

**Title of Session:** ArtsConnected

**Moderator:** Kevan Nitsberg

**Title of File:** 20031210ac

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Room: TI\_Reception

**KevanN:** I had a meeting with our high school staff development committee last night and discussed the possibility of using my virtual office as a meeting place over the summer

**BjB:** wonderful!

**KevanN:** they were interested in that possibility too.

**KevanN:** I will have to restock my refreshments.....

**BjB:** were they willing to give professional development credits?

**BjB:** . o O ( that would be a big draw for teachers to get involved )

**KevanN:** CEUs would be offered and any follow up would perhaps generate a stipend from the district's allocation of funds that we are entitled to apply for, Nothing big of course.

**KevanN:** One would think so.

**BjB:** doesn't have to be big. PA requires so many CEUs in a five year period to maintain certification

**KevanN:** The focus would probably be around reading an Educational teaching / learning text

**ArthurH** joined the room.

**KevanN:** So do we - 120 CEUs every 5 yrs

**BjB:** Hi, Arthur. Welcome

**ArthurH:** Hi **BjB** and Kevan

**KevanN:** with some of the options available, the CEUs are certainly not all that rigorous across the board

**KevanN:** hi Arthur

**BjB:** anything we can help you with, Arthur?

**BjB:** yeah...if the admin is willing to accept stuff like TI participation especially!

**ArthurH:** How does one listen in on the calendar events or log in?

**BjB:** you do what you just did, Arthur

**BjB:** what event were you looking for?

**ArthurH:** I'm looking for the art curriculum events

**BjB:** ahhh...Arthur, meet Kevan!

**BjB:** Kevan, meet Arthur

**KevanN:** Hi Arthur - are you here for ArtsConnected?

**ArthurH:** Hi Kevan,

**ArthurH:** Nice to meet you Kevan,

**KevanN:** And you, Arthur - do you have any experience with ArtsConnected yet?

**ArthurH:** Kevan, yes I was interested in ArtsConnected. Thanks for finding it.

**KevanN:** Well, just so happens that I am the presenter for ArtsConnected here on Tapped In and a trainer for the 2 museums that it represents

**ArthurH:** Kevan, no I don't but I am intrigued by the name.  
**BjB:** Arthur, I just id'd you...you are an art teacher?  
**KevanN:** Well, how would you like to visit the site?  
**BjB** . o O ( you also need to change your gender in your ID Unless Arthur is a female name )  
**BjB** stops interrupting...sorry, Kevan!  
**KevanN:** no problem...lol.! housekeeping is almost the first priority  
**ArthurH:** That's great, I am finishing my arts credential. By the way, I am a female but am using my son's name.  
**KevanN:** of course, I am not much of a housekeeper...  
**BjB:** Kevan, would you like to meet with Arthur in your office?  
**KevanN:** sure...see you there Arthur.  
**BjB:** Arthur, do you know how to join Kevan?  
**KevanN** left the room.

Room: Kevan Nitzberg's Office

**KevanN** joined the room.  
**ArthurH** joined the room.  
**KevanN:** hi again Arthur  
**ArthurH:** Hi Kevan  
**KevanN:** Welcome to my 'office'.  
**BJ** joined the room.  
**BJ** waves hi  
**KevanN:** I have a number of files here that you can peruse at your leisure  
**KevanN:** intros BJ?  
**BJ:** Please, Kevan  
**KevanN:** ok - Arthur, how about you first?  
**ArthurH:** ok thank-you  
**ArthurH:** ok, what do I do  
**BJ:** I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania and a helpdesk volunteer for Tapped In  
**BJ** . o O ( briefly tell what you do and where you're located, Arthur )  
**KevanN:** I am a high school art teacher in Minnesota and President Elect of my state art teachers organization(. I also write for an online ezine that comes out of New Zealand that is listed on this page  
**KevanN:** oops...stepped out of turn - my apologies  
**ArthurH:** Yes, I'm finishing my art credential in San Diego and I'm going to teach art at a local high school.  
**KevanN:** ahhh...a warm climate! I am envious  
**KevanN:** ok, a little about ArtsConnected is in order then...  
**BJ:** As you can see, Arthur, Kevan uses his office as a resource room for ArtsConnected  
**ArthurH:** Well, today it is cold around 40's at night but rain prob.tomorrow.Summer's were hot during August thr.October  
**KevanN:** this is an online, interactive learning environment that is hosted by the Mpls. Institute of Art and the Walker Art Center (we are going below 0 degrees tonight).  
**KevanN:** Among the many features of ArtsConnected:

**KevanN:** you can create a publishable collection of artwork and text with links to the internet that you can share with others...

**SusanR** joined the room.

BJ waves hi to Sue

**KevanN:** you can access over 40,000 images online that have been digitized by the 2 museums...

**KevanN:** hi Sue!

**SusanR** waves to Kevan and Arthur

**KevanN:** you can listen to recorded conversations with artists such as Marcel DuChamp and Claes Oldenburg...

**ArthurH:** Thanks BJ and Kevan, art is a great resource as we do not have enough art resources in San Diego for the children.

**KevanN:** you can view animated short features that illustrate the elements and principles of art

**ArthurH:** Sorry, I'm new to Tapped in and chat rooms

**KevanN:** and much, much more that is all for free!

**KevanN:** no problem - it's all a learning experience

**KevanN:** How about we visit the site? Field trip anyone?

**ArthurH:** Thanks I think I will try viewing the Walker Art Center and Artsconnected, yes field trips are great, OK.

**SusanR:** I am ready!

**KevanN:** OK - you are taking a field trip now, Arthur...lol!

**KevanN:** <http://www.artsconnected.org>

**KevanN:** click on the address and then click on the Art Gallery icon and come back to the chat page

**KevanN:** One of the newer and exciting features on ArtsConnected is the Artists Toolkit

**KevanN:** You can see the icon on the right hand side of your screen

**KevanN:** This feature allows you to demonstrate the elements and principles of art to all age levels in a very entertaining and informative fashion. Click on the icon and you will get to a new page....

**KevanN:** You will need to have 'Flash' on your computer to view the animated sequences

**KevanN:** Everybody there?

**KevanN:** looks out into the office, but sees no-one stirring....perhaps the coffee put everyone to sleep...

**KevanN:** that's it - no more decaf

**KevanN:** Well, in case someone is following this mindless chatter...

**BJ** listens closely

**KevanN:** click on the Explore the Toolkit green triangle

**KevanN:** This brings up a series of linked elements and principles that are all connected to animated shorts. All of the shorts are attached to works of art that are at the 2 museums hosting this site

**KevanN:** (thanks BJ!)

**KevanN:** Let's try one of my favorites -

**SusanR:** Sorry, where's that Toolkit again (login problems)

**SusanR:** got it

**KevanN:** At the bottom of the right hand column is the selection "Repetition Makes a Pattern"

**KevanN:** (great, Susan!)

**KevanN:** Click on that once and watch the film - keep your volume turned up.

**KevanN:** If you are on a dial up as I am it does take a bit of patience

**SusanR:** wow!!

**KevanN:** If (as Susan obviously is), you are on a faster connection, feel free to try some additional shorts

**SusanR:** Do things slow down if you have a lab of kids on the site?

**KevanN:** not that I have found...there are other issues with networked computers though

**SusanR:** Kevan, this is invaluable...great for teaching perspective, which is on our junior curriculum.

**KevanN:** There are a ton of applications. I am teaching a video / computer high school class, for instance, and use this site to give my art students who are in the class a refresher in E&P with a computerized slant and my computer geeks a remedial lesson in exactly what the E & P are.

**KevanN:** This really helps to bridge the gap in a very entertaining fashion.

**KevanN:** The encyclopedia section also gives you more clickable examples of artworks that help to illustrate these terms as well.

**KevanN:** In addition....

**KevanN:** 2 local MN artists are featured in 2 animated 3 min. clips creating artwork with color form pieces that help to show how a composition can be put together using simple materials

**SusanR** listens intently

**KevanN:** Shall we explore some other features on ArtsConnected?

**SusanR:** Yes, please.

**KevanN:** ...remember I only have another 1/2 hour.

**KevanN:** ok!

**KevanN:** Go back to the art gallery page and we will look around there some more...

**ArthurH:** I enjoyed the tour and the art gallery. Thanks Kevan

**KevanN:** Let's first look at the other featured icons on the page

**KevanN:** Glad you liked it Arthur - more to come!

**KevanN:** First, are either of you familiar with these features?

**SusanR:** Should we be on the Visual Elements page, Kevan

**ArthurH:** No, I'm not familiar with the features.

**KevanN:** No - on the Art Gallery page (the bust and frame icon on the main artconnected page)

**SusanR:** Yes, but I can use the review

**KevanN:** you are in for a treat Arthur.

**SusanR:** I am there!

**KevanN:** alright then. First the box of marbles - that is the Art Collector site which allows you to create your own art collection. This is a fairly lengthy procedure but you can get information on creating the collection from the file in my office entitled Art Collector Directions...

**KevanN:** Next....

**KevanN:** Art Sampler allows you to virtually 'throw' the dice and you will come up with 10 random works of art from the 2 museums...

**KevanN:** Each one is clickable and will bring you to subsequent pages that allow you to read about, enlarge and zoom in on the artwork...

**KevanN:** Let's try that one as it is fairly short exercise...

**KevanN:** Click on the dice

**KevanN:** each of the pictured works can be clicked on...try one and see what you come up with - an 'x' means a certain work is no longer available for viewing

**KevanN:** You can also click on "Choose a new group" to select 10 new works to examine

**KevanN:** note that there are additional functions on the page such as a word search

screen and boxes that are clickable that help to expand or narrow the search

**KevanN:** ok...let's move on. Go to the top of the page and click on the bust and frame icon again.

**SusanR:** This can serve as a complete semester course!

**KevanN:** back on the screen is the global positioning button. This is a new feature that allows you to view contemporary artists work from around the world. Let's click on that and see what we get...

**KevanN:** This feature follows a show on contemporary global art that was at the Walker last year.

**SusanR:** I am still with you, Kevan!

**KevanN:** Great!

**SusanR** eagerly listens

**KevanN:** Move one of the icons into the red square and see what happens.

**KevanN:** The map shifts position in accordance with selection made

**SusanR:** This is quite unique, Kevan.

**KevanN:** A variety of choices are made available to you to further

**KevanN:** Yes it is! Sound files are available through some of these selections as well.

**KevanN:** ok...time to move to another feature...

**SusanR** explores and experiments

**KevanN:** back to the art gallery page again....this time scroll all the way down to the bottom of the features...

**KevanN:** and click on more adventures....then click to the bottom of that screen...

**KevanN:** ...and click on the reworked page, World Myths and Legends

**KevanN:** This has become a very user friendly site for teachers and students

**KevanN:** ...for example

**KevanN:** click on What is a Myth...

**SusanR** notices the glossary and downloadable curriculum

**KevanN:** yes - there is that too!

**KevanN:** the definition of myth is quite comprehensive and makes the rest of the site that much clearer in terms of what is being looked at

**KevanN:** ...another great feature is Compare and Contrast - click on it

**KevanN:** This allow a student (or whole class) to explore the concept of comparing and contrasting works of art and writing their answers online.

**KevanN:** The answers are then printable / collectable / gradable - whatever direction you wish to follow.

**KevanN:** Try doing your own compare and contrast now.

**SusanR:** Can students save their essays within the site?

**KevanN:** Not on this page - that is a function of art collector

**SusanR:** o O ( Safari is not allowing me use the check boxes. )

**KevanN:** However, images can be copied and pasted onto a Word document and the writing copy and pasted as well.

**KevanN:** I am on Microsoft Explorer. I am not familiar with Safari.

**KevanN:** This is also doable on Netscape Navigator

**SusanR:** Thank you Kevan. I will try later in Explorer.

**KevanN:** There might be a way around the Safari snafu - I will have to ask the Tech folks at the museum if they are familiar with the situation.

**KevanN:** If you are interested in looking at artwork from a multicultural perspective...

**KevanN:** click on Explore Art by Culture...

**SusanR:** yes..

**KevanN:** This groups the artwork into cultural categories for further examination / comparison / discussion

**KevanN:** Clicking on the artwork that comes up gives you a wide range of discussion topics and key ideas to explore

**KevanN:** Art by Theme is yet another focus worth examining

**SusanR:** One can enlarge the image and get additional info...like the idea of discussion questions

**KevanN:** I particularly like the Creation Myths as they really help to present to students a wide range of belief systems

**KevanN:** ...in very comprehensive contexts

**SusanR:** looks at the creation myths

**KevanN:** Well, that's all I have time for tonight folks. Hope that this was as informative and fun for you as it ALWAYS is for me!

**KevanN:** Till the next time then....

**SusanR:** very comprehensive, Kevan

**BJ:** Thanks, Kevan!

**KevanN:** goodnight!

**KevanN:** you are most welcome!

**SusanR:** Thank you for the overview

**KevanN:** my pleasure

**KevanN:** Check out the files in my office for more info if you haven't already.