MAKING CONNECTIONS

Presentation Description: One of the difficulties of any Academy is staying connected with alumni, parents, students, and business partners. The Academy of Creative Technologies has created an online network to showcase student work, discuss Academy issues, provide an online meeting place, and remain in contact with students, through a free service, ning.com.

The**Academy**of**Creative**Technologies
www.projectact.ning.com
welcome to the projects...

WHO ARE WE?

• established in 1997

• career focus: Arts, Media, and Entertainment

• primarily in the Graphic Arts; Graphic Design, Print Graphics, Web Design, Photography, and Video Production

The Academy of Creative Technologies
www.projectact.ning.com
welcome to the projects...

THE EARLY DAYS

Communication

- Traditional Mail
- Email
- Website

The Academy of Creative Technologies
www.projectact.ning.com
welcome to the projects...
academy of creative technologies

DRAWBACKS

Traditional Mail

- easily ignored
- no way of insuring reception

Email

- not as common at that time
- many members had NO email

TheAcademyofCreativeTechnologies
www.projectact.ning.com
welcome to the projects...

DRAWBACKS

Website

- posted basic information
- student designed
- teacher upload and update
- no feedback

The Academy of Creative Technologies
www.projectact.ning.com
welcome to the projects...

2002-2003

Projectslacker.com

- created by two juniors
- Tim Eason
- Ryan Huddleston

SLACKER GOALS

- something similar to http://www.deviantart.com

- membership

    - keep track of people in one location.

- members can upload their own work

- members can comment on each others work

TheAcademyofCreativeTechnologies
www.projectact.ning.com
welcome to the projects...

SLACKER GOALS

- ability to mass email all members or individual groups

- ability to private message all members or individual groups

The Academy of Creative Technologies
www.projectact.ning.com
welcome to the projects...

BENEFITS

- strong student presence
    - they upload their own work
    - they comment on each others work

BENEFITS

• great location for submitting projects

• teacher feedback

• virtual blackboard with assignment list and due dates

TheAcademyofCreativeTechnologies
www.projectact.ning.com
welcome to the projects...

DRAWBACKS

- structure was linear
(ex.
http://conceptart.org/forums/showthread.php?t=1 43526)
  - difficult to comment on specific piece
  - calendaring?
  - cumbersome to navigate through
  - site activity hard to monitor

The Academy of Creative Technologies
www.projectact.ning.com
welcome to the projects...

FALL 2009

- IT @ the D.O. suggested http://www.ning.com (a social networking site)

- closer in nature to myspace or facebook

BENEFITS

- it's FREE!!! (…with ads, of course)

    - but, for networks used as classroom supplements for children 13-18 they will remove the ads for you!

- the creator has COMPLETE control

- highly customizable through CSS (cascading style sheets)

BENEFITS

- members can customize comments with basic html

- eliminates email lists by creating a space for people to connect

- a central location that will share to myspace, facebook, twitter, etc.

The Academy of Creative Technologies
www.projectact.ning.com
welcome to the projects...

BENEFITS

- simple integration with youtube and flickr
- upload almost ANY image format
- upload almost ANY video format
- view posts as threaded or linear
- simple registration process

The Academy of Creative Technologies
www.projectact.ning.com
welcome to the projects...

BENEFITS

- the creator accepts or denies applicants

- communicate with members via private message or email

- one-stop-shop for classroom, schoolwide, and alumni networks for people to stay in touch and exchange ideas

THIS IS HOW WE DO…

http://www.projectact.ning.com