

The Kojo Nnamdi Show
Tuesday, December 09, 2008
“Creativity and Technology for All”
Sample projects from KNS listeners:

Family “Mixtape” Project from Kim

A few years ago while cleaning out my mother's apartment after she had died I found a cassette tape. She had written "Songs I like On it". I found sources for these songs and created a CD for my siblings and my mother's grandchildren. I found kits at business stores that allowed me to create a professional looking CD with pics of my mother. The songs covered 50 years and we grew up with many of them. I searched high and low to find these songs in a digital format. I actually bought used vinyl LPs and recorded them onto my computer. I am sure I violated some copyrights laws. :) This project was amazing. I didn't tell my siblings what I was doing. When my sister received it she called me up in tears telling me it was the very best gift she had ever received.

Watercolor Project from Laurence

A few years ago, my wife and I stumbled across some amazing old photographs of her grandmother, from back in the 1940s. They were so stylish, and she was – for lack of a better description--- a “smoking babe” back then. We photocopied the images... blew them up... and painted over them with watercolors. We then framed the images. It was a fun and meaningful experience producing it, and she really loved it.

Painting Project for kids from Siobhan

We bought a ton of \$1 picture frames and paint/glitter, etc, and let the kids go wild. We then took school photos or other ones we have taken during the year and print them out on our color printer and put them into the frames. Perfect for the grandparents or aunts who live far away. We also get our kids to make wrapping paper by rolling out a big length of paper, and giving them water colors, brushes, stamps, and rollers - they love to paint - they put handprints, designs, color mixes, etc.

Childhood Album Project from Melitta

I make a photo montage of the year's events for each of my three children: they get about 3 pages each, with dates and a few details. Instead of a huge photo book, or photos which stay on the hard drive, they get just enough to remind them of the fun things they have done during the year. The first year I gave them a ring binder, and they add to that each year. My oldest daughter went to college this year, and her album was one of the things she took. Small enough, but complete.

Pregnancy Journal Project From Laura

I'm pregnant now and I've been keeping a journal in Word during the pregnancy. I include pictures, use various background colors and pics and use clip art. It's very colorful and the new Word actually has many functions that make this really fun. I love it! Once the baby is born, I am planning to take the file to Kinko's and have it printed in color and bound as a book.

Family Song Project From Jim

(caller) Jim is making a DVD of family songs for his grandchildren. It includes songs he sang to their parents, and songs his parents sang to him.

Time Capsule Project from Susan

My youngest use to ask me to take pictures of her sleeping. I took some at different ages, and now at 23 she gets the biggest kick out of looking at them. For fun you might want to add sleeping pictures to your time capsules--- see also Kit's Time Capsule Project

Kid photography / Time Capsule Project from Pam

My kids both have digital cameras and I thoroughly enjoy viewing what they have both choose to take and what angle they take it at. I've seen shots of my leg as I sit at the computer, my head and the back of my seat as I drive the family van, and the like...My kids have taken great collections of photos from weekend trips, etc of things in a room, items they played with, things that made impressions on them. The result has been a unique expression of their experience.

Maps/ Travel Project From Jon

My wife loves maps and we both like to travel. I had the idea to do some collage work with the old maps from our travels along with photos from those trips. I tried to print images out on trace paper to facilitate overlaying of images, but the thin paper got all garbled up in the printer. I wonder if you have any recommendations for printing on trace paper.