

Title of Session: Keynote: Blanket the World with Peace

Moderator: Shayne Train

Guest Speaker: Anna Martin

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BJB2 waves hi to Shayne

BJB2 nods to Anna

ShayneTr waves to everyone

BJB2: Anna, have you met Shayne?

AnnaM: No, I have not.

BJB2: Shayne is leading the Artist Trading Card discussion later today

ShayneTr: Hi Anna. I'm an art and computer teacher up in Canada.

AnnaM: Great. Do you teach them as separate classes or together?

ShayneTr: Separate - but I like to sneak digital art into both of them :)

AnnaM: I teach digital photography as an art class.

AnnaM: I would love to add web design, as well.

ShayneTr: Web design IS part of the computer curriculum for Ontario - grade 9 or 10.

AnnaM: That's true here as well. I am only certified in visual art.

ShayneTr: Me too. But I have a diploma in computer programming, and I teach at a private school.

BJB2: Welcome to the Keynote for the second day of Tapped In Festival!

BJB2: We are fortunate to have Anna Martin with us today. She is going to talk about the Peace Blanket Project and how we can move forward with it.

BJB2: before we start, a reminder if you are new to Tapped In, go to the Actions menu in the top right of the chat and select DETACH

BJB2: and then please introduce yourself so Anna is familiar with her audience

AnnaM: Good morning and welcome. I am Anna Martin, and along with BJ I came up with the idea and web page for the Blanket the World with Peace project.

EduardoM: My name's Eduardo, and I teach English in a local private school and on the web.

AnnaM: Welcome, Eduardo

EduardoM: Thanks Anna

SusanR: I am Susan from Ontario Canada. I teach on an occasional basis and facilitate the K to 3+ Resource sessions here at TI

AnnaM: Welcome, Susan

ShayneTr: I teach visual art and computer literacy to high school students in Toronto, Canada

ShayneTr: Hey Susan, someone from my neck of the woods!

SusanR: yes!!

AnnaM: I would like to begin by asking whether you have all seen the Blanket Site at <http://cedarnet.org/emig/peace>

SusanR: I am in the K to 3+ field! I was an Educational Technology Integrator with OCRI as well, Shayne

SusanR: yes

AnnaM: The Blanket the World with Peace project began in 2002 and it has evolved over time. We are now at a crossroads, and this session will allow for input on possible future directions.

ShayneTr: I only looked briefly - I'm looking now

EduardoM: it's now opening here... just taking a look at it

AnnaM: The premise of the project is that peace must begin at the grass roots level. The internet is the perfect vehicle because of the immense potential for interactivity and cooperation.

SusanR looks again

AnnaM: The site is designed so that an unlimited number of individuals or groups can contribute.

AnnaM: The "quilt" motif was perfect because it allows for multiple and diverse contributions, yet the effect of the whole is a beautiful design.

AnnaM: I also drew upon my family, where quilting was a way of getting together and working together to make something comforting for one's family or loved ones. I discovered that artists such as Faith Ringgold had taken that idea and developed it into an art form.

BJB2: Anna, did you mention that each quilt square was designed to be one link deep?

AnnaM: Wouldn't it be great to create a new resource that would result in a "quilt" or blanket at an international level? Of course many events have taken place since the Blanket the World for Peace project began. I think that, given our recent past and future, it would be a good time to renew the project.

AnnaM: When you looked at the quilt, I hope you clicked on individual squares and borders to view the layers beneath.

AnnaM: Anyone who designs and submits a quilt square can create a second level with information and links.

ShayneTr: I'm having a little trouble navigating - I see a home page with squares, some of which are clickable. I can't find a quilt... where do I go?

AnnaM: The squares are "quilt squares." Click on the individual squares.

AnnaM: For example, if you click on the hat, you will find BJ's page, with information on how her students went about building individual hats to represent different cultures.

BJB2: It's really exciting that a class could design a quilt square about dance or music and then link to compositions that the class has done on the theme. The same could be done with literature/writing.

AnnaM: To join the Blanket project, you would create an individual square, and then the second level which is linked to the top level. You can also have a link to your individual home page.

ShayneTr: Oh, so the quilt is a series of links to individual projects?

AnnaM: That is correct. It is both an individual and a group project.

ShayneTr: OK, I'm on board. Thanks

AnnaM: The site is located on the National Art Education Association Electronic Media Interest Group site.

AnnaM: I would like to ask you, as a group, to think about ways that you might add to the site.

AnnaM: There are also links to the areas on the border of the quilt, and you can tell from the labels what you might find.

AnnaM: For example, there is a lesson plan link, where individuals can submit their lessons plans, a resource link, etc.

AnnaM: Music and video can be added as well.

BJB2: Anna, do you think it might be a good idea to contact some of the Arts and Peace sites listed in the backflip folder and see if they would like to contribute to the quilt?

AnnaM: One member, Kevin N., created a mural with the peace theme. He documented the process of creating the mural and posted links to photos of the mural and other activities as his school. Those are linked to the bird square.

BJB2 . o O (Kevan is still leading the monthly ArtsConnectEd discussion in Tapped In)

AnnaM: That's a good idea. There are many great resources out there. Another way people can contribute is by helping us identify possible links and resources.

BJB2 agrees

AnnaM: Square may be contributed at any grade level, and in any subject area.

ShayneTr: There are so many flat world/collaborative projects on peace out on the www. Art4Peace, Pinwheels for Peace, etc. who might want a square linking to their project

BJB2: maybe we should add this year's festival logo, Anna! The theme is certainly applicable

AnnaM: Yes. The logo could then be linked to summaries or transcripts of festival activities.

BJB2: excellent idea ;-)

ShayneTr: If the Artist Trading Cards gets off the ground (with the Festival theme) we could create a gallery link...

AnnaM: You should be aware that the site is completely non-political. As I said, it is a

grass roots level project The goal is to solve conflicts without violence.

AnnaM: Shayne, tell me about the Artists Trading Cards project.

ShayneTr: Artist Trading Cards are small pieces of original art that must be a certain size (2.5 x 3.5 inches).

ShayneTr: They can only be traded, not sold.

ShayneTr: And they can be in any medium, any theme.

AnnaM: So you would trade a card you made for one someone else created?

ShayneTr: Once I explain them, I'm going to try to organize a trade between classes for the next school year.

AnnaM: So these are student-made cards?

SusanR: what a marvelous project, Shayne

ShayneTr: Yes! I just sent out 5 cards to be traded with art teachers (ArtEducators 2.0 on ning)

AnnaM: Perhaps some of the cards could have a Peace theme.

SusanR: what grade levels, Shayne

ShayneTr: Definitely - we'll use the Festival theme

ShayneTr: Any grade level. And teachers also do a card :)

ShayneTr: But I have to round up interested parties.

AnnaM: That certainly could be a link. You could use one of the cards as the main square.

AnnaM: The process of adding a link would be to create the art work, a lesson plan, and a brief description and e-mail it to me.

AnnaM: Guidelines are actually on the site.

ShayneTr: If this works, I would love to do this.

AnnaM: We can think of ways to promote these projects so that we get more involvement.

ShayneTr: Susan, hopefully we'll get all age levels. I would plan on matching up grades 1-3 with the same level.

ShayneTr: Contests. Posting on all the education and education networking sites.

AnnaM: The Blanket the World with Peace project is also suitable for 1-3, and the site does include several squares completed by students in those grade levels.

AnnaM: If there is a contest, would we then need to award prizes?

SusanR: o O (perhaps we could do a K to 3 Great Resources session focusing in on this topic)

AnnaM: I can post information on the EMIG electronic mail list.

ShayneTr: Contest - the joy of being featured and a beautiful certificate. I'm not sure but I know my high school students do enter art contests

AnnaM: What is "Great Resources?" Is that a Tapped In event?

BJB2: Anna, Susan leads the K-3 Great Resources discussion twice a month...

SusanR: I facilitate the monthly discussions here

BJB2: she has the most comprehensive resource room in Tapped In!

AnnaM: Students do love contests. They also like to be featured, and certificates are good, especially from outside. You have to be careful about posting student names and photos - need parental permission and so forth.

AnnaM: The certificates could be e-mailed to the teacher to be printed out and provided to the student.

AnnaM: I need to spend more time on Tapped In.

SusanR: Please do

AnnaM: How would we go about organizing a contest?

BJB2: how did we go about getting the Peace Blanket started?

ShayneTr: I see there's a permission form on the site

BJB2: we can post to EMIG and to Arts Ed 2.0 ning and put an article in the Tapped In newsletter...

AnnaM: BJ, I had heard about you from Mark S. and introduced myself to you when I joined Tapped In. We brainstormed on a project, and I think we did an e-mail call for participants. I used the EMIG electronic mail list.

BJB2: perhaps contact some leaders in the Arts community to give some input?

BJB2: we also met regularly in Tapped In to plan

AnnaM: I did a session on the Blanket Project at NAEA and we got some participants from that session.

AnnaM: That's right. We had a monthly meeting, and quite a few people from around the world joined in.

BJB2: this group has 22 members...we can recruit them also

AnnaM: I'm sure a personal reminder would help, and they can also help spread the word.

BJB2: Linda Ullah is involved with an art teacher who is working on helping disaster victims in Asia

ShayneTr: Don't forget Judy Decker on the ArtsEducators yahoo group...
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ArtsEducators/>

AnnaM: Are there groups in Canada that might be interested?

ShayneTr: That's where I hear of many of these projects

BJB2 . o O (Linda's also presenting during the festival today)

BJB2: Judy is very supportive

AnnaM: The idea is to truly "Blanket the World."

BJB2 nods

BJB2: we should have a cover letter that we can send to people we want to recruit

AnnaM: We need a list of potential participants and their contact information.

BJB2: we can post that list here as a file...or on a google doc...

BJB2: and then anyone can add to the list

AnnaM: Also we need to update the web site. Some new materials would be good. I can

ask my students to help update our square this fall.

SusanR takes a break and goes for lunch

BJB2: thanks for being here, Sue

AnnaM: Thank you, Susan.

BJB2: should we set a date to meet again, Anna?

ShayneTr: Have you seen this site: <http://www.millionmasterpiece.com/>

BJB2 . o O (like some time in September or October?)

AnnaM: That's good. Perhaps an evening midweek.

BJB2: do you want to schedule a date now or email me?

BJB2 . o O (when you have your school schedule more settled)

ShayneTr: It's a huge digital collaborative picture made up of tiny drawings.. incredible how many people have submitted. No theme

AnnaM: Let me e-mail you once school starts. I've made some career changes and am incredibly busy.

AnnaM: I will send out a call for participation on EMIG unless you want to do it. Anyone can post to that group. They only get irritated when tons of mail starts coming over the list.

AnnaM: Shayne, I will look at it. I will also try to catch your session later today.

BJB2: I can post, but I'll wait till we have something a little more concrete

AnnaM: Are there any parting thoughts or questions?

ShayneTr: OK Anna. And I'll add something to my session wiki about the possibility of posting a link on Blanket the World with Peace.

AnnaM: Shayne, why don't you draft something about the trading cards project and e-mail it to me for the EMIG list?

BJB2: Thank you so much, Anna, for taking time from your busy schedule to be our Festival Keynote speaker!

ShayneTr: OK

ShayneTr: Thank you Anna! I'll look forward to doing more with you.

AnnaM: Farewell, until next time.