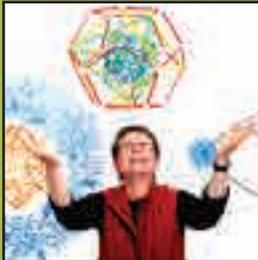


vaea

virginia art education association

FALL
2013

Inside:



VAEA Fall
Professional
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Student Gallery

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Visual Arts
Standards of
Learning

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.org



Molly, Henrico Center for the Arts. Art Educator: Mary Scurlock

Calendar of Events

The VAEA Newsletter

is a publication of the Virginia Art Education Association, and is distributed to members 3 times a year: January, May, and September.

Articles

are submitted by the Executive Board and Extended Board members. Contact your Regional President, Division Representative, or appropriate Affiliate Liaison to offer news or photographs for inclusion with their reports.

Contact Information

for the extended board is found on the inside back page.

Student Art

work is welcome and may be submitted directly to Kathy Barclay, Newsletter Editor, at newsletter@vaea.org

Vendors

wishing to advertise should contact Peggy Wood, Executive Secretary, at peggy_wood@vaea.org

Submission

Deadlines:

Winter Issue
Nov. 15 for January publication
Spring/Summer Issue
March 15 for May publication
Fall/Conference Issue
July 15 for September publication

Mission Statement:

To promote, support and advance visual arts education through leadership, professional development, research and service.

October 10 **Deadline for Award Packets**

October 18 **BRVAEA Professional Development Day, Blue Ridge Art Center, Front Royal**

October 31-November 2
VAEA Fall Conference Falls Church

Mar. 29-31, 2014
NAEA Convention San Diego, California

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Katie, Henrico Center for the Arts. Art Educator: Genevieve Dowdy.

President's Message

Scott Russell



*Sarah, Clover Hill HS, Chesterfield Co.
Art Educator: Donna Stables.*

What if...

What if you walked into your art room, museum, or administrative office this year and everything was the same as last year? Think of it as your own personal Groundhog Day. What five things you would change right away?

Along that line — as you ponder what to change I want you to consider this story. A foreman and 3 farmers were digging an irrigation ditch. Out of the ground came a surprise which they chose to show to authorities, who promptly put them in jail. Knowing the outcome — what if they had just reburied the surprise. What would you have done?

It's risky to make a change and do something new; we get comfortable in our own skin, in our own places. We nest, or some might say we hoard. What does that say about us? As art educators we think creatively but always need to be mindful when we are in a rut, or when we are too comfortable. When do we need to take a risk? What were those 5 things you would immediately change?

Hopefully one of them is your curriculum. This summer the Department of Education approved the new Virginia Fine Arts Standards of Learning. We are all now going to be involved in a process of evaluating our own personal curriculum and possibly even the curriculum of our counties. What purpose

do these revisions serve us — it's an opportunity to advocate for our programs. How easy it would be for some to say — "I've taught it this way for years and it works just fine." In all likelihood you may be correct, but have you been teaching the same students as long? In the coming year the new National Fine Arts Standards will be completed; this summer many had the first opportunity to view and comment on the draft documents. I personally want to thank you for doing this as it is critical for the writing teams to hear from the public. Virginia was well represented, 5th in comments from the states. Virginia Art Educators are in the know and are ready to face the challenges and find ways to improve.

We are also in the implementation year of 40% of student growth being applied to our own evaluations. This is a challenge for all as for many there may still not be a completely valid method for assessing the fine arts in your area. The VAEA has and continues to try to provide methods for our members to help them in this transition. Look for even more ways at this year's professional development conference in Falls Church. Thank you to those who have already offered ideas; if you are stuck — just ask!

Also members of VAEA have taken other risks — good ones! They have taken the first steps in leadership. This fall our VAEA state elections take place. Please make sure your voice is heard and assist our new leaders in keeping the momentum of advancing art education in the Commonwealth.

So, back to the story. What would you have done? Would you have taken the risk? I think we should be very glad for that risk. That story is what happened to Mr. Yang (U-an) and his 3 farmers in a small province in China. The head they discovered belonged to one of the 1000s of the Terracotta Army. For 3 years they were jailed as the government feared the men were looking for artifacts of a feudal government of China. On my trip to China this summer I had the opportunity to see the Terracotta Army, and also Mr. Yang who is the last surviving member of the foursome. He visits the gift shop and sits, signing his name to the exhibition catalogue. Seeing the Terracotta Army, I was flooded with a multitude of emotions, from awe to sadness, to shock. The size and detail of this art is just astounding; it is amazing what artists can do... in this case an army of different warriors to protect the emperor. I see and feel similar emotions when I look out at the faces of our members at conference, an army of artists to protect the visual arts. Thank you for your hard work, thank you for the risks you take each day to bring the arts to our students and families.

Vice-President's Message

by Maripat Hyatt

Wow, summer sure went by FAST! **Peggy Wood** and I were busily working on the details of the VAEA conference to be held in Falls Church at the Fairview Park Marriott, October 31 – November 2, 2013. The theme this year is “Connecting Creative Communities”.

We had close to 150 proposals for this conference and we were able to pack 140 sessions into the conference! To help you plan your schedule and not be disappointed that a room

is full we are pre-registering all sessions this year. While the hotel is beautiful, some of the meeting rooms are small, so be sure to register early! In addition to the excellent, high quality sessions that our members will be offering, other highlights include:



Maripat Hyatt and Kathy Barclay, two Artisan Gallery participants.

Thursday Opening and Artisans Gallery

Begin the evening with our traditional Vendor opening reception from 5-7pm. We will also have our awesome Artisans Gallery from 7-9pm. Be looking for the sign up for the Artisans Gallery. It only costs \$20 for a table and you can make back some of the money that you spend on getting to conference.

Regional Share-Fest

For the first time we are offering an all-day share-fest in which each of the five VAEA regions will participate. Not only will this provide you with an educational way to spend your time outside of a workshop, it will also give you an opportunity to “confer” with your colleagues—for some the best part of attending a conference! Don't forget your camera so you can record some ideas!

Plan now to attend the
**VAEA 2013 Annual Fall
Professional Development
Conference**
October 31 – November 2



Rebecca Kamen

Outstanding Keynote Address

Rebecca Kamen will be speaking at our General Session on Friday at 4:00 pm. Much of Rebecca's work has centered on how art and creativity can be used to enhance our understanding of science. What better way to connect a creative community?



Friday Evening Sessions & Party

Back by popular demand, we have scheduled some evening workshops on Friday night. Also on Friday night the Northern Region has planned “Dia de los Muertos” with food and drink that you can either enjoy for the evening or attend before going to evening workshops.

Conference 2013



Conference logo by Kate Sternberg



Jordan, Gr.6, Fairfield MS, Henrico Co.
Art Educator: Jill Blom

The fourth and final conference of my tenure is sure to be outstanding. This is my last conference to plan and I have totally enjoyed working with each of the regions involved in the conferences. Because I have served for two terms as Vice President I have had the opportunity to help plan a conference in each of four regions and worked with all five regions since Blue Ridge Region traditionally works with the Southwest Region. It has been a wonderful experience and I am thankful to have worked with so many excellent leaders in our state!

Bag-O-Art: Pay It Forward Community Project!

Last year we provided art materials to over 150 needy children in the Tidewater community. Your kindness and dedication is truly amazing. We would like to invite everyone to donate a 1 gallon zip-lock bag filled with NEW art materials and a few project ideas that are self-directed activities for elementary students. The supplies will be donated to non-profit child centered organizations in our conference community. When we work together as a team, there isn't anything we can't do!!! If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Angela Winters at akwinter@nps.k12.va.us

Membership

Membership in the National Art Education Association is a valuable investment in your career!

What do I get for my money? What's in it for me?

- Membership in the NAEA is also membership in the VAEA.
- Books authored by art educators for art educators are published by NAEA.
- Quarterly newsletters are published by NAEA and VAEA addressing issues in education, specifically Art Education.
- Online resources re available on the NAEA and VAEA websites.
- Conventions (NAEA) and Conferences (VAEA) address trends and concerns in art education providing professional development credit. Your attendance and presentation documentation is recognized by the VA Department of Education for Recertification points.
- Leadership opportunities are available on the local, regional and state levels not typically afforded art educators.
- An Awards Program that provides tangible recognition of excellence and achievement of the many outstanding individuals and programs of the VAEA and NAEA. In addition, to focus professional attention on exemplary art educators, quality art education and increase public awareness of the importance of quality art education.

The NAEA / VAEA are dedicated to you and the enhancement of your profession. Regional Workshops, State Conferences and National Conventions provide a platform for intellectual stimulation and sharing expertise via lecture and workshop settings. You make connections with art educators across your region and across the country... countless persons who speak the language of the visual arts and treasured friendships that survive decades.

"I can't go to the state conference...not in this economy...not just yet...maybe next year."

- **Yes, Virginia...** the VAEA moves the annual state conference to a different region to enable art educators to utilize the unique attractions of each area and provide a variety of adventures and experiences.
- **Share Expenses** - Transportation - No air fare, YEA! Carpool...you'll have more fun talking and laughing with old and new friends than singing off key by yourself. **Roommates** - If everybody claims a corner of the room...4 people can share...then everybody takes home what the brought and the treasures they accumulated...plus you can share about your favorite sessions and workshops on the way home!
- **Take ownership!** Check out the sessions and workshops, take notes and plan your own presentation for next year. Magic happening out there...share yours.
- **The Bottom Line:** Can you afford not to go? Where else will you find yourself in an intellectual hurricane? School has started you have just realized that your carefully sequenced lesson plans have a minor blah factor. Perfect for the person who does not have the luxury of brain storming with a colleague. Come experience the best ideas and lessons are sparked by other art educators. Bring a sketch book for notes and drawings, energy bars and your own pillow! Wear jeans, running shoes and the art wardrobe that no one else "gets."
- No other education association can meet your needs as a professional art educator.
- Register online ASAP!

*DIA*DE*LOS*

MUEROTOS

ART BASH

Enjoy the flavors and arts of Mexico.
Come dressed to kill to celebrate the Day of the Dead.
Bring a donation of a can of food or art supply offering for the altars.
Explore and make projects about the arts and crafts of Mexico.

Friday, November 1

6 to 9:30 PM

Cash Bar

\$15 entry





**Make plans NOW to attend
your National Convention!**

NAEA/VAEA Policy

Policy Update Fall 2013

by Barbara Laws

From the National Level...

The National Coalition for Core Arts Standards (NCCAS) writing team is continuing its hard work developing the next generation of standards in dance, theater, music, media arts, and visual arts. A first-tier review of the grade 8 band occurred in the spring. A number of VAEA members were invited to be part of the process and, in addition, Cherry Gardner, DOE Principal Fine Art Specialist, invited a team to Richmond to put together state level recommendations which were then forwarded to the writing team. A field review of the grade bands for PreK- grade 8 occurred in the early summer with, again, a number of VAEA members participating in giving feedback. An invitational review of the high school standards will take place in September and a public review of comprehensive draft of the PreK-12, including cornerstone assessments, is scheduled for January 2014. NAEA sends notifications of the public reviews and all members are encouraged to participate. For more information go to <http://NCCAS.wikispaces.com>.

From the State Level...

The 2013 Fine Arts Standards of Learning, including those for the visual arts, made history when they were adopted from the Virginia Board of Education's consent agenda rather than being scheduled with action and discussion items for review. Once adopted on June 27, 2013, these standards became regulation and are in effect for the 2013-14 school year. The complete document of fine arts standards can be found on the DOE website at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/fine_arts/index.shtml.

A VAEA working group comprised of Executive Board and Advisory Council members is currently reviewing and updating its policy handbook to ensure policy and practice are current, aligned and effective. In addition, policy statements are being examined. When the Supervision and Administration Division met in July, attendees revised the guidelines for elementary, middle and high school art programs which will be forwarded to the working group.

About those Relationships...

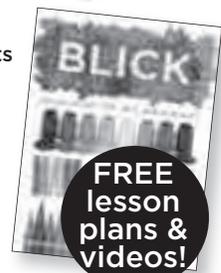
As you are aware, last year Gov. McDonnell was very active in his education recommendations, many of which passed the Virginia legislature. With the upcoming gubernatorial elections and education still a public policy focus, we can continue to expect multiple legislative initiatives to be proposed as they have in the last several years. It is through your efforts and those of other arts education stakeholders that we will continue to have any influence over the direction of Virginia arts education. Please make sure to contact your Senator and Delegate prior to the time you their support. And - check the VAEA website for legislative updates as we move toward sessions in the new year. Thanks so much for all of your efforts!

Surrealistic Symmetry



Decalcomania: Glue Paint Symmetry Prints

A technique used by Surrealist artists to create impromptu paintings, Decalcomania encourages budding Surrealists to search for hidden imagery and develop it into a finished work. This tidy and highly interactive process uses glue paint applied in a finger painting-style — without actually touching the glue! Looking for hidden images and contours in the print will fuel the imagination.



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Regional News

Southwest

by Melissa E. Humphrey

While we would all love to prolong our summer vacations I look forward to the upcoming school year with enthusiasm. My hope is that as educators we will go back to school refreshed and ready to inspire our students. My experiences over the summer have defiantly reinforced my passion for teaching art. While traveling, making art, and even gardening I find myself excited to share my stories with my students. I believe our personal experiences help educate ourselves as well as our students.

The beginning of the school year is both demanding and enjoyable. New and old faces fill the hallways. It's our first chance to make a good impression and encourage high expectations. Plus it's that blissful week when the students are still nervously quiet! I look forward to new lesson plans and sharing some of the upcoming events happening this year.

The fall is one of the VAEA's busiest times of year. The 2013 VAEA conference, Connecting Creative Communities, will be in Falls Church, October 31-November 2. We will also be sending out information regarding the annual VAEA award candidate nominations. There will be an artist workshop in late September TBA.

As always, we are seeking more VAEA members! Please feel free to contact me with any suggestions or questions at Mhumphrey@rcps.info. A special thank you to all of the VAEA members and board members! Happy back to school!

Blue Ridge

by Kelly Tuma

Another great summer has passed; hope everyone made the most of their summer break. The BR Region had two successful activities this past summer. In July, our region met in Lyndhurst at **Lynn Hilton Conyers'** beautiful studio for a three day Raku workshop; filled with smoke and fire. Then on September 7th, we came together for a painting workshop, with our chosen paint medium. The workshop was conducted by Andrea Stuart at her home on the Shenandoah River.

I am very excited for the new school year. The region already has a full year planned. As you plan this school year, please add us to your checklist and calendar. Pay your NAEA dues, register for the Fall Conference, and make arrangements to attend a BR Region activity.

We have planned a Professional Development Day at the Blue Ridge Art Center in Front Royal on Friday, October 18th from 9am - 4pm. We are hoping to explore new materials for the classroom and create a couple of hands-on projects; more information will be available closer to the date. We will also be creating our pins for conference at that time, so please come and join the fun!

The VAEA Professional Development Conference will be held in Falls Church at Fairview Park Marriott, on Thursday, October 31st through November 2nd. The theme this year is "Connecting Creative Communities" and it looks to be another wonderful venue for all of us to be encouraged and motivated as art teachers.

I hope your school year is off to a great start and you will continue to be inspired throughout.

For details on any of our events please email me at ktuma@weps.k12.va.us. I really hope to see you all at conference at the end of October.

Northern Virginia

by Sarah Phillips

It's hard to believe summer is over and school has started again. Did you accomplish everything you wanted during the break? Did you have a chance to go to a museum, see family, take or teach a class, organize your studio, and be creative? Are you refreshed and inspired for the challenges of a new school year?

I can answer "yes" to all of the above. I can also add thinking about and looking forward to our fall conference, Connecting Creative Communities, in Falls Church where you can find inspiration, share knowledge and experience, meet colleagues and friends, create art, learn, and connect to your local art communities.

We will have 140 sessions covering all grade levels, taught by experts like fellow art teachers, professors, and museum educators. Don't worry about missing Halloween; you can dress up as your favorite artist for our Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) inspired Friday night event. We will have art activities for you while you enjoy some food and drink and socialize. Make room in your suitcase for a can of food and some new art supplies to donate to children in our region- then you'll have space to take home items from the vendors and artisan gallery as well as workshop samples.

Check out the State-wide Share-fest, like science fair for the art teacher with lessons and ideas by teachers, for teachers. Perhaps you will stay an extra day to visit museums in D.C.!

Central

by Sarah Mays

Welcome back to school,
Central Region Art Education
Association!

This past May, Central Region conducted our annual, Art Educator as Artist Exhibition at Crossroads Art Center. It was our first year having Crossroads Art Center as our venue and it was a great success. Our judge, **Betsy Kellum**, was impressed with the quality of the artworks exhibited. She selected the following participants' artworks: 1st place – **Jill Ward**, 2nd place – **Gene Touts**, 3rd place – **Tiffany Floyd** and Honorable Mention – **Wynn Booty**. We would like to thank **Kathy Barclay** for her help in making this event possible throughout the past 10 years. Next May 2014, we will continue to have our, "Art Educator as Artist" Exhibition at Crossroads Art Center.

We hope you had a wonderful summer and a smooth transition back to school. Fall is such an exciting time of year – anything and everything seems possible! A great way to start off the school year is by attending the 2013 VAEA Conference hosted by the Northern Virginia Region at the Fairview Park Marriott in Falls Church from October 31st to November 2nd. At the conference, please plan on attending our regional meeting and the Regional Sharefest session. The Regional Sharefest is a new session, where members from each region will share lessons that have worked well in the classroom.

At our regional meeting, upcoming events will be discussed, art teacher nominations and awards will be revealed and door prizes will be awarded. Thank you to those who submitted nominations for our outstanding regional art teachers. We would like to wish you all wonderful school years filled with glorious art making. We hope to see you at the VAEA Conference! Feel free to contact us. We are always excited to hear your suggestions and great ideas. This is your organization! Please also take time to join the CRVAEA group Facebook page and our blog: www.crvaeblogspot.com.

Tidewater

by Jennifer McDuffie

I know you all have been enjoying the summer months and I hope that everyone has taken some time to get creative or to indulge in some well deserved relaxation! We have been staying busy in Tidewater and are still working on making connections and helping our members with their needs.

Our spring workshop on Saturday April 28, 2013 hosted by Mayco at ODU was a great success. Denise Ertler did a fantastic job of teaching us new techniques with glazes and despite the pounding of the pole drivers next door, we had a great day of art making. Members came all the way from the Eastern Shore and helped set up (John Rudiger), and for that I was very grateful. Some well known ceramics teachers, who are not members, attended and learned exactly what they needed for their personal art projects. We also had a few students from ODU who are working towards their degrees in education. This is what I love about the VAEA; there is such diversity in our membership and the opportunities that we try to offer bring educators from all levels together to help us regenerate, network, and take a moment to work on our own creativity. Special thanks goes out to Rick Nichols for providing the ceramic room and to Lisa Gardner for bringing the lunch.

Thanks to the hard work of **Richard Press** the TVAEA has obtained a great space for our educator art show. We are having an art exhibit at the Downing Gross Cultural Art Center in Newport News. It is a terrific space! The opening was on Friday night, August 16th. This is a wonderful connection that we hope to make an annual event. I find that the Educator Art Shows help to spur me on to pull out the paints and get busy!

continued next page ...

Tidewater continued...

Many of us are making plans to attend the fall conference in Northern Virginia and quite a few of us will be presenting. We have a FACEBOOK page, Tidewater Virginia Art Education Association, and this would be an excellent location to network with others going up, for carpooling, and room sharing. You can reach the board by writing TVAEA2012@gmail.com if you need help or have any questions. I look forward to another incredible professional development opportunity!



First Place Winner: Jared Boone, "Sekou Diarra"

Scenes from the TVAEA Educator Art Show at the Downing Gross Cultural Art Center in Newport News

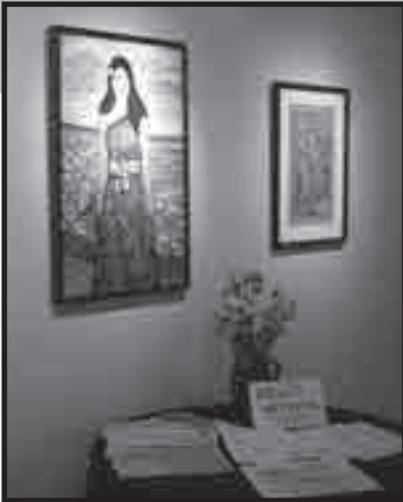


Third Place Winner: Angel Cox-Jones, "Save Our Children"

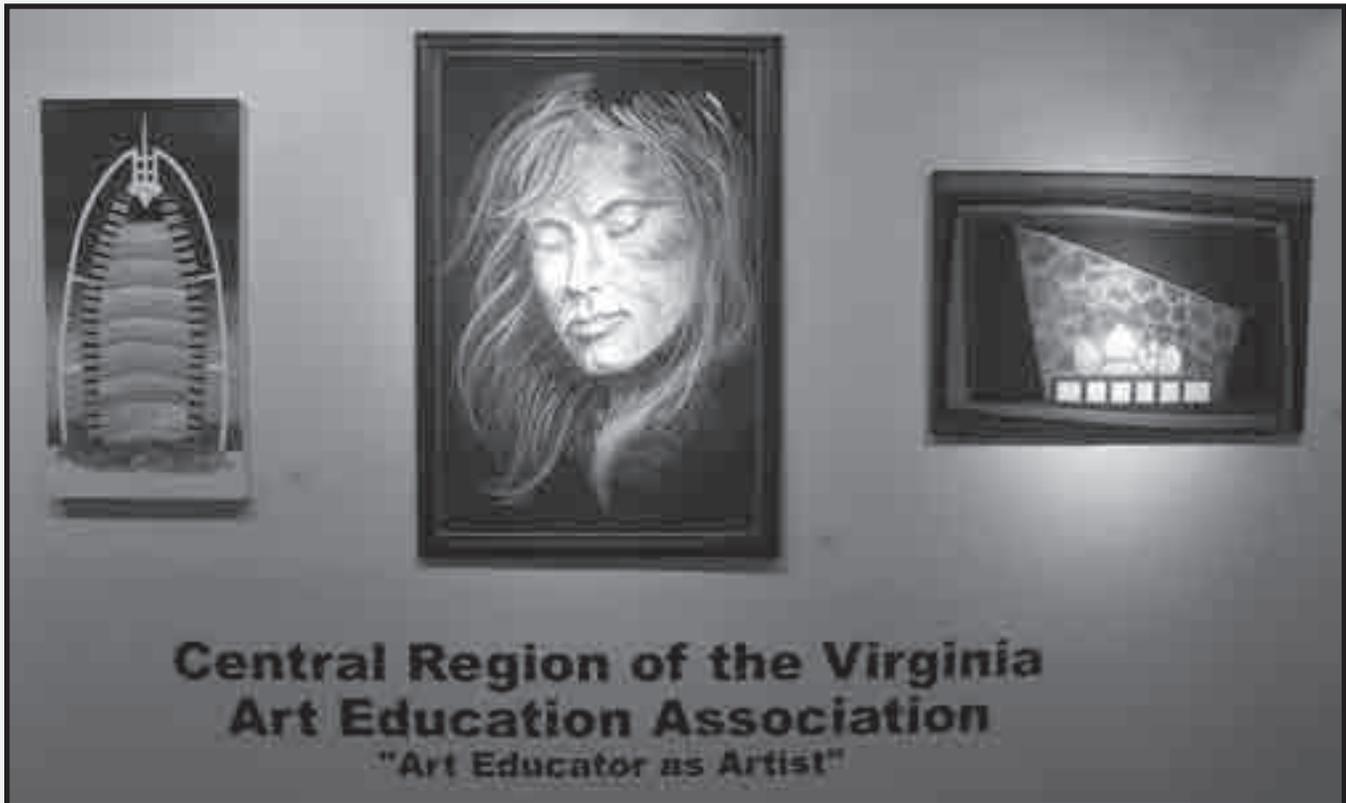


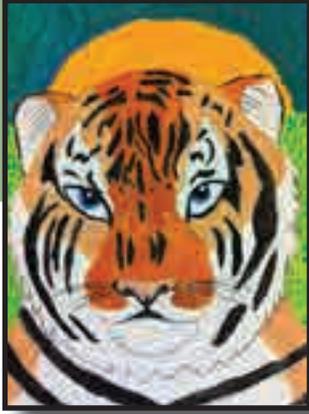
Honorable Mention: Peggy Ratliffe, "Intertwined"

Central continued...



CRVAEA Art Educator as Artist Exhibit Winners: 1st place – Jill Ward, 2nd place – Gene Touts, 3rd place – Tiffany Floyd. Not pictured: Wynn Booty.





*Brandon Gr.7, Fairfield MS,
Henrico Co.
Art Educator: Jill Blom*



Lois, James River HS, Chesterfield Co. Art Educator: Laura Wright



Devon, James River HS, Chesterfield Co. Art Educator: Laura Wright



*Kenyan, James
Monroe ES,
Norfolk.
Art Educator:
Angela Winters*



*Khadijah,
James Monroe ES,
Norfolk.
Art Educator:
Angela Winters*



*Jena, James River HS, Chesterfield Co.
Art Educator: Laura Wright*

Student Art Gallery



*Umama James River HS, Chesterfield Co.
Art Educator: Laura Wright*



*Holland, Manchester MS, Chesterfield Co.
Art Educator: Brent Tharp*



*Genevivre, James River HS, Chesterfield Co.
Art Educator: Laura Wright*



*Emily, James River HS, Chesterfield Co.
Art Educator: Laura Wright*

Elementary

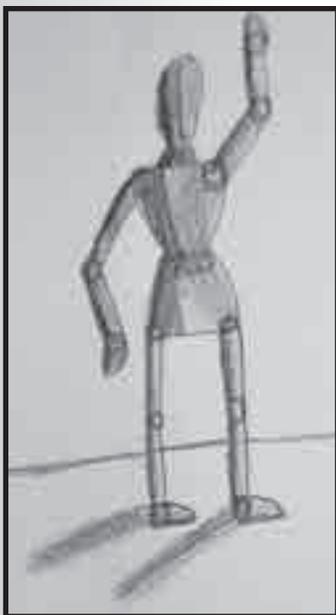
by Angela Winters

We are off to a great start with a new academic school year. Preparing students takes planning, preparation and patience. With a new year comes a set of new challenges. Visual Art assessment and goal statements were the topic of conversation last year and continue to be a focus in the ever changing stage of learning. If you are looking for assessment tools you may want to try: anecdotal records, conferencing, formal testing, journals, observation, performance assessment, portfolio assessment, rubrics, or self-assessment.

Performance assessment is a form of informal or authentic assessment that measures students' skills, understanding of concepts and/or procedures by having them demonstrate what they have learned. (From Scholastic.com)

Criteria for selecting performance assessment tasks

- Does the task truly match the outcome(s) you're trying to measure?
- Does the task require the students to use critical thinking skills?
- Is the task a worthwhile use of instructional time?
- Does the assessment use engaging tasks from the "real world?"
- Can the task be used to measure several outcomes at once?
- Are the tasks fair and free from bias?
- Will the task be credible?



*Kaesha, James Monroe ES, Norfolk.
Art Educator: Angela Winters*

- Is the task feasible?
- Is the task clearly defined?
http://www.state.nj.us/education/aps/cccs/arts/arts_assessment/performance.html

You will begin to develop scoring rubrics for each assessment. There are a number of sites online that have great visual arts rubrics including: [Incredible art](http://www.incredibleart.org/links/toolbox/rubrics.html) at <http://www.incredibleart.org/links/toolbox/rubrics.html> [The Art of Education:](#)

[Ridiculously relevant professional development for art teachers](http://www.theartofed.com/2011/01/23/the-ultimate-assessment-pdf/) at <http://www.theartofed.com/2011/01/23/the-ultimate-assessment-pdf/> or [Ten assessment resources for art teachers](http://artjunction.org/ten-assessment-resources-for-art-teachers/) at Art Junction at <http://artjunction.org/ten-assessment-resources-for-art-teachers/>

Take time to develop an understanding about visual arts assessment. Ask your school district if they provide professional development points for professional reading or plan a workshop for future conferences on the subject. The following titles are just a few suggestions for professional reading: *Assessing Expressive Learning: A Practical Guide for Teacher-directed Authentic Assessment in K-12 Visual Arts Education* by CM Dorn, R Sabol, SS Madeja, FR Sabol - 2003 - books.google.com or *The National Assessment in the Visual Arts* by Elliot W. Eisner.



Middle

by Brent Tharp

Use the QR code for Video or follow link <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VoJkMp6hHOW>

I hope that you had a restful and reinvigorating summer and you are ready to dive into the school year. In our last article we talked about creating community in the art classroom. One of the ways that you could do this was to have a video chat with another art class in another locale. I recommended the use of Skype or Face time but since the article, I discovered what I think to be a better platform, Google + hangout. Here is a quick tutorial link to help you get started. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ooul7KSeao>

For my test run Donna Miller joined me for an art critique. It was a new idea and technology for us both and we were really excited about all the future applications that this technology could bring to our classroom. We did a test run before we invited our classes to join us. Since we were up and live we were ready to hit the ground running. There were some really great things that happened and some areas that we will tighten up on in the future.

Although it took the students a little while to come out of their shells, once they started sharing they didn't want to stop. I can only speak for myself but this is not my normal experience when asking middle school students to share their work. Not only did they get the chance to get positive feedback and different ideas from students outside of our room, they also received

Division News

Secondary

by Sara Cubberley



*Kevin, Henrico Center for the Arts, Henrico Co.
Art Educator: Mary Scurlock*

gratification when ‘strangers’ were impressed by their work. They had the chance to see other projects from other schools, get excited about what others were creating, and got to help contribute ideas for improvement plus praise for success.

Since it was the first time for our classes participating in an experiment like this it took guidance from both Donna and me to get the students active in discussion. However, with repeated exposure and routine I believe the students will become more comfortable and creative with their dialogue.

My challenge to you, if you choose to accept it, is to find a fellow teacher to become ‘virtual pen pals’ with. Check in with each other on a time frame you feel appropriate. (I.e. Monthly, Quarterly, et cetera) And teach your students how to appropriately give feedback and take feedback on their creative endeavors. Make this a fun routine that teaches 21st century skills, strengthens art practices, and affirms all the great things that are happening in classrooms all across the state. Good luck and Welcome back!

I love the beginning of each school year (almost as much as I love the end of each school year but that’s not the topic at hand). With every fall comes a fresh start, a clean slate. I’ll have new students, new lessons, maybe I’ll even try out some new teaching methods. And even though all these new things make me happy, there is pressure all around. I can feel the pressure on myself and I can sense it from my colleagues—the pressure of setting goals, being measured, and meeting numbers, among many other things. I have not lost my love of teaching, but the start of the school year also marks a time when I feel despair because I hear mutterings of “I hate this...” and “somebody remind me why I’m a teacher.”

These phrases were rattling around my head one day when I stumbled upon *The Courage to Teach* by Parker J. Palmer, a book one of my education professors assigned for her course. I picked it up and began reading, and even though I don’t remember reading it in college, I think it was stored away all this time for me to find it years later.

In Palmer’s beginning pages he states, “teachers make an easy target” as we are blamed “for being unable to cure social ills” and pushed to “adopt whatever ‘solution’ has most recently been concocted.” However, he says that reform will never be achieved “if we fail to cherish—and challenge—the human heart that is the source of good teaching.” At the core of the heart is identity and integrity, and the first chapter is about discovering who you are and being true to yourself as a teacher.

To paraphrase, Palmer points out that many of us became teachers for reasons of the heart—whether we were inspired by a mentor, felt passion for a subject or helping people learn. If we lose our heart for teaching, our students suffer, as well as ourselves. To take heart again, we must remind ourselves of the forces that called us to teach. Thinking of a beloved mentor can reinvigorate the heart, as well as thinking of the subject you chose... or rather the subject that chose you. (I got really excited and felt like Harry Potter when I read that part... “the wand chooses the wizard, Mr. Potter.”)

Palmer says these encounters with mentors and our subjects can remind us who we are, but the authentic call to teach comes from the teacher within and we must not forget to listen to that voice. In fact, he says the voice is not your conscience, but your identity and integrity. My favorite quote in the first chapter says, “deep speaks to deep, and when we have not sounded our own depths, we cannot sound the depths of our students’ lives.”

Continued next page...

Secondary ...continued

He suggests the person most in touch with the teacher within is the person who talks to his or her self and listens. And if one fails to respond to the voice, it will either stop speaking or become violent. However, we shouldn't be deluded to think that we are going to emerge from a conversation with clear goals—it is more about befriending the deeper self.

So the next time I hear a colleague in doubt about teaching I'm going to hand over my copy of Palmer's book, and ask them to read Chapter 1 if nothing else. At the end of the chapter they will find a message from me:

Why do you teach? You teach because at one point you loved it...you were called to it. And if you don't love it now, maybe you have lost your heart. Is it time to quit, to throw in the towel? Maybe. But maybe not... maybe it's time to remember the self.

Who knows... maybe in another few years if I'm feeling a little less than excited about teaching I'll stumble upon my copy again and take my own words to heart.

Higher Education by Karin Tollefson-Hall

Saludos a Todos

I hope that everyone had a relaxing and productive summer filled with family, friends, creativity and scholarship. The beginning of the fall semester finds my family and me in Salamanca Spain leading an international study trip for JMU. I am fortunate to have the great joy of teaching art criticism to students with a wide range of backgrounds that do NOT include art. The opportunity to build enthusiasm for the arts through visits to world renowned museums is my way of advocating to future parents of school children that art education has life long impact.

I regret that I will not be able to attend the VAEA conference in Falls Church this year, and in my absence am sending a few reminders for starting off your student chapters.



*Carrie, Gr. 10, Art 3, Maggie Walker
Governor's School for the Arts.
Art Educator: Jeff Hall*

- Encourage new art education students and new teachers in your area to join NAEA
- Renew your chapter with NAEA (this has to be done every year) directions are on the NAEA website under student chapters
- Encourage students to attend the VAEA Conference and participate in presenting

Consider having an alumni gathering – Northern Virginia is home to hundreds of our wonderful teachers, reach out and send them a personal invitation to attend an alumni event and encourage them to renew or join NAEA

Roger Tomhave will be taking over the JMU student chapter until I return. Roger and David Burton have planned the student conference session for presenting lesson plans this year. Please contact them if you have undergraduate or graduate students who are willing to present. In addition to the lesson plan session, direct your students to the sessions made especially for them to meet each other as well as network with supervisors.

Last but not least, as you start sending students out into the field for practicums and student teaching take note of those outstanding teachers that have been working with you and nominate one for a regional award. Award nominations for teachers should be turned in to the regional president by September 1. Don't forget your amazing colleagues and nominate a peer for a division award. Send packets for division awards to the awards chair. Have a great semester.

I hope to see you in San Diego. *Hasta luego*

Supervision & Administration

by Michael Gettings

On Being Proactive

proactive — adj

1. tending to initiate change rather than reacting to events

What does it mean to be proactive and why should it matter to Art Educators?

As the definition reads, it means to create change rather than being reactive. As educators in the field of Visual Arts, we can no longer base our careers on the assumption that others will see and understand the value of the arts in education. Visual Arts education has, in reality, a short history in the United States. We have enjoyed a few decades of tremendous growth. With this growth has come a general acknowledgement of the value of arts education.

But a strange thing is happening. The academic world is coming to realize the strength in visualization, creative and critical problem solving, and project based learning tied in

with balanced assessments. All of which are taught in the Visual Arts. At the same time there are stresses on scheduling by enhanced graduation requirements, policies and legislation that are detrimental to arts education.

Now more than ever we need to employ proactive outreach to our colleagues, administrators, politicians and community. In doing this, we must work hard to educate all on the true value of arts education. We can no longer be passive and just assume that someone else will do it for us. Being proactive must be an ongoing effort by every art educator. It is hard, but worth it.

So, how can we be proactive? Try these three simple ideas:

1. Educate your administrators on what the arts bring to our children's education. When you find those articles, pass them on not only to your friends and specialists but to your building administrators too.
2. Encourage the growth of a community arts booster groups. These groups can advocate on the behalf of your programs. They carry much more weight at a school board meeting or to our legislators.
3. Pay attention to legislation updates and write letters to your local, state and national representatives. Find out who your congressman is and start writing. Educate them. Don't forget you are a part of their constituency and as such have a greater voice. It is very important to note here that you may not use your work email, time or supplies to do any of this!

We believe in the power of the visual arts in education or we would not be teaching it, yes? If we truly believe in the value of the arts in education, then we must be proactive.



Ellie, Henrico Center for the Arts, Henrico Co. Art Educator: Genevieve Dowdy

Division News

Museum Education

by Jennifer Schero

Museum Resources for the New School Year

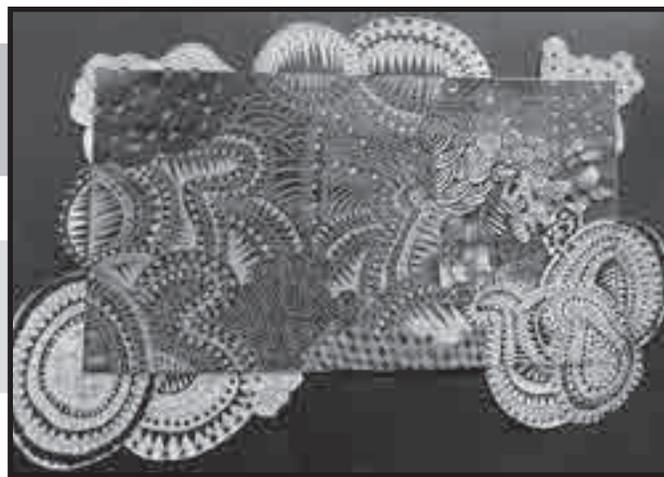
This summer there were a number of excellent exhibitions in museums and galleries around Virginia. I'd like to take this opportunity to call your attention to a few of the artists and ideas that surfaced to inspire your planning. Whether these exhibits are open or closed, you can still find information and inspiration.



*Brian Dettmer: Elemental exhibit at Virginia MOCA.
Photograph by Glenn McClure.*

● Thinking about altered books?

The work of artist Brian Dettmer was displayed in Virginia Beach at the Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art this summer, which included awe-inspiring examples of the subtractive process, layering, and the fusion of text and image. Dettmer's work served as an exceptional entry point for discussing the repurposing of materials, motivating several debates about the future of books in lieu of online and e-published literature. Despite the close of this exhibit, a variety of resources, from artist interviews to teacher printables, are online at www.ViginiaMOCA.org. Check back regularly for other audio, printable, or teacher packets with future exhibitions!



*Alexis, Art 1, Freeman HS, Henrico Co.
Art Educator: Rebecca Fields*

● Exploring ways to visualize art history?

The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond, VA, held their annual summer teacher workshops that included a hands-on session devoted to creating a visual history. Slightly similar to a timeline, the exercise asked groups to represent a specific decade in 20th century art history - but without the use of text. Each cluster had to design and complete a large-scale collage that utilized techniques, materials, or images that pertained to their decade. As a culminating activity, the decades were displayed chronologically, and individuals shared reactions to similarities/differences, areas of overlap, as well as offering feedback about the process and product of the activity.

● Looking for resources?

Don't forget to explore the Smithsonian's website devoted to educators. Whether looking for a new approach to an old lesson, or just seeking to recharge artistic batteries, take a look at <http://smithsonianeducation.org/educators>. Filter your search by selecting subject areas or grade levels, or search using key words. Resources include Botany and Art, Their Roles in Conservation; Portraits Visual and Written; Spinning Yarn, Telling Tales about Textile; and Memorials, Art for Remembering.

● **Try going green!** Museum websites are a great way to collect information about artists and styles, but printing everything may not be the most practical, economical, or eco-friendly way to go. Try using digital filing tools like LiveBinders, Evernote, or Dropbox to collect and store those ideas.

As always, check your local arts institutions for upcoming exhibits and teacher professional development opportunities. Don't miss out on seeing Virginia museums during our annual conference, and take advantage of what partnering arts institutions have to offer during the national conference - you never know what might inspire!

Research & Curriculum

by Pamela G. Taylor

In the last newsletter I shared a short summary of a research collaboration I was involved with over the past three years in an attempt to rally and indeed invite you all to join together in making a difference in our field. As a result I am happy to include a project that **Dr. Ryan Patton** at VCU will be working on next summer:

I will be running a free teacher training next summer (2014) for art teachers who are interested in learning how to make/teach video games with students (ages 9 - 18). Additional technical support will be given to the teachers at their school in the fall of 2014 to help implement the curriculum in the classroom. Space is limited so please contact Ryan Patton (rpatton@vcu.edu or 804-828-2803) for more information.

Dr. Patton's project is an excellent example of the way that curriculum can be research and research can be curriculum. Issues related to what we teach, why, and how the content is informed by pedagogical practices, learning styles, evaluation and assessment continue to pose exciting and rich questions to guide research.

You may have noticed that a special call has been issued by the journals *Art Education* and *Studies in Art Education* for manuscripts related to "Theory and Practice in Art Education." According to the editors Sydney Walker and Robert Sweeny, "When the relationship between theory and practice is analyzed, it is commonly communicated using terms such as 'gap,' a 'divide,' or a 'split.' What is the relationship between theory and practice in the field of Art Education? This joint publication between *Studies* and *Art Education* will present current research that deals with theory in practice in its numerous varieties and conditions." Some considerations may include questions related to: a general relationship between theory and practice; the dissemination of theory and practice; and artistic theory and practice. The editors suggested the following terms that may generate significant issues: thinking/doing, insiders & outsiders. Language, relevance/irrelevance, divisions/commonalities, spaces of practice/spaces of theory, myths, rituals, change, resistances, presences/absences, complications, realistic/unrealistic,

accessibility, and risk-taking. The deadline for submissions is October 1, 2013 and more information can be found at <http://www.arteducators.org/research/call-for-submissions>. This particular call is perfect for collaborative efforts among teachers, students, university faculty, museum educators and supervisors. Please let me know if you would like to be in contact with someone regarding this or any other research ideas you are interested in pursuing.

In closing, I would like to put forth a few questions from an Education Week commentary written by a high school teacher Cord Ivanyi.

I feel we as educators spend an inordinate amount of time on the what of our subjects, with some of the better of us incorporating the how, and yet so many missing the why. . . . But where during the study of individual subjects is a connective rationale? How often do we derive satisfaction from what we do—not merely in a concept well taught or a lesson cleverly articulated? How often are we actually satisfied as teachers, and how often do we consider how to teach students to be satisfied? When do we stop students and explain to them that education is a tool, not an end? (<http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2013/07/26/37ivanyi.h32.html?tkn=PVPFewdxHwCq0M2KoTtCrDl0qxDvAUUzQCTb&cmp=ENL-EU-VIEWS1>)

I invite your comments and thoughts as always to pgtaylor@vcu.edu



*Arshaya, Clover Hill HS, Chesterfield Co.
Art Educator: Donna Stables*

Advocacy

by Jean-Marie Galing

Art education advocates in Virginia have something to celebrate – the **2013 Virginia Fine Arts Standards of Learning** were approved by the Board of Education on June 27. These revised and updated standards represent a step forward for quality art education in Virginia. As I considered the process from start to finish, several things became apparent. The initial review required the collaboration of many educators from around the state. Respectful debates on content and wording eventually resulted in a strong draft document. Other educators took the time during the public review period to offer further critique and suggestions to clarify and improve the draft. The Board of Education accepted the final draft and approved it without further changes; thus, the 2013 *Fine Arts Standards of Learning* have become regulation.

In this case, effective advocacy was the result of collaborative relationships, shared purpose, and clear communication. As you advocate for strong art programs in your school or district, consider building relationships that support your goals, tap into the strengths that each person brings, and share how art education is relevant to preparing students for life in the 21st century.

VA Department of Education

2013 Visual Arts Standards of Learning

Cheryle C. Gardner
Principal Specialist of Fine Arts

The Virginia Board of Education adopted by consensus, the 2013 *Visual Arts Standards of Learning* at its regularly scheduled business meeting held in Richmond on June 27, 2013. The revised document reflects a concise format and a logical progression of learning both within and across grade levels and courses. Essential revisions made to the document's introduction include the addition of two new goals and the rewording of two strands to support sequential study within a comprehensive visual arts education program.



Sarah, Clover Hill HS, Chesterfield Co.
Art Educator: Donna Stables

The revised standards create seamless learning through improved vertical and horizontal alignments. They reflect age-appropriate, concept-based standards that are statements of knowledge, processes, and skills essential to the visual arts discipline. The standards are designed to reflect what students are expected to accomplish at any given level or high school course. They do not reflect teaching methods, classroom strategies, or specific instructional materials. Numbered items listed after a standard are to be interpreted as part of the standard. Each standard was developed as a benchmark at each level and designed to be measurable for classroom use.

The standards are minimum requirements for the visual arts that set reasonable targets and expectations for what teachers need to teach and students need to learn. Teachers are encouraged to go beyond the prescribed standards to enrich the curriculum to meet the needs of all students. A comprehensive visual arts education program provides students with multiple means of expression as well as analytical skills to evaluate information that is conveyed by images and symbols.

Recognizing that curriculum alignment efforts require planning, time, staff development, and resources, the Department of Education's goal for the implementation schedule allows teachers to begin, in the fall of 2013, to

Affiliates

focus instruction on the content in the newly revised *Visual Arts Standards of Learning*.

School divisions should begin to:

- review and align their fine arts curricula with the revised standards;
- review current resource materials and correlate them with the revised standards;
- identify new materials where needed; and
- provide staff development for teachers as appropriate.

The PDF and Word versions of the newly adopted visual arts standards are available on the Department of Education's Web site at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/fine_arts/index.shtml.

In the fall, the Department of Education will be providing crosswalk documents that correlate the 2006 *Visual Arts Standards of Learning* to the 2013 *Visual Arts Standards of Learning* and the 2013 *Visual Arts Standards of Learning* to the core academic Standards of Learning in order to assist school divisions in the review and revision of local fine arts curricula and in planning for instruction for the 2013-2014 school term. These documents will be housed on the Department of Education's Fine Arts Web site at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/fine_arts/index.shtml.



Sarah, Clover Hill HS, Chesterfield Co. Art Educator: Donna Stables

2012-2013 FINE ARTS STANDARDS OF LEARNING REVIEW STEERING TEAM

The Virginia Department of Education sincerely thanks and gratefully acknowledges the dedicated work of the 2012-2013 Visual Arts Standards of Learning Review Team for providing leadership and expertise in the review and revision of the 2006 *Visual Arts Standards of Learning*.

Cheryle C. Gardner

Project Director
Virginia Department of Education

Bruce Stevens

Project Editor and Review Team Consultant
CTE Resource Center

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Virginia Commonwealth University
Visual Arts Team Consultant

Deborah D. Barnard

Prince William County

Patricia B. Franklin

Newport News City

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Fairfax County

Michael C. Gettings

Chesterfield County

Petra K. Huffman

Rockingham County

Maripatricia G. Hyatt

Henrico County

Twyla Kitts

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

Dr. Barbara B. Laws

Norfolk City

Dr. Pamela G. Taylor

Virginia Commonwealth University

Dr. Anne G. Wolcott

Virginia Beach City



*Heather, Gr. 11, Maggie Walker Governor's School.
Art Educator: Jeff Hall*



*Jordan, James River HS, Chesterfield Co.
Art Educator: Laura Wright*

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*Jabril, Varina HS, Henrico Co.
Art Educator: Dawn Vass Schwartz*



Youth Art Month

by Jimi Herd

School has just started and March may be months away but it's never too early to start planning events for Youth Art Month! Over the years, art educators from across Virginia have utilized YAM as a yearly tool to promote art programs in our schools. Use this tool to your benefit! Let your program shine this spring by organizing events, participating in contests, and getting your community involved in any way possible. As a visual art teacher, make your program visible! Below are some ideas that may help you get started in making this March a memorable one.

YAM Museum: Have students from multiple grade levels create art from specific time periods. Organize work into exhibits and place them around your school. Organize an after school event and assign students museum jobs such as tour guides to explain the art to attendees.

YAM Concert: Organize a rock band to perform at your school as part of an evening YAM art show. Local high school bands are a great resource for an event like this. Secondary audiences will enjoy seeing their peers perform while Elementary students love the idea of attending a real "rock concert".



Natalie James River HS, Chesterfield Co. Art Educator: Laura Wright



Brianna, Varina HS, Henrico Co. Art Educator: Dawn Vass Schwartz

YAM Contest: There are many possibilities for art contests in every grade level and usually help in encouraging participation. Art Trivia, school mascot design, dress up days, and scavenger hunts make for successful in-school contests. Also remember to participate in County and State contests including YAM flag design and YAM Book contests.

YAM Community Service: No one knows their school community better than you! Find a specific need within your community and address it with your art program. Paint murals to beautify your school grounds, display art at local adult care homes and hospitals, or have an art auction or craft sale to benefit local fundraisers. Holding a program like this in March can help boost visibility and give you a great banner to work under.



*Sarah E. James River HS, Chesterfield Co.
Art Educator: Laura Wright*



*Devon, James River HS, Chesterfield Co.
Art Educator: Laura Wright*

NAEA/VAEA Membership Application

Mail to: Member Services Team, NAEA
PO Box 1444, Merrifield, VA 22116-1444

Membership Categories:

Active: Art teachers, directors of art education programs, or those engaged in pursuits closely related to the field. Provides all the benefits of membership.

First Year Professional: Recent graduates entering their first year of teaching. Valid for one year. Provides all the benefits of membership, except the right to hold national office.

Student: Undergraduates and full-time graduate students. Provides all the benefits of membership, except the right to hold national office.

Retired: Retired educator who has been an active NAEA member for a minimum of five years. Includes all the privileges of membership.

Associate: School personnel not actively engaged in teaching art and other individuals with a general interest in art education. Provides the basic publication and discount benefits of membership. Members in this category will not receive membership bonuses and do not have the right to hold national office.

Institutional: Institutions or departments involved with art education. Provides the basic publication and discount benefits of membership, as well as a subscription to the quarterly *Studies in Art Education*, eligibility for Art Honor Society sponsorship and one registration to the NAEA

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Membership dues include \$25 for a member subscription to *Art Education* and \$15 for a member subscription to *NAEA News*. A separate rate is established for non-member subscriptions.

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Send reports and articles to: peggy_wood@vaea.org
Executive Secretary: Peggy Wood



Send photos & student art to: newsletter@vaea.org
Newsletter Editor: Kathy Barclay

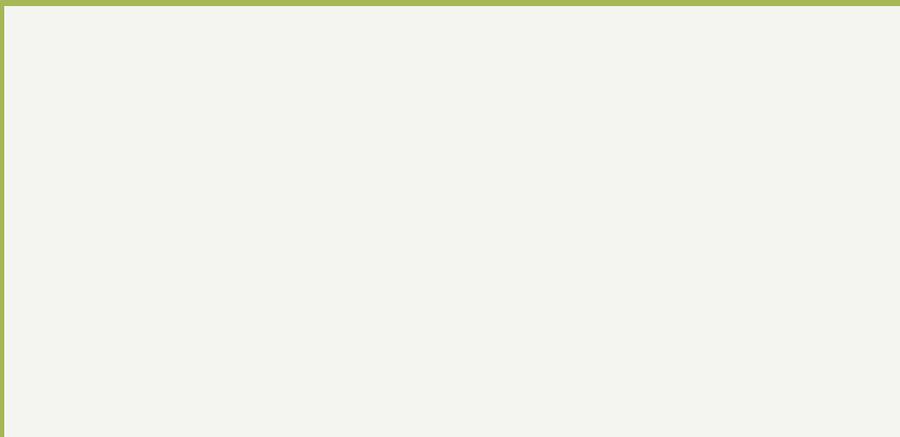


Send address changes to: membership@vaea.org
Membership Chair: Patsy Parker

Newsletter Deadline: November 15, 2013



Amina, Gr.6, Fairfield MS,
Henrico Co. Art Educator: Jill Blom



FALL 2013

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Enjoy the flavors and arts of Mexico.
Come dressed to kill to celebrate the Day of the Dead.
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Explore and make projects about the arts and crafts of Mexico.

Friday, November 1
6 to 9:30 PM
Cash Bar
\$15 entry



Erin, Moody MS, Henrico Co.
Art Educator: Andrea Owens



Emily, Moody MS, Henrico Co.
Art Educator: Andrea Owens