

Title of Session: ArtsConnectEd
Moderator: Kevan Nitzberg
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Room: Kevan Nitzberg's Office

KevanN: While we are waiting, there are a number of files in the office that you are welcome to peruse and download

KevanN: Many of them are about the ArtsConnectEd site

BJB2: Kevan meets in his office rather than in a group room, Esther and Taffanie, so you can just add to your favorites if you want to come back and check out the resources

KevanN: Shall we do introductions?

BJB2 nods to Kevan. Sounds good

TaffanieJ: sure

EstherZ: sure

KevanN: Start in whenever you are ready...

BJB2: I'm in Pennsylvania and am on Tapped In helpdesk

EstherZ: My name is Esther and I am a student teacher in Houston, Texas

KevanN: I am the art dept. chair at Anoka H.S. in MN and an ArtsConnectEd trainer

TaffanieJ: I'm Taffanie and also a student teacher from Houston, TX

JeffC: I'm in Forest Grove, OR and also on Helpdesk here.

KevanN: Well, I would say that the country is well represented this evening

EstherZ: so true

KevanN: Have you had any experience using ArtsConnectEd?

EstherZ: this is my first session

TaffanieJ: nope

TrinaG joined the room.

SamanthaAB joined the room.

KevanN: OK, well I think that you will find this both useful and enjoyable

BJB2: welcome, Trina and Samantha

TaffanieJ: cool

EstherZ: sounds great

SamanthaAB : hi there

KevanN: Wow - the gang is growing!

BJB2 . o O (Kevan is just starting.)

KevanN: Hi Samantha and Trina

TrinaG: I'm always late

SamanthaAB : sorry, this is my first chat>> I didn't quite know how this worked!

KevanN: OK...well, here is a little introduction to what this is all about...

KevanN: ArtsConnectEd is an interactive, arts-based web site that is co-run and owned by the Mpls. Institute of Arts and the Walker Art Center...

KevanN: The site contains a number of programs for all users and all age groups, with a strong cross-curricular focus

KevanN: We will be looking at several of the features this evening as well as their applications

KevanN: Sound good so far?

TrinaG: yes

EstherZ: awesome

TaffanieJ: yes

SamanthaAB : sure

KevanN: Great! OK, well we are going to take a virtual field trip to the site...

JenM joined the room.

BJB2: welcome, Jen

BJB2: Kevan is just about to show us a url...

JenM: hello

BJB2: when he does, hold down your ctrl key on your keyboard when you click on the url

KevanN: Click on the following site and hold down the control key to make sure that you don't get bumped...

BJB2 . o O (or turn off your pop up blocker)

KevanN: <http://artsconnected.org>

KevanN: that too!

BJB2 . o O (Kevan doesn't need me any more ;-()

EstherZ: I'm there now

KevanN: Not true!!

TaffanieJ: got it

BJB2 checks to see if everyone got the ArtsConnectEd website?

SamanthaAB: not working for me--hang on

KevanN: OK, BJ is just being modest...(grin)

JenM: I am already at that site!

KevanN: Great! How are the rest of you doing?

SamanthaAB: I'm in

EstherZ: I'm there waiting for where to go next

TrinaG: I'm in

KevanN: OK - here we go...

KevanN: This is the main page that will allow you to go to each of the different divisions that make up the site...

KevanN: Click on the Art Gallery icon (bust and frame)

KevanN: We will be spending most of our time here this evening...

EstherZ: I like the homepage layout btw

KevanN: You will see that the screen is split into 2 sections - one for searching the 2 museums' database and one for looking at a variety of programs...

KevanN: Click on Topics in Focus on the right hand side...

KevanN: Each of the icons that pop up are links to different programs...

EstherZ: I like how the links are accompanied by an image icon

KevanN: That does make them more interesting...

SamanthaAB left the room (signed off).

JenM: I am enjoying the graphics!

KevanN: Let's click on The Art of Asia first...

KevanN: Here is an example of the cross curricular nature of this site...

KevanN: The site is built around the collection of artwork at the MIA but has a lot of additional information as you can see by the individual sections listed here...

SamanthaAB: IM IN

KevanN: Yeah!

BJB2 cheers for Samantha

JenM: good job Samantha

KevanN: OK... Click on the Buddhism link...

SamanthaAB: in there

KevanN: Here is a great resource for cultural, historical and Eastern religion information...

KevanN: Check out the video on Japanese Buddhist Art at the bottom right...

KevanN: If you are on a dial up as I am this will take a bit to load

EstherZ: I'm looking for the video still

KevanN: Did you open the Buddhism link?

EstherZ: I'm at the Buddhism page in world religions in art page

KevanN: When you are finished, let's go back to the Art Gallery page

KevanN: To the left of the Art of Asia icon is the Artists Toolkit...Click on that and I will meet you 'inside'

KevanN: How is everyone doing?

SamanthaAB: I don't see it

TaffanieJ: good, the video is interesting

BJB2: <http://artsconnected.org/toolkit/>

KevanN: Thanks BJ!

JenM: I am enjoying this

JenM: I never knew I would be so interested! ha ha

EstherZ: learning lots of art background from the video

SamanthaAB: thanks

KevanN: Well, there will be plenty of time for you to explore each of these programs in greater depth...are we all in the Toolkit now?

SamanthaAB: yes

TaffanieJ: yes

EstherZ: yes

KevanN: This site was designed initially for elementary students to learn about the elements of art and the principles of design...

JenM: yes

KevanN: There are a series of 3 sub programs inside the Toolkit...

KevanN: Explore the Toolkit, See Artists in Action and the Encyclopedia...

SamanthaAB: this is really interesting!

TaffanieJ: very cool sound effects too

KevanN: The green triangle (Explore the Toolkit) features a series of videos built around different works of art at the MIA...Click on the green triangle now

SamanthaAB: ok

JenM: this is great!

EstherZ: it's very interactive and teaches at the same time

KevanN: The different concepts are listed in the boxes to the left of each of the video links...

SamanthaAB: I really like the color section...

KevanN: Let's try clicking on the Line video

EstherZ: I like the sound effects

KevanN: As the film ends it becomes Franz Marc's "Tiger"

SamanthaAB: the rabbits were great!

KevanN: Another one that is good for Star Trek fans is Repetition Makes a Pattern under Movement / Rhythm

EstherZ: very interesting, and students could have a picture of it hanging in the class

KevanN: If you are looking for some relief at the end of a long week, you might also like the Depth video next to the Space category...

KevanN: Good idea, Esther - that would be a great way to reinforce the learning

KevanN: Notice that at the top right of the screen there is a link that says Create my Toolkit...

SamanthaAB: I didn't expect south beach bathers!

KevanN: Memories of summers past (grin)

KevanN: In Create My Toolkit you can pre-select videos you wish to share and email them to yourself so that you can simply click on the address and go to the appropriate video without having to search for the one(s) that you needed

KevanN: OK...let's back out to Toolkit's main page again...

EstherZ: very convenient

JenM: I like that idea

KevanN: A good way to reduce stress...

EstherZ: yep, a good way to give students a chosen selection to click on

KevanN: The yellow half circle shape will take you to 2 additional videos that portray MN artists creating and talking about artwork that they made for this site using the vinyl colorform sets...

KevanN: This is particularly interesting as they talk about the choices that they are making as they assemble their images and use many of the terms that are included in the Toolkit...

KevanN: In the orange Encyclopedia box are additional examples of artwork that are pictured for the purpose of illustrating the concepts being discussed here...

SamanthaAB: Aiken's approach is very realistic...

EstherZ: yep, and I like how they speed up the video when he's creating

JenM: that definitely makes it easier to watch

KevanN: He is a very nice man and an interesting artist - I have work worked with him on several occasions

KevanN: OK, time to go back to the Art Gallery page...

KevanN: Let's go to World Myths and Legends...

SamanthaAB: can u send a link....

BJB2: <http://www.artsmia.org/world-myths/>

KevanN: Once again we are looking at art from a cross curricular standpoint...

KevanN: Click the Compare and Contrast icon...

KevanN: Here you can have students develop their observation skills by selecting 2 of the works and writing an essay about each of them...

EstherZ: how neat

KevanN: Click on any 2 of your own choice

JenM: that is a great idea

EstherZ: students can definitely practice their writing skills at the same time

SamanthaAB: this is wonderful

TaffanieJ: yeah, definitely

EstherZ: it's a writing prompts

KevanN: In the Selections box click on Begin Essay

EstherZ: prompt

SamanthaAB: this just makes all aspects of the lesson fun!

KevanN: Note that each image has more information attached to it

KevanN: In addition to making them larger for easier viewing

EstherZ: even better

KevanN: The pages are printable as well

KevanN: Eventually they are going to try and have any 2 works in the museums comparable using this methodology

KevanN: OK...time to move on again...back to the Art Gallery page...

SamanthaAB: that's very ambitious...

EstherZ: I liked the Nio Guardian figures

KevanN: Technology can be very helpful

KevanN: Now I want you to leave Topics in Focus and go back to the main Art Gallery page and click on the red dice

KevanN: This is the Art Sampler

BJB2: <http://artsconnected.org/art/sampler.cfm>

EstherZ: I'm there

SamanthaAB : me too

KevanN: Art Sampler brings up 10 images randomly for the over 4000 images that are in the database...

KevanN: This is a good way to get students to simply look at what is available on their own to get acquainted with the works at the 2 museums that are online

KevanN: Again, each image is clickable for more information and for a larger view. There is also a zoom feature which is not working at present as it is being retooled

BJB2 . o O (sign of a dynamic site is that it is always being made better and updated)

KevanN: You can click on a whole other group of ten by simply clicking on Choose a New Group at the bottom of each page

EstherZ: I like the details given for each piece of art

SamanthaAB : ooh...the change feature is great

EstherZ: good to know

KevanN: ArtsConnectEd is becoming ArtsConnectEd 2 this spring and will probably be ready for public viewing in the fall of 2009

KevanN: OK...back to the Art Gallery main page again...

EstherZ: ok

SamanthaAB : I'm here

TaffanieJ: me too

JenM: got it

KevanN: We are going to spend some time on the next feature - what I consider to be perhaps the most formidable tool on the entire site - Art Collector...

KevanN: Art Collector allows you to assemble collections that combine text, images and

hyperlinks to the internet...

KevanN: Those collections remain editable by their creators and are also publishable...

KevanN: I use this feature in all of my art classes from basic Drawing I to AP Art History

JenM: how useful!

KevanN: I am going to show you how to create your own collections this evening as well as give you hints as to how you might use this with students.

EstherZ: great!

SamanthaAB: sounds good

EstherZ: I love customizing things

KevanN: First, click on the box of marbles that is the Art Collector icon...

KevanN: You will come upon a log in screen that also allows you to become a new user...

KevanN: Click on where it says "New users click here"

KevanN: Are we all at the New User screen?

EstherZ: yes

TaffanieJ: yes

SamanthaAB: can I pls have the link

JenM: yes

KevanN: http://artsconnected.org/art_collector/user/newuser.cfm

SamanthaAB: thanks--I'm there

KevanN: OK...

KevanN: A couple of cautionary notes...

JenM: that doesn't sound good

JenM: haha

KevanN: When you are creating your username and password, the suggestion is to have at least 6 characters for each....

KevanN: Also....

KevanN: There is NO reminder function in Art Collector as of yet so that usernames and passwords need to be written down...

KevanN: When I do this with my students, I have them give me that information for safe keeping so that if they forget I can give them the information and they don't have to start all over again

KevanN: Make sense?

TaffanieJ: yes

KevanN: OK...

SamanthaAB: good idea

EstherZ: yes

JenM: good thinking

KevanN: Now you need to create your usernames and passwords and write them down as well (grin)...

TaffanieJ: did it

KevanN: Under name, type how you want your collections to be authored

KevanN: The rest is self explanatory

KevanN: Once you are done, click on Sign Up

EstherZ: I'm signed up

SamanthaAB: me too

KevanN: Great! OK, the next screen that opens up has a vertical yellow ochre box with a list of pre-made collections that you can adapt to your own purposes as you see fit - I am going to have you make one from scratch, however

KevanN: Begin by typing a name for your collection and then click on Start a New Collection

SamanthaAB : ok

KevanN: You will come to another screen that is a search screen and also has additional information about the site...

KevanN: You will also note that the collection that you have titled appears with your name under it

KevanN: OK...

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

KevanN: You may either start a search that will look at what the museums have in their collective database...

KevanN: or you can click on Add a Text Page which will begin your collection with a generic text page...

KevanN: We are going to start by creating a search...

KevanN: in the Search of Add Art box, type the word portrait...

KevanN: The search that the site has done for you (a real labor saving device), has found 290 results

SamanthaAB : yes

TaffanieJ: yup

KevanN: The results are due to this being a keyword search which means that each image is connected to additional text that has the word 'portrait' in it...make sense so far?

SamanthaAB : yes

EstherZ: yes

KevanN: Great!

TaffanieJ: yes

KevanN: OK...I want you to select one of the portraits / images, and click underneath it where it says Add To My Collection

KevanN: If you clicked on the image you would have gone to a more information page...if you clicked on the text link, you are now in what is known as the editor page...are we all there?

EstherZ: yes

SamanthaAB : yes

TaffanieJ: yes

KevanN: Good!

KevanN: OK...the controls are fairly self explanatory...you can duplicate a slide if you want it to appear multiple times in your collection...

KevanN: You can delete the image altogether...

KevanN: Once you have many images (there is no limit), you can move the image that you have selected anywhere in the collection so that you do not have to save sequentially...

KevanN: You can add a close-up (when the zoom feature is back up and running)...

KevanN: And you can add text...Click on the add text button next to your image

KevanN: OK?

SamanthaAB : ok

TaffanieJ: ok

EstherZ: ok

DeborahAda: ok

KevanN: In the text box, you can do a number of things...

KevanN: You (or your students) can write text, copy and paste text, bring in images from the internet, and create links to the internet...

KevanN: Alright...we are going to try and do all of that now...

KevanN: First, write something in the text box and click on Use This Text

SamanthaAB : ok

KevanN: OK - you are now in the present mode if you clicked on Use This Text...that save the text

KevanN: Now, go back to the editor page and click on the portrait...

EstherZ: ok

KevanN: That brings you back to the present mode again - click on More Info

TaffanieJ: yes

SamanthaAB: got it

KevanN: Select some of the text and copy it (Control C)

KevanN: Click under the image where it says Go To My Collection

KevanN: Open the text box and skip a couple of lines and then paste the text that you copied (Control V)

KevanN: Then click on Use This Text again

KevanN: You will be back in the present mode once more

TaffanieJ: yup

KevanN: So far so good?

EstherZ: yes

KevanN: OK - Click on where it says Back to List

SamanthaAB: yes

EstherZ: everything was easy to follow

KevanN: Open up the Add Text Box once more

KevanN: Good - this gets a bit more interesting ...

KevanN: Open a new window in your browser bar under File

EstherZ: ok

KevanN: You now have 2 windows open - one for the collection and one to search with...

SamanthaAB: yep

KevanN: Go to Google and type in portrait in the web mode

EstherZ: I'm there

SamanthaAB: me too

TaffanieJ: ok

KevanN: OK...go to the Wikipedia listing for portrait that comes up 1st...

KevanN: Right click on the portrait of the Roman-Egyptian funeral portrait of the young boy...

KevanN: Open up Properties and highlight the Link Properties Address for the image...Copy the highlighted address...

SamanthaAB: ok

DeborahAda: ok

KevanN: Go back to your collection (the other window)

KevanN: Make sure that you are in the editor page and open the Add Text box

EstherZ: I just learned a new trick, thanks

KevanN: Skip a couple of lines and paste the saved image address in the box

KevanN: You're welcome - more to come...

KevanN: At the beginning of the address, type in the less than sign: <

KevanN: at the end of the address, type in the greater than sign: >

KevanN: after the less than sign, type img src

KevanN: Note that there is a space between 'img' and 'src'

KevanN: Then click on Use This Text again

EstherZ: we are doing an html code

KevanN: Oops!

KevanN: I forgot one thing...yes this is html...after the 'src' type =

KevanN: It should look like ``

EstherZ: wow, that's so neat

EstherZ: I like that it's not just a link for reference, but an actual image!

KevanN: OK...

KevanN: Now we are going to create a hyperlink to the site...

KevanN: Go back to the Wikipedia site and highlight the address in the browser bar

KevanN: Copy and paste it in the text box - be sure to skip some space between the image address

KevanN: In front of the address type `<a href="`

KevanN: After the equal sign type "

KevanN: You should now have `'a href=" (address)`

KevanN: after the address type `">`

KevanN: Then you will need to type what you want your link to say...

KevanN: For example...

KevanN: Click here for more info

KevanN: After the link message, type ``

EstherZ: cool

KevanN: The address will look something like this: `'Click here for more info '`

EstherZ: mine is done

KevanN: hmmm...

KevanN: good - I can't type the full address without the screen resorting to changing it into a link

KevanN: OK..once the link is typed, click on Use

KevanN: This Text

TaffanieJ: mine is done too

KevanN: The present mode will pop up again and there will be the link under the image

KevanN: Great!

KevanN: OK...One more tip...

KevanN: Go back to the editor page...

BJB2 thinks this is an especially patient group!

KevanN: on the far right hand side of the blue bar is the icon for Publish

KevanN: Yes they are!

KevanN: Click on publish and then click on the next screen where publish appears in the box...

KevanN: That will then generate a url for your collection

KevanN: Whew!

KevanN: I have used this function for having my students do the following:

KevanN: ---create biographical reports on artists

KevanN: ---create research collections based on various criteria for classroom use

KevanN: ---create illustrated fictional works that they can then publish

KevanN: ---create journals

KevanN: ---create multi-media presentations by bringing in video and sound from the internet through the use of hyperlinks

KevanN: ---create multi-media presentation

KevanN: ok - that's it for me folks - hope that you found this useful!

EstherZ: awesome

EstherZ: thanks so much for these ideas

TaffanieJ: yes, very, I learned a lot of crazy codes

KevanN: I will be back here on November 18th if you have more questions

KevanN: I am glad you had a good and productive session

BJB2: Thanks, Kevan.

KevanN: There is a ton more to explore on the site - have fun!

EstherZ: Thanks Kevan!

BJB2: Thanks everyone, for your comments and input

TaffanieJ: thanks Kevan

KevanN: You are welcome BJ - GREAT GROUP!

BJB2 agrees!

DeborahAda: Thank you

KevanN: U2!!

EstherZ: goodnite everyone.

BJB2 waves goodnight and heads for the GPBL discussion

KevanN: goodnight!