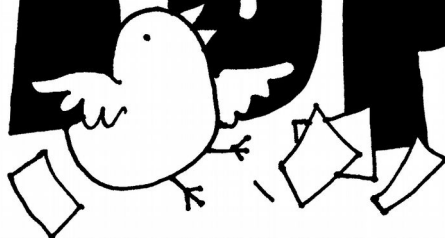
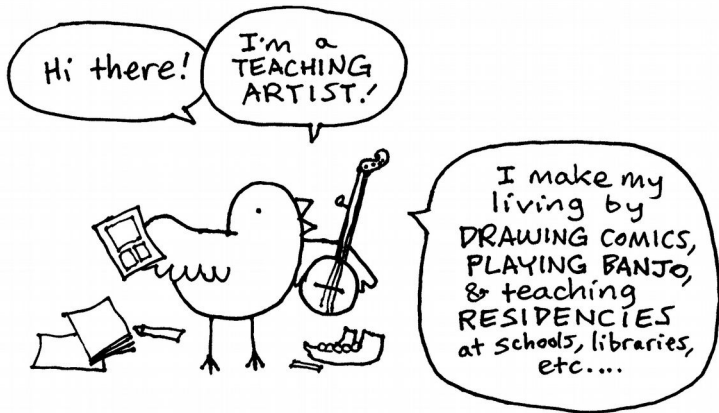


TEACHING
ARTIST
TOP 10
TIPS

A simple line drawing of a white bird with a beak, pointing its right wing towards the 'TOP 10 TIPS' text. There are several small, crumpled paper-like shapes scattered around the bird's feet.

by Marek Bennett



Hi there!

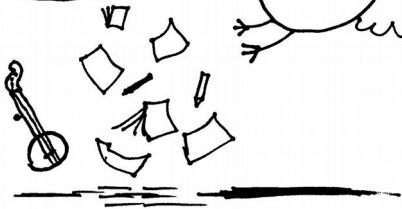
I'm a
TEACHING
ARTIST!

I make my
living by
DRAWING COMICS,
PLAYING BANJO,
& teaching
RESIDENCIES
at schools, libraries,
etc....

As far as I can tell, it's the WORLD'S GREATEST JOB.



Here are some TIPS I give myself on a regular basis:



10.

Use your website.

Work samples, project archives, documentation,
support materials, references, useful links...
Remember, a good website is the *start* of the
conversation, not the *end*!

What would
a RESIDENCY
with you look
like...?

What's your
latest
PROJECT?

WHY
ART?

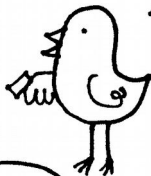
Check out
my website...

Where
can I
learn more
about your
MEDIUM?

How's your
SPRING SCHEDULE?

How do I reach you?

Who ARE
you?

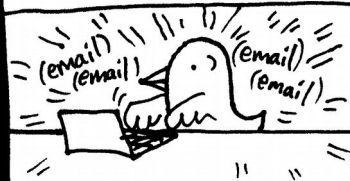


9.

Put it in writing.

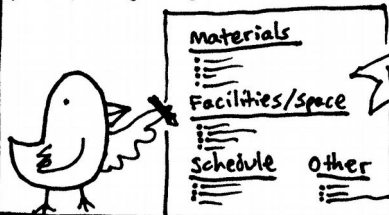
Create a written record of all your preparations and plans. Materials lists, ordering info, special facilities requirements... Whether it's email boilerplate or a prep page on your website, make sure your host has seen it AND approved it.

IF you find yourself saying
the same thing **MANY TIMES**...



it's probably an **IMPORTANT**
PART of your **PREP** and
PROMO materials...

SEND AHEAD A WRITTEN
LIST of your **EXPECTATIONS**



Always have a
BACKUP PLAN
just in case...



8.

Stay flexible.

Because you can always count on the unexpected.

We're done drawing our
COMIC BOOKS!



I'll go make
COPIES for
everyone!



uh-oh.



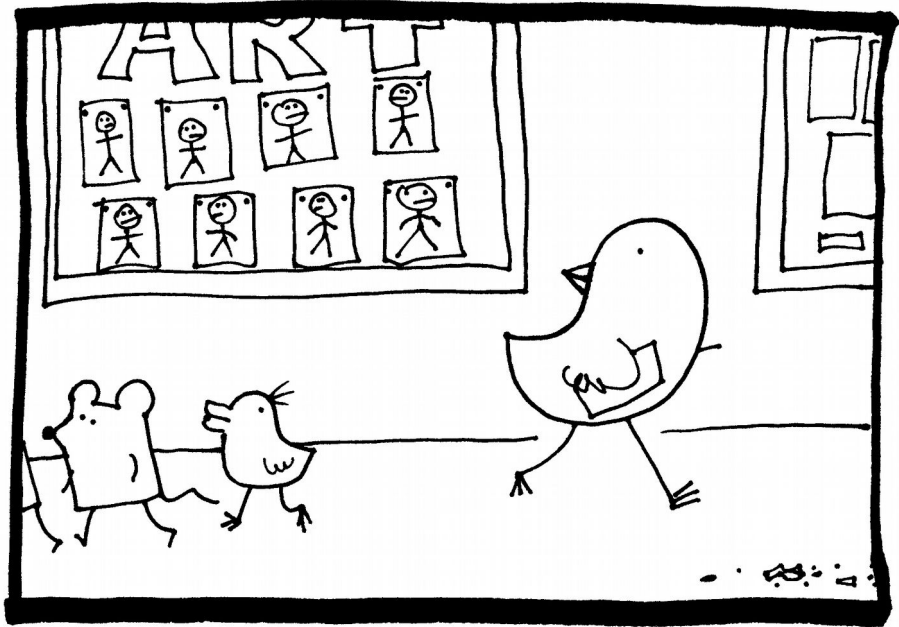
READERS' THEATRE!



7.

Look around.

What do you notice in the classrooms, hallways, offices, sidewalks, &c.? You can learn a lot about an environment (and its local cultures) just by keeping your eyes & ears open...



6.

Ask the teachers.

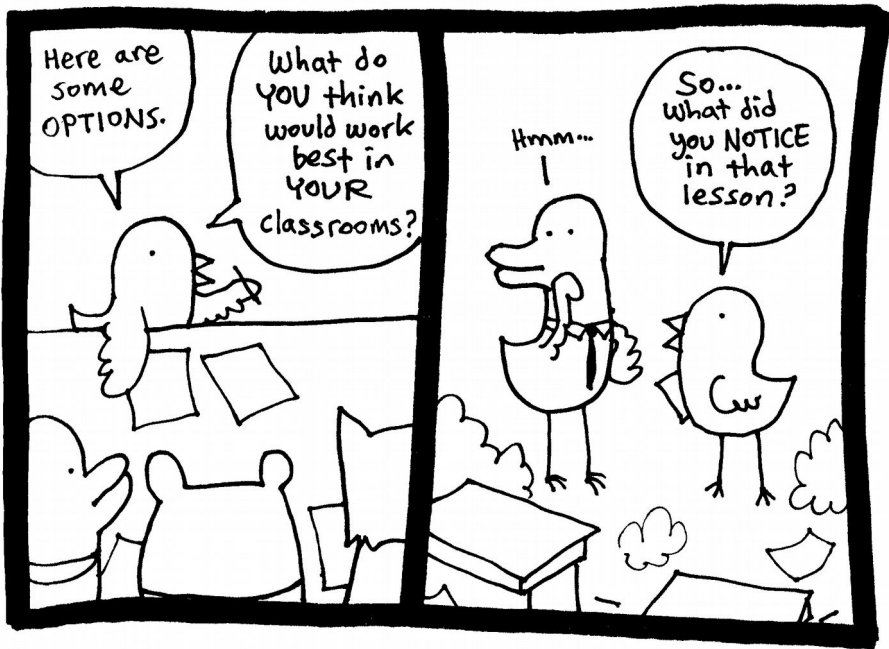
They work here 180+ days of the school year; they know the students, the staff, the schedule, the space...

Here are
some
OPTIONS.

What do
YOU think
would work
best in
YOUR
classrooms?

Hmm...

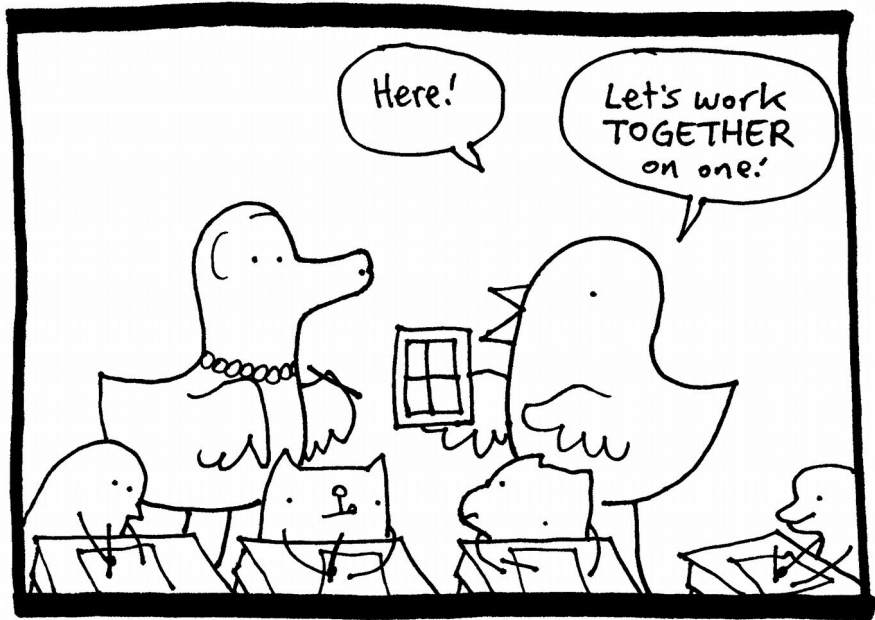
So...
What did
you NOTICE
in that
lesson?



5.

Encourage teacher participation.

Because sometimes we all need an excuse to try something new.



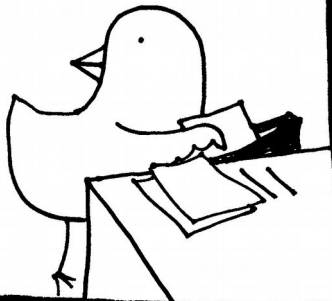
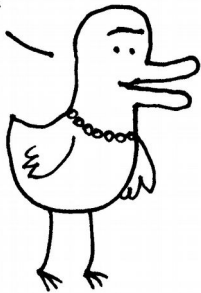
4.

Be available.

You're an artist in residence.
Life-changing moments can occur at any time.

I know you
have another
class in five
minutes,

but one of my students
would like to show you
something she's been
working on....



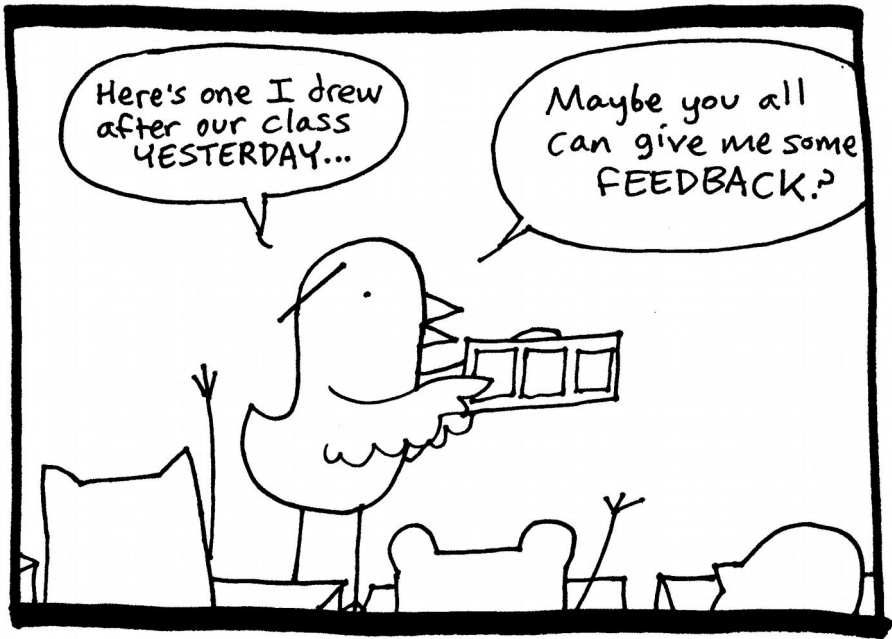
3.

Share work in progress.

Sure, it's great to share all your favorite polished perfect masterpieces... But what about your trials, mistakes, messes, dead ends, distractions, sketches, almosts, experiments, confusions, discoveries...?
Process is living product.

Here's one I drew
after our class
YESTERDAY...

Maybe you all
can give me some
FEEDBACK.?



2.

Highlight student work.

For some students, your residency provides an opportunity to step outside old comfort zones and behavioral patterns, and to surprise their classmates with their accomplishments. Recognize their effort.

Johnny's been hard
at work over here...

Let's take a
look at what
he's done!

WAIT —
Johnny?!
WORK?!?

But he—
but you—
buh-buh-
buh—

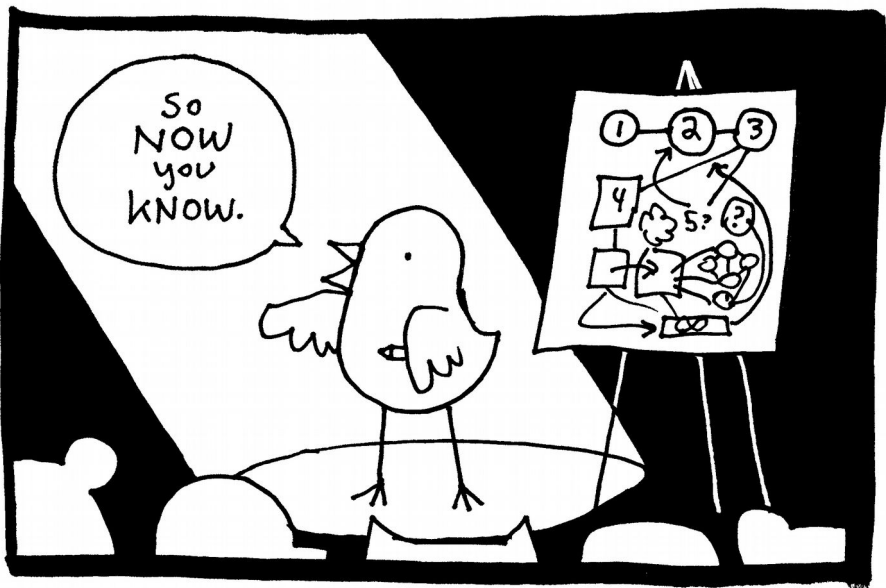


1.

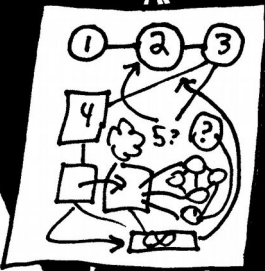
Tell a story.

You are an artist in residence because you have something relevant, vital, urgent, important, unique, useful, & powerful to share with students. What is it?

Tell your story with words & pictures... and help students tell their own stories in their work.



So
NOW
you
KNOW.



www.MarekBennett.com

COMICS*WORKSHOP

Hardtacks Civil War Folk Music



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