

**Title of Session:** Arts and Literacy - arts:21

**Moderator:** BJ Berquist

**Title of File:** 20040503artlit

**Date:** May 3, 2004

Room: After School Online Room

**BJ** waves. If you see this you're in the right place for Arts and Lit

**SMichaeGst8:** Who is BJ and how will I know if he waves

**BJ:** Good question, Michael...and an excellent lead into the next step of the discussions here in Tapped In

**BJ:** I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania and a helpdesk volunteer for Tapped In. I lead the Arts and Literacy discussions. We usually start all the discussions in Tapped In with introductions

**BJ:** could you each please give a short intro so I can learn who the participants are?

**BJ:** o O ( and why you joined this discussion )

**JaredL:** I'm a college student majoring in secondary English ed and was wondering how I might be able to use art to help students who had trouble with writing

**BJ:** cool, Jared. Thanks

**EricaKR:** I am a first grade teacher at Westlake elementary in southern California. I am also in grad school here at night

**CarolynFK:** I'm a HS English teacher and Deaf ed. specialist. I'm taking an on-line course to get acquainted with what's on the net for teachers.

**SMichaeGst8:** I am a first grade teacher who happens to be taking a class teaching on-line technologies. My assignment was to visit chat rooms and experience their diversity. This seemed like a very interesting topic.

**SusanR:** I am a K to 8 Occasional Teacher (this week ESL and Special Ed) from Ontario, Canada..and how to better integrate the arts and literacy

**BJ** smiles happily...what a lovely group of participants!

**BJ:** to put Michael's curiosity to rest, to wave in Tapped In, type a colon and the action.  
:waves

**SMichaeGst8** waves

**BJ:** has anyone had a chance to look at the PBS site art:21?

**BJ** cheers for Michael. Feel better?

**SMichaeGst8:** lol

**SMichaeGst8:** I was wondering what BJ waves meant

**SMichaeGst8:** my 14 year old son thinks I'm retarded

**EricaKR:** I snooped around a bit, not too much though

**JaredL:** not yet, sorry!

**BJ:** emoting is virtual body language...as important in Tapped In as real body language is in a f2f discussion

**SusanR:** not yet

**BJ:** np...I'm going to start us off with the main page. Click on the blue hyperlink to open the webpage

**CarolynFK:** art 21 showcases individual working artists, varying mediums, right?

**BJ:** <http://www.pbs.org/art21/series/index.html>

**BJ:** right, Carolyn...that is part of what they have  
**BJ:** their primary audience is middle and high school, but I think a lot of the information could be adapted for primary grades  
**BJ:** did everyone get the site?  
**JaredL:** yes  
**EricaKR:** yes  
**SMichaeGst8:** yes  
**CarolynFK:** yes, but our words are covering part  
**BJ:** as you can see, art:21 focuses on contemporary US artists  
**BJ:** Carolyn, can you overlap the screens. I'll shut up while you take a few minutes to read  
**SusanR** nods  
**BJ:** btw, we're just going to do a pretty superficial overview of the site this month. Jessica Hamlin from art:21 will be my guest in June and will be giving a more in depth description  
**BJ:** everyone take a quick look at the page?  
**SMichaeGst8:** yes  
**JaredL:** yes  
**BJ:** the sitemap at <http://www.pbs.org/art21/sitemap.html>  
**BJ:** gives you a good idea of what is available  
**EricaKR:** done  
**BJ:** let's take a look at one of the lessons  
**BJ:** <http://www.pbs.org/art21/education/abstraction/lesson3.html>  
**LaurenB** joined the room.  
**BJ:** one of the features I really like is the link to the glossary  
**BJ:** Hi, Lauren. Welcome. We're looking at <http://www.pbs.org/art21/education/abstraction/lesson3.html>  
**BJ:** this is one of the lessons that could be adapted for all grade levels.  
**SusanR** agrees  
**SMichaeGst8** nods  
**BJ:** art:21 collaborates with SchoolArts Magazine  
**BJ:** they featured the work of Kara Walker in the last issue  
**SusanR:** a very complete lesson plan..students can even submit their art work  
**BJ** nods  
**BJ:** any other comments or questions?  
**EricaKR:** is there any liability issues with posting student work?  
**SMichaeGst8:** The critical questions would make great journal entries  
**BJ:** good question, Erica. That's something I think you could ask Jessica next month  
**BJ** . o O ( I'll forward this transcript to her so she'll know what to expect )  
**JaredL:** I was thinking that would be a cool lesson to do along with students writing an autobio writing assignment  
**EricaKR:** okay I'll make a note too  
**BJ:** excellent suggestions Michael and Jared  
**BJ:** The education index is at <http://www.pbs.org/art21/education/index.html>  
**SMichaeGst8:** It also opens up especially for high school the concept of topical looks vs inner being. Which likeness is being portrayed and why

**BJ:** I like the way the lessons include clips from the series...a real multimedia presentation

**SusanR:** I am impressed with the reflection and going further components of the site.

**BJ:** any comments, Carolyn?

**BJ:** Lauren, did you have any questions on arts:21?

**CarolynFK:** nope

**BJ:** o O ( I told the group earlier that Jessica Hamlin from arts:21 will be my guest for Arts and Literacy in June and she can guide us through the site in more depth )

**EricaKR:** How long will things stay posted and will there be an archive to refer back to as years pass?

**BJ:** I think there already is an archive since this is year two.

**LaurenB:** Wow, I know one of those artists. Antin lives here in San Diego. It would be fun to take the kids to a museum to see her work.

**BJ:** But I don't know what the plans are for the future...another question for Jessica!

**EricaKR:** many of these lessons would be fun to repeat over the years and this site is a great source

**BJ:** cool, Lauren.

**BJ:** real time field trips are always a wonderful opportunity

**SMichaeGst8:** There are probably wonderful budding artists in each of our city's that can be tapped into.

**SMichaeGst8:** There is art all around. It is so pervasive that we block it out.

BJ agrees with Michael

**CarolynFK:** It's good for students to see an actual working artist, whether via pbs or in real life--not just the finished products.

**BJ:** and discussing how the site can be used to encourage writing and reading for our students

**SusanMcg** joined the room.

**BJ:** one resource for working artists is often your local arts councils

**LaurenB:** Right Carolyn. And it's great to see an artist who is living!

**BJ:** hi, Susan. Welcome. We're looking at <http://www.pbs.org/art21/series/index.html>

**SMichaeGst8:** color, line, movement, and music are critical for humans. Many times ideas cannot be expressed in any other way because of their complexity and intensity.

**LaurenB:** Most kids know the Ninja Turtle four...

**LaurenB:** Leonardo, Michaelangelo, Rafael, Donatello

**SMichaeGst8:** My first graders draw pictures to capture their ideas and then write the sentences.

**BJ:** excellent connections, Michael

**CarolynFK:** My HS kids turned Macbeth into a graphic novel.

**LaurenB:** I have my 11th graders draw in their reader response journals, and if they won't draw I'll have them collage or design things on the Internet

**EricaKR:** so much art with primary it's great to teach different types of art with them - we just finished pointillism

**SMichaeGst8:** The more we can help them understand how to access and manipulate the elements of art. The more conversant they will become in that medium and it will spill over to other forms of communication.

**BJ:** for the upper grades it's also important to understand the political and social messages the artist is communicating

**CarolynFK:** Yes, and play with the medium, not stay within some arbitrary lines/framework.

**SMichaeGst8:** The computer is great for art. It seems like this generation will do anything if it's on the computer.

**BJ** . o O ( not just for contemporary artists, but also for historical works of art )

**LaurenB:** Right, a study of art can spill over into a study of propaganda.

**BJ:** you all might be very interested in participating in ArtsConnected tomorrow

**BJ** . o O ( [www.artsconnected.org](http://www.artsconnected.org) )

**BJ:** you can create your own museum collection to support your lessons on communication

**SMichaeGst8:** Symbolism that is used in art has actually often been used for millennia.

**BJ:** please mark your calendars for June 7 for Arts and Literacy and our guest Jessica Hamlin from arts:21

**SMichaeGst8:** How often do you do this?

**EricaKR:** is it at the same time?

**BJ:** and make a note of tomorrow's ArtsConnected discussion with Kevin Nitzberg

**LaurenB:** Is this show something that you have to buy or are their episodes for free somewhere?

**SusanR** marks her calendar

**BJ:** yes, Arts and Literacy is the first Monday of the month, same time

**SMichaeGst8** say neat

**BJ:** Lauren, I think you can use much of the site without purchasing any of the episodes

**BJ** . o O ( but you have that option if you wanted to purchase episodes )

**LaurenB:** I just may anyway. It is cool stuff.

**BJ:** Confronting Conflict is a timely lesson

**BJ:** <http://www.pbs.org/art21/education/war/lesson3.html>

**LaurenB:** I only ask because some of their shows are available completely online

**BJ:** a lot of teachers don't have high speed connections...downloading a large video would be painful at best

**EricaKR:** that is an understatement!

**LaurenB:** <gasp> Every teacher should have a high speed connection... by law. for free!

**SMichaeGst8:** Thank you for a lovely experience. This was great. I will be back another time. Good-bye!

**BJ:** shoulda's and does are two different animals, Lauren

**SMichaeGst8** left the room (signed off).

**JaredL** thanks Bj as well

**BJ:** you're welcome, Jared. It's been a pleasure

**LaurenB:** Darn it, I wish my alarm had gone off so I wouldn't have missed the first 20 minutes.

**ChristinAA:** Sorry I was late. Sounds like some interesting stuff on this site. I will be doing some heavy exploring on my own.

**BJ:** any comments or questions, Christine?

**SusanR** explores the new and improved glossary

**BJ:** the transcript of this discussion will be archived in about a week at [www.tappedin.org/transcripts](http://www.tappedin.org/transcripts)

**BJ:** but I think the June discussion will be excellent

**EricaKR:** Thank you for the great info and exploration Bye-bye

ChristinAA: Ok, cool. I think I will try to join the discussion tomorrow as well.

**BJ** waves bye to Erica. Thanks for joining us

**LaurenB:** OK... I'll check it out. I've been meaning to look into Art:21 because I'm a fan of Eleanor Antin, but I didn't know how to incorporate it into an English class.

**BJ:** great, Christine. Kevin has some mind boggling resources

**SusanR:** This was a GREAT intro to the site, Bj

**BJ:** thanks, Sue

**SusanR:** Take the time to explore The Alphabet Synthesis Machine

**BJ:** cool, Sue