James Madison University

From the SelectedWorks of Karin Tollefson-Hall

Fall 2012

Student chapters, emerging leaders

Karin Tollefson-Hall, James Madison University



Secondary continued ...

different exhibits, their medium, artists studied, and personal statements from students. She also showed parents the kids' work on Artsonia, an online showcase of student artwork. Parents were also invited to visit the art studio, where she said many parents began to connect to the seriousness of art.

Beth Lint of Westwood Elementary School told me that their art

show is unique because all schools within the Waynesboro Division bring at least one piece of art per child to display for a week long show at the high school. The elementary schools take field trips to see the works on display and the students have fun placing stickers on the nametag of their favorite piece of artwork.

Barbara
Gautcher of
Harrisonburg
mentioned their
Soup & Arts
Fest, where
all-you-can-eat
soup is donated
by area restaurants. Artwork
is chosen and
exhibited, certificates of merit
awarded, and
guest artists are

brought in to exhibit, demonstrate and talk about their work. She also mentioned that seniors have tables where they exhibit their best work from the past years. Among all this, students even paint or throw pottery. She said it is a unique evening because it involves not only the visual arts in the school, but the entire arts, including family and consumer science, technology education, music, creative writing, poetry, and drama.

Katie, CFA, Henrico Co. Art Educator: Mary Scurlock

It was inspiring to read about these amazing art shows that take place all over Virginia. There are so many things art teachers and students can do to make their art show unique!

I'll leave you with a final thought. As you reflect upon last year and begin making changes for this year, I encourage you to reach out to your fellow art teachers and ask for ideas. This doesn't mean you have to copy their practices, but I can guarantee the conversation will get the creative juices flowing and you will come up with your own unique solutions. The VAEA page on Facebook is a wonderful place to ask questions—I highly encourage using it as a forum to get in touch with other art teachers.

I would also like to take a moment to thank Margaret Morris, Shari Mason, Elizabeth Tumilty, and Kathy Pietri for their e-mails, and apologize for the limited space. Best of luck to everyone during the new school year!

If have any questions or comments, you can email me at secondary@vaea.org.

Higher Education
by Karin Tollefson-Hall

Student Chapters, Emerging Leaders

Transitioning back to campus for another academic year is exciting and hectic. As classes begin and syllabi are presented, don't forget to welcome back your student chapters. VAEA conferences have always been a time for student members to meet supervisors and start making connections for employment in Virginia. As the Higher

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Jean Paulo, Gr. 11, Clover Hill HS, Chesterfield Co. Art Educator: Donna Stables

me with the names of your students so that tables can be arranged for your college.

Second, Student Chapter **Leadership**, is a session open to all student chapter members. I am moderating the discussion of the session, but the intent is for students to share outreach, fundraising, member benefits, and social activities that their chapter performs. Students don't have to be officers to participate, just come and share what your chapter does. Together we will generate possibilities your chapter may have never imagined! Faculty advisors are also welcome to participate.

Education Division Chair, and the student chapter faculty advisor for the Madison Chapter of NAEA, it is my goal this year to increase the presence of student members in our organization. Student member's main contact with VAEA is the annual conference. This becomes our one time to catch their attention and demonstrate the benefits of belonging to a professional organization that will encourage continued membership when they begin teaching. Please support students and encourage them to attend this year's conference in Norfolk. In addition to the usual session with supervisors I have proposed two sessions specifically for student participation.

First, **David Burton** and myself have combined efforts to change the lesson plan sharing sessions that were presented by VCU and JMU separately in the past, to mimic the phenomenal lesson plan round table that the national student chapter presented at NAEA in New York. The Lesson Plan Showcase, will be a speed dating style session with groups of students at tables sharing a lesson plan they have written. Every ten minutes participants will move to a new table to gather lots of great new ideas from students all over Virginia. This session is open to any student chapter member who wants to present. Please contact

Supporting students as presenters at the annual conference is key. Faculty members can co-present with students or assist a student in completing the proposal and provide reassurance as they prepare their presentation. Cooperating teachers are also valuable resources to co-present with students. To assist me in connecting with our student chapters, please send me the contact information for the faculty advisor of the student chapter at your institution. Also bring your ideas and concerns for student chapter involvement in VAEA to the higher education business meeting for discussion.