

WPSAF SCHOOLS EXHIBIT TIPS FROM OUR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

GOOD TIPS FROM OUR 2016 WPSAF ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Kym Moreland-Garnett (KMG), Trinity Prep; Christy Garton (CG), now Visual Arts Resource Teacher; Chad Allman, Lake Nona HS

IDEA: *Hold a Meet N Greet an hour or two before the 3:30 pm Sunday closing.*

From Michael Ann Elliot, Camelot Elementary

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COLLECTING FESTIVAL-QUALITY ARTWORK

Start collecting art-festival quality artwork as you see it. I have a folder of works that I think are potential candidates for shows that I add to throughout the year. CG

MAT & WRAP

ALWAYS acetate or WRAP the work - it gets dirty and can get ruined. KMG

It is worth the money and time to invest in precut "best value" mats. I buy them from Dick Blick. They come in packs of 25 or more. To cut cost, reuse them for each show. I simply put a new label over the old one. I have had mine for several years. They are precut to standard size openings. I like the 11" x 14" size with an 8"x 10" opening. CG

Michael's sells scrap mat in different colors, if that is what you are looking for. KMG

Teach your students how to mat their artwork. My art club helps me mat everything. CG

When I am working on a project, I pre-cut the mats to fit the piece; part of the grade is matting it. When I have a show coming up, all I have to do is choose the ones I want. Plus, I also have lots to choose from to hang around the school - principals love that! KMG

LAYOUT & SETUP

Remember, The Winter Park Sidewalk Art Festival is an outdoor show under the cover of tents. Prepare work accordingly. Glue stick, spray glue, duct tape, masking tape or scotch tape will not hold up to moisture and dampness. WPSAF

Lay out the art work ahead of time to be able to plan your space. I lay them out at home and photograph them. CG

Mount the work up at least 5 inches from the grass floor should it rain.

You need at least 32- 35 pieces depending on the size of the art work to fill the space. Always have more than you need. Better safe than sorry. CG

Velcro, binder clips, and drapery hooks are a good way to hang your work. I put Velcro on the mats and attach them to the backing when I am setting up for the show. CG

For many years, I set up my display in my classroom so that all I had to do when I got there was clamp it to the panels. I used four pieces of black foam core. When used horizontally, two boards fit one panel exactly. After matting and wrapping the work with acetate, I first lay the pieces out so that I can fit as many as possible and then I hot glue them to the foam core. I have heavy-duty clamps from a hardware store to clamp the boards into place on the panels. It is easy to remove and I have been able to have a parent set up or take down for me in a pinch. KMG

Drapery hooks go right into the back of the foam core that I have behind the mat. KMG

Bring a dolly or flatbed cart to move artwork from unloading area to exhibit space; also for pickup. CA

Make a list of student names/artwork to check at take-down. CA

HELP – You want it!

When I taught elementary school, I had a couple of mom volunteers who would help me mount work onto colored or black construction paper when mat board was not in my budget. KMG

If you think no one will help, ask anyway - you have to ask!! :) Don't get overwhelmed. KMG

Bring help to unload and watch your artwork while you move your car to a street parking space before setting up your exhibit; do the reverse for Sunday's pickup. KMG (CA & CG agree a helper is important!)

PROMOTE

I like knowing beforehand which pieces are going to the show so that I can notify all parents. I also send a list to the person in charge of our website and the principal so they are aware of our participation in this event. KMG

Spread the word to your parents and friends to stop by and see your booth - if something has fallen - ask them to fix it or contact you. KMG

My school has a Face Book page. As art events approach throughout the year, we post information about the events. Not only are we able to reach out to parents and teachers, but we are able to promote the event to friends in the community as well. CG

In the school newsletter, we publish all upcoming events so parents and teachers can plan to come to the events. CG

Art shows are a big deal at my school. We talk about all the events in my classes to get students excited about showing their work. I have students help me make the final choices for the show. Not only do they learn how to recognize exemplary work, but are able to choose pieces that they feel would make their school community proud! CG

STUDENTS

I give extra credit to students for going to the show and talking to an artist (Give them a list of possible questions to ask beforehand). Suggest they take a selfie with an artist. Sometimes it is difficult because of timing - many times the show overlaps spring breaks. KMG

NETWORK

Meet an art teacher friend one morning and peruse the show together - or go solo. Take tons of pictures of student work at all grade levels. You'll get lots of ideas for projects! KMG

Talk to the other teachers! Tell them you like a piece - get a dialog going - you may learn something :-) KMG

SUPPLIES for your art show tool box

- Velcro
- Scissors
- Shipping labels
- Black sharpies; pencils; eraser
- Cleaner and paper towels
- OCPS sign, if applicable; blank artwork labels
- Black duct tape; masking tape; packing tape
- Clamps, small binder clips, 2" spring clamps
- Drapery hooks (NO paper clips, tacks, nails)
- Heavy duty glue should a 3D piece break
- Camera to document setup
- Dolly or flatbed cart

3D SUGGESTIONS from Chad Allman

- *Pedestal boxes to display 3D art that fit inside of each other. 14", 13", 12", etc. Easy to store and to carry artwork in them on the way to the show.*
- *Newspaper for packing fragile artwork*
- *Dolly or flatbed cart*
- *Cleaner and paper towels*
- *Blank artwork labels in case you forget a student*
- *Large cover/white table cloth to cover large wooden fold-up tables*
- *Unload artwork next to curb and have a helper move work to tent while you park*
- *Take pictures after you set up*
- *Save a list of student names/artwork to check when you take down*

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