

Mark Vance  
Artsonia for Teachers

**Reflection:**

Artsonia is a website created for art teachers to use as an online portfolio and a teaching aid for their students. The site has grown over the years to incorporate lesson plans, student and parent involvement, student and teacher awards and many other learning opportunities. I have become such an advocate of the site I have started to train other teachers in its incorporation in teachers art curriculums.

**Impact:**

The impact of helping other teachers learn to use Artsonia is wide reaching and difficult to track. The site continues to grow and evolve it is imperative to stay connected with all the changes. I feel one of the biggest impacts is the way the site advocates for the arts to stay in schools. Parents need to know that art education is so much more than letting kids draw and paint. Art education teachers creative problem solving and can improve students higher level thinking skills. Artsonia is a great addition to any teachers art curriculum and is not difficult to incorporate it into everyday use. Teachers just need training on how to do this. I realized a need for teacher education on Artsonia and that is why I decided to offer my knowledge to anyone that would like to learn about Artsonia.

**Intent:**

I plan on teaching any interested teacher on the basic functions of the Artsonia site as well as more advanced uses in the art room. Artists statements is a great way to get students of any age to think about their art while improving their writing skills. Connecting with other students from around the country is another way art students can see and feel the impact of their work. With a little training from me teachers are finding their own uses of Artsonia and improving their art curriculums and student learning.