Report of

THE ART TEACHERS CONNECT

“ART TEACHER OF INFLUENCE”

HELD AT THE NIGERIA FRENCH LANGUAGE VILLAGE, BADAGRY, LAGOS STATE.
BETWEEN WEDNESDAY 19th AND SATURDAY 22nd, DECEMBER, 2012

POWERED BY

ART SCOUT
INTRODUCTION

Academic is about teaching and research, the ART TEACHERS CONNECT summit was designed to provide a learning adventure for Art teachers to discover new style, concept and media in Art theory and practice. It was an Art teacher developmental training programme in a serene environment that encourages and stimulate creative conversation and ideas which was tend towards improving the quality of Art education in Nigeria, also transform the Art teachers to increase their capacity and position them as change agents in their local communities.

The ART TEACHERS CONNECT summit was meant to expose the art teachers to new concept and ideas, sharpen their skills and improve on their artistic practice and teaching with the aim of encouraging art participation and enrolment in Nigerian schools. It is an exchange platform for art teachers to interact with practicing professionals in the field of art and to share ideas, new artistic techniques, media and styles.

Art retreat allows the time for dialogue, exploration, discoveries, and creates connections that contribute to the future. We draw inspiration from one another as we convene in an exclusive environment that encourages and stimulate creative conversation and exchange of ideas. The ART TEACHERS CONNECT summit held at the Nigeria French Language Village in Badagry between Wednesday 19th and Saturday 22nd December, 2012 helped to re-awake, resonate, and ignite the passion and enthusiasm in Art teaching profession and equipping the art teachers with skills and information to make indelible influence on their students, in their local communities and the society at large.

The ART TEACHERS CONNECT summit helped to equip the Art teachers that participated in series of Art workshops, artistic engagements, and tours to Connect-Relate-Share-Create-Exhibit with aim of preserving and securing the future through Art. The theme was ART TEACHER OF INFLUENCE (Competence + Character + Connection = Influence). The registration was made FREE for all participants.

The ART TEACHERS CONNECT summit indeed exposed the Art teachers to a broad range of artistic expression, new concept and techniques, and information that may help in nurturing and unlocking the children's potentials.

ART SCOUT is committed to the support of Art Education for its benefits of social, economic, and environmental sustainability. The essence of packaging an ART conference for Art teachers who are major play maker in child’s education and talent development was to effect improvement in
child’s education and talent development in Nigerian schools and the society at large.

Teaching diverse media and new concept and styles, the art teacher needs to be versatile and remain relevance with the trends and changes in art theory and practice; hence the essence of having an ART TEACHERS CONNECT for the Art teachers. Art teachers are expected to spur students to unlock their creativity and guide them into diverse exploration.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT
The ART TEACHERS CONNECT was packaged to expose the art teachers to new concept and ideas, sharpen their skills and improve on their artistic practice and teaching with the aim of encouraging art participation and enrolment in Nigerian schools. It was an exchange platform for art teachers to interact with practicing professionals in the field of art and to share ideas, new artistic techniques, media and styles. The objectives are further stated below:

• To provide a platform to engage the art teachers in the studio practice which will be geared towards sharpening their skills and artistic proficiency.

• To expose the art teachers to new concept and ideas, and to inspire a cross fertilization of themes and working practices.

• To position the art a teacher as a porter that helps to give forms to the kid’s potentials and encourages them to express their own vision.

• To register in the consciousness of the populace the importance and efficacy of art education to the society at large.

• To brainstorm on ideas and practice that is key to current development in the field of art practice and training.

• To challenge the status quo and set a new form of reasoning so as to meet up with the dynamic changes in the educational system this 21st century.

• To expose the art tutors to a broad range of artistic expressions and cultural expression for effectiveness and efficiency in the coming session.
Here is the account of events and activities has taken place at the ART TEACHERS CONNECT Summit at the NIGERIA FRENCH LANGUAGE VILLAGE, Badagry between Wednesday 19th through Saturday 22nd December, 2012.

**WEDNESDAY 19th DECEMBER, 2012.**

The registration commences by **2pm** which was the stipulated time for arrival. LET’S CONNECT, the opening session was anchored by Mr. Olusegun Adeniyi at 4pm. The session exposes the Art teachers to concept and essence of their gathering which was meant to Connect-Relate-Share-Create-Exhibit. The art teachers were made to share their experience and exchange of ideas. It was concluded with an artistic engagement called graffiti which was made by everyone contributing their own bit to achieve a composition.
THURSDAY 20th DECEMBER, 2012.

By **8:30am** we started the 1st session for the day which was drawing and paintings and exploration of other materials.
10:30 am we had a talk on “positive mental attitude” by Mr. Yemi Olomosua.
2pm we departed to the Badagry Heritage Museum.
3:30pm we were at the Whispering Palms where we had a great adventure touring and exploring the facilities and the coast line.
FRIDAY 21st DECEMBER, 2012.

By 8am we had breakfast together prepared by two of the participants, Mr. Bello and Mr. Thomas. It was a unique breakfast having to SHARE with one another...the Holy Manna.
After the breakfast, we had another creative session of drawing, painting and colour exploration.
11am we headed to the HEPHZIBAR HOME for an art project with the children at the home. The first was a cinema show titled: LIKE STARS ON EARTH.

LIKE STARS ON EARTH: A Bollywood movie which is by far the most sensitive and educational portrayal of childhood dyslexia. Eight-year-old Ishaan’s world is filled with wonders that no one else seems to appreciate. Adults are more interested in things like homework and marks. And Ishaan just can’t seem to get anything right in class. When he gets into more trouble than his parents can handle, he is packed off to boarding school to "be disciplined." New art teacher, Nikumbh, infects the students with joy and optimism and breaks all the rules of how things are done by asking them to think, dream and imagine. All the children respond with enthusiasm except Ishaan. Nikumbh soon realizes that something is wrong and sets out to discover why. With time, patience and care, he ultimately helps Ishaan find himself.
We also engaged the kids in the visual arts ranging from painting to mixed media, beads making etc. This session offers a practical platform for the art instructors to use art to effect social change, art as a springboard for therapy and empowerment with the children at the orphanage homes.
SATURDAY 22nd DECEMBER, 2012.

9am we had a session on “Marketing yourself and creating portfolio” by Miss. Ifeoma Anyaeji sharing with the art teachers useful information that will be of great benefit to them and their students.

Mr. Olusegun Adeniyi also dished out few lines on VIRTUAL VISIBILITY, Facebook as a tool for projecting the Art teachers’ classroom experience. He exposes them to information on art competitions available to students within and outside the country and IT skills to build virtual portfolio for their students to encourage art participation in schools.
Mr. Gandonu also shared briefly information on the GLOBAL CANVAS COMPETITION by David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation, an art competition for children.

**Award giving ceremony** (award of the MOST FASCINATING ART TEACHER). This is to celebrate the extraordinary Art teachers making incredible impacts in their local communities for the advancement of Art in Nigeria. Miss. Stella Igbokwe bagged the award of the Most Fascinating Art Teacher.
THANK YOU!

APPRECIATION

We thank God for the success. We will like to extend our profound gratitude to our host, the management of the Nigeria French Language Village and the participants for the success of the 2012 ART TEACHERS CONNECT. We appreciate Mr. Yemi olomoshua for his financial support, time, and for sharing with the participating art teachers from his wealth of experience. We also appreciate Miss Ifeoma Anyaeji, for being part of this project and for sharing with the art teachers. Last but not the least, to Mr. Offiong we say thank you.

...For MORE photos and updates of the ART TEACHERS CONNECT, please visit:

www.teachingvisualart.blogspot.com
**BRIEF PROFILE**

ART SCOUT engages in series of Art Project with the sole aim of nurturing the intrinsic talents of young ones through an ART EDUCATION platform as form of therapy and empowerment. The social enterprise is registered with CRBN Number 138906 under the Companies and Allied Matters Act of the Federal Government of Nigeria. Its projects are run by professional artists.

ART SCOUT is reputed for its wealth of proven expertise in conferences, exhibitions, painting workshops and the like. It is established with aim of promoting art from the grassroots level, by expanding the learning field of art, using child art as the major educational and communicative tool for socio-economic change.

We are committed to the cause of inspiring and championing the next generation of artists, creative individuals and art lovers. Our platforms build art awareness, sharpen basic art skill and ignite the creative energy in the young ones and put them on the path to reach their full potentials in life.

**ART SCOUT** mission is to bring continued resources and support to the advancement of art theory and practice in Nigeria.

Credence to our artistic engagement with the kids could be accessed on: www.artscoutafrica.blogspot.com

**RESOURCE PERSONS/FACILITATORS**

Miss Ifeoma Anyaeji, Lecturer, UNIBEN

Mr. Yemi Olomosua, DG’s office, FRENCH VILLAGE

Mr. Offiong Daniel, ART SCOUT

Mr. Olusegun Adeniyi, Art Director, ART SCOUT