

Inside this issue:

- Message from the Chair
- From the Editor
- Views from the Rally
- Meeting Scheduled
- Conference Hosts!
- Portfolio Project
- OVA
- Legislative Art Show
- Important !!
Questionnaire –page 4

From the editor ~

We all had grand plans for this year. For me, just completing my first year of retirement, it was a time to restructure my life, and it has taken me a while to set a pattern to my days. I'm just beginning to get the hang of it.

As your Region 6 leadership, we hoped to have more meetings this year, and more newsletters, and some workshops too, but then reality set in. For active teachers, it was an incredibly stressful year. Getting everything done that needed to be done in your classrooms, advocating for your students, and protecting your programs while dealing with the hoops of new regulations took precedence. Other plans got postponed.

We apologize for not being better at keeping you informed this year, and now that this year is behind us, we promise to do better. But we need your input. Start by responding to the questionnaire in this issue and coming to the meeting on June 25th. Region 6 needs YOU!

Phyllis Brown

NYSATA Region 6 News

New York State Art Teachers Association Region 6 includes: Albany, Columbia, Fulton, Greene, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren, & Washington Counties

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR ~ Kathleen Hallam-Bushek

“Encouragement”

While I was at the rally in Albany on June 8th I found myself being interviewed by an insightful group of young girls from Syracuse. Fed up with all of the recent alterations to the education system in the state of New York, they decided to create a documentary on the impact they have made. They have titled it “**Rage against the Testing Machine**”. They even were wearing t-shirts they designed for their cause (see photo).



I thought, there you have it, out of the mouth of babes! Instead of just accepting, or complaining, do something about it! We have all had a year that has been exceptionally trying but now we have a moment to reflect. And reflect we must....I have watched as colleagues in the arts have lost their jobs, programs are restricted in so many ways. It is time for us to advocate; advocate with

ammunition. Expose INTEGRAL connections the arts make. Bring in those resources that only a trained art specialist could find. AND seek the council of colleagues, we are stronger together. I leave you with this encouragement, be renewed in mind, body, and soul that you may have the strength to be the change you would like to effect/affect.

VIEWS FROM THE RALLY!



Above, Kathleen & Phyllis



Great signs!



Joy Muller-McCoola, Glens Falls

REGION 6 MEETING SCHEDULED

Please join us!

REGION 6 MEETING!!

JUNE 25

10:00am

**Saratoga Arts Center
320 Broadway**

Refreshments

HOW DO I GET THERE?

If you are unfamiliar with Saratoga, the Arts Center will be easy to find.

Coming from the south?

Get off the Northway at exit 13N and continue north into the city of Saratoga. The Arts Center sits on the corner of beautiful Congress Park on Broadway, at the south end of downtown. It will be on your right.

Coming from the north?

Get off the Northway at exit 15 and bear right onto the arterial, turning left when you get to Broadway. Continue south through downtown. Congress Park and the Arts Center will be on your left.

WHERE DO I PARK?

There is a parking garage (free) directly across the street from the Arts Center. There is also timed parking in Congress Park. These are the two closest options to the Arts Center.

We have lots to discuss and hope you will be able to be there to share your thoughts and ideas.

NYSATA Region 6 News

Conference Hosts!!

Did you realize that November's state NYSATA conference will take place in our very own Region 6 for the first time in many years? We need to show NYSATA that it is not a mistake to bring the conference to our Region. Here's how you can help:

- **Plan to attend the conference!!!**
- **Bring leftover 'junk' to our June 25th meeting in Saratoga, to be used at the conference TASK party. (email Phyllis or Kathleen if further information is needed)**
- **Share your expertise by offering a workshop at the conference! Proposals are due at the end of the month. (email Phyllis if you need help with this)**

NYSATA Portfolio Project

Our **Region 6 Portfolio Program** was held on May 18. Site A, at Argyle CSD was coordinated by Rick Fluery and was a tremendous success. Site B was at the College of St. Rose, Picotte Hall. The site coordinator was Kathleen Hallam-Bushek. A total of 12 students were adjudicated. None received less than a High Proficient rating. Parents, students,

and adjudicators all had a wonderful experience. Very special thanks to Professor Jen Childress who helped make this happen!

The value of a program like NYSATA Portfolio is great for both teacher and student. As a student grows in skill, knowledge, and depth, his/her mentor has an investment and pride in her/his stu-

dent. The feedback a student gets from an adjudicator can become a valuable growth tool for him/her.

It is exciting to see the Portfolio Program back after its long dormancy. Although the numbers were small this year, it is expected the program will grow next year.



Elementary
Adjudicator: Laura Cannanella,
Student: Anthony Fonda, Jr



HS -
Adjudicator- Elizabeth Malone
Student: Ava Kilmer

OVA - Olympics of the Visual Arts

OVA, the Olympics of the Visual Arts, was held at the Saratoga Springs City Center on April 23rd.

Now that I am retired, I was able to attend OVA as a judge for the first time. It's a fabulous event, and I was blown away by the talent, enthusiasm, and commitment shown by the participating students.

Kudos to Roger Hyndman, who as director of this event, makes sure it happens successfully every year, and kudos to those of you who mentor and bring students from your schools to participate.

It is so vital that we continue to celebrate the creativity,

imagination, and problem-solving that is so fundamental to genuine learning, especially in this unfortunate era of testing as the answer to everything.

By the way, apologies for the lack of photos of this event. There was so much there that was wonderful, but it appears I inadvertently deleted the photos from my camera. Oops...

Phyllis

The Legislative Art Show

The Legislative Art Show is one of NYSATA's most valuable shows, which offers excellent opportunity for art teachers to connect with their legislators. At a time when art has once again become a budget line item rather than an integral part of a student's education.... advocacy is a must!

There were approximately 112 pieces this year from several areas around the state. Our Region 6 has an integral role in several aspects of the show. Our first responsibility is to log in the art work. This year we logged in all of the pieces at NY-SUT. Pieces are alphabetized and numbered. Teachers are notified if pieces do not fit specifications so they can send another selection.

The hanging of the show has to be done before 5pm at the Well in the LOB (Legislative Office Building). All pieces are aligned in alphabetical order and hung. All packaging must be saved for re-mailing.

On the day of the show there is a Reception. Hosts/Hostesses (Region 6 members) are needed to assist with

traffic and the sign-in table.

The last day of the show is time to dismantle. All work must be placed back in their packaging receptacles, UPS labels filled out, and mailed back. This must be done before 5pm.

This is a valuable show. We cannot do it without support. We NEED help. Perhaps you can help next year?!

A big thank you to those of you who were able to help out this year!



Kathleen fixing a name tag at the show



Assemblyman Angelo Santabarara with 2nd grader Fianna Halloran



Senator Cecilia Tkaczyk with 4th grader Kianna Hanson

Thoughts on NYSATA Membership

Heads up! The NYSATA individual membership rates will be going up a small amount in September. To avoid paying the increase, you may want to renew your annual membership at the current rate prior to September 1st. Or, perhaps you want to convince your school district to become a member, and then you will automatically be a member too! Learn more about District Membership on the NYSATA webpage here: <http://www.nysata.org/district-or-school-membership>

Be a Workshop Presenter!

With the NYSATA annual conference in our region this November, there is no better time for you to consider being a workshop presenter. Proposals are due at the end of this month, so submit yours **NOW**.

The benefits of presenting a workshop? While you won't get paid cash, you will find that you will gain so much more than you give. If you are unsure this is for you, please email your concerns to me (Phyllis) at plbrown3@yahoo.com.

Region 6 Member Questionnaire: Region meetings and workshops

- **When** is the best time for you to attend **Region meetings**?

After school? Weekends? Summer?

- **Where** are you able/willing to **go** to attend **Region meetings**?

- **Would** you like a ‘hands-on’ component to **Region meetings**?

- **What** are you looking for in **professional development / workshops**?

Pedagogical? Practical? Media specific? Just for fun?

- **Here’s** a bunch of sample **workshop topics**. **Which ones** are of most interest to you?

New national Art Standards

Integrating Common Core

Writing tests

iPads /technology in the classroom

Photoshop

Incorporating literacy / math

Incorporating social studies

Ceramic basics

Portfolio Project training



- **What** other kinds of workshops / workshop topics not listed would most interest you?

- **When** is best for you to attend workshops/ professional development

After school? Weekends? Summer ?

- **Where** are you able/willing to go to attend workshops?

- **Would** you be interested/willing to **present a workshop**? If so, **what**, **where**, and **when** would be best for you? What can we do to help make that happen?

Please get your responses to this questionnaire back to Phyllis ASAP in one of these three ways:

- Via email to **plbrown3@yahoo.com**
- Bring your written responses to the meeting in Saratoga on June 25th
- Mail your written responses to **Phyllis Brown, 12 Kenworthy Ave, Glens Falls, NY 12801**

- Since the format of this questionnaire isn’t very formal, please answer in whatever manner works for you— narrative responses, lists, checks ,circles, etc. The style isn’t important, the content is what matters! Please, do it NOW!!! Thanks :)