

Title of Session: ArtsConnectEd Workshop-Interdisciplinary Art Teaching Tool

Moderator: Kevan Nitzberg

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Room: Kevan Nitzberg's Office

DavidW: Went to a great exhibition of Buckminster Fuller that is at the Whitney Museum

KevanN: Really? it has been awhile since I heard about him in any context

DavidW: http://www.whitney.org/www/buckminster_fuller/about.jsp

KevanN: Thanks - I will check it out. I was a part of the Cooper Hewitt Summer Design Workshop in July

DavidW: Some remarkable artifacts, videos, one of the 3 dymaxion cars that were actually built...3 wheel vehicle, something like a VW bus - you couldn't go (nor look) inside, unfortunately

DavidW: Oh, so you were in NYC?

BjB thinks Kevan was very busy this summer

KevanN: Too bad - the Walker has an unconventional car on display - you can do a search on theartsconnected site and view it

BjB . o O (missed you at the festival)

KevanN: No - the workshop was at the Walker here in Mpls.

DavidW: There was something about a new exhibit at the Walker - I think on the News Hour (on PBS)...can't remember what it was

KevanN: Sorry about the festival - way too much going on

BjB understands.

KevanN: It might have been the Design for the Other 90% show

DavidW: suburban life...something like that?

KevanN: That became a part of the workshop

KevanN: Oh - that was the Suburban Landscape show - VERY good show - we also toured that as well

DavidW: An exhibit at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis aims to examine stereotypes tied to life in the suburbs and shows the work of artists and architects influenced by the slew of social issues outside of cities. Fred de Sam Lazaro reports.

KevanN: It ended on the 17th

DavidW nods

KevanN: Yeah - big movement out to the suburbs here and pretty much an abandonment of the cities

KevanN: The show in many respects showed some of that as well as being a bit tongue and cheek regarding suburban culture

KevanN: Though, there has been an attempt to begin to revitalize the Twin Cities (kind of like Brooklyn...grin)

DavidW: interesting timing as the whole notion of suburbs (exurbs) is being challenged as people consider the cost of driving long distances

KevanN: Well, here comes the argument for a more effective mass transit system - from the corn field to the urban core

DavidW: yes

KevanN: We now have light rail in the cities which is being expanded upon, and a new rail line going into effect in 2010 (?) that will bring people in from St. Cloud to Mpls.

KevanN: A bit late in the day, but better late than not at all

DavidW: I think there's renewed interest in light rail in lots of places

KevanN: It has been much more utilized than all of the projections assumed it would be

KevanN: Yeah, they are a good group and a diverse one at that!

BjB: Thanks for logging in even if there isn't anyone here, Kevan. I really appreciate that.

KevanN: Hey, what are friends for?

BjB smiles.

KevanN: I think that Garrison Keillor is probably bigger outside of MN. I remember

years ago my brother asking about the Prairie Home Companion show and I hadn't heard of it!

DavidW has been to the Fitzgerald theatre in downtown St. Paul

ChanB joined the room.

BjB cheers...good job, Chan!

KevanN: Hi Chan

ChanB: Hi

KevanN: Glad that you could make it

BjB: I think this is Chan's first experience with Tapped In, Kevan

KevanN: Well, then you are in for a treat!

ChanB: Ok I'm getting acquainted with the interface

ChanB: yes first time

BjB: Chan, go to Actions in the top right of this chat and select DETACH

BjB: that will make it much easier to read the chat text

ChanB: ok so this window can move an stay open

KevanN: Also, all of the text is enriched so that we can 'visit' the sites I will be sharing

ChanB: sounds fun

KevanN: How about some introductions from everyone?

BjB: I'm a retired communications/art teacher in Pennsylvania

ChanB: I teach elementary art in Tampa Fla

KevanN: I teach high school art in Anoka, MN.

ChanB: <http://bryant.mysdhc.org/teacher/0527bliss/>

DavidW: I'm one of the Help Desk volunteers and work with teachers and technology. I'm in New Jersey, near NYC

DavidW checks out Chan's web page

KevanN: <http://www.anoka.k12.mn.us/ahsnitzberg>

KevanN: Well, do you have any experience using ArtsConnectEd, Chan?

ChanB: no first time

KevanN: OK - then a brief history and explanation / description is in order...

ChanB: ok thanks

KevanN: ArtsConnectEd is owned / operated by the Mpls. Institute of Art and the Walker Art Center in Minnesota...

KevanN: It is an interactive, arts-based learning environment for all users...

KevanN: It has been active for about 7 years now and took about 10 years prior to get put together...

DavidW: Kevan, do you have any sense of how many teachers have used ArtsConnectEd?

KevanN: It is currently going through a renaissance and will have additional features available in the near future as ArtsConnectEd 2 (there is a link to a description of what is going on available on their main page)

KevanN: The number is in the thousands, David, with a world-wide following

KevanN: Here are some of the features available in ArtsConnectEd...

DavidW . o O (cool)

KevanN: There is a search engine that will link you to all of the artworks in both the Walker and the MIA's database...

KevanN: There are pre-designed programs that are built around many different themes that you can access with your students including...

ChanB left the room.

KevanN: a photography site, a site on Native American Art and Culture, a site featuring animated clips illustrating the elements and principles of art , a site on modernism, a site on world cultures,,,

KevanN: oops - where did he go?

ChanB joined the room.

KevanN: wb Chan!

ChanB: oops

JeffC joined the room.

ChanB: clicking buttons

BjB smiles

BjB waves hi to Jeff

JeffC waves

KevanN: Not a problem...how about we go to the site and you can actually see what I am talking about? Click on the following address: <http://artsconnected.org>

BjB: Chan, you didn't miss anything...and you'll get a transcript of this chat emailed to you when you log out

ChanB: well if I keep clicking things that may be soon

KevanN: I am on a dial up here so I apologize for any slow reaction time

ChanB: I'm on fios so I can get lost quickly

KevanN: When you are in ArtsConnectEd you will see that the main page has a series of different places to visit within the site

KevanN: what is 'fios'?

ChanB: fiber optic

KevanN: ah! I wish I had your problem....lol!

ChanB: well it does keep up late

ChanB: grin

KevanN: When you get to the main page, click on the Art Gallery icon (the bust and frame)

ChanB: ok

KevanN: We will be spending most of the time left here (I only have another 25 minutes)

KevanN: The screen is divided in 2 halves - search engine on the left (word search) and different programs on the right...

KevanN: Under 'browse' are many of the programs I started listing earlier...

KevanN: Topics in Focus has a long list of them and Art Sampler allows you to see a random selection of images from the 2 museums 10 at a time...

KevanN: Let's click on Topics in Focus 1st...

KevanN: Each of the programs here are designed as educational tools with an arts focus but also have cross curricular learning strategies built into them...

KevanN: Since we have the Olympics going on at present, perhaps it would be apropos to click on the Art of Asia

KevanN: This program deals with the art and culture of several Asian countries...

KevanN: You will find information categorized by topic (History & Maps / Buddhism / Architecture / Ceramics), as well as written and video resources in addition to still images...

KevanN: Click on Explore the Collection for an overview...

KevanN: A lot of information linked to one screen for easy reference

KevanN: Click on Ceramics at the bottom right...

ChanB: ? add to my collection?

ChanB: so we can use these images in a presentation to our students via a powerpoint?

KevanN: That is a feature that I am going to show you before we are done and something that I use constantly - you can (as can your students), make collections using Art Collector (I reference that on my site in Art Ed 2.0), that are publishable and sharable.

ChanB: cool

KevanN: You can make a powerpoint as well, but the collection feature has some interesting features

KevanN: OK, Let's go back to the Gallery...

ChanB: ok

KevanN: Use the back button on your browser...

KevanN: Now, let's take a look at the Artist's Toolkit across from the Art of Asia (the color form composition)...

KevanN: This is a marvelously engaging tool that was designed to illustrate and explain the elements of art and the principles of design through animated features...

KevanN: Each of the clips are based on a work of art that is owned by the MIA...

KevanN: It is a great way to explain these concepts to students of all ages...in fact it was initially designed for elementary level students...

ChanB: This would work well on my smartboard

KevanN: Yes! That would make for a great combination

KevanN: Click on Explore the Toolkit green triangle and then try the selection illustrating Line - make sure your sound is on high...

DavidW wonders how this works over Kevan's dial-up connection

ChanB: the find feature is great

KevanN: Very slowly (grin) - tonight is slower than normal but it is fine at school) I am taking up meditation so that I can remain calm (grin)

DavidW smiles

RobertTe joined the room.

ChanB: I can see bringing my students to the smartboard to do this before the class

DavidW: is there a slow/fast line feature?

DavidW: Hi, Robert. Welcome

KevanN: You will also note that you can select which films you wish to present in advance and email them to yourself so that you don't have to try and remember which ones you want to see for a specific class

KevanN: Hi Bob!!!

RobertTe: Thanks David and Kevan...sort of missed the beginning of class. What is

next?

KevanN: OK, I am going to move on - feel free to visit these often on your own - they are wonderful tools

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

KevanN: I am going to start in with Art Collector now

ChanB: ?

KevanN: OK - back to the Art Gallery Chan...

ChanB: got cha

KevanN: Under Tools is the box of marbles that is the icon for Art Collector - click on the icon

KevanN: I seem to be having an adverse effect on people...lol!

KevanN: You will need to create your own log in as a new user here - some tips:

DavidW: . o O (Robert is from Minneapolis and just joined TI)

KevanN: There is no reminder feature in Art Collector as of yet so whatever you create as a log in and password you will need to record somewhere...

KevanN: Also, it is advised that both login and password be different form each other and that they be a minimum of 6 characters each...ok?

KevanN: I am going to log into my collection section now...

ChanB: It is not letting me log in

RobertTe: OK I enjoy this but there is only a minute of class left

KevanN: try again - remember that the password has to be duplicated exactly

KevanN: I was able to log in

DavidW: Did you click where it says New User, Chan? - where you will enter your username, email, and then password twice

KevanN: WB Bob!

ChanB: ok

KevanN: I will stay on until we get Chan started on a collection

ChanB: got it

ChanB: I'm there

KevanN: All right - next step...

KevanN: There are 2 ways to start a collection...

KevanN: First though you need to name your collection...do that now

KevanN: The title can be changed at any time

KevanN: This is also a demo collection so mistakes don't count (but this is always editable to you in any event)

KevanN: Once you have your title click on start a collection...

DavidW remembers how much he likes this

KevanN: Now you have your 2 ways to begin this collection to consider...

RobertTe: what do I do if I've forgotten password?

KevanN: it is addictive (chuckle)

KevanN: OK...First choice and the one that we will use tonight (is to start a search)

KevanN: Bob - you will have to recreate a new one

RobertTe: won't let me as the email is the same?

KevanN: don't use the email as a username - you don't need an email any longer

KevanN: the 2nd way to start a collection is to click on 'add a text page' which will also bring you to the editor page. Try the search method, Chan.

ChanB: ok

ChanB: ooo lots

ChanB: quilts

KevanN: Once you have created your search, whatever results will be shown - you will

note that the images have the 'add to my collection caption' as well - click on one

KevanN: ok so far?

ChanB: ok

KevanN: You will now be in the editor page

KevanN: there are a lot of tools here for you to use that will be pretty self explanatory (I also have downloadable document files in my office for you to use as well)...

ChanB: is that the page that it goes to when you click the add to collection

KevanN: yes

KevanN: Note that there are different tool icons next to the quilt and in the blue bar above and below the screen

BjB: Chan, you might be interested in the Blanket the World with Peace Quilt project here in Tapped In. Kevan can tell you more later...or I can.

KevanN: These allow you to do exactly what they say - including publish (on the far right which we will get to momentarily...

KevanN: OK...click on the edit text tool next to your image...

KevanN: Actually, it will say add text as there is no text there yet...

ChanB: ok

RobertTe: well...have to bring in the empty garbage can...then I can eat. will figure this out later. I know I have a collection of hands stored

KevanN: You will see that under the image is another caption that will give you more information about the work - you can click on that and learn more about the piece, but for now just type in anything in the box

DavidW: Robert, just so you know, Kevan is in Anoka

KevanN: Robert knows - we are buddies...chuckle!

DavidW smiles

DavidW . o O (a plant, huh?)

BjB: FYI, there are regularly scheduled tours of the tapped in interface. Check the

calendar of events

KevanN: Once you have some type in your box, click on 'use this text'

ChanB: got it

KevanN: only the green kind, David

DavidW nods

KevanN: OK - you will now see the image and your text in the present mode - what it would like if this was finished...go back to your collection

RobertTe: He should be at home on the farm! later...Great I will check this out for future sessions...keep me posted Kevan - do you know of Tocumba Jones?

KevanN: No, I know Tacumba Aiken though (and I am on the farm - I only teach in Anoka)...

RobertTe: Sculpture

KevanN: OK, Chan - don't mind these distractions! (grin) - next step, I am going to have you open a new browser window...keep the collection one open though - you are going to get an image from the internet and place it in your text window...

RobertTe: sorry-

ChanB: ok

RobertTe: I'm gone, sorry

RobertTe left the room (signed off).

KevanN: There is no 'copy and pasting of images' in Art Collector so any images that you wish to import from the internet and outside of the museum's database need to have their image locations transformed using html coding...

KevanN: I will have to placate Bob later (chuckle)

ChanB: I'm going to one of my students art work

KevanN: OK...go to the image and if you are on a PC right click on it and open up Properties...

ChanB: got it

KevanN: once you have the image location address, highlight in and copy it - it should end as a jpg or gif file

KevanN: ok?

ChanB: ok

ChanB: <http://watsoncreatures.pbwiki.com/f/dakota.JPG>

KevanN: The next step is to paste it into the text window that you have open in your collection

KevanN: Thanks for sharing it - I will check it out later

KevanN: Once the address is in the text box, you will need to add the html coding...so in front of the image type the following: <img src=

KevanN: Make sure that there is a space between the g and the s...

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

KevanN: you then need to click on 'use this text'

DavidW . o O (it would be nice to have a button to add the HTML to the pasted in URL)

ChanB: cool

KevanN: David this is being reformatted in ArtsConnectEd 2 to be unveiled at some point in the future...

DavidW . o O (what I was thinking)

KevanN: OK...one more trick using html coding....

KevanN: Let's say that you wanted to link to the web site(s) that you have found that add additional resources to your collection...

KevanN: We can then make a hyperlink from your collection to the web site...

ChanB: grin

KevanN: OK...find a web site that you want to create a link to....highlight it / copy it and paste it into your collection window - no spellcheck yet - there is a text edit function after the text is in the collection, however

KevanN: You can also generate the text in Word and then spellcheck it there and paste it into your collection...back to the link...

KevanN: You see much I could use it in this chat...lol!

KevanN: OK...got a web site address in your collection ready for transformation?

ChanB: yes

KevanN: OK - now to transform the address into a link...

KevanN: In front of the address type <ahref ="

KevanN: after the link type ">

ChanB: with " "

ChanB: ok got it

KevanN: Then type what you want the link to say followed by

DavidW: quotes around the URL..."http...."

KevanN: I would type it out here as one link but funky things happen when I do that in chat

KevanN: Once you have transformed the address into a link, click on use this text

KevanN: ok so far?

ChanB: ok should it now be a link?

ChanB: is there a space between f =?

DavidW: no

KevanN: you should see the link in the present page - the text will be underlined...there is a space there, yes

KevanN: wait - let me think about that ...

KevanN: No! only between the a and the h

DavidW agrees

KevanN: Your message

KevanN: See, I can't write it out - I just get the link

DavidW: <a href="<http://oneparticularwave.wordpress.com/files/2006/11/escher.gif>">Escher graphic

ChanB: ok a and h now it works

KevanN: show off!

DavidW: yes, TI translates it into something clickable

DavidW: the final " before the ending > is commonly forgotten - check that

KevanN: Too smart for its own good!

ChanB: it is working

DavidW: . o O (<a href="<http://oneparticularwave.wordpress.com/files/2006/11/escher.gif>">Escher graphic)

DavidW: ooh, it even works there

KevanN: Great! Okay, that is it for lesson 1 - I have some collections in my office that you can check out if you like...remember that what you just did can be published if you so choose, but you can always go back to the collection and edit it with or without publishing it

KevanN: Also, feel free to contact me anytime with questions that you might have

ChanB: does publishing create a url that I can share?

KevanN: Yes! And you can deselect it without getting rid of the collection. I have my students create collections which they publish so that I can access them for grading

ChanB: This looks fun, I guess I'll be up late tonight

DavidW: smiles

DavidW: Kevan, thanks for leading the discussion - I'm having a good time re-learning how to use the Art Collector feature

KevanN: I bet you will!

KevanN: I am always an email message away, David (grin)

KevanN: Good night all - it has been a real pleasure!

ChanB: good night, thanks

DavidW: Thanks again, Kevan - good to see you

BjB waves goodnight. Nice meeting you, Chan

KevanN: And you!

DavidW: Thanks for joining in, Chan

BjB hugs David and Kevan. Take care. Talk to you soon

ChanB: I'll be back

DavidW hugs Bj