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Collaborative Tape Art:

Facilitating Creative Artmaking Experiences

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Join the world-renowned Tape Art Crew and the group's creative collaborators as they share techniques for facilitating successful collaborative artmaking experiences in a variety of contexts. Take an inside look at one of the Tape Art Crew's most successful and ongoing partnerships with the Art All-State program in Massachusetts—and dive into the components of strong collaborations, community building, creative problem solving, contemporary themes, narrative building, and assessment. With over 30 years of experience creating collaborative public artworks, Tape Art Crew should not be missed! Discover working with tape as an art medium and learn why it is ideal for creating large-scale collaborative artwork both in and outside the art classroom.

Please note that participation in this webcast does not provide NAEA professional development credit.

Presenters:



Kristi Oliver

Kristi Oliver is currently the professional development manager for Davis Publications, a company committed to helping art educators since 1901. Drawing from over 15 years of teaching experience in both high school and university settings, Kristi aims to assist communities in providing high-quality art education experiences for everyone. She earned a PhD in educational studies from Lesley University, where her research explored the perspectives of high school photography teachers regarding visual literacy. Her research interests include visual literacy, 21st-century art education, contemporary photography, slow pedagogy, contemplative practice, and the creative process. Kristi was awarded the Massachusetts Art Educator of the Year and the Secondary Art Educator of the Year. Additionally, she was honored as an Outstanding Arts Advocate in Art Education by Arts|Learning, an organization that promotes arts education. She served as the president of the Massachusetts Art Education Association (MAEA), an affiliate of the National Art Education Association (NAEA) and serves on the NAEA Research Commission. Kristi is the program director for Art All-State Massachusetts, a program that brings together professional artists and high school juniors for an intense collaborative artmaking experience.



Michael Townsend

Since the first tape art drawing in 1989, Michael Townsend's work has focused on making colossal temporary public art works and teaching tape art collaborative drawing to groups in schools, senior citizen centers, prisons, and public spaces. As someone deeply interested in discovering ways for art to serve others, Michael has created more than 1,000 murals in health care facilities and in communities affected by tragedy. He initiated healing art projects as part of the relief efforts in Oklahoma City in the aftermath of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building bombing, memorial portraits of those who lost their lives at the World Trade Center in Manhattan, and collaborative murals in Fukushima, Japan.

Raised in a Marine Corps family, Michael grew up traveling across the United States, a precursor to later travels. In the last 25 years, he has driven more than a million miles from coast to coast, drawing and teaching along the way. He has spearheaded more than 500 public art projects nationally, as well as in Greece, Germany, China, and Japan. To expand the possibilities of tape as a drawing medium, he developed a drawing tape uniquely suited to the purpose. In addition to tape art, Michael's interests vary from collaborative dance and film projects to secret underground installations and sculpture. He holds a BFA in printmaking and an MFA in art education from the Rhode Island School of Design.



Leah Smith

Leah Smith plays well with others. Since graduating from Wheaton College with an English major and fine arts minor, she has found herself at home on many collaborative art projects, from a weird ongoing dance video series called DanceyTown, to a 144-hour-long time installation project exploring the mechanics of memory in relationships. Her longest running collaboration has been with Michael Townsend and the Tape Art Crew, and she has been throwing down massive tape murals since 2011. Along with all the tape wrangling, she helped design and facilitate countless tape art workshops and has worked in school and education settings for more than five years. Her favorite place to tape is on the streets of Hong Kong and Tokyo, where the passersby don't hesitate to get in really close to appreciate all the details.