



“Early Carolina Morning”  
Romare Bearden

ART NEWS  
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# ART NEWS

## The Teaching Prism: What it means to be a good teacher—

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Last Spring, while at the NAEA Conference, I purchased a book titled *Through the Prism*. The book primarily looks at the writings of art educator Dr. Enid Zimmerman. For the most part, areas of the book are quite boring. But there are a few sections I really found value in.

One of those I’d like to share seems very appropriate for the beginning of the school year and I hope you will find it useful. In a section titled “The Teaching Prism”, Dr. Zimmerman shares a few principles that modeled being a good teacher:

1. **Enjoy your teaching—** The fact that you know your subject is not enough to make you a great teacher. Enjoying what you do and the joy in the “act of teaching” makes the difference. A teacher’s enthusiasm can spark motivation in students.

2. **Be fair and consistent—** Know your students. What words and actions that might work in one situation may not work in another. Double standards and actions that conflict with expectations will damage the relationship with students creating mistrust and, eventually a lack of motivation in the student.

3. **Continue to learn about teaching—** Some teachers model how their own teachers taught them. Some are intuitive and find success. Others learn by observing fellow teachers, are reflective about what they see, reflect on their own teaching practices, and evaluate themselves often. Successful teachers also participate in Professional Development and are lifetime learners, seeing these as opportunities to grow.

4. **Inspire your students to love learning—** Successful teachers love the act of learning and instill this love in their students. They find ways to include the students in the process, allowing them to ask questions, investigate and actively participate. Such learning may require a new approach to teaching the curriculum, or designing the curriculum to reflect a more “open-ended content”.

Are these fail-safe principles? Maybe not. But a teacher who loves what he/she does, treats students fairly, engages the students daily and continues to learn him/herself is well on the way to being successful!

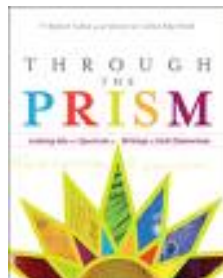
*Jack E. Matthews*

District Specialist,  
Visual Arts

For more on this subject or a copy of the section “Teaching Prism” contact the Art Office at 390-2677

### Dates to Remember

- September 7—Labor Day Schools/Admin Office Closed
- September 9—Early Dismissal
- September 19—“Empty Bowls” Wkshp Art Lab 9:00-4:00
- September 23—Early Dismissal
- October 7—Early Dismissal “Empty Bowls” Wkshp cont. 2:30-5:30
- October 15-17—FAEA Conference Orlando
- October 21—Quilt Projects due Art Lab 2:00-5:00
- October 26—Planning Day Location: TBD
- DATA FALL SHOW—School Board Building Date: TBD



### NEWSLETTER ON LINE!!!

Beginning this month, ART NEWS will be coming to you via email. A limited number of hard copies will be available. Additionally, you will be able to look at archived newsletters (beginning with 08-09) by going to:

<http://www.duvalschools.org/static/aboutdcps/departments/acadprog/art/ARTNews.asp>



## Coming Together: The Subject Area Meeting—

Over 170 art teachers, museum partners, higher education representatives, and friends of the arts came together at the Cummer Museum on August 19 for the annual Subject Area Meeting. This particular day is set aside to share the many things that will happen during the school year, update teachers in regards to new procedures, and give teachers the opportunity to commune with fellow teachers of the Visual Arts.

New and exciting developments at the Cummer and MOCA-Jax were shared by **Hope McMath, Susan Gallo, and Cathy Fitzpatrick. Dr.**

**Debra Murphy Livingston** shared news about the new relationship between UNF and MOCA-Jax. **Martha McManus** from the Cultural Council reminded teachers to utilize the “Art in Public Places” programs/kits housed at each elementary school.

Efforts were made to make art teachers aware of issues and new practices at the elementary level as well as new and exciting ways to communicate through the new website for Duval Art Teachers. High School art teachers of AP were given a chance to begin discussions on how to help each other

in order to provide the highest level of service to our students. **Hillary Hogue** will spearhead future discussions. Our Artist in Residence, **Joi Hosker** shared with teachers the successes from last year’s program and accepted sign ups for this year’s sessions.

Teachers came together in the afternoon to briefly look at feeder patterns in our school system. Teachers will delve into this further during the year as continued communication takes place in order for teachers to fully understand the clients they all share and to look at the gaps created at varying levels.



Tony Sznakowski  
Andrew Robinson Elementary  
“Jacksonville Skyline”

## “Painterly Palettes” Raffle to help Scholarships—

For the second year, the Duval Art Teachers Association will hold a raffle for art palettes created by artists and art educators from Duval County and around the State. The raffle tickets are \$1.00 each or 25 for \$20.00 and can be purchased from almost any art teacher in the system or directly from the District Art Office. All funds will go to support

the **Leslie Beddard Foundation** which has provided over \$20,000 in scholarships so far. DATA will sell tickets up until the drawing set for January 22, 2010.

For more information, contact Jack Matthews at 390-2677.

Bill Ritzi

Ft. Lauderdale Institute of Art  
“Persistent Palm”



## FAEA Conference: FOCUS Your Attention on Attending!

The 2009 FAEA Conference will provide an outstanding opportunity to learn the most recent techniques and research proven strategies for improving student learning in various areas through art classes.

The Annual Conference will include workshops, guest speakers, timely research findings, advocacy information, networking events, commercial exhibits, and the opportunity to go home with strategies you can use immediately in your workplace.

Guest speakers at the General Sessions will be noted artists **Jerry Uelsmann** and **Maggie Taylor** plus Florida artist and art educator **Ray Azcuay**.

Want to go? Find ways that you can cut costs: Drive down with one or more people, share a room (guys, don’t get hung up about this!), go to many of the free special interest sessions that are so fantastic! Can only miss one day of school? Drive in early Friday morning, attend

the great sessions on Friday, spend the evening, then go to all of the Saturday workshops. Everything closes by Saturday at 4:00 so you will be home in plenty of time before the sun sets.

Do this for yourself. No one can fully appreciate the experience until they have attended one of these conferences. You will be so glad you did!

## “EMPTY BOWLS” WORKSHOP Approaching—

Mark your calendar to attend an all-day workshop to create a bowl for the annual “Empty Bowls” Luncheon. Many of you are working with your students to create bowls for this event. This particular workshop will give you the ability to explore ways to be inventive with clay, but it will also provide YOU the opportunity to create your OWN bowl for the silent auction. Last year, we had many wonderful bowls donated by DCPS art teachers.

The day will begin at 9:00 at the Art Lab (2924 Knights Lane East). Some breakfast treats will be available along with a pot of coffee! Our goal will be to make at least one fantastic bowl. On the Early Dismissal Day, October 7, teachers will come back for the follow up, cleaning up their creations and glazing them.

Coming for both sessions will give participants 9 professional development points. Register on the Schultz Site or contact Jack Matthews at 390-2677 or email: [matthewsj@duvalschools.org](mailto:matthewsj@duvalschools.org)



## Art Teacher Breaks Down Language Barriers—

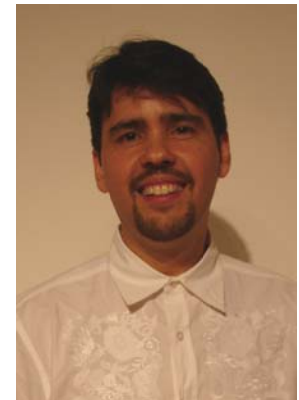
This summer, a very special camp took place through a collaboration of efforts between the Duval County Public School System and Lutheran Social Services. The “Summertime Express Camp” was created for refugee children and used the fundamental belief that art is the universal language. Making that belief come to fruition was art teacher **Moises Ramos** (Arlington Elementary). He worked with nearly 80 students ages 8 to 18 who represented countries all over the world. An exhibit showcasing the ex-

perience was on display through the month of August at LSS’s headquarters on Phillips Highway.

The exhibit featured photographs the students took as they ventured out into neighborhoods, went on field trips, and basically explored what it meant to be in America. The theme of the exhibition became known as “America Through My Eyes”, featuring examples of life in America such as friendship and the freedom to travel and explore, or such

icons as an American made motorcycle.

Teaching students of other languages is nothing new to Moises as a wide variety of countries and languages are represented in the student body at Arlington Elementary. Coming from another country himself, he easily identifies with the struggles they encounter in new surroundings and the need to learn a language different from their own. We applaud Moises Ramos for his ability to enrich these young lives!



Moises Ramos

## SPOTLIGHT on Art Educators—NEW HIRES!

In a time when we feared the loss of 30% of our elementary art teachers and a number of our secondary art teachers, we have been pleasantly surprised to bring on many new faces. With that said, we lost a few older ones and not so old along the way due to retirement and family occupational transfers:

We said “good-bye” to **Nancy Munn, Oscar Walker, Nancy Ratnour, and Jessica Hassid** prior to the end of last school year. This summer, a number of teachers decided to either move

back to their home state, begin graduate school, take positions in other counties, or begin new careers in other fields. We say “good-bye” and “good luck” to **Olivia Haws, Jennifer Burkhalter, Aisling Millar, Hallie Spooner, Debra Hodges, Tracy Reed, and Alison Isabelle.**

We now say “welcome aboard!” to **Peggy Hayden, Ed Sauk, Jennifer Herig, Elizabeth Miron, Jaymie Hedman, Sunni Grogan, Christine Crapo, Joel Beaman, Megan**

**Williams, Desiree Wolfanger and Amy Sartin.**

We also say “welcome back” to **Megan Shelley, Lina Bales, Debra Buttner, Claudia Blackwell, and Pam Patterson.**

With so many new faces, it will be very important that we have good mentorship and communication within the various divisions (elementary, middle, and high). I hope each of you will do your part to assist these teachers as we come together or when you might be called upon for assistance.



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“Creativity is a type of learning process where the teacher and pupil are located in the same individual.”

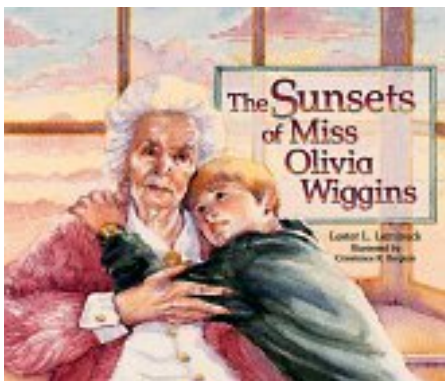
- Arthur Koestler

“We cannot hold a torch to light another’s path without brightening our own.”

- Ben Sweetland

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## September Book of the Month: Jax Fair Quilt Project



At the August Principals’ meeting, elementary principals were introduced to the book selected for September, *The Sunsets of Miss Olivia Wiggins*. It is a poignant story of a young boy and his great-grandmother whom he visits on a regular basis. Miss Wiggins is not able to communicate to the child verbally, but in her mind, she remembers all the important moments of her life: her marriage, the birth of her child, and so much more. The story helps to instill in our children the importance of relationships; particularly that of our youth and elderly.

This year’s September Book of the Month will give art teachers an incredible opportunity to work with students as they create a phenomenal quilt for the annual Jacksonville Fair Quilt Competition. Once again, the Fair Organization will make available \$2,000 in awards. Quilts will be judged in two categories: the Jurors’ Award and the Community

Award. Prizes of up to \$500 will be presented. A school could just as easily win in two categories and receive as much as \$1,000!

Guidelines, release forms, and the rubric for judging will be emailed to all art teachers. Each school should have received 5 copies of the book. The District Art Department has requested that one of the books be given to the art teacher in order to work on the project with students.

All quilts must be turned in to the District Art Department on **Wednesday, October 21** (Early Dismissal Day) between the hours of 2:00 and 5:00. Entry form must be securely attached to the back of each quilt. One quilt per school only.

For further information, contact:

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