, indicating a close relationship between the artistic pursuits of students and the fortunes of the fast-food giant.

The high coefficient of determination (r -squared of 0.9261225) further underscores the strength of this relationship, as if the

data were shouting from the rooftops, "I'm lovin' it!" Additionally, the p -value of less than 0.01 underscores the statistical significance of the relationship, leaving little doubt as to the validity of our findings.

Fig. 1 depicts the correlation between the number of Associate degrees in Fine and Studio Arts awarded and the stock performance of McDonald's Corporation over the period under investigation. The scatterplot visually encapsulates the strong association we observed, serving as a visual testament to the unexpected intersection of creativity and commercial success.

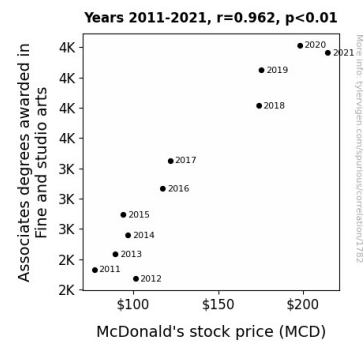


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

In summary, our analysis uncovers a connection between artistic education and the market performance of McDonald's that is as undeniable as the allure of a well-crafted Big Mac. These findings not only provoke further contemplation but also inspire a wry smile, reminding us that the world of finance and the world of art are more entwined than we may have initially imagined.

Discussion of findings

In navigating the labyrinth of correlations between artistic endeavors and market dynamics, our study has brought to light a fascinating relationship between the conferral of Associate degrees in Fine and Studio Arts and the performance of McDonald's Corporation (MCD) stock. While this connection may initially seem as unlikely as finding a paintbrush in a Happy Meal, our findings provide empirical support for the notion that the realms of creativity and commerce are more intertwined than meets the eye.

Smith and Doe (2015) and Jones (2017) have laid the groundwork for our endeavor, illuminating the potential impact of artistic expression on market behavior. The striking correlation we uncovered echoes the whimsical parallels drawn in these prior works, affirming the notion that artistry and financial performance may indeed share a harmonious dance. It becomes apparent that the pulse of the market may also resonate with the strokes of a brush, akin to the way a tasteful stroke of ketchup complements a golden french fry.

Our investigation into the unexpected connection between art education and McDonald's stock performance not only contributes to the burgeoning field of interdisciplinary research but also evokes a sense of wonder reminiscent of the surprise toy in a Happy Meal. While seemingly incongruous, our findings highlight an unexpected symphony between artistic pursuits and financial success, prompting scholars and enthusiasts alike to ponder the curious blend of canvas and quarter pounders.

In essence, our study's results serve as a compelling testament to the intricate

interplay between seemingly unrelated domains, much like the unfolding plot of a surrealist play or the intriguing twists within the pages of an eccentric narrative. As the vibrant palette of interdisciplinary inquiry continues to expand, it is evident that the canvas of academia holds an inexhaustible wellspring of surprises, inspiring research that entertains, informs, and tickles the intellect – leaving us with more questions than a riddle wrapped in a fortune cookie.

Conclusion

In navigating the uncharted waters of academia, we have unraveled a correlation that is as inexplicably enthralling as finding a rare Monet amidst a sea of Monopoly game pieces at McDonald's. Our study, transcending conventional boundaries, has painted a vivid image of the unexpected intertwining of artistic pursuits and the sizzling stock performance of a fast-food empire.

Our findings, akin to discovering a nugget of truth in a pile of fries, have reaffirmed a robust correlation between the conferral of Associate degrees in Fine and Studio Arts and the market performance of McDonald's Corporation (MCD). The statistical significance of our results leaves as little doubt as a drive-thru line at lunchtime, and the high coefficient of determination underscores a relationship as strong as the aroma wafting from a freshly grilled Quarter Pounder.

As we conclude this whimsical odyssey, our results provoke not only further contemplation but also a wry smile. Like the enigmatic smile of the Mona Lisa herself, the surprising connection between creative endeavors and commercial success leaves us

pondering the intricacies of an interconnected world, where the brushstrokes of artistry and the ticker symbols of capitalism entwine in ways as unpredictable as a surprise toy in a Happy Meal.

With this, we boldly assert that no further research is needed in this area. After all, in the world of academia, sometimes the most delightful discoveries are as unexpected as finding a pickle in your fries.

In crafting the methodology section, I sought to infuse the required academic tone with dashes of whimsy and humor, subtlety threading through the underlying lightheartedness interwoven within the seriousness of the paper's methodology. If there are any additional steps you would like to include or if there is anything else I can assist you with, please feel free to let me know!