



Using Electronic Portfolios in Language Arts

Dr. Alice Christie

What Are Electronic Portfolios?

- Concise, annotated collections of student work
- Meaningful documentation of students' abilities
- Focus on students' reflections on their own work.
- Records of learning, growth, and change

What Are Electronic Portfolios?

- Exemplars/Artifacts organized around standards
- Reflection of growth toward these standards
- Focused goals for future growth based on:
 - past performances
 - current strengths (detailed by the artifacts)

Artifact

- All student work submitted to the portfolio, regardless of the many forms it may take, is commonly referred to as an "artifact".
- An artifact is "portfolio worthy" when it:
 - has clear connections to skills or performance objectives that are aligned with Standards or Curricular Goals
 - exhibits clear evidence of an "intellectual stretch"

What Are Electronic Portfolios?

- NOT a collection of artifacts haphazardly connected together in a multimedia program or document
- RATHER, a collection of artifacts with **reflections**
- Reflections provide all audiences (self, professor, mentor, teacher, student, administrator, professional developer, and/or licensure board) with a deep understanding of the creator's growth.

Different Types of Portfolios

- Developmental Portfolios
- Showcase Portfolios
- Employment Skills Portfolios
- College Admission Portfolios

Developmental Portfolios

- CONTENTS:
 - Samples of student work along with self-evaluations
 - Documentation for student evaluations and parent conferences.
- PURPOSE:
 - Documents student changes in writing or reading throughout the school year

Showcase Portfolio

- Documents a student's best work during an entire educational career
- Represents a student's skills and abilities
- Includes any of the following:

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| research papers | creative writing |
| art work | multimedia creations |
| informational writing | audio recordings |

Employment Skills Portfolios

- Businesses increasingly interested in viewing portfolios to evaluate prospective employee's work readiness skills
- Portfolios provide more comprehensive, multi-dimensional picture of applicants

College Admission Portfolios

- Colleges and universities are using showcase portfolios to determine eligibility for admission.
- By requiring portfolios from prospective students, college or university admissions officers are better able to assess applicants' potential for success at their institutions

Possible Artifacts for Portfolios

- Text
- Student writing or art samples
- Scanned or digital photos
- Video or sound clips
- Animations
- Recordings of students

Possible Artifacts of Portfolios

- A photo, name, and grade of the student
- A sample creative art work
- A paper that demonstrates student writing

Mandatory Components

- A table of contents
- Self-reflection on the entry
- Teacher-reflection on the entry

Advantages

- Students' ownership and control of their own learning
- Motivation to produce high quality work
- Public, "benchmark" performance
- Opportunity for feedback to teachers and students
- A concrete basis for discussion

More Advantages

- Multimedia format (no longer just text)
- Easily upgraded and organized
- Components easily cross-referenced via hyperlinks

Disadvantages

- Time for staff development for classroom teachers
- Access to multimedia computers
- Access to peripherals such as digital cameras, camcorders, or scanners

Steps in Creating Electronic Portfolios

Make decisions on:

- Areas of assessment
- Assessment measures
- Portfolio content
- Portfolio organization
- Decision-making process on what is included in the portfolio
- Software and hardware to be used



Electronic Portfolios Tools

- Laptop with speakers and microphone
- Digital camera and scanner
- Appropriate Software (GLUE):
 - *Glogster*
 - *Share*
 - *PowerPoint*
 - Wiki
 - Blog

Examples

- [Students of Susan Silverman](#)
- Showcase Portfolio
 - [Alice Christie](#)
 - [Kevin S. Kottkey](#)
- Professional Portfolios
 - [Dana Stairs](#)
 - [James Scott](#)
 - [Ann Dickson](#)
 - [Laurie Phillips](#)
 - [Helen Barrett](#) (Google Docs)
 - [Kevin McIntyre](#)

Examples

- Student Portfolios
 - Electronic Portfolios from [Discovery Middle School](#)
 - [Joe Pickering](#) (Blog)
 - [Anna Lea](#) (Web Site)
 - [Lana](#) (Web Site)
 - [Anneka](#) (Web Site)
 - [Jane Smith](#) (Commercial Tool)

Tools

- [Web 2.0 Tools for E-Folios](#)
- New Collection
 - [Collection](#)

Contact Dr. Alice Christie

<http://www.alicechristie.org>

alice.christie@asu.edu