

## Bridges on the I-Way: Multicultural Resources Online

# Multicultural K-12 Art Resources

By Frank Alan Bruno

It is hard for classroom teachers to find quality art resources, let alone multicultural ones. I have sifted through several ethnic web sites that include multicultural art content about African/African-American groups, Hispanic/Chicana(o) groups, Native American groups, and Asian/Pacific/Asian American groups. I have chosen general interest sites that I consider of use, with information that can be integrated into the curriculum. A few sites have lesson plans that can be incorporated into elementary, junior high/middle school, and high school classrooms. In this column I will primarily cover sites devoted to the broader groups. A few specific ethnic groups and artists might be mentioned if the site selector(s) included links to them. The majority of sites are sponsored by art foundations, museums, galleries, and academic institutions. I intend to treat major ethnic artists and specific groups in greater detail in future columns.

### GENERAL ART RESOURCES

A general no-frills meta-site that has extensive links on general K-12 art resources is the Internet School Library Media Center's (ISLMC) Art Education Page K12 (<http://falcon.jmu.edu/~ramseyil/arteducation.htm>). There are several multicultural links under every section, but a web user will have to hunt for them. The site is arranged by General Sites, Art History, Art Museums, Geographic Region or People, Individual Artists, Lesson Plans, Kids Arts & Crafts, Reference Resources, Styles, Techniques, Journals, Organizations, Government Agencies, and Costumes. The most complete area for multicultural art is the Geographic Region or People section.

The Geographic Region or People section has considerable content through the links under World Art Treasures. These include J.-E. Berger Foundation: Art of China, Japan, India, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand and Myanmar/ Burma, Egypt ([www.bergerfoundation.ch/](http://www.bergerfoundation.ch/)); University of Virginia's African Art: Aesthetics and Meaning ([www.lib.virginia.edu/clemons/RMC/exhib/93.ray.aa/African.html](http://www.lib.virginia.edu/clemons/RMC/exhib/93.ray.aa/African.html)); ArtsEdge: The Kennedy Center's Marco Polo (<http://artsedge.kennedy-center.org/search/>); Lakeview (Peoria, IL) Museum of Arts and Science's Cutting to the Essence, Shaping for the Fire: Yoruba and Akan Art ([www.fa.indiana.edu/~conner/africart/home.html](http://www.fa.indiana.edu/~conner/africart/home.html)); Museum of Fine Arts, Boston's Guide to Asian Art ([www.artindex.com/home/index.asp](http://www.artindex.com/home/index.asp)); Asian Arts: The On-Line Journal for the Study and Exhibition of

the Arts of Asia ([www.asianart.com/index.html](http://www.asianart.com/index.html)); the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Asian Art ([www.metmuseum.org/collections/department.asp?dep=6](http://www.metmuseum.org/collections/department.asp?dep=6)); Edo No Iki Gallery's Japanese Art ([www.bahnhof.se/~secutor/ukiyo-e/edonoiki.html](http://www.bahnhof.se/~secutor/ukiyo-e/edonoiki.html)); Diego Rivera Web Museum ([www.diegorivera.com/index.php](http://www.diegorivera.com/index.php)); Port Aransas High School's A Study in Mexican Art ([www.port-aransas.k12.tx.us/SPAN/mex-art.html](http://www.port-aransas.k12.tx.us/SPAN/mex-art.html)); Princeton's Native Americans ([www.princeton.edu/~naap/internet/humanities.html](http://www.princeton.edu/~naap/internet/humanities.html)); NativeTech's Native American Technology & Art ([www.nativetech.org/art/issues.html](http://www.nativetech.org/art/issues.html)); Native Web's Art, Artisans & Galleries ([www.nativeweb.org/resources/art\\_artisans\\_galleries/](http://www.nativeweb.org/resources/art_artisans_galleries/)); Annenberg's Art of the Western World ([www.learner.org/resources/series1.html](http://www.learner.org/resources/series1.html)); Annenberg's A World of Art ([www.learner.org/resources/series64.html](http://www.learner.org/resources/series64.html)); University of Haifa's Mythology in Western Art ([http://lib.haifa.ac.il/www/art/mythology\\_westart.html](http://lib.haifa.ac.il/www/art/mythology_westart.html)).

A good general multicultural art resource site is the J. Paul Getty Museum's ArtsEdNet ([www.getty.edu/artsednet/](http://www.getty.edu/artsednet/)). It is arranged into four sections: Lesson Plans and Curriculum Ideas, Image Galleries and Exhibitions, ArtsEdNet Talk, and Search & Index. Lesson Plans and Curriculum Ideas is sorted by grade level and has an alphabetical listing of plans. The section also includes an overview article entitled "Getty Scope & Sequence: A Guide for Learning and Teaching in Art," about how to incorporate art into the curriculum.

The site has lesson plans that cross all grade levels, including "African American Art," "Arts of India," "Celebrating Pluralism: Multicultural Approaches to Art Learning," "Cultural Heritage Sites: Teaching About Architecture and Art," "Jacob Lawrence, Storyteller," "Mexican American Art," "Multicultural Art Prints," "Pacific Asian Art," "Selected American Indian Artifacts," "Weaving Granite: The Sculpture of Jesús Morales," "The Web of Life: The Art of John Biggers," and "Women Artists of the Americas." Two lesson plans for elementary school students are "Art Informs History: Romare Bearden, Artist of the Black Experience" and "Integrating Art History and Art Criticism: Printmaking with a Japanese Influence." Lesson plans specifically for middle school and high school students are "African American Art: A Los Angeles Legacy," "Chicana and Chicano Space; Mexican American Murals Making a Place in the World," and "Navajo Art: A Way of Life."

A sub-area under Lesson Plans and Curriculum Ideas is the Multicultural Art Print Series page ([www.getty.edu/artsednet/resources/Maps/](http://www.getty.edu/artsednet/resources/Maps/)), which has some very colorful art prints. The seven poster series are entitled "Arts of India," "Women Artists of the Americas," "Mexican American Art," "Selected American Indian Artifacts," "Pacific Asian Art," "African American Art," and "Cultural Heritage Sites." The individual posters in the series can be purchased from the museum's bookstore. The "Arts of India" poster series includes A Buddhist Altarpiece, A Royal Tiger Hunt, Dancing Ganesha, Elephant with Riders, and the Buddha as Conqueror of Mara. The "Women Artists of the Americas" poster series features works by Elizabeth Arden Armstrong Forbes, Lola Alvarez Bravo, Lois Mailou Jones, Frida Kahlo, and Marina Nuñez Del Prado. The "Mexican American Art" series includes Felipe B. Archuleta, Jesus Bautista Moroles, and Alexander A. Maldonado. The "Selected American Indian Artifacts" posters feature Kicking Bear's painting of the Battle of the Little Big Horn, Chumash Rock Painting, Nampeyo's Hopi Tewa vessels, a Navajo blanket, and kachinas from the Hopi, Aha, and Halili. The "Pacific Asian Art" series includes Katsushika Hokusai's famous *Eagle in a Snowstorm*.

The Image Galleries and Exhibitions section is arranged by All Artworks, Galleries, Student Art Galleries, and Getty Exhibitions. The All Artworks area is further divided into artist, title, and date. The Galleries area has topics such as Art & Ecology, John Biggers, Jacob Lawrence, Jesus Bautista Moroles, Sandy Skoglund, Space Art, and Trajan's Rome. The Student Art Galleries area includes student work on the subject of "Cognition and Creation." The Getty Exhibitions area includes The Forum of Trajan in Rome: A Virtual Tour; Looking at Art of Ancient Greece and Rome: An Online Exhibition; and Making Architecture: An Online Exhibition and Curriculum Resource.

The ArtsEdNet Talk section includes an unmoderated listserv devoted to arts education. It has archives for the participants. The archives section has e-mail messages arranged under month and year, and then in reverse chronological order by time and date. For instance, the January 2004 link had 1,142 messages, sorted by author, date, thread, and attachment. The Search & Index section is arranged by site map, index, and search. The index is divided into topics.

A site with extensive ethnic art content is Chris Witcombe's Art History Resources on the Web (<http://witcombe.sbc.edu/ARTHLinks.html>). It is categorized into time periods and specific continents: Prehistoric, Ancient Near East, Ancient Egypt, Ancient Greece, Ancient Rome, Art in Early Europe, Middle Ages, 15th Century, 16th Century, 17th Century, 18th Century, 19th Century, 20th Century, 21st Century, Prints & Photographs, Asia, Africa, Americas & Oceania, Museums & Galleries, Research Resources, and Various & Miscellaneous. The Asia, Africa, and Americas & Oceania areas have dozens of worthwhile links.

On the Multicultural Pavilion site, Paul Gorksi has put together a page devoted to Multicultural Education and the Arts ([www.edchange.org/multicultural/sites/art-](http://www.edchange.org/multicultural/sites/art-)

[slinks.html](http://slinks.html)), which includes music, drama, and the fine arts. Numerous cultural sites are featured that have humanities applications for educators and librarians. These are Art Jam: A Community Art Project ([www.artjam.org/indexb.html](http://www.artjam.org/indexb.html)); Art Research and Curriculum ([www.arcassociates.org/](http://www.arcassociates.org/)); The Art Teacher Connection ([www.artteacherconnection.com/](http://www.artteacherconnection.com/)); artsconnected (<http://artsconnected.org/>); ARTSEEDGE (<http://artsedge.kennedy-center.org/artsedge.html>); ArtsEdNet; Bayly Art Museum's the Power of Woe, the Power of Life ([www.lib.virginia.edu/dic/bayly/women/docs/home.html](http://www.lib.virginia.edu/dic/bayly/women/docs/home.html)); Composers of African Descent (<http://chevalierdesaintgeorges.homestead.com/Others.html>); C.A.R.T.S.: Cultural Art Resources for Students and Teachers ([www.carts.org/index.html](http://www.carts.org/index.html)); Crossing the Threshold ([www.albany.edu/museum/wwwmuseum/crossing/crossing.htm](http://www.albany.edu/museum/wwwmuseum/crossing/crossing.htm)); Dancing Dots Music ([www.dancingdots.com/](http://www.dancingdots.com/)); The Drama Teacher's Resource Room (<http://www3.sk.sympatico.ca/erachi/>); The Incredible Art Department ([www.princetonol.com/groups/iad/](http://www.princetonol.com/groups/iad/)); ISPA: the International Society for the Performing Arts ([www.ispa.org/](http://www.ispa.org/)); Julie's Multicultural Art Page ([www.geocities.com/Athens/Acropolis/6961/](http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Acropolis/6961/)); KidsArt ([www.kidsart.com/](http://www.kidsart.com/)); KinderArt: Multicultural Art ([www.kinderart.com/multic/](http://www.kinderart.com/multic/)); Melissa's Myriad Art Education ([www.geocities.com/Athens/8020/arted.html](http://www.geocities.com/Athens/8020/arted.html)); Multicultural Crafts (<http://familycrafts.about.com/multimultic.htm?once=true&>); New Mexico Museum of International Folk Arts ([www.nmoca.org/mnmfolkart.html](http://www.nmoca.org/mnmfolkart.html)); MusicHeritage Network ([www.si.umich.edu/CHICO/MHN/](http://www.si.umich.edu/CHICO/MHN/)); M.U.S.I.C.: Musicians United for Songs in the Classroom ([www.wpe.com/~musici/welcome.html](http://www.wpe.com/~musici/welcome.html)); Music Education Online ([www.childrensmusicworkshop.com/](http://www.childrensmusicworkshop.com/)); New Day Films ([www.newday.com/](http://www.newday.com/)); Suave ([www.csusm.edu/SUAVE/](http://www.csusm.edu/SUAVE/)); ERIC's Teaching Art from a Global Perspective ([www.ericfacility.net/ericdigests/ed329490.html](http://www.ericfacility.net/ericdigests/ed329490.html)); Women Artists in History ([www.wendy.com/women/artists.html](http://www.wendy.com/women/artists.html)); Women Artists through Time ([www.uwrf.edu/history/women.html](http://www.uwrf.edu/history/women.html)); and WorldWide Arts Gateway (<http://world-arts-resources.com/>).

#### AFRICAN-AMERICAN ART

In finding African-American art, a starting place is Long Island University's African American Art on the Internet ([www.liu.edu/cwis/cwp/library/aavawww.htm](http://www.liu.edu/cwis/cwp/library/aavawww.htm)). There are a few broken links, so the results are a bit uneven. Since there are some private galleries listed, the educator will need to sift the wheat from the chaff. A cleaner section of the site is African Americans in the Visual Arts ([www.liunet.edu/cwis/cwp/library/aavaahp.htm#sum](http://www.liunet.edu/cwis/cwp/library/aavaahp.htm#sum)). Some of the noted artists listed are Charles H. Alston, Edward M. Bannister, Richmond Barthe, Romare Bearden, John T. Biggers, Selma Burke, Elizabeth Catlett, Eldzier Cortor, Allan Rohan Crite, Beauford Dulaney, Joseph Dulaney, Aaron Douglas, Robert Scott Duncanson, Isaac Scott Hathaway, Joshua Johnston, Jacob Lawrence, Edmonia Lewis, Alain Leroy Locke, Scipio Moorhead, Horace Pippin, Ellis Ruley, Floyd Sapp, and Henry Ossawa Tanner.

## AFRICAN ART

The most extensive list on African Art is Stanford University's African Art on the Internet ([www-sul.stanford.edu/depts/ssrg/africa/art.html](http://www-sul.stanford.edu/depts/ssrg/africa/art.html)). There are more than 100 links, too numerous to outline, so do yourself a favor and check them out. Another area of the site with more than 30 links is the South African Art section ([www-sul.stanford.edu/depts/ssrg/africa/southafrica/rsart.html](http://www-sul.stanford.edu/depts/ssrg/africa/southafrica/rsart.html)).

The Smithsonian National Museum of African Art ([www.africanart.org/index.htm](http://www.africanart.org/index.htm)) has some interesting material for teachers about African art and culture in a section called Facing the Mask ([www.africanart.org/facingthemask/home.html](http://www.africanart.org/facingthemask/home.html)). It features material about the diversity, uses, and imagery of African art. An advanced search feature shows individual artworks held by the museum.

Another collection of African art is found at the University of Iowa's Art and Life in Africa Project ([www.uiowa.edu/~africart/](http://www.uiowa.edu/~africart/)). The site features information about the project as well as links to a searchable African art video collection, the art of Burkina Faso, 47 lesson plans on African art, and contemporary Malian art.

## HISPANIC/LATINO ART

In researching Hispanic or Latino Art, the largest array of links can be found at the University of Texas in LANIC: Art in Latin America (<http://lanic.utexas.edu/la/region/art/>). The site, devoted to Latin American studies, includes dozens of links to specific art sites in Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Columbia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, the United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela. In addition, numerous links can be found under the sections on journals and publications, regional resources, and international resources. This is the closest thing to an encyclopedic list.

The next best site is probably Latin Art.Com ([www.latinart.com/index.cfm](http://www.latinart.com/index.cfm)). It has slick graphics and intricate search capabilities. In looking for individual works by artists and specific museums, this might be the quickest and easiest place to find them.

Florida State University's Hispanic Art Links ([www.fsu.edu/~modlang/sp-cai/coursesite/ArtLinks.htm](http://www.fsu.edu/~modlang/sp-cai/coursesite/ArtLinks.htm)) had a few different sites not found in LANIC. The site is divided into two major areas: "Artists" and "Museums, Galleries and Other Online Collections." Artists is further divided into 16th Century Spanish, 17th Century Spanish, 18th Century Spanish, 20th Century Spanish, and 20th Century Latin American. There is a curious gap for nineteenth-century artists. The Museums, Galleries, and Other Online Collections section is further divided into specific countries: Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, Spain, the United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela. Several countries are missing, though its contribution is

stronger for individual artists than LANIC.

## CHICANO ART

I had a hard time finding a single site for Chicano(a) art in the United States. A basic site with links worth exploring is the University of Arizona's Chicana/Chicano Art ([www.library.arizona.edu/users/juarezm/Chicana\\_Chicano\\_ART.html](http://www.library.arizona.edu/users/juarezm/Chicana_Chicano_ART.html)). The categories on the site are Historical Timeline, Papers and Archival Collections on Chicana/o Art, Chicana/Chicano Art Centers and Resources, Important Exhibits on Chicana/Chicano Art, Chicana/Chicano Artists, and Bibliography.

## NATIVE AMERICAN ART

Native American art resources are well covered on the Internet. In the order of my rankings there are three good sites with multiple listings: NativeWeb Resources Art ([www.nativeweb.org/resources/art/](http://www.nativeweb.org/resources/art/)), NativeTech: Native American Technology and Art ([www.nativetech.org/links/index.php](http://www.nativetech.org/links/index.php)), and Native American Resources Art ([www.cowboy.net/native/](http://www.cowboy.net/native/)).

## ASIAN ART

An Asian art megasite is Chris Witcombe's Art History Resources on the Web, mentioned earlier. The Asian Art section has a depth of coverage and is subdivided into general Asian art as well as by the following countries: Afghanistan, Burma/Myanmar, Cambodia, China, India, Indus Valley, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, Tibet, and Vietnam. The general section is further organized by East Asian art, South Asian art, West Asian art, and Southeast Asian art.

Another site linked with substantial content is Asian Arts: The Online Journal for the Study and Exhibition of the Arts of Asia ([www.asianart.com/index.html](http://www.asianart.com/index.html)). It is broken down by associations, exhibitions, articles, galleries, forum, calendar of events, links, and books. The nice thing about the site is that the links are very selective and the site's graphics are of high quality.


Two lesser sites of interest include National Heritage Board's Asian Civilizations Museum ([www.nhb.gov.sg/ACM/permanent\\_collections](http://www.nhb.gov.sg/ACM/permanent_collections)), which includes sections for East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, and West Asia; and Pacific Asian Art Resources ([www.geocities.com/Athens/Acropolis/6961/pa\\_pg1.htm](http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Acropolis/6961/pa_pg1.htm)), which has a handful of links that pertain to the genre.

## INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS

The best single site for finding a specific multicultural artist is John Malyon's Artcyclopedia: Explore 125,000 Great Works of Art ([www.artcyclopedia.com/](http://www.artcyclopedia.com/)). It can be searched by artists by name, artworks by title, and art museums. There are over 8,000 artists listed. I was a bit disappointed when searching for Dean Mitchell, a noted contemporary African-American artist, since nothing could be found. John Biggers, another African-American artist,

fared much better, as did Betye Saar and her two daughters Alison Saar and Lezley Saar. One can browse also by name alphabetically, movement, medium, subject, nationality, and women artists. The site is particularly strong on identifying women artists. Another strong area is specific art movements (not necessarily multicultural) with their numerous links and content, such as Abstract Expressionism, Byzantine Art, Contemporary Realism, Cubism, Dada, the Harlem Renaissance, the Hudson River School, Impressionism, Magic Realism, Orientalism, Photorealism, Pop Art, Regionalism, the Renaissance, Romanticism, Realism, Surrealism, Symbolism, Ukiyo-e Printmaking, Western Art, and Wildlife Art.

Integrating art into the classroom can be not only visually

stimulating but also a fun and creative intellectual activity. The sites I have mentioned will get you started in finding objects and concepts that can motivate multicultural discussion across the curriculum. Exploring these sites will help to increase both students' and teachers' cultural awareness. 

**Frank Alan Bruno** is director of libraries at Prairie View A&M University near Houston, Texas, and the Internet/Products subject editor of MultiCultural Review; e-mail: [fbruno@tamu.edu](mailto:fbruno@tamu.edu).

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