

Press Release



Battle Ground Public Schools

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Online art museum honors Pleasant Valley Primary

Pleasant Valley Primary School in the Battle Ground district ranked fifth in Washington last school year for “outstanding leadership in arts education” by Artsonia, an international online art museum.

The award for the 2010-2011 school year went to Barbara Holterman, the school’s art teacher, for going “beyond the classroom walls to encourage family and community involvement in arts education,” Artsonia said in its announcement. “The award also recognizes significant achievement in the area of technology integration within the school arts program.”

Artsonia, founded in 2000 and based in Gurnee, Ill., describes itself as “the world’s largest online kid’s art museum.”

The rankings are based on several quantitative factors, including total number of artworks posted online, online comments about the school’s postings, artists’ statements and fan clubs.

Holterman said, “It is my desire for my students to do their best work every day. Since implementing Artsonia I’ve seen improvement in craftsmanship as students take greater pride in their work knowing it will be published online. My ultimate goal is that pride in ownership transfers to every aspect of their life. Another wonderful aspect of Artsonia is that all students have their own electronic portfolio that is updated yearly, keeping a record of their growth over time.”

A second Battle Ground school is about to join the Artsonia family. Linda Peterson at Chief Umtuch Middle School, said, “We are very excited about

the young artists sharing their art works with family, community and young artists around the world.”

The Artsonia Web address is www.artsonia.com. To go directly to the Washington state rankings for elementary schools in 2010-11, paste the following Web address in a browser’s Web-address window:

<http://www.artsonia.com/schools/rankings.asp?seg=0&cat=&country=98&state=274&year=2010&school=77963>

Then, too see art work posted by Pleasant Valley Primary students last year, click on the school name and then on “View past exhibits.”

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