

MentorshipART of Peace Hyperportal

Monday, June 15, 2009
9:59 AM

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About me and ArtSnacks

- Posted by [Kevin H.](#) on April 20, 2008 at 5:12pm in [Uncategorized](#)
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I am a certified art instructor with thirteen years experience teaching in Kansas public schools. For the last five years days I have been an educational technology specialist at ESSDACK, which stands for Educational Services and Staff Development Association of Central Kansas. Each year I travel to many schools, helping leverage the power of web 2.0 and technology to help prepare learners for the future.

ArtSnacks is a social learning network that I started after experimenting with the delivery of virtual art lessons to public schools for two years. In our first model all lessons were synchronous or live and we had a full time art teacher. At the end of our research we knew that we could not afford a full time teacher for so few schools and that if we added enough schools to pay the bills, the quality of the instruction and the personal relationships with kids would evaporate. It was then that I decided to try a new approach to art instruction by creating a Ning network and beginning to build a community in which learners could grow and learn and teach. I created over 135 standards-aligned video art lessons that are between five and ten minutes long that teachers can use to engage their hands-on learners and members are beginning to contribute their own lessons in other areas. Leveraging the power of social networks, ArtSnacks allows artists to upload their art work and get feedback from other members. This gives us the opportunity to mentor kids and bring them along as they take those first nervous steps.

What I didn't expect at the outset were the myriad directions members would grow the network. Writers are sharing their work and supporting each other in the writer's block group while poets are posting their poems and getting feedback on the verbal pictures they paint. A band teacher is creating lessons on guitar and steel drum while a music teacher is teaching theory. One school did their school play live in the Art Snacks Coffee House and has garnered a larger audience of virtual theater goers than they had live for their performance. It is clear to me that the network will grow and change in accordance with the interests and wishes of it's members and that is as it should be. Web 2.0 is all about freedom and choices and accessing and creating learning in personal, customized ways. This being said, safety is always a concern in such an environment and we work hard to maintain a safe, positive virtual space for all ArtSnacks members. If you look around you will notice that we frame conversations and are overt about asking for positive conversation and appropriate content. It has been my experience that if we ask for certain behaviors, we often get them and I have been amazed and impressed by the way kids have treated one another here. We have student mentors who help bring younger kids along and build them up with positive, constructive comments on their work. Our network is a walled garden where you must be approved to get in and can be banned if you act in a cruel way or post inappropriate or non-rated G content. With

06/15/2009<http://essdackartsnacks.ning.com/forum/topics/904539:Topic:58893?page=1&commentId=90453...>

hundreds of educators, administrators, artists and home school moms and dads participating, I believe that we have created a large enough family to look after it's self. Any member can report a concern at any time and we have plenty of administrators to keep an eye on the digital playground. While bad things can still happen as in any "bricks and mortar" school, there is always someone watching and helping even when I am offline.

I believe that it is crucial for educators to play on the digital playground. Our kids are already there and if we want to be helpful and relevant to them and their futures, we must walk boldly out and join them. It does take a village to mentor kids and those mentors don't have to be adults. Teaching kids to mentor is a large part of the curriculum here.

Tags: [about](#), [artsnacks](#), [mission](#)

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Replies to This Discussion



[Permalink](#) Reply by [Connie Weber](#) on June 16, 2008 at 5:40am

Hi Kevin,
Glad to be part of this village, so glad. Thank you for your vision, creativity, and hard work!
This is a great "overview" page--it was fun to read.
See you here over the summer.... yea! Summertime!
Connie

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[Permalink](#) Reply by [MacLoverNK](#) on June 19, 2008 at 7:32pm
Kevin's comin' here?!

▶ [Reply to This](#)



[Permalink](#) Reply by [K. Whyley](#) on June 27, 2008 at 8:53am
Hi Kevin,

Just wanted to let you know that your site was such an inspiration when I first hit it - that I have gone on to create one for my own lil area of the globe - it seemed the most manageable way to promote art education. Thanks for all the time you invest to inspire others. K

www.communit.ning.com Just a baby at the mo, but hopefully it will grow to help everyone!

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[Permalink](#) Reply by [Rita](#) on August 12, 2008 at 6:11pm

Thank you for giving me, a "digital immigrant," the chance to play around and try to catch up to the skills of many of my students. I get lost in the layers of the Web 2.0 environment - so I am happy to have this experience as I dabble a bit in the arts!!!

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[Permalink](#) Reply by [Bob-RJ Burkhart](#) on June 12, 2009 at 9:50pm

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>>I believe that it is crucial for educators to play on the **digital playground**. Our kids are already there and if we want to be helpful and relevant to them and their futures, we must walk boldly out and join them. It does take a village to mentor kids and those mentors don't have to be adults. *Teaching kids to mentor is a large part of the curriculum here.*<<

I respect & trust the geoWIZdom of this (MentorshipART of Peace) project-based learning framework!

As a pioneering CyberCrime Fighter since 1985, both my daughters experienced home-based computing. They now share our "lessons learned" using innovative [Place-Based consequential learning environments](#) (PBcle).

After completing my 1992 Mini-Masters in Software Design & Development (MSDD), I began beta-testing Inspiration Software. As a Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) B-School community faculty member. I began benchmarking Advanced Distributed Learning networks (ADLnets) with courseware featuring "thinkLets" woven into facilitated thinking environments.

I adapted "thinkLets" (actionable distilled insights) from Computer-Aided Audit Techniques (CAAT) for knowledge management. By championing learner-led courseware, we also empower INTERdependent Competent Caring Community Connections (i4C)

Here's my i4CQuest-Keyword starter kit:

[1] [Webspiration collaboration "visual thinking" maps Ning.com](#)

[2] **Future Thought** + [Webspiration collaboration "visual thinking" maps Ning.com](#)

Inspiration comes to the web: meet [MyWebspiration.com!](#) | Welcome ...

Collaboration is key to any online tool, and Webspiration allows you to collaborate with anyone that ... easily the most powerful visual thinking tool available on the web, ... I've always thought that Inspiration was the most significant software for ... The challenge came when they were to post them to our ning. ...

[3] Comment for: Clif Mims

with concept maps, mind maps and idea webs to expand the ... [www.kidspiration.com/Webspiration...](#)

Added by Bob-RJ Burkhart at 11:06pm on June 9, 2009

Tap creativity, organize ideas and solve problems. Stimulate thinking with concept maps, mind maps and idea webs to expand the boundaries of what you think and know. Organize information with outlines to deliver plans and reports that communicate clearly.

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[Permalink](#) Reply by [Bob-RJ Burkhart](#) 34 minutes ago

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Important Dates:

· 9-10 February 2009

[AIANCCWG Agile Leaders Final Round Table Wrap-up:](#)

· Sharing workshop participant highlights

Important People & Relationships:

· Add participant sign-in sheet contacts

ALL-WinWin Eco-Challenge ... Agile Leadership Discussion Topics:

[See Kanzana ADLnet Folder:](#)

EarthSea-Keeper think Lets (Actionable Distilled Insights)

After the workshop, distill focal points of shared highlights.

- Continue student presentations in future workshops
- Promote multi-agency (local, regional, state, tribal) dialogs via forums
- Blending global science with local traditional knowledge of survivors.
- Cultivate interface between secular and spiritual worlds.
- Effectively engage tribal colleges in climate change awareness-building.
- Prioritize next steps to expand reach of AIANCCWG virtual team tactics.
- Apr-2009 Conference: **Steve Pavlik fishery management practices** ...
- NIEHS-1999 Native Homelands **national assessment process** update
- Collect and share global community issues, barriers and challenges.
- Share work-in-process proposals with mutually-beneficial results to enable collaboratories!
- USGS asks what else can we do to empower tribal college internships?
- Focus on peopleware and behavior changes: Where Words Touch the Earth video project
- Look, listen & learn. Expand NOAA's presence to help AIANCCWG make sustainable impacts
- Let your authentic Native Voices be heard early and often like Billy Frank's examples ...
- Continue leveraging social sciences via Indian Health Services (IHS) and USGS collaboration.
- Shift IIRM Agile Leadership empowerment from response to PREsponse modalities ...
- Capture sharable community dialogs from shoreline elevation point baseline fieldwork.
- Cultivating peopleware relationships with StoryTech from <http://EducationFutures.com>
- Celebrate both fortitude and persistence of committed AIANCCWG participants.
- Adapt blended visual learning journalism perspectives to amplify virtual team tactics impacts.
- Leaving a sustainable legacy for our future generations.
- Dan Wildcat inspires me with joyous outlook of small groups struggling against the tide!
- Continue sharing and celebrating collaborative accomplishments.
- Champion international indigenous social work outreach efforts.
- White Bear on Ice remarks by Dr. Bonita Chennault:
- Seek collaboration & cooperation opportunities to cultivate mutually-beneficial mindscapes.
- Enable agile leaders for Haskell & KU WPO students at 2009 Power Shift youth conference.

Canku Ota - December 1, 2008 - Opportunities - Page Two

Title: Power Shift 2009, Energy Action Coalition (BMWC is a member ...

This is a national youth conference focusing on climate change ...

Pasted from [Haskell "Climate Change" "Power Shift" "youth conference" 2009](#)

- Empower ALL-WinWin Social Responsibility Pathfinders along the Prairie Passage central flyway .
- Help co-create Ethno-Biology and Eco-Science courseware for indigenous nation virtual schools.
- Preserve and protect watershed-based heritage seeds to help ensure sustainable bio-diversity.
- Cause NEW to be NOW! Integrate ESA Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) into our dialogs.
- Continue seeking truth from authentic Earth-Sea Keeping innovators and TEK interpreters.
- What Now? Becoming indigenous to your INTERdependent place on Earth.
- Celebrate intention!

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Bob-RJ Burkhart

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Important People & Relationships: · Add participant sign-in sheet contacts ALL-WinWin ...

video-comment

06/15/2009<http://essdackartsnacks.ning.com/forum/topics/904539:Topic:58893?page=1&commentId=90453...>

You commented on the video '[Dragonfly County Kanzana Trails-n-Tales\(cc\)](#)' 58 minutes ago



Vine Deloria, Jr Return to: Acting globally ... Ancient Voices ... Aquarian Conspiracy ... What-IF Crossroads Community-Based Drinking Water Quality Analysis Dan Wildcat, HINU, met with the rector of GASU AIS 390: Russian Culture and Comm...

video-comment

You commented on the video '[Dragonfly County Kanzana Trails-n-Tales\(cc\)](#)' 1 hour ago



Kaw Valley Heritage Alliance (KVHA) was inspired by Wesport to Wakarusa Eco-History along the Oregon-California Trail's crossing of the Wakarusa River near Haskell Indian Nations University (HINU). Our persistent "Ancient Voices" me...

album-comment

You commented on the album '[Wandering 3rd Planet from Sun](#)' 1 hour ago



Find more photos like this on iConnect iLearn in the 21st Century

video-add

You added a video 1 hour ago



[Dragonfly County Kanzana Trails-n-Tales\(cc\)](#)

Kaw Valley Heritage Alliance WakarUSA Wetland Learners (MobileMe FIFTH Freedom) AGR-iTourism(cc) via QTpro-Flip4Mac (WMV Studio) conversion using Mac-OSX iMovie editor

comment

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event-update

You updated an event 2 hours ago



[Podstock Southwest... Peace, Love, Cactus and Podcasts](#) at El Paso, TX

August 6, 2009 to August 7, 2009

Visit [Podstock Southwest](#)

comment

[Kevin H.](#) left a [comment](#) for [Stephanie Spencer](#) 21 hours ago

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Music

poem in two voices
Chick en sista and the...
★★★★★
3 of 6

0:00

#	Title
1	April Showers by...
2	elephant podcast -...
3	poem in two voices...
4	Crows 1 by DJ...
5	Chimps by Deenz...
6	Parrot Poem in Two...

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