

E.S.U. # 9 N.A.T.A. Report

E.S.U. #9 professional development staff, have been very busy with art happenings for it's area schools art instructors and students.

Educational Service Unit No. 9 will be having a reception honoring all the students whose artwork was accepted into their biannual Student Art Show. Every two years ESU 9 sends out requests to it's area schools for student artwork. If the student's artwork is accepted, it will be matted and framed and then hung around the unit's building for two years. After two years it will be given back to the student, frame and all, and the process begins again. What a venue and program to showcase student artwork!

Another service the professional development team provides for the area art instructors is an "Art Cadre" every semester, where the art teachers get together for curriculum development or bringing in an artist to share their talent to the art teachers and several of their students. This coming week, Phil Herrmann, Doniphan-Trumbull's visual art specialist will bring his two high school classes to the ESU No.9 Fall Art Cadre to teach their "Circle Art Project" to area art instructors and several of their art students. The project was inspired by the "Circle Project" co-founders Patti Digh (author of "Life Is A Verb") and David Robinson. Patti is from North Carolina and David is from Seattle, WA area. The following is an excerpt from Patti and David's website-The Circle Project: **"We are transforming K-12 and teacher education** by addressing the challenges facing our schools at the level of *system* and not just at the level of *symptom*. We work with students, classroom teachers, and school administrators to create learning mindsets where creativity can flourish". An art project was developed and designed around the Circle Project mindset techniques. It is a collage multi media process. The important thing about the learning process that takes place is that it's more about the learning process than the end result! (product). Phil's students have worked on the development of teaching the project to their peers and area art teachers.

Also congratulations to our very own ESU No. 9 director of development, Lisa Smith as this years N.A.T.A "Prism" award winner.

Phil Herrmann