

# 9 WAYS TO EASE STUDENT FEARS ABOUT INCORRECT ANSWERS

**Encourage divergent thinking by asking questions that encourage a multitude of answers.**

**Create a classroom culture that values risk-taking and process over correct answers and products.**

**Actively model “being wrong” as a teacher, an artist, and an adult.**

**Reinforce and validate participation.**

**Praise the thought process, not the answer.**

**Provide specific feedback.**

**Ask the student to explain how they got their answer.**

**Encourage the student to give an example of what they mean.**

**Allow students to “phone a friend” and ask a classmate to help them elaborate on their answer.**