

TVAEA Newsletter

Winter/Spring 2008

Nominate Officers Today

It's time to elect new regional officers. All offices, President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, are open. According to our by-laws we must have two members nominated for President. Nominees must be members of TVAEA. You may nominate yourself. This is your opportunity to make a difference. Send nominations to our nominating committee: Holly LaBelle at hlabelle@gc.k12.va.us or Marcel Fincher at mfincher@pes.poquoson.k12.va.us no later than June 1, 2008. Nominees should fill out the required forms found on the [VAEA website](#) and send them to the nominating committee.

What do you do in your classroom?

Earlier this year we asked you to share how you handle teaching various concepts or situations in your classroom. Thank you for sharing. Hopefully you will find useful ideas and information to solve a dilemma or additional inspiration.

1. What indicators do you look for that show your students are making connections with the "Big Idea"?

- Class discussions to assess knowledge before introducing the Big Idea including using graphic organizers mapping the concept itself, or listing What I Know/What I Want to Know.
- Students refer to posted enduring idea/lesson questions in classroom.

- By the questions that students are asking and the way they discuss the work.
- The artwork reflects the big idea.
- The artwork looks different for each child.
- Students are able to explain why they are doing the work and how it is meaningful to them.
- Journal entries
- Student self-assessment comments
- Written reflections on how that particular idea influenced their artmaking.
- Discussion and verbal explanations during final critique of final product reveal understanding and reflection

2. What new materials have you discovered and how do you use them?

- Balsa foam for carving masks
- Biodegradable packing peanuts -- stick them together with water for sculpture building
- White or brown school paper towels for paper mache
- Liquid metal paint on white clay -- seals with Mod Podge
- Wallpaper sample books for sketchbooks/journals – advanced students. Books have large pages for developing processes, language structures, research, sketches, and collages. Bonus -- built in handle for easy carrying.
- Smartboards –captivate your students with technology. Draw directly on the Smartboard for visual explanations or project images from your computer files or the Internet.

- AVerVision document reader – Use it with a data projector to show images from books or magazines. Demonstrate techniques with various media including mixing paint, drawing materials, weaving, or joining clay.

3. What successful project got your students talking about the designated Big Idea?

- Collage/ Human relationships – 1st graders discussed the bonds between friends
- Masks/ Identity or Culture
- Self-portraits/ Feelings
- Clay pots w/sgraffito/ Community
- Mandelas/ Values or Dreams
- Discussion of public art/ Place –How does art change the appearance or atmosphere of a place? Students were interested in work of Christo.

Contributed by Norfolk Public Schools Art teachers, Cindy Copperthite of Virginia Beach Schools, and Marcel Fincher of Poquoson City Schools.

Questions for next time:

- What do you do when a student refuses to work?
- How do you advocate for visual arts in your school, district, and community?
- What was your biggest failure and why?

Outstanding Art Educator

Who's an outstanding art teacher in your district? Know someone who should be recognized for their service to their school, district, and community? The Tidewater region has great art educators so nominate a colleague (must be an active TVAEA member) today. Nominations are due no later than June 1st. Get forms and more information on the TVAEA website.

TVAEA Meetings

April 9: 7:00 p.m.; Peninsula Fine Arts Center, 101 Museum Drive, Newport News, VA 23606

May 14: Location TBA

June exact date and location TBA

VCU Course Offerings

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY 2008 Off-Campus Summer Graduate Courses

For more information on courses and questions regarding VCU registration policies should be addressed to:

Sue Munro, VCU,
(804) 828-6931 or (804) 828-6931 or (804)
828-1831; FAX: 804.828.8172
E-mail: sfmunro@vcu.edu.

2008 Teacher Institute: Transformation: Creating Authentic Connections in Art

(2 hours graduate credit)

Instructors: Dr. Sydney Walker, Dr. Marilyn Stewart and TBA

Artmaking as Practice: Principles of Practice (3 hours graduate credit)

Instructor: Dr. Sydney Walker,
Email: walker.188@osu.edu

Best Practices in Artmaking: the Process of Artmaking (1 hour graduate credit)

Instructor: Sharon Clohessy
Contact: slclohes@vbschools.com

Possibilities with Papermaking

(3 hours graduate credit)

Instructor: Nancy B. Prichard

Next TVAEA Newsletter

Send your answers or other important news to [Marcel Fincher](mailto:Marcel.Fincher) no later than April 21, 2008. Look for this and future newsletters on the TVAEA website under Regions.