

Title of Session: ArtsConnectEd Workshop - Interdisciplinary Art Teaching Tool

Moderator: Kevan Nitzberg

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Room: Kevan Nitzberg's Office

BjB raps the gavel and hands the virtual floor over to Kevan

BjB: Hi, Ruth!

KevanN: Welcome Ruth

RuthN: Hello!

BjB: glad you could join us

RuthN: What are we up to tonight?

BjB: Ruth, can you please introduce yourself? Tell us where you are located and what you teach?

KevanN: ArtsConnectEd actually

BjB: and then Kevan is going to show you a wonderful interdisciplinary arts resource

RuthN: I teach elementary music and I am in charge of integrating tech into all classrooms K-12

KevanN: That's a tall order!

BjB: Kim is in California and teaches 5th grade

BjB: your location, Ruth?

KevanN: I teach art at the high school level in MN.

RuthN: sorry, rural NE Missouri

KevanN: Hey, just 2 states to the south!

BjB: Ruth, a reminder to go to the actions menu in the top right of this chat window and click on detach

RuthN: OK

BjB . o O (and larger text if you need it)

KevanN: Alright...enough levity....here is the official introduction to ArtsConnected (typos and all)...

BjB listens

KevanN: ArtsConnectEd is the online, interactive learning environment that is run by the Mpls. Institute of Art and the Walker Art Center...

KevanN: The site is set up for all age levels and is very interdisciplinary in its format

KevanN: We are going to visit the site here on Tapped In and I am going to take you through a variety of the programs that are available....

KevanN: There is never enough time to do this all at one setting so I invite you to come back for more info

KevanN: Any questions before we get started?

BjB: try and overlap the site Kevan is going to show us with this chat window

BjB: so you can move back and forth between windows

BjB: let's rock and roll, Kevan!

KevanN: OK, here is the site address. Once you click on it please return to the chat screen...

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

BjB . o O (and hold down ctrl on your keyboard)

BjB: to override pop up blockers

KevanN: OK....

BjB checks to see if Ruth and Kim got the webpage?

KimLe: yes

RuthN: got it!

KevanN: The main screen has a series of 'rooms' that we can explore as well as some additional information at the bottom of the page that you can check out later on...

KevanN: First let's go to the 'art gallery' - click on the bust and frame icon

KevanN: How are we doing so far?

KimLe: good!!!

RuthN: fine.

KevanN: Great! OK...

KevanN: The screen is divided into 2 parts - search screen on the left and programs on the right...

KevanN: You will notice that things may be clicked and unclicked on the left in order to customize your searches

BjB nods

KevanN: Remember that all of the searches here are word searches which can be a bit tricky to deal with

KevanN: For our purposes, make sure that the 'only show art with images' box is checked

KevanN: Also...

KevanN: I suggest for maximum use that both of the museums are checked as well...

KevanN: A couple of quick notes regarding the museums...

KimLe: you want us to check all 3 right?

KevanN: The Mpls. Institute of Arts (MIA) is more of a traditional art museum ...

KevanN: Yes Kim

KimLe: thanks

GrantT joined the room.

KevanN: The work there goes back to ancient Greek, Roman and Chinese artifacts and goes into the present...

KevanN: Hi Grant

BjB: welcome, Grant. Here for ArtsConnectEd?

JeffC joined the room.

GrantT: hello sorry I'm late

BjB: <http://www.artsconnected.org/art/>

BjB: that's where we are, Grant

KevanN: The Walker Art Center (the WAC) on the other hand, is all about contemporary art

KevanN: alright...

BjB waves to Jeff

KevanN: with that in mind let's take a look at some of the programs on the right...

KevanN: Since no-one here (except myself) is probably familiar with the works at the 2 museums, one way to get familiar is to conduct a random search...

KevanN: Click on the art sampler icon (the dice)

KevanN: Everyone got that?

GrantT: I am soo lost

KimLe: yup!!!

RuthN: I'm there.

KevanN: Grant, go to the ArtsConnected site, click on the 'art gallery icon' and then click on the dice

KevanN: OK!

GrantT: got it

KevanN: Ten random works show up each time you open a page in the art sampler...try clicking on one of the works now

KevanN: Good for you Grant!

KevanN: You will see a new page with more information about the artwork that you clicked on

GrantT: I'm caching up

KevanN: Information regarding artist, title, date,medium,etc. are available. Sometimes there are also fairly lengthy explanations

KevanN: Now, another interesting feature...

KevanN: Click on the work and enlarge it...

KevanN: You will then be able to click on the 'zoom' feature in the next screen

GrantT: Ok I'm getting it

KevanN: You can zoom in a number of times and also move around in the zoom...try doing that now.

GrantT: ok

RuthN: Hey that's pretty cool.

KevanN: Notice that it tells you how close you are coming to maximum zoom by the percentage number that shows up.

KevanN: No security guard will trouble you at this point unlike what might happen if you ventured that close at the museum...lol!

KevanN: OK...Let's hit the back button on your browser and go back to the art gallery page

KevanN: You can click on a new group over and over in the art sampler and never get the same image in the same order ever again...not good for actually trying to find a specific piece but a great way to generate random images for kids to discuss, make up stories about, etc.

KevanN: Ready for another program?

GrantT: ok

BjB: I think I'm going to use this for my Dog Days of Summer Arts and Literacy discussion!

RuthN: yes

KimLe: yes

KevanN: Great idea, BJ!...

KevanN: OK... This time click on Topics in Focus...this will bring up a whole lot of other programs

KevanN: Alright, this time let's start with Art Today - this is from the Walker Art Center. Click on that icon

KevanN: Looks like you have to navigate through an in between page...

GrantT: got it

KimLe: me too

KevanN: There are several theme based discussions / programs that you can utilize here.

KevanN: This again has a contemporary art focus

KevanN: Let's click on Writing Through Art (right hand column)

BjB: cool!

BjB: I've taken this tour with Kevan a LOT of times, and each time I learn something new!

KimLe: I really like how students can actually publish their work...

KevanN: Notice that you are getting descriptions of programs that the Walker makes available to its visitors. They can still provide great ideas for developing your own programs as well. Susan Rotilie is the head of the education dept. at the Walker. If you are interested in more information, you can get a hold of her at the museum (give her my name), and she will provide you with more info.

KevanN: OK...time to look at some animated movies...back to the Art Gallery page

GrantT: nice

BjB: maybe you could get Susan to be a guest speaker during one of these sessions, Kevan

KevanN: I know that this is quick, but you can always come back on your own...promise!

KevanN: Alright...let's click on Artists Toolkit

BjB . o O (and all the info will be in your transcript)

KevanN: that too!

BjB: everyone at artist's toolkit?

RuthN: still loading though

GrantT: yes

KimLe: yes

RuthN: got it

KevanN: The Artists Toolkit was initially developed to help elementary students understand the elements of art and the principles of design. It takes a bit to load (especially if you have a dial up - as I do!)

KevanN: I use this with my high school students all the time and they can't get enough of it.

KevanN: Make sure that you have your sound turned on

GrantT: really

KevanN: Click on Explore the Toolkit - the green triangle

KevanN: You now have a series of possible animations to view. How about we start with Space and click on Depth

KevanN: This is a great video for introducing the weekend, especially after a long week!

KevanN: Notice that the final image becomes a work of art that is housed at the MIA

KevanN: How was that?

RuthN: cool...

KimLe: this is an awesome site...

KevanN: Let's try another...

GrantT: I could use that

KevanN: Click on Line and then line to the right

KevanN: If you are on a T1 connection or dial up this is much quicker

KevanN: I am slogging along at 38.6

KevanN: The animal noises and the line interpretations are quite intriguing

KevanN: OK..

KevanN: Click on Encyclopedia - the orange rectangle

KevanN: Here you get the definitions of the terms being illustrated in the animated sequences as well as additional examples...Try clicking on a couple of categories

KevanN: Note that the works in these selections can be made larger as well.

KevanN: Once you are done looking at a few of the examples, click on See Artists in Action - the yellow hemisphere...

BjB likes the wide variety of examples

KevanN: Here you will find two local Minnesota artists who working with Color Form pieces to make artworks and discuss the compositions that they are creating. What is most interesting is how different their works are although they used exactly the same material - creativity and individual vision rule!

KevanN: You can look at those videos later....

BjB nods

KevanN: If you go back to the Explore the Toolkit page, you will see that you can create your own toolkit...

KevanN: Click on the Create Your Own Toolkit icon

KevanN: Here you will find all of the animated sequences with check boxes next to them. You can preselect the one(s) you wish to show in class so that you don't have to hunt for them again.

KevanN: By clicking on Create my Toolkit Page, you can then email the collection to yourself

KevanN: ..or others

GrantT: that is nice no more searching for handouts at the last minute

KevanN: Yes it is!

KevanN: And they move!

KevanN: ...Alright....

GrantT: alrifht

KevanN: we need to move on - back to the Art Gallery page again please

KevanN: Let's check out another program...

KevanN: At the bottom of the Topics in Focus page, click on World Myths and Legends

KevanN: This is a great site for cross cultural exploration. Art can be viewed by culture, theme and also students can become involved in doing a compare and contrast exercise

KevanN: Let's first take a look at Art by Culture...

KevanN: Each of the icons is a link to a variety of art pieces representative of those specific groups. Click on one

KimLe: Kevan I have to go now, but thanks for the tour, it was really great. I will definitely visit the site again...

KimLe: thanks....

KimLe: byebye

KimLe left the room (signed off).

KevanN: Note that you get the geographical reference and more info through key ideas as well as a story pertaining to the culture / artwork, background information, discussion questions and the enlarge feature.

RuthN: very nice

KevanN: Let's go to the Compare and Contrast feature in this program - look at the bottom of the screen for the link

GrantT: nice

KevanN: You can have students select any 2 works on this page and check the boxes next to them...You try it

KevanN: Once you have selected them, they appear next to each other...Then click on Begin Essay

GrantT: it's ready made

KevanN: Each of the works appear with both the Enlarge and the More Info links underneath

KevanN: They can examine the works more closely and also get information as well which can then be used in their essay

KevanN: The essay can also be printed!

BjB: how are you doing, Ruth and Grant?

GrantT: this is nice

KevanN: How's that for instant writing / analyzing / and a gradeable assignment!?!

KevanN: Questions?

GrantT: no it's what I need

KevanN: That is always gratifying to hear!

RuthN: Is there a way to save specific works of art that you want your kids to view?

KevanN: Yes. And that leads me to the next part of this tour!

BjB: ooooohhhhh...the million dollar question, Ruth!

RuthN: So you know that they are all appropriate...

KevanN: In ArtsConnectEd you can create collections that are publishable and sharable. In fact, your students can as well.

KevanN: BJ knows!

KevanN: Back to the Art Gallery...

BjB nods solemnly

KevanN: Before I introduce Art Collector (the box of marbles icon), let me direct you back to my office...

DavidWe: Oh boy!

KevanN: Thanks David!

DavidWe: Anything to help

KevanN: Under the links, go down to Landscapes and click there - that is an example of what a collection might look like.

KevanN: There are actually several of the over 150 collections I presently have created listed in the office.

KevanN: The first page is always the museum disclaimer page regardless of whose collection you are viewing

KevanN: Click on View the Collection and then each successive page will have a next button

KevanN: On the first page you will also find a hyperlink to the internet

KevanN: You can create hyperlinks in collection using html code. You can also bring in images from the internet using html code as well.

KevanN: By clicking on thumbnails at the bottom of the page, you can see all of the pages in the collection. Each page icon links you to that page.

GrantT: I see

KevanN: A dog eared page icon refers to either a text page or an image on a page that was not from the museum. All images indicate that the works were from the museum's permanent collection

KevanN: Would you like to begin a collection of your own?

RuthN: yes please

KevanN: OK then...

GrantT: k

KevanN: Chances are we will just begin this process this evening with only 20 minutes or so remaining, but directions are posted on my site and again, you will receive the transcript from this session in your emails...

KevanN: OK...

KevanN: Back to the Art Gallery page again please

KevanN: Click on the Art Collector icon

KevanN: You will come to the log in page...

GrantT: ??? its not doing any thing

KevanN: If you have not done this before, you will need to click on the New Users Click Here icon

KevanN: Everyone there?

GrantT: no

KevanN: what page are you on, Grant

GrantT: ART gallery

KevanN: okay...click on the Art Collector icon

GrantT: I have it

KevanN: Did this take you to the next screen?

GrantT: yes

KevanN: Great!

KevanN: Okay, click on New User

KevanN: Now, a word of caution!!!

DavidWe listens

KevanN: There is NO reminder function in ArtsConnectEd

KevanN: You will need to WRITE Down your user name and password and keep it in a safe place for future reference

GrantT: got it

KevanN: Anything that you create using the user name and password to log in will only be accessible if you log in with the same info the next time.

KevanN: Good - that is a sticking point with my students

KevanN: Okay...

KevanN: Now log in...

GrantT: got it

KevanN: You will come to a page that asks you to create new collection

KevanN: There are also a list of pre-made collections that you can tailor and make your own

KevanN: We are going to use one of those for our beginning collection this evening

KevanN: Select one of them and click on it

KevanN: Notice that the next screen has the title of your collection and your name under it

KevanN: Everyone there?

GrantT: yup

KevanN: How about you Ruth?

RuthN: I keep getting an error message.

KevanN: hmmm

RuthN: can't seem to create an account

BjB: does the browser make a difference?

GrantT: I had an Error too. but It had my account all finished s

KevanN: AHH, be careful about selecting usernames or passwords... 6 letters or numbers are recommended]

GrantT: try using the info you gave it as though you are returning

KevanN: There should not be a browser problem, however. I am using Explorer

RuthN: I am in Firefox

KevanN: Netscape and Explorer were what this was initially designed in but I have use FireFox before...

KevanN: Can you switch to another browser

RuthN: That worked!

KevanN: Good!

RuthN: I went back and entered as though I was registered

KevanN: Let's continue...select one of the pre-made collections Ruth and you be caught up

KevanN: I want to explain the controls

KevanN: Next to each image (representing a page in the museum's data base), there are several controls that are pretty self explanatory

KevanN: You may duplicate a page in case you wish to have it show up again somewhere else in your collection...

KevanN: You can delete the page...

KevanN: When you have multiple images / pages, you can re-order them using the move tool so that things do not have to be entered in any given order...

KevanN: You can add a close-up (zoom) as a separate page...

KevanN: and you can add text

KevanN: In a text box, you can write text and you can also import images, text and create hyperlinks

KevanN: OK...

GrantT: ok

RuthN: got it

KevanN: At the top of the collection in the blue bar, you have additional tools...

KevanN: Add a text page allows you to simply add a blank page that serves as a window for text, or information that you may bring in from the internet...

KevanN: New allows you to start another collection without losing the one you are working on...

KevanN: Duplicate allows you to create another version of the same collection which you can then alter...

KevanN: Delete allows you to delete the entire collection...

KevanN: Print allows you to actually create a hard copy of your collection....

KevanN: Present allows you to see what the collection looks like in its published form...

KevanN: and Publish allows you to do just that - the web site will assign a URL to your collection that will always be reserved for that collection

KevanN: Whew!

KevanN: How was that for information overload!!?!!

BjB . o O (with two minutes to spare!)

KevanN: I want to have you practice 2 commands before we cut off

DavidWe smiles

BjB . o O (thank goodness for transcripts)

KevanN: Select one image page in your collection and click on it

GrantT: yes

KevanN: You see the image in the 'Present' mode by doing that...

KevanN: Note that there is a 'more info' icon below the image which will operate as the ones you saw earlier, even allowing you to open a zoom page

KevanN: You cannot, however, add anything to the page in this mode...

KevanN: Click on Back to List to return to the editor page

KevanN: This time, click on the Add Text button

KevanN: A text page has now opened up next to the image.

KevanN: Are we all there?

RuthN: yes

KevanN: Great!

GrantT: Ya

GrantT: I was playing

KevanN: Okay, I now want you to open a new internet window so that you will have your collection on one and we will search the internet on the other

KevanN: File - New - Window

KevanN: Okay?

GrantT: got it

RuthN: ok here

KevanN: In the 2nd window, I want you to Google search an image that relates to the one on the page you are looking at in your collection

KevanN: How are we doing?

GrantT: I'm on it

KevanN: Tip: better to find images from web sites as opposed to image searches - too many images in the search menu are dead links

KevanN: Okay! Once you have an image, right click on the image and open up the properties menu

KevanN: I am assuming that you are both on PCs.

RuthN: yes

KevanN: If you were on a MAC, there is a menu item that allows you to open the image in a new location. Properties does that for a PC

GrantT: ya

KevanN: OK...

KevanN: Highlight the address of the image in Properties - it probably ends in jpg or gif

KevanN: Then after you highlight it, copy it

KevanN: Control C

KevanN: Good to go?

RuthN: yes

KevanN: Great!

GrantT: HMM harder then I thought

KevanN: Click on the text box in your collection in the other window and paste the address in the box - Control V

KevanN: Did you get an address location for the image Grant?

GrantT: no

GrantT: I'll try another

KevanN: Did you right click on the image and open up properties?

KevanN: Some images are protected and less available (notice I didn't say they were unavailable)

GrantT: I'm going to try that latter

KevanN: OK

KevanN: Once you have pasted the address into the text box, you need to use the html code

KevanN: in front of the http, type <img src

KevanN: img src means image source

GrantT: OK

KevanN: at the end of the address, type in >

KevanN: you should then have your address enclosed with the brackets and the html command that tells the computer to search for the image at that address

KevanN: Once you have done that, click on the bottom of the screen where it says to use this text

KevanN: You will then get the Present mode of the page popping up and you will see your coded address as an image

RuthN: It worked although my second picture is a tad large

KevanN: Yes, you cannot change the size of the image as it is being 'borrowed' in its original state from the page that it appears on

KevanN: OK...

KevanN: Let's try and create a link....

KevanN: Go back to the page that the image was originally on...

KevanN: OK?

GrantT: ok

RuthN: ok

KevanN: alright...

KevanN: highlight the address and copy it

KevanN: go back to the editor page and open up the text box that you had put the image in

KevanN: Paste the new address a couple of lines below the picture command

GrantT: well that was easy

KevanN: Now you will need to use a different command...

GrantT: You have been looking at mine

KevanN: in front of the address, type <a href="

KevanN: '<a href="

KevanN: hmmm

KevanN: this is getting tough...I am going to have to do this using verbal cues as the computer recognizes the command and won't record it

KevanN: type the less than sign

KevanN: then type a href

BjB . o O (>)

KevanN: ah! That might work! Here we go again...

KevanN: I am putting it all in parentheses

BjB advises Kevan to think

JeffC: ``

KevanN: `(< a href=")`

KevanN: Don't type the parentheses - thanks BJ

KevanN: after the address, type (")

KevanN: Again, no parentheses...then type (>)

KevanN: then type what you want your link to say (such as click here)

KevanN: Finally, type (``)

KevanN: So....

KevanN: This could have looked like `(Click here)`

KevanN: hmm...

GrantT left the room (signed off).

GrantT joined the room.

KevanN: never mind the final example - it won't allow me to show it

KevanN: Anyway,

KevanN: once you are done with the link command, click on use this text again...

GrantT: It's all good

KevanN: this time, your present mode image will show you the image and the link underneath it

KevanN: These commands are in an instruction download in my office as well for you to access.

KevanN: thanks Grant!

KevanN: Lots of applications for this program...

GrantT: ok

RuthN: Thank you I can see that this is really a powerful site

GrantT: ya

RuthN: bye! and thanks again.

BjB: thanks, Kevan.

KevanN: I have students create online journals for investigating themes for their work, I have them create online biographies of artists within different disciplines - you could do this with musicians, Ruth), I have them do research, etc.

KevanN: You are quite welcome!!!

GrantT: thank you Kevan I really needed this for next semester

KevanN: I could live here but my wife would probably object...glad to hear it Grant!

BjB waves goodnight

GrantT: goodnight

KevanN: Well, I am done....goodnight all!!! Thanks for coming!

GrantT: by Kevan

BjB: doing anything in August, Kevan?

KevanN: hahaha...Yes, but I will look at my calendar and send you a date

BjB: thanks.

KevanN: No problem! Thank you again for the opportunity

BjB: take care.

KevanN: U2

DavidWe waves bye to Kevan

DavidWe: Good job, Kevan

BjB left the room.