

**Arts Education Task Force Winter Meeting
January 16, 2004**

Members present: Sue Anderson, Nancy Bauman, Jill Deitz, Linda Ehreth, Jerrel Holm, Beth Klingenstein, Pat Laubach, Gene Okerland, Linda Olson, Doug Pfliger, Joan Riley, Bonnie Tressler, Jan Webb, Linda Whitney

Meeting location: Hughes Educational Center, Bismarck, North Dakota

Meeting topic: Alternate Methods of Assessment: Digital Portfolio Assessment Project at Valley City State University

Agenda:

1) Beth Klingenstein and Linda Whitney presented information about an alternate approach to assessment and learning for students at Valley City State University (VCSU). The university has developed an ability-based approach to assessing student learning that incorporates digital portfolios as the assessment method. Several reasons were cited as the rationale:

- focuses on authentic performance;
- can be individualized;
- shows evidence of thinking strategies;
- communicates in different ways.

An essential component of the project is that every digital portfolio project has a self-reflection piece. Current results from VCSU's project are showing an increase in project-based learning, journaling, and student reflection.

2) Jill Deitz, ND Arts Alliance, brought task force members up to date on the listserv project initiated by the task force. Members can sign up and subscribe on the ND Alliance website www.NDArtsForAll.org You will be able to sign up under the following categories: artists, educators, administrators, arts organizations. Discussion followed that emphasized the need for task force members to get the word out about the site and encourage others to sign on to the listserv. A suggestion was made that a press release be prepared and shared with arts organizations and arts supporters to put in their newsletters to help raise awareness about the site. (**NOTE:** The North Dakota Council on the Arts has prepared a press release and a copy is included with this mailing. If you would like it sent to you as an email attachment, contact Linda Ehreth at lehreth@state.nd.us)

3) Members reviewed the task force's goals and discussed potential projects for their next "task." The consensus of the group was to develop a survey about arts education issues that would be administered annually to all North Dakota schools. The survey results could be presented at state conferences (school boards, administrators, etc.) in

order to raise awareness about and present current information about arts education in our state. The task force members would like to invite the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction to partner with them on this project. Members discussed a possible work strategy for designing the survey could be large group discussion on what to include in the survey, followed by small group work on specific areas, and then reconvening as a large group to collaborate efforts.

Discussion on future meetings:

- Task force members at the January meeting felt it would be important for members to bring ideas regarding how to organize the survey, what tiers the survey should have, and who should be the intended “audience(s)” for the survey.
- In addition, it would be very useful for members to bring samples of survey done by other organizations.

Next meeting: April 16, 2004
 10:00 am to 1:30 pm
 Hughes Administration Building
 806 N. Washington Street
 Bismarck, ND