

Region #14 Malheur County February 2010 Report

Nyssa Middle/High School

The arts group here at Nyssa just finished a very successful art show/ Talent show, with about 350 people in attendance. Also about 100 art show pieces were exhibited. I have a Junior/senior art show competition coming up in late march or early April. As well as my big final student art show in early May. I also have exhibited student work every month in front of our high school.

Dave Boyer - Nyssa Middle/High School Art Teacher

Ontario Middle School

Things have been busy here in the art room at Ontario Middle School! Last semester 7th and 8th grade students experimented with drawing, painting, and sculpture; various mediums, including charcoal, pastels, watercolor, acrylic, and clay; and learned the elements of design, as well as some art history. The highlight of the semester for 8th grade art students was the life-size self-portrait project in which students used accurate proportions and measurements to create their likeness, as well as color symbolism to represent their character. 7th graders loved working with the messy clay and created some creative memory boxes they can fill with collected treasures. Also new at OMS-- after school dance program! With grant funding from the Malheur County Cultural Trust Organization promoting the arts and culture in the county, I began a no-cost-to-students after-school dance program. 7th and 8th grade students are busy learning and choreographing a routine honoring the late Michael Jackson and are tentatively set to perform their routine at the Spring Talent Show, as well as at one (or more) of the school assemblies.

Kacie Recla Shaffer
Ontario Middle School Art Teacher

Ontario High School

The Art Department is going strong at OHS. Art 1 and Art 2 classes are working on a fundraiser for Haiti called Building Tiny Houses for Haiti. Students are making cute, funky, fun houses out of mat board scraps and selling them as magnets and pins at the Parent/Teacher Conferences March 3-4. They are also making plans to sell them at school and around the community. Check out the website <http://www.haitihouses.org> for details on how to participate in your school. Students are excited about raising money for such an important cause even though many of them live in poverty themselves.

The Advanced Art class is also working on a community fund raiser. They designed and painted on three retired, vintage fire hydrants, each with a different theme. These 200 lb. hydrants will be auctioned off at the Fireman's Ball in March. Meanwhile the Calligraphy classes are entering the Graceful Lettering Contest and preparing entries for the Oregon All Calligrapher's Exhibit at this summer's Oregon State Fair. And finally, all junior and senior art students will participate in the annual Malheur County Juried Art Show in March and graduating advanced seniors will celebrate with a senior show in Mrs. Helfrich's garden in May. This annual event is catered by the OHS Culinary Arts Advanced class and is well attended by family and friends of the graduates.

Pam Helfrich

Vale Middle/High School

Vale middle School Art students have been working on Portraiture this past 9 weeks and making spectacular gains. My Seventh graders participated in the Lions Club International Peace Poster Contest. In which two of my students took prizes of \$100.00 in US Savings bonds out of three possible winners at the local district level. One student moved beyond the district to regional and onto nationals but fell short of competing internationally (this earned her an additional \$100.00 US Savings bond and she was the first student in our district to ever move beyond the local level.

Vale High School students have been working in a range of drawing mediums in beginning art and advanced art students have been screen printing and linoleum block printing this past nine weeks. I had one student earn the distinction of best of show in the ninth grade age category at the Eastern Oregon University Regional High School Show this past week which is currently the biggest show around on this side of the state, with eleven participating high schools this year from the six Eastern Oregon counties.

I took work up in addition to my own from Ontario High School and Adrian High School and I believe Ontario received one merit award from the EOU Show.

I would not have been able to do as much with my students in the range of projects and mediums that I have offered this year without the help of a materials grant which I received in the amount of \$3000.00 split between the middle and high school. This bolstered my meager budget and made a lot more variety of learning possible at both schools. This was a local grant through "The Woods family Trust". I also wrote for and received \$2400.00 through the Malheur County Cultural Coalition which is a trickle down from the Oregon Cultural Trust. This was specifically for a digital projector to be installed in both my middle school and High school class rooms as I am at two locations. This has been an amazing new tool to have in each setting!!

If your funding outlook is bleak or was never good to begin with as in my case. Then please seek out grants they are a lot of work (mostly in finding a good fit) but are very rewarding when you receive them!!

I did not receive a report from Adrian High School this quarter.

Ben Holtby – Middle/Vale High School Art Teacher
- OAEA Malheur County Regional Rep.

