

Title of Session: ArtsConnected Workshop

Moderator: Kevan Nitzberg

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Room: Kevan Nitzberg's Office

KevanN joined the room.

BJ cheers...hi, Kevan

KevanN: hi all!

BJ: your adoring fans are waiting for you

BrendaAr: Hello

AmandaPo: hello

KevanN: haha...

KevanN: I am not used to people arriving early

BrendaAr: I wanted to be sure I was here on time.

KevanN: Thanks for coming!

DixieC joined the room.

KevanN: Is this a new experience for most of you?

BJ: good job, Dixie

GinaSo joined the room.

DixieC: Thanks BJ, And yes Kevan this pretty new

BJ: Welcome, Gina.

AmandaPo: fairly new

LoringV: first time for me!

GinaSo: hi bj

KevanN: OK, well shall we start we introductions, then?

BJ: I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania

LoringV: Kindergarten teacher in TX

DixieC: I'm a pre service teacher at the University of Houston

AmandaPo: i am a student teacher at the Univ of Houston

KevanN: I am a high school art teacher in MN

KevanN: ...and have been teaching for the past 3 decades

GinaSo: I'm a training teachers in French language and I have an learning project on line

LoringV: this is my 2nd year to teach. I'm also working on my masters.

KevanN: It is a great profession. Good for you, Loring.

GinaSo: Portugal

KevanN: Well, let me introduce all of you to what ArtsConnected is about...

BrendaAr: I work in Education and work with teachers. I am also a firm believer in the arts.

KevanN: This is an interactive learning environment that is run by the Mpls. Institute of Art and the Walker Art Center

KevanN: It lends itself to cross curricular learning

BrendaAr: Sounds great

KevanN: ...for all grade levels and all populations - it is!

BJ agrees. You're all in for a real treat!

KevanN: I am going to take you to the site....ready?

AmandaPo: sounds wonderful

AmandaPo: ready

DixieC: Lets go

GinaSo: ya

LoringV: ready

KevanN: ok! <http://www.artsconnected.org>

BrendaAr: OK

BJ: click on the hyperlink to open a new window

AmandaPo: I looked at this site the other day

KevanN: there is a lot to see...

KevanN: Click on the art gallery icon first and let's visit that page

KevanN: that's the bust and frame icon...

BrendaAr: I'm in.

DixieC: Got it

KevanN: great!

GinaSo: I'm not get it

AmandaPo: ok

KevanN: You will notice that the page is broken into a left and right side - the left side is for searching, the right is for pre-existing programs...

KevanN: Let's take a look first at

KevanN: Art Sampler

KevanN: ...the dice

KevanN: If you click here...

KevanN: you will get a random selection of images from the 2 museums

KevanN: each selection in turn is also clickable...

BrendaAr: Got it.

KevanN: which will bring you to another page that has more info about the work - not all info pages are equal in depth as you will discover

KevanN: Also....

GinaSo: got artsconnected

KevanN: If you click on the 'enlarge' button....

KevanN: you will not only get a bigger image (which is printable)...

GinaSo: artgallery?

KevanN: but you can also access the 'zoom' feature which will allow you to see the work up close - there are multiple levels of zooming as you will discover. Try that on a work and then come back to the chat screen

KevanN: Art Gallery is the icon that has the bust and frame on it

AmandaPo: neat!!!

BrendaAr: That's a great way to have examples of art for students.

KevanN: There are over 6000 works that the museums have digitized for you to access at the moment - more are being photographed all the time

GinaSo: art sampler got it and after?

DixieC: That's great feature

KevanN: click on art sampler Gina and then click on one of the images

BrendaAr: I like that there's a wide variety of types.

AmandaPo: that's really cool

KevanN: and this feature is totally random - a great way to examine things if you don't have a particular item in mind

GinaSo: ok

KevanN: let's try another feature....

KevanN: Click on Surrounded by Beauty.....

KevanN: This is a site devoted to Native American Art

BrendaAr: I like the regional feature.

KevanN: If you scroll across the map, different artworks will appear from different Native American groups

AmandaPo: oh wow--this would have been great for my unit last semester

AmandaPo: neat

KevanN: Click on the North East Woodlands section....

DixieC: This a very neat feature for a social studies teacher

BrendaAr: Do you see this collection expanding.

KevanN: One of the featured artists in this site is George Morrison, an Ojibwa artist from MN

KevanN: Click on the Morrison collage....

KevanN: that is actually a piece made from many different pieces of wood and represents Lake Superior

KevanN: At the top of the page, click on 'listen'

GinaSo: where are u to see Morrison?

KevanN: you will be brought to a page that has a series of snippets for George Morrison speaking about his work and culture

BrendaAr: Was all of his work with wood? And is all of it in the abstract style?

KevanN: Gina, click on Northeast woodlands

KevanN: not all but much of it was

KevanN: Turn up the volume to hear him speak

BrendaAr: Was he an artist all of his life?

GinaSo: got it

KevanN: The transcripts are also available in printable format as well - great for handouts

KevanN: (good, Gina!)

KevanN: I am not sure about that, Brenda - but he is very famous here for his artwork

AmandaPo: that would be neat to use on a lesson talking about lesser known artists

KevanN: Let's go back to the Art Gallery.....

BrendaAr: And to bring into conservation

KevanN: You can get there by clicking on the 'Go' button on your Browser and go to 'ArtsConnected:Art'

KevanN: There are other features I want to share with you....

AmandaPo: ok

DixieC: I'm ready

BrendaAr: Me, too.

KevanN: 'Unified Vision' is a site that deals with the Prairie School of Architecture made famous by Frank Lloyd Wright...Click on the window icon....

KevanN: The Mpls. Institute of Art actually has a reconstructed room in the museum that has the design elements created by Wright from the Purcell Cutts House that is featured on this site

KevanN: You will see at the bottom of the page that you can take an Architectural Tour of homes and other structures that were built in this style

KevanN: ...let's keep moving for the time being - you can always come back here

KevanN: let's go back to the Art Gallery page...

AmandaPo: I love funky houses like this

AmandaPo: there

GinaSo: got it

BrendaAr: OK.

KevanN: Ok.....to the left of the Surrounded by Beauty page is another icon titled "Artists Toolkit" -

KevanN: click on the icon

BrendaAr: Kids will love this one.

GinaSo: ok

KevanN: There are a series of animated Flash sequences on this site that illustrate the elements and principles of art

KevanN: Click on

KevanN: Explore the Toolkit

AmandaPo: ok

BrendaAr: Wow, something for all areas

KevanN: Each of the elements and principles that are listed are illustrated by specific animations that are based on existing works of art. Let's go to the element of 'space; and click on depth....

GinaSo: visual rhythm is cool

KevanN: they all are!

BrendaAr: So is symmetrical and asymmetrical balance

KevanN: If you are ready for a party - depth is a gas!

AmandaPo: I wish I was there!

BrendaAr: What a great way to teach depth. I wonder if it was painted in that order.

KevanN: You will notice that you can create your own toolkit that will allow you to pre-select the animations you wish to show and publish them - this gives them a URL that you can always access

KevanN: I doubt that, Brenda, but it was a cool way to show the principle

KevanN: If you haven't yet tried Line, do that one as well.

BrendaAr: That's the way that I paint. I never know who will show up.

KevanN: Me too!

KevanN: Ok.....remember, you can always come back here - time to move on and go back to the Art Gallery again

GinaSo: depth was very nice

AmandaPo: ok

GinaSo: and now

KevanN: Global Positioning is another site worth noting. It is one of the few that Walker came up with - most are from the Mpls. Institute of Art

BrendaAr: ok

DixieC: okay I'm back at art gallery

KevanN: This site allows you to examine the works and influences on current artists working around the globe

KevanN: The site was based on a series of shows that the

KevanN: Walker put on a couple of years ago.

KevanN: Click on the site....

KevanN: By moving one of the colored squares into the indicated box, you will get information about the individual artist

KevanN: Try one....

BrendaAr: I went to NY first and then NJ

KevanN: Well, there are others that have a more international focus...lol!

BrendaAr: And now elephant dung?

BrendaAr: The dysfunctional family has a lot of potential.

KevanN: different strokes.....the Walker is all about cutting edge art that is happening today - not all things are for all audiences (I often have trouble with things that are on display there)

BrendaAr: I think I can see the cutting edge with the suit, etc.

KevanN: Yes it does. There is also a great series on Sherin Neshat, the Iranian filmmaker

KevanN: ok....more to see so back to the Art Gallery

BrendaAr: I'm there

DixieC: I'm there as well

KevanN: Below Unified Vision there is a clickable icon simply stated as 'more adventures' - click on it

GinaSo: yes

BrendaAr: cool. I like this. animals and find yourself face to face. Really open to a lot of multicultural things.

KevanN: These are a wide variety of other programs that ArtsConnected has featured in the past and are still active

AmandaPo: what was the site again please??

KevanN: Let's really look at the multicultural aspect.....More Adventures, Amanda

BJ: www.artsconnected.org

AmandaPo: thank you

KevanN: At the bottom of the page is World Myths and Legends - click there

BrendaAr: This site is definitely cross-curricular

KevanN: Yes it is...Click on Compare and Contrast

AmandaPo: lots of good resources

KevanN: this allows the user to click on any 2 works of art for the purpose of comparing them together

KevanN: Try it - click on 2 and then go to the Begin Essay feature

KevanN: Notice that the 2 works are blown up in size and are in turn clickable

KevanN: You can get more info about them or just make them bigger - as well as being able to zoom in on them as well.

BrendaAr: How do you keep the selections box from floating down. I cannot get to the essay portion.

DixieC: Thanks

KevanN: Wait for them all to load

KevanN: then click on the begin essay box

GinaSo: I got it

BrendaAr: Mine are loaded but the selections box doesn't allow me to see the bottom of the box. When I try to drag it it floats back to the bottom.

DixieC: Mine is doing the same thing

KevanN: the essay is a great tool for getting students to either present a factual representation about the work or just to express an emotive response to the works that they selected. Plus they are printable!

KevanN: hmmm... that's odd/

BrendaAr: As I scroll down, it moves down.

KevanN: Anybody else having that problem?

LoringV: I have the same problem

BrendaAr: You have to maximize the block.

AmandaPo: it worked for me

KevanN: Ah!

KevanN: good call.

BrendaAr: I had it minimized and it floated. When I maximized it, it stayed in place.

KevanN: I am working on Mac OSX

DixieC: Thanks

BrendaAr: I'm in Windows.

BrendaAr: I really like this essay feature. I also like how everything is printable.

KevanN: Let's examine more of this site's features.....(I am an ignoramus when it comes to windows)

KevanN: ok....

KevanN: At the top of the page, click on Art by Culture'

AmandaPo: lots of cultures here as well

BrendaAr: I like the way it ties in geography.

AmandaPo: right Brenda

AmandaPo: lots of ways you could integrate this

KevanN: Each of the subtopics at the top takes you to different focuses for examining multiple cultures

BrendaAr: That's what I'm thinking.

GinaSo: ya

KevanN: ok....I want to take you to some other parts of ArtsConnected before the coup de grace at the end of this session...back to the gallery again....

AmandaPo: especially in a school that does not fully support art as a subject

BrendaAr: And most aren't now...sadly

AmandaPo: I agree

KevanN: At the top of the page click on "For Your Classroom"

AmandaPo: too focused on testing

BrendaAr: And yet the arts would improve the test scores

KevanN: I agree, the testing only serves to measure a small portion of what is actually learned and valued in the educational process

AmandaPo: definitely!

DixieC: Very true

KevanN: that is also true which is why the arts are an under funded core subject...go figure!

KevanN: ok, enough politics - I could get very distracted.....

BrendaAr: Teacher training is only for MN? You don't come to LA by any chance.

AmandaPo: lol--back on topic

GinaSo: teaching literature we can teaching a lot of everything in art

KevanN: Sorry Brenda- THEY WON'T PAY MY AIR FARE

BrendaAr: And it's a long trip down the Mississippi

KevanN: Ok...For Your Classroom has a lot of other types of resources for you to explore

KevanN: You will notice that the format is much like the Art Gallery....

KevanN: Searchable material on the left, features on the right

GinaSo: yes

KevanN: If you scroll down on the right you will find a downloadable teachers' guide

KevanN: 20 pages of printing - beware the ink!

BrendaAr: And it's set up by age group and by thematic unit. Neat.

GinaSo: I liked a lot your art tour Kevan

GinaSo: thanx

KevanN: On the left, you will find access to over 80 usable lessons at all grade levels - yes, they are searchable by theme

AmandaPo: great!

KevanN: You are welcome Gina - but I have barely started!

DixieC: It's a great resource to have on hand, and the searchable lessons are wonderful

BrendaAr: I liked the story character canvas one. I can see using it with a timeline.

GinaSo: yes I can see that

KevanN: You will also notice that there is a clickable link called ArtsConnected teachers - that takes you to a messageboard that you can access with questions that you might have

BrendaAr: This is a cool site.

KevanN: ArtsNetMN teachers is another webboard that is not ArtsConnected specific but provides more chats with educators involved in the arts

BrendaAr: Is it limited to MN teachers?

KevanN: OK....time to move on again - go to the top and click on Playground

AmandaPo: I'm guessing the activity kits are limited to MN??

SusanR joined the room.

KevanN: No Brenda- there are no limits to usage: I will be presenting this site at the NAEA Convention in Denver next week.

KevanN: hi Susan!

SusanR waves to Kevan

SusanR slips in quietly and hopes not to disturb the class

KevanN: I don't know what the museum's policy is regarding kits, frankly. You would have to email them I don't know why they would limit them, though.

KevanN: Ready to go to the playground? Click away...

AmandaPo: ok

DixieC: I am already there and designing a garden

KevanN: This page provides students of all ages a variety of activities to get involved with

BrendaAr: I'm not so great with the treasure hunt.

KevanN: Click on Make It...

KevanN: That's OK Brenda...practice, practice, practice...lol!

GinaSo: I must go Kevan

KevanN: Bye Gina!

GinaSo: thank u so much for your art tour

KevanN: Thanks for visiting.

KevanN: Note the postage stamp.....

BrendaAr: I like the drawing lines by emotion. What a great way to work on emotional intelligences.

GinaSo: I will be back

KevanN: This allows you to send artwork through the mail as part of an email....

KevanN: I will look forward to seeing you again, Gina.

BrendaAr: Oh, I like that.

GinaSo: ok bye

KevanN: It is a great way to get students to communicate with other students across the country and the world

GinaSo left the room.

DixieC: That's pretty neat

AmandaPo: neat

AmandaPo: while learning to use e-mail at the same time!

AmandaPo smiles

KevanN: It is also a very cool tool for communicating with parents, school administrators, school board members, your state legislature....get the idea?

AmandaPo: yep

BrendaAr: To show the arts is important.

KevanN: grins!

KevanN: You bet!

KevanN: OK....lots more here to do, but I want to take you to one more feature back in the Art Gallery.

AmandaPo: ok

KevanN: OK! Back to the Art Gallery and Art Collector...

DixieC: okay

BrendaAr: I'm there

AmandaPo: ok

KevanN: Note the box of marbles....this is one of the most powerful tools in ArtsConnected.....

KevanN: It allows you to put together your own collections of artwork from the 2 museums, write your own text or incorporate cut and pasted text, add images from the internet, create hyperlinks, etc....

KevanN: Ready to try?

BrendaAr: Yes, Can't wait.

DixieC: you bet

AmandaPo: yes

LoringV: ready

KevanN: Let me also tell you that the directions for doing this are posted as a file in my Tapped In office that you are free to download.

KevanN: Ok...click on the marbles...

BrendaAr: Thanks.

AmandaPo: ok

KevanN: You are welcome - my pleasure

KevanN: Click on New Users....

KevanN: You will need to create your own log in here. Type your full name in the 1st box....

KevanN: Create a user name (the email address is not needed unless you want the museum to send you updates)....

KevanN: And create a password and type it twice - carefully! NOTE: There is NO reminder function on ArtsConnected so copy your log in info someplace safe

AmandaPo: ok

KevanN: When you are done with all of that, sign on....

KevanN: The next screen that you come to will be where you name your collection.....

KevanN: You will also see that there are several collections already made for you that you can make your own, but let's not do that now.....

AmandaPo: ok

KevanN: When you have typed a name for your collection, Click on 'Create a New Collection'

BrendaAr: Can we go back and edit our collections at any time.

KevanN: YES! As long as you remember your log in info

KevanN: The next page is a search page....

KevanN: All searches on Art Collector are word searches....

KevanN: That is to day that the actual W

KevanN: Word need to appear next to the image

KevanN: remember the info pages we looked at earlier?

KevanN: That is where the 'words' are located

AmandaPo: yes

KevanN: OK....also.....

KevanN: You can treat this like a Boolean search where you can narrow down the possibilities and combining more than one descriptor, and you can also create a wild card search by typing a root of a word with an asterisk directly after it to widen the search

BrendaAr: Is there a limit to the number of collections we can create?

KevanN: let's try a search.....type 'portrait' - NO LIMIT - I have 103 collections at the moment

KevanN: Supposedly this site has unlimited storage space

BrendaAr: I found one by Degas of Marguerite Degas. Maybe wife, maybe mother, maybe sister, maybe brother. Ha.

KevanN: Once you type in 'portrait', the site looks for all images that have portrait typed in the info box that accompanies the image

KevanN: You will find LOTS of images with this search

KevanN: ok....

BrendaAr: So being able to limit is very important.

KevanN: let's pick one image just for the heck of it - yes, limiting searches is a useful skill.

KevanN: click below the image where it says add to my collection

DixieC: okay

KevanN: this brings the image into a new screen called the editor screen

KevanN: you will notice a lot of functions that you have to use

KevanN: again, all of this is covered in my instruction file on creating a collection that you will find in my office. I want to take you through a few things, though.

AmandaPo: ok

KevanN: First of all, notice the add text box....click on it

KevanN: this opens a box that you can create text in. You have to remember to click under the box on Use this Text in order to save it, however.

BrendaAr: Is the amount of text limited?

KevanN: Everything else about your collection is automatically saved under the name that you titled it earlier

BrendaAr: I know I'm asking a lot of questions. Sorry

KevanN: No limit to amount of text or number of images

BrendaAr: Thanks.

KevanN: Ask away - that's why I am here (for the next 5 min....lol!)

KevanN: OK.....here comes another important feature....

AmandaPo: ok

KevanN: At the top of the screen you will notice a Publish feature...click on that icon

KevanN: That will bring up another page that has your collection title and 'publish' in a box

BrendaAr: So we could create a Treasure Hunt for the kids and keep them from going all over the place.

KevanN: Click on that word 'publish'

AmandaPo: neat

KevanN: That is true

BrendaAr: That is neat.

KevanN: The URL that is generated will always be yours even if you decide to unpublish what you have put together

AmandaPo: cool

KevanN: the only thing that changes from one person's address to another is the name and number

BrendaAr: Would all of our collections be under this number?

KevanN: This is also a handy way to grade students' work and also have them work at home on their assignments

KevanN: no - each collection has its own #

BrendaAr: As long as we publish it first?

KevanN: I give Art Collector assignments out all the time and have my students give me (or email me) their collection addresses

DixieC: so as a social studies teacher i can create collections for every topic, the kids can access and make their own as well

AmandaPo: and they add their own pictures??

AmandaPo: or they look at the ones you added??

KevanN: the collection is recognized at the time that it is created even before it is published - a number is reserved for it at that point

BrendaAr: That's a fantastic idea. An English teacher could grade the text.

KevanN: Yes, yes and yes!

BrendaAr: Kevan, thank you so much for the tour, the training, and being patient. This was my first ASO. I was nervous.

KevanN: Remember, you cannot change someone else's work, but you can print it out and correct the printout to hand back to the student!

DixieC: pretty great stuff

AmandaPo: neat

KevanN: You are most welcome. I love doing these sessions!

AmandaPo: thank you very much'

BrendaAr: I'm going to sign off now. Again, thanks.

KevanN: Look for me to be online again next month on Tapped In. And if you can get your school to pay the airfare, I will travel...lol

LoringV: Thank you!

DixieC: Kevan, Thanks for the information and your time

KevanN: My pleasure!

KevanN: goodnight all!

BJ: thanks, Kevan

SusanR: Thanks Kevan.

KevanN: You are welcome BJ...GREAT GROUP

BJ agrees

SusanR: Goodnight all!

KevanN: hi and bye Susan!