

**Title of Session:** Next Vista for Learning - Sonnets and Multimedia Projects

**Moderator:** Rushton Hurley

**Title of File:** 20090903nextvista

**Date:** September 3, 2009

Room: Next Vista for Learning Group

**RushtonH:** Hello Ana!

**AnaR:** Hello!!!

**RushtonH:** Ana, you're in line to get loads of individual attention this hour. 8^)

**AnaR:** Wow!!!

**BJB2** waves hi to Ana.

**AnaR:** Hello BJB

**RushtonH:** Ana, while we see if there is anyone else we can pull off the street to join us, please tell a little bit about yourself.

**BJB2** . o O ( be extra nice to Ana...she's bringing lots of pre-service teachers to TI )

**AnaR:** Well... originally from Puerto Rico... I'm teaching at Texas A&M University-Kingsville...

**RushtonH:** Very cool. I think of San Antonio as my heart's home, though I live in California now.

**RushtonH:** What do you teach?

**AnaR:** Oh... I studied in California!!! Very fond of it!!!

**RushtonH:** Which part?

**AnaR:** Early Childhood and coordinate the King Ranch Early Education Center (new)

**AnaR:** LA... Pepperdine..

**RushtonH:** Do you have a link to the King Ranch Early Education Center? That sounds very interesting.

**AnaR:** Which part are you from?

**RushtonH:** I'm in Northern California, in Santa Clara, next to San Jose.

**AnaR:** Oh.. our webmaster began the page... but there is almost nothing there.

**RushtonH:** Gotta start somewhere.

**BJB2** hopes Rushton isn't near any fires

**AnaR:** It will serve as a laboratory for future teachers. Sponsored by the King Ranch.

**RushtonH:** I'd welcome the chance to stay in touch and share ideas, if you wish.

**AnaR:** That would be wonderful!!!

**AnaR:** At this point we are setting up... receiving equipment and materials...

**RushtonH:** I speak at conferences around the U.S. and do lots of trainings on multimedia, free tools, and the links between technology and professional collaboration and satisfaction. It's stuff I love.

**AnaR:** May I ask what do you do?

**AnaR:** Oh..ok

**AnaR:** Oh.. wow...

**RushtonH:** I also teach Japanese language at a high school.

**AnaR:** That is related to one of the initiatives in the center!!

**BJB2:** Rushton has been leading discussions on tech for several years in Tapped In

**AnaR:** That is why when BJB announce... I had to come!!

**RushtonH:** Additionally, I run a small, save-the-world educational nonprofit called Next Vista for Learning: <http://NextVista.org>

**RushtonH:** The site is a free, online library of short, educational videos by and for teachers and students everywhere. The videos are designed to help kids learn topics that challenge them, better understand the larger world, and appreciate the joy and meaning of service to others.

**AnaR:** WOW!!! So interesting!!

**AnaR:** Oh... I'm loving it already!!

**RushtonH:** Life is too short to do boring stuff, I figure. (I hope that doesn't sound pretentious!)

**AnaR:** I will definitely look into it and pass on the word..

**RushtonH:** Many thanks!

**RushtonH:** Let's get started...

**AnaR:** I can post the link in my Tapped In classrooms and blackboard.. .

**AnaR:** Ok.

**BJB2:** Rushton's monthly TI sessions are on the first Thursday of the month

**AnaR:** Great!!

**RushtonH:** I'm particularly interested in getting your thoughts on how the project I describe might be useful to preservice teachers.

**AnaR:** I'm all ears!!!

**RushtonH:** Here we go!

**RushtonH:** Sonnets and Multimedia Project

**RushtonH:** In celebration of the 400th anniversary of the publication of Shakespeare's Sonnets, we at NextVista.org are running a project encouraging young people everywhere to share their insights on these poems.

**AnaR:** Nice!

**RushtonH:** I'll walk through the rules for how this will work, so please interrupt whenever you wish.

**AnaR:** k

**RushtonH:** Those interested are invited to create a video centered on any one of Shakespeare's 154 sonnets. The video should follow this format:

**RushtonH:** 1) a title screen which includes the number of the sonnet

**RushtonH:** 2) an audio recording of one reading the sonnet

**RushtonH:** 3) one or more insights on the meaning of the poem (provided following the reading of the sonnet)

**RushtonH:** 4) end titles with a proper citation of all visuals and any other audio used in the piece

**RushtonH:** What do you think so far?

**AnaR:** I love it!!

**AnaR:** Have you conducted this type of project before?

**RushtonH:** Some similar things, but something so focused on literature will be new.

**AnaR:** Oh..

**RushtonH:** As we go through, think both about the content of this project, and how we might use the template to gear something toward elementary.

**AnaR:** May I ask what age the project is aiming at?

**RushtonH:** While it is for anyone, I expect high schoolers will be the most likely participants. I can imagine younger students having something to offer, though.

**AnaR:** I like the project...

**RushtonH:** On to the rules...

**RushtonH:** \* Students should not include their names in either text or speech in the video.

**AnaR:** particularly because it gives the kids the opportunity to be creative!!!

**RushtonH:** \* Visual content must be copyright-friendly and properly cited (see example below).

**RushtonH:** \* Videos must be no longer than five minutes, and may be short, as long as the audio of the poem, the insight(s), and all necessary titles are properly included.

**RushtonH:** \* Content must not be presented in a way that is inappropriate for young audiences.

**RushtonH:** \* Insights should be well explained and given with clear reference to specific pieces of the poem.

**RushtonH:** \* If any audio other than the voice of the person reading the poem and providing the insight is used in the piece, then it, too, needs to be from a copyright-friendly source (see example below).

**RushtonH:** \* For videos to be considered as part of a contest (see below), the video will also need to have subtitles for all audio of speech.

**RushtonH:** Anything that strikes you? Something I should add or change?

**AnaR:** I think you are covered...

**AnaR:** copyright, appropriate material, length..

**RushtonH:** Are any of the items something you'd consider particularly challenging?

**GailGst4** joined the room.

**BJB2:** good job, Gail. Welcome

**AnaR:** I think the kids like challenges...

**RushtonH:** Welcome, Gail! We're working on ideas related to a project on Shakespeare.

**AnaR:** They will need help and support..

**RushtonH:** I agree.

**AnaR:** But I love the fact that it is creative learning!!

**RushtonH:** Ana, let's take a quick break and get Gail caught up.

**AnaR:** Wonderful!!

**RushtonH:** Gail, please tell us a bit about yourself (where you are, what subject/level you teach, and the like).

**GailGst4:** Sorry I am late. Parent teacher conf night.

**AnaR:** It's great you joined us!!

**GailGst4:** I am an Instructional Technology Resource Teacher at Fauquier High School in VA. I am an x-English teacher and work frequently with English teachers and technology.

**GailGst4:** And you?

**AnaR:** Wow!! A perfect match for this session!!

**RushtonH:** Perfect. I'll repost several items, so Gail, fasten your seatbelt. I'm a high

school teacher in Santa Clara, California, and the founder of nextvista.org.

[Ed. Note: Rules and purpose were repeated for Gail. BJB]

**RushtonH:** Gail, let us know what you think, and we'll continue from there when you're ready.

**GailGst4:** I am reading back through.

**RushtonH:** You're welcome to toss out questions, too, of course.

**AnaR:** Tapped In is very cool!!

**BJB2** . o O ( sorry for the interruption, Rushton. )

**RushtonH:** Amen.

**RushtonH:** Not at all - I think we're in good shape.

**GailGst4:** Thanks for the info. I just didn't want to take the time to register since I was late getting here.

**RushtonH:** If that's the worst thing that happens to you this week, you're doing great.

**RushtonH:** I'll go on to describing the framework for submitting videos.

**AnaR:** You will want to register!!!

**AnaR:** Great!

**RushtonH:** Files can be in any format, though Next Vista prefers common file types, such as QuickTime and Windows Media formats. Follow these steps:

**RushtonH:** 1) Make sure you have exported the file such that it is not larger than 100MB and send it to [info@nextvista.org](mailto:info@nextvista.org) using the free service of <http://YouSendIt.com>. You may also mail it to us on CD (Next Vista for Learning / PO Box 149 / Santa Clara, CA 95052 / USA).

**RushtonH:** 2) E-mail Next Vista ( [info@nextvista.org](mailto:info@nextvista.org) ) with your name, your location (just city and state/province/country), and the length, and description of the video. This information is for tracking purposes, and names of minors will not be used on the website.

**RushtonH:** 3) Next Vista will review the video and contact you within four weeks of receipt to let you know whether it will be added to the site. Be prepared for the possibility of being contacted with a request that you make minor changes to the video

(i.e., don't delete the project file).

**GailGst4:** Do we need permissions for audio/video persons that appear in the video? If so, do you provide?

**BJB2** . o O ( all that info will be in the transcript, Gail...unless you want to write that down real quickly ;-))

**GailGst4:** Will wait for transcript.

**RushtonH:** We do have release forms, though if someone is in a video incidentally, nothing is needed. We'd rather not have the students identifiable, though.

**RushtonH:** Does that make sense?

**GailGst4:** Yes.

**AnaR:** Oh yes!

**RushtonH:** A big piece of this is encouraging kids to follow copyright rules. Here's what we'll post on that:

**RushtonH:** Students may use footage or pictures of their own creation (cited as their own work) or from copyright-friendly sources (cited with the name of the work, the person who created/uploaded it, and the web site from which it was taken).

**RushtonH:** For visuals, we suggest using Flickr with the Creative Commons option checked in the advanced search tool. Alternatively, one might go to <http://search.creativecommons.org>, select the Flickr tab, and then search for visuals that way (make sure to use the search field in the green, upper part of the screen). For all Flickr content, results should be identified as "Showing Creative Commons-licensed content". For example:

**RushtonH:** dog & cat by Yukari\* / <http://www.flickr.com/photos/yukariryu/121153772/>

**RushtonH:** For audio, please use copyright friendly material and follow the same format, as in:

**RushtonH:** Encuentros by DeAmalia / <http://www.jamendo.com/en/album/22503>

**RushtonH:** Please keep in mind that Next Vista is not responsible for the content of any site from which copyright-friendly media might be used. Teachers should know that sites like Flickr and Jamendo, which contain large amounts of helpful and interesting content, also have visual and audio material that may not be appropriate for a school setting.

**RushtonH:** Thoughts?

**AnaR:** Learning a lot in this corner!!!

**AnaR:** Love the fact that you are providing help already in identifying media resources they can include!!!

**RushtonH:** Excellent. Hopefully it'll be something that your preservice teachers might want to try as a way of experiencing a simple multimedia project.

**GailGst4:** Inappropriate material is hazard of the Internet. Creates another teachable moment!

**AnaR:** Yes.. hope I can contact you later or I can invite my students to one of your sessions!!!

**RushtonH:** Well said. If they learn something meaningful from the experience, it may end up being more valuable than the content of the activity.

**GailGst4:** If there an age requirement?

**AnaR:** Agreed!!! Gail

**RushtonH:** No age requirement at all.

**RushtonH:** Anyone capable of sharing a thought about one of the sonnets is welcome.

**RushtonH:** Ana, I have some material I created for an online class for an ed-tech masters program earlier this year that might also be valuable.

**AnaR:** Yes!!

**AnaR:** Do you have a classroom in TI that I can establish a link to?

**GailGst4:** Count me in on the sharing!

**RushtonH:** I do, though I haven't used it to the extent that one might. E-mail is the best tool for getting stuff to and fro for me. You are certainly both welcome to stay in touch on that front.

**RushtonH:** While videos from this project will be accepted at any time, we will recognize the best submissions at our annual Next Vista Awards Night. To be eligible for this recognition and the accompanying certificate this year, videos will need to have been received by October 9th, 2009. Submissions received after October 9th will be considered for recognition at the 2010 Awards Night.

**RushtonH:** Additionally, it is possible that exceptional videos will be highlighted on



other web sites, including that of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, London. Officials there will make final decisions on which, if any, of the submissions in this contest will be shown on their site.

**RushtonH:** Remember that for a video to be considered as part of a contest, there must be subtitles for the poem and shared insights.

**RushtonH:** At its annual Awards Night, Next Vista for Learning also awards the Distinguished Content Creator certificate to any person or group which provides five or more videos of sufficient quality for inclusion in any of the online library's collections. Should a school provide five entries to this project which can be added to the online library, we would like to be able to contact a participating teacher regarding the award.

**RushtonH:** Ana, it might be an interesting project for a multimedia-savvy preservice teacher to crank out a few videos over the next few weeks and earn that Distinguished Content Creator award - good for interviews for jobs, I'm thinking.

**RushtonH:** Thoughts?

**AnaR:** It sounds great!! I can pass the info to the Educational Technology Department... promote it in my college too!!!

**AnaR:** A mass email to my colleagues might work!!!

**RushtonH:** Feel free to share my contact info (Rushton Hurley [rh@nextvista.org](mailto:rh@nextvista.org)) to anyone interested.

**BJB2 . o O** ( I'll try to whittle the info down to a couple paragraphs to put in the September TI Newsletter )

**AnaR:** Excellent!!

**RushtonH:** BJ, I'll help get the info together for you.

**AnaR:** Do you have a promotion flyer/web page?

**RushtonH:** I'm finalizing that this weekend with the content that you guys are getting now, actually.

**AnaR:** Oh... great!!! It would be easier to spread the word!!!

**RushtonH:** I'll toss out the remaining bits real quick, and if you think I should add anything in particular, just sing out.

**RushtonH:** (Following a few links to resources,) Those with questions about this or other

NextVista.org projects are welcome to send them via e-mail to: [info@nextvista.org](mailto:info@nextvista.org)

**RushtonH:** It is our intention that this project help students learn more about Shakespeare's writings, better understand and handle copyright issues in multimedia projects, and share their insights with peers everywhere.

**AnaR:** I can also contact the high school teachers in the area!!!

**RushtonH:** We hope this project will generate creative and interesting videos that will be enjoyed for many years to come, and look forward to sharing your efforts with others around the world!

**RushtonH:** That's it - do you think it would be something people would go for?

**BJB2:** Make sure the flyer is also available in this group room, please, Rushton

**AnaR:** So will all the videos will be available for view by the public at some point?

**RushtonH:** Will do - remind me if it isn't up by Monday night.

**RushtonH:** Yes! All that meet the rules, that is. 8^)

**RushtonH:** Here's where we'll post them: <http://www.nextvista.org/collection-list-light-bulbs/>

**RushtonH:** Please give that page a quick look and let me know what you think.

**AnaR:** Oh yes. I definitely think this is a project educators and kids would enjoy!!!

**RushtonH:** Cool. I think the thoughts of even 5th and 6th graders on the sonnets would be interesting. Their different perspectives on the world are something we can learn from, no?

**RushtonH:** It's difficult reading, but kids can rise to the occasion.

**AnaR:** You know? I think you can also have this or another of your events... kids and educators voting for the best video.

**AnaR:** That way it gets even more promotion.

**RushtonH:** Could be fun! It would be easy to create a Google Form to make that happen.

**AnaR:** Even if you have judges.. .the second prize is given by students visiting the website.

**RushtonH:** Great idea, and one I think we can make happen!

**RushtonH:** Gail, would your students be up for something like this?

**AnaR:** Yes!! And that way student viewers get excited and decide to participate in next year's competition...

**RushtonH:** She may be at the Light Bulbs page I linked to above. An honorable place to be, of course.

**AnaR:** You won't need promotion!!

**RushtonH:** If we knew we had several schools participating, we could create something similar for the early part of 2010, actually.

**RushtonH:** Next big question: what kind of other topics would you be interested in seeing?

**GailGst4:** I will check with teachers. We just started back to school. Could be great kick off project. I don't know about Oct deadline for this year.

**GailGst4:** Life is much slower in the South. ;>)

**AnaR:** They may need a little more time.

**RushtonH:** The deadline is for those that want to jump on the Awards Night incentive. They can work this in to their curricula wherever they wish, of course.

**AnaR:** Oh.

**RushtonH:** As a southerner (I grew up in Arkansas and Texas), I'm fond of the timing that happens there. 8^)

**RushtonH:** We're working on a project now in which short videos highlight different careers to help kids better understand the variety of opportunities out there. There are twenty or so videos from this one at: <http://www.nextvista.org/collection/light-bulbs/careers/>

**AnaR:** I think you can host something similar for the little ones.

**AnaR:** And even one for pre-service teachers.

**RushtonH:** I'd appreciate your help properly focusing something for both groups.

**AnaR:** Oh.. .

**AnaR:** with the little ones... pick a book...

**RushtonH:** One in the public domain...

**AnaR:** A good story!!!

**GailGst4:** or a fable

**RushtonH:** Fables - that would be cool!

**GailGst4:** No copyright issues.

**AnaR:** Yes!!

**RushtonH:** Short ones could be covered in their entirety, perhaps.

**RushtonH:** It would be cool to highlight how different fables are meaningful in different cultural settings, yes?

**AnaR:** OH.. yes... it has to be a short story book... what we use in read alouds.

**GailGst4:** Fables from different cultures.

**RushtonH:** I like that idea a lot!

**RushtonH:** Kids tell a story, and also give background to the culture it comes from.

**AnaR:** That's interesting!!!

**AnaR:** You can promote multicultural education.

**RushtonH:** Can I ask you two to sign up for my newsletter? I'd get the note right away, and could make a point of sending copies of the last two so you could see what they're like, or let me know if reading them changes your mind about receiving them. 8^)

**RushtonH:** The link is: <http://www.nextvista.org/newsletter/>

**GailGst4:** Would they have to read the story or just tell the story? Some are really long!

**AnaR:** Great

**RushtonH:** We'd have to work out what the issues are with longer ones, but that's a conquerable issue, I'm thinking.

**AnaR:** I would choose a short story..

**AnaR:** for the very little ones..

**RushtonH:** Videos on NextVista.org have to be five minutes or less by rule (file size, attention span, and their place as resources rather than video babysitters).

**RushtonH** smiles

**GailGst4:** I think I am on your newsletter list...that is how I got here tonight

**RushtonH:** Cool. May I ask your last name?

**GailGst4:** Matthews

**RushtonH:** Virginia, yes?

**GailGst4:** Yes.

**RushtonH:** We met at NECC like, three years ago. I'm TOTALLY honored you still read my drivel. 8^)

**GailGst4:** I think we met at the NECC in San Diego.

**RushtonH:** A good time, that was. So was DC this summer - did you go?

**BJB2** . o O ( I met Rushton at the DC NECC! )

**GailGst4:** Yes. So close...how could I not!

**RushtonH:** After years of hanging out together in TI, of course.

**BJB2** nods solemnly to Rushton

**RushtonH:** What else is on your minds? I can do a quick question or two if you like.

**BJB2:** FYI, Rushton is leading a discussion in LearnCentral next week...want to give us that info, Rushton?

**RushtonH:** Yes!

**AnaR:** Just looking forward to learn a little more about Next Vista and see how I can help my students benefit from the learning experience!!

**RushtonH:** That will be Tuesday at 6p my time, 8p Texas time, and 9p Virginia time. It'll be on our efforts to create a team of multimedia-savvy teachers called the "Digital Dream Team"

**AnaR:** That is very interesting!

**RushtonH:** You are certainly welcome to join in.

**AnaR:** In tapped in??

**BJB2:** [www.learncentral.org](http://www.learncentral.org)

**AnaR:** oh. thanks!!

**RushtonH:** Thanks to you both for coming! I look forward to exploring ideas with you in the near future!

**BJB2:** actually, the discussion will take place in elluminate

**RushtonH:** Ana, write me and I'll make sure you get an invite ( rh@nextvista.org ).

**BJB2:** there is a Tapped In group in Learn Central that you are welcome to join

**AnaR:** Thank you very much for sharing!!! Best wishes and success!!!

**GailGst4:** I have a question about video editing software. Do you know any good free video software. We use Movie Maker because it is available on our systems. Any other ideas?

**AnaR:** Oh thanks!!!

**AnaR:** I will!!!

**RushtonH:** Hey Gail, Movie Maker, when used with Photo Story 3 and Audacity is very powerful. Let me know if you're interested and I can find some stuff for you on that.

**RushtonH:** Both are free programs.

**RushtonH:** If you're looking to ratchet up the techno-chain, Premiere Elements is a great piece of software, too.

**RushtonH:** I look forward to hearing from you, Ana!

**BJB2:** also check out [www.tappedin.org/transcripts](http://www.tappedin.org/transcripts)

**BJB2** . o O ( there are archived scripts from Rushton's previous discussions )

**RushtonH:** Thanks again, everyone!

**BJB2** hugs Rushton. See you Tuesday.

**AnaR:** Have a great night, everyone!!

**RushtonH:** See y 'all soon!

**GailGst4:** Good night!