

**Title of Session:** ArtsSites - International ChildArt Festival

**Moderator:** BJ Berquist

**Guest Speaker:** Tanya Ayala and Jenny Adams

**Title of File:** 20030703peaceicaf

**Date:** July 3, 2003

# Tappedin transcript 2003.07.03 19:32:35

Room: On Tap Cafe

BjB: we usually start all the discussions in Tapped In with introductions BjB: Hi, Laura. Are you here for the ICAF discussion?

LauraMZ: Yes I am!

BjB: great...you're just in time for introductions

BjB: I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania and a helpdesk volunteer for Tapped In

LauraMZ: I am in a multisubject credential program at SD State

TanyaA: I'm an ESL in Puerto Rico and I'm currently in Washington in an Internship Program working for ICAF

JennyGuest4: I'm a web developer and one of the festival coordinators for ICAF

KerriD: I am a recent graduate from the credential program at SDSU TanyaA: I teach elementary level

JenniferLW: I am currently looking for my own classroom, as I have just finished the credential program through SDSU. I am currently in the summer master's program.

BjB: Thanks, everyone!

KerriD: JenniferLW and I are sitting next to each other right now

BjB: Tanya, can you give us a little background on how you became involved in the ICAF project?

TanyaA: Well as part of the internship program of the Washington Center in coordination with the Senate of Puerto Rico we are placed in different agencies

TanyaA: We are a group of 21 teachers from all of the subjects and grade levels and we are working with integration of art in the different curriculums

TanyaA: In ICAF I'm recently working with Jenny to update the information that appears on the ICAF website for the coming Summer Festival

TanyaA: The Summer Festival 2003 is a celebration of children's art from all around the world.

JenniferLW: Is it currently going on?

LauraMZ: Can you tell us a little about the festival?

BjB: o O ( perhaps we can look at the ICAF webpage? )

TanyaA: There will be a representation of each country and they will meet in Washington in September

AnnaM joined the room.

BjB: welcome, Anna

AnnaM: Well, hellow!

TanyaA: The Festival will have a variety of speakers, presentations, workshops, etc.

JennyGuest4: sure! go to [www.icaf.org](http://www.icaf.org), click on the festival link

TanyaA: The children will work on a mural

BjB: click on that hyperlink to open a new window

JennyGuest4: currently young artists from 30 US states and approx. 70 countries will participate in the festival.

TanyaA: I was honored to participate also as one of the Judges for the selection of the artist

SteveGuest1 joined the room.

TanyaA: It was a very difficult task since the pieces sent were all excellent. BJB: I like the representation of so many arts disciplines

BJB: hi, Steve. Are you here for the ICAF discussion?

JennyGuest4: children ages 8-12 participate in art competitions organized by ICAF partner organizations or other local organizations in countries around the world.

Sometimes the countries select their finalist, other times they send various pieces of artwork to us and a panel of jurors select the finalist.

SteveGuest1: Yes I am

JennyGuest4: as Tanya said, she was on one of the jury panels.

JenniferLW: That must have been exciting and disappointing at the same time.

JennyGuest4: once selected, the finalists are invited to Washington DC for the festival!

TanyaA: Well yes it was very difficult but we made three groups of jurors and had them go to various criteria

LauraMZ: I am intrigued by the concept of Wagner's Gesamtkunstwerk. I was a theatre and English major. I think integrating the arts in education is crucial.

JenniferLW: Those kids that have been selected to go to Washington must be ecstatic.

TanyaA: yes we hope so

LauraMZ: Is it thematic?

TanyaA: Festival is also a great opportunity for educators since there will be several workshops of interest

JennyGuest4: we invite a parent/guardian and their art teacher to come with each child as well, so that they share in the experience and take the ideas back as well.

JennyGuest4: yes - this year's theme for the art is Me in the New Millennium AnnaM: What types of activities are planned?

TanyaA: Yes, the theme for entry was "Me in the New Millennium

TanyaA: oh

LauraMZ: Is the art judged by category?

TanyaA: First it must be in relation with the theme

LauraMZ: What are the other criteria?

TanyaA: uniqueness,

TanyaA: and overall design, balance , etc.

JenniferLW: This really is a great opportunity for kids.

TanyaA: originality also

TanyaA: Most of the artists are exceptional

LauraMZ: I mean, are all types of art accepted? Can someone hand in a poem and someone else a painting? Or all they all paintings?

JenniferLW: what about sculptures?

TanyaA: oh Paintings

TanyaA: paintings any style. At least that is what I saw

JennyGuest4: yes, for the competition we focus on paintings.

LauraMZ: Why do they compare it to Wagner? Are other arts involved in the festival in some way?

JennyGuest4: yes - many types of activities occur during the festival

JennyGuest4: there will be hands-on arts workshops led by various artists, presentations and discussions by educators for parents and teachers, performances by theatre, music and dance groups, and mural-making for the invited young artists.

TanyaA: There is an Arts and Craft tent among others in the festival

TanyaA: There will be also a Technology Tent to integrate both art and technology

JennyGuest4: and many musicians are coming to the festival, both to perform and to work with interested children

JennyGuest4: if you look at the "Master Artists & Performers" section of the ICAF website ([www.icafe.org/festival2003/pros/pros.html](http://www.icafe.org/festival2003/pros/pros.html)) you can see a listing of the currently confirmed artists, while on the Partners section you can see some of the educators who will participate.

JennyGuest4: it's very exciting, so many groups from across the US and around the world will be a part of the festival. as Tanya just mentioned, there's also a tent to showcase how the arts and technology can be integrated, where children and adults can work hands-on with the latest tools

JennyGuest4: with arts educators present to guide their explorations

TanyaA: I'm very excited about the festival and will try to make arrangements to come back to Washington in September

AnnaM: The Festival sounds like a very worthwhile event. I'm sure the students who get to attend will gain a greater appreciation for the role of the arts in bridging differences.

LauraMZ: So these kids are the cream of the crop--usually well-recognized already? Or are some discovered?

JennyGuest4: we hope so! that's part of the goal, to use the arts as a way to build peace

LauraMZ: To be the best in the country it seems they would have to be quite good.

TanyaA: Yes they are very talented children

JennyGuest4: but not necessarily well-recognized.

JennyGuest4: the festival occurs once every four years - we call it an olympiad - and we have an age range of 8-12, so new children always participate.

JennyGuest4: we try to encourage open competitions among as many schools as possible within each country

JennyGuest4: although it's up to each country, how they select their finalists

BjB: how are the schools in the US notified?

TanyaA: jenny can you explain \

JennyGuest4: yes -

JennyGuest4: when artwork is sent to ICAF, they include contact information with the piece of art. We use this information to notify the finalists

TanyaA: ICAF has a magazine that some schools receive am I right Jenny LauraMZ: Can any school participate?

JennyGuest4: yes, we have a magazine called ChildArt, that some schools subscribe to

JennyGuest4: and yes, any school can participate

BjB: Is information on ChildArt on the ICAF webpage?

JennyGuest4: yes -

JennyGuest4: see <http://www.icafe.org/Adults/Magazine.htm>

BjB: thanks

JennyGuest4: sure

BjB: We have about 5 minutes left...any other questions for Tanya and Jenny?

AnnaM: Your explanation was very clear, and of course the web page is a great resource.

LauraMZ: I have asked about all I have. Thank you for your time. Quite a festival. I will definitely submit some artwork from my students for the next festival!

JennyGuest4: please do! and thank you for your questions.

TanyaA: thank you

LauraMZ: Quick question-although I am sure it is on the webpage. Who funds this?

JennyGuest4: we're funded through individual donations, magazine subscriptions, and sponsors

BjB gives a round of applause for our discussion leaders! Thanks so much for joining us, Tanya and Jenny. I hope we will see you often in Tapped In.

LauraMZ: Thanks again!

JennyGuest4: thank you! it's been a fun discussion

JennyGuest4: thanks for inviting us.

TanyaA: Same here

TanyaA: Good night