

Innovative On-line Videos of Visual Artists

This video series was created by Producer, Director, Researcher, Writer, and Photographer Dr. Kathy Browning, Faculty of Education, Laurentian University. It has received the Innovation of Technology for the Grades K - 12 Classroom award from the Canadian Network for Innovation in Education

Project Summary

Brief Background: Dr. Browning interviewed 14 Aboriginal, Métis, Francophone and Anglophone artists in Greater Sudbury and Manitoulin Island about their art to support the new Ministry of Education: The Arts Guidelines, particularly Visual Arts. Artists were interviewed and videotaped in partnership with the Director of the Laurentian University Film Studio Dr. Hoi Cheu. This project received funding from the Ontario Ministry of Education through the Knowledge Network for Applied Education Research (KNAER) with the University of Toronto and from Laurentian University Research Fund (LURF). These fourteen videos are distributed to locations and available on-line for knowledge mobilization and information access.

Research Context: In the new Ministry of Education: The Arts Guidelines for Visual Arts, critical thinking is encouraged and while many questions are suggested that teachers can ask, there are no websites or texts suggested or descriptions of the artists' work. It is imperative that teachers and students in schools identify with artists in their own area. One way is through digital videos that are available through libraries or on-line through streaming at Laurentian University with links and information available at KNAER, Ontario Ministry of Education, Canadian Society for Education through Art (CSEA), Ontario Art Education Association (OAEA), Canadian Society for the Study of Education (CSSE), Indspire, and teaching federations: Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO), Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF), and Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association (OECTA) as well as artists' web sites.

Knowledge Mobilization Activities: Knowledge mobilization is inherent to this project, as it involves the creation and distribution of a needed resource. Copies of each of the 14 videos can be streamed from the Laurentian University web site or accessed through links. The URL is http://www3.laurentian.ca/visual_artists/ Fourteen printable Teacher's Facilitation Guides are also available from this site. The DVDs of artists' work are available through the Curriculum Resource Centre in the School of Education and the Desmarais Library, Laurentian University, the OISE/UT Library, and Watmedia for future teachers of Visual Arts and other subject disciplines in pre-service B. Ed. degrees as well as other faculty, staff, and students at universities, colleges, elementary and secondary schools, and the public in general. These videos are the start of a much larger and rich project.

Outcomes: Through this project, students and teachers will be able "to interpret the works of others either individually or in a group" (Arts Guidelines, 2010a, p. 29) by having access to these 14 videos of Canadian artists in more remote areas like Northern Ontario where there is very little information available.

