

# “What’s the Big Idea” Symposium Day May 2, 2009

## Workshop Descriptions

### **Understanding By Design: The Art of Curriculum Development**

*Presenters: Lisa and James Morgan, GRAZMOR Associates*

*Location: Lecture Center*

“One of the great benefits of visual arts education is its capacity to expand students' understanding of their world and of themselves.” (J. L. Brown) As a result, education in the arts necessarily and naturally involves "teaching for understanding." Participants in this workshop will explore the backwards design curriculum development process that promotes understanding. They will consider the "big ideas" that form the basis of a unit of study; they will derive enduring understandings and essential questions from these big ideas; and, they will consider planning for assessment and instruction that will support the achievement of the enduring understandings and essential questions.

### **Contemporary Connections through *Art:21* and Big Ideas Brief Description**

*Presenter: Dr. Margaret Johnson, Director of the Art Education Program SUNY/New Paltz*

This presentation traces the collaboration of students and in a college art education course with two middle school art teachers and their students, one from South Carolina, the other from Oregon. “East Coast/West Coast” has been developed over a period of five years, with updates presented annually at NAEA national conferences. Students in the course “Curriculum & Instruction” create PowerPoint slideshows about artists in the PBS *Art:21* series. The middle school art teachers select slideshows appropriate to their curriculum; and their students work in teams to create studio pieces inspired by the slideshows. This year, a WetPaint wiki encourages greater communication and collaboration among all students and their teachers.

### **The Big Idea (is): Art is Essential. ... and the Reasons why**

*Presenter: Kathryn Rowedder, Art Teacher, South Orangetown Central School District*

Art can be the core subject around which all else flows and follows. While this may seem like a radical idea, the truth is that there is a fundamental cognitive value inherent in all art classes where authentic art making skills are taught and encouraged, and it is these cognitive skills that are central to deep, life-long, and relational thinking, learning, and creating. These artistic cognitive strengths need to be understood and implemented by teachers and students alike, so together, we are all empowered to step into the coherency of our own innate gifts, and in doing so, make a positive difference in the world.

*Material Fee: \$22 – optional fee for purchase of curriculum document.*

### **Tour – Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art**

*Judi Esmond – Museum Educator, Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art*

*Location – Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, Lobby*

The Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art will be giving a tour of the museum's permanent collection. We will engage openly with the exhibitions, and talk about using a museum as an educational resource.

### **A Hopper painting, an Oldenburg soft sculpture and a Kruger billboard – What’s the Connection?**

*Presenter: Ai Wee Seow, Coordinator of School Programs, Whitney Museum of American Art*

This session looks at how Whitney Educators plan and conduct inquiry-based tours for K-12 students in the galleries by focusing on specific themes that emerged from the museum's permanent collection and temporary exhibitions. Through the presentation, participants will find out how a thematic focus provides students with a directed but broad-based learning experience that connects artists across time and genre. The hands-on activity gives participants the opportunity to familiarize themselves with selecting and sequencing 3 to 5 works of art centered on a theme of choice. Participants will also consider how a thematic focus surrounding a few works of art can generate interdisciplinary connections in their classroom curricular.

## CONTEMPORARY CAREER CONNECTIONS

*Presenters: SUNY New Paltz Art Education Majors with Nina Tantillo Elton, Adjunct Faculty, SUNY/New Paltz*

College students present the who, what, where, why and how of all the possibilities that face the high school student considering a career in the arts. A hands-on workshop demonstrates the value of studying the arts. Issues addressed and questions answered, such as: What are some of the life skills learned from pursuing the arts? Do they translate to skills marketable in the real world? What careers are out there for me? How do I prepare for a career in the arts? Education? Training? Apprenticeships? What do my parents need to know? What are studio classes like at the college level? Do I have shows and exhibits as a college student?

## Dragons

*Presenter: Kathy Clark & Sheri Altieri All Audiences*

Participants will experience a unique sculpture technique that Kathy developed years ago when she worked with inner city children on a minimum budget. Using aluminum foil and masking tape, we will create a dragon armature that can be finished at home using papi mache, plastercraft, or mod podge. Photos of student work, planning sheet and rubrics are also provided.

## Jewelry without Soldering

*Presenter: Tony Haruch Secondary Material Fee - \$1.50*

Demonstration in using the rolling mill and brass wire. Attendees will be able to make a bracelet and or earrings or pendant. Focus will be using various gauges of NuGold wire for creating a piece of jewelry you or someone will want to wear. Participants will be able to make a bracelet, earrings or a necklace or a ring...or more in the 50 minute session. Demo will be on twisting, braiding and using the rolling mill. Display of finished pieces will be available to participant motivation.

## Scenic Painting; using Stencils and Stamps in new ways

*Presenter: Rachel Keebler, Owner/ Instructor of Cobalt Studios Secondary*

A presentation and "Try it Yourself" session on getting neat Painting effects by using stencils and stamps in unusual ways.

## Alfredo Jaar Powerpoint Demonstration and Workshop

*Brittany Kubler & Dr. Margaret Johnson All Audiences*

Alfredo Jaar is one of the artists in the PBS Art:21 series. Brittany Kubler created a slideshow about the artist and his work that she plans to use in future art teaching. Brittany will demonstrate aspects of Powerpoint through the slideshow and in a hands-on demonstration in a computer lab.

## Artists Trading Cards

*Sheryl Levine, Art Teacher, Brewster High School All Audiences*

Artist Trading Cards (ATC's) are a contemporary phenomenon which are being created and traded around the world. Participants in this workshop will create several mini 2-1/2" x 3-1/2" works of art using a choice of various media including watercolor, acrylic, pen and ink, collage, book arts, mixed media and 3-dimensional elements (pop-up and origami). History of ATC's and how they can be used in the art classroom will be discussed. **Participants are encouraged to bring to workshop small personal "artifacts" to incorporate into their artwork.** At end of workshop, participants will trade one of their ATC's.

## Singing Clay

*Presenter: Connie Noelle, Art Educator Secondary*

This introductory workshop will whet your whistle for ceramic whistle making. Participants will make whistle bodies and observe how to make the sound making mouth piece. Although it takes longer to learn the problem solving techniques needed to teach others how to make Ocarinas or sculptural clay whistles, this will get you started. The magic of suddenly hearing your clay sing presents a challenge to keep trying, learning, and finding out how to do it on your own. Handouts will include interdisciplinary connections, websites related to Ocarinas, and clear instruction sheets. Those who need more time can choose to finish as a rattle, have the mouth piece completed for them, or wrap and try again at home using the hand out directions. If desired, whistles will be fired and mailed if postage is prepaid.

Material Fee: \$2.00

## ORIGAMI FOR ALL

*Presenter: Kathryn Paulsen, Art Educator ACSD All Audiences*

Traditionally, origami is taught "hands on", from parent to child. Presenting origami to a group of students is challenging. You'll learn all new models, and how to teach them, so that everyone is successful. In the process, you'll discover how a piece of folded paper offers unlimited possibilities for expanded projects in your classroom and beyond. Emphasis will be on simple, yet beautiful, designs that all ages can enjoy. Materials will be provided.