

ADVOCACY

The PAYDAY Art Show

Victoria Stetts

It all started when I was having a conversation with the secretaries at my school. I was telling them about the good job one of my students was doing in my class, and they asked me to e-mail them a photo of the project. After doing this a few times, I came to realize that if the secretaries are interested in seeing what my students are doing, maybe other people in the building might also like to see my students' artwork. I came up with the idea of regularly e-mailing a cyber art show.

E-mailing the show every week seemed too often, but once a month didn't seem frequent enough. I decided to do it on our bi-weekly paydays. This would be an easy way to remember when I needed to e-mail the show. With students' help, we came up with a name for our show: PAYDAY (Proud About Your Distinguished Artistic Youth).

The Process

After creating a template for the cyber exhibit, I am ready to add student artwork to the page. I take digital photos of my students' artwork and save them in a folder on my computer desktop. For each PAYDAY art show layout, I insert the photos, along with students' names, grades, and a description of their projects. I can usually fit nine or ten pieces on the page per show.

I send the show out every other Friday as an e-mail with an attachment. In the body of the e-mail, I let the recipients know which artists are featured in the latest PAYDAY show. After each show is e-mailed, I usually start preparing the next one.

Positive Payoffs

We have received a lot of positive feedback on the PAYDAY art show. This has been a meaningful experience for both faculty and students. Many fac-

PAYDAY!

PROUD ABOUT YOUR DISTINGUISHED ARTISTIC YOUTH!
February 4, 2011



"Response to a Song"
Tyler Furman - Grade 12



Acrylic Landscape
Will Page - Grade 12



"Response to a Song"
Lamont Tyre - Grade 12



Self Portrait drawing
Shannon Walters - Grade 12



Pen & Ink and watercolor
Emily Nields - Grade 11



Monochromatic painting
Amryn Synder - Grade 12



Monochromatic Self Portrait
Luke Frey - Grade 12



"Response to a Song"
Marissa Smurt - Grade 12



Self Portrait drawing
Hunter Burleson - Grade 9

ulty members have told me that they appreciate the e-mails because they enjoy seeing their students' talent.

Teachers often call their students up to their computers to talk about the artwork. My students exhibit pride when they tell me that someone commented on their work.

I also e-mail the cyber art show to the other art teachers in the district; they enjoy seeing how their former students are doing at the high-school level. School board members and the superintendent also receive the show, which provides a great public relations boost for our program. A copy of the art show is always posted on my web-

site and a printed copy is hung outside my classroom door.

The PAYDAY art show is something that I plan on doing from now on. If you are looking for an effective way to exhibit your students' artwork, try

a cyber art show. It doesn't take much time to put it together, considering the pay off! ☺

Victoria Stetts is an art teacher at Montoursville Area High School in Montoursville, Pennsylvania. vstetts@hotmail.com

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WEB LINK

www.montoursville.k12.pa.us/web-pages/vstetts