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ARTS MATTER

"The Official Newsletter of the Alliance for Arts Education in Manitoba"

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Art Takes Over

Beausejour Early Years School is Arts Infused

Beausejour Early Years School is beginning the early steps of infusing more Art Education in our classrooms. The journey began when five teachers from our school attended the RICE conference held at the University of Manitoba three years ago. Our initial curiosity and knowledge of the Reggio Inspired approach to education served as the catalyst for our continued growth and development, as well as has driven much of our Professional Development over the past three years. Support from our administration has meant that we have been able to present to our



colleagues at Staff Meetings and Divisional Inservice Days to help other teachers begin the transition to a more arts-based school. This year, I am fortunate to be able to teach Art and Drama full-time to our students at Beausejour Early Years. The transformation of our student's art and creativity has been very fulfilling to witness and share with them.

Some of our Professional Development has included classroom visits to Constable Finney School (Andrea Stuart, Donna Massey-Cudmore and Jen Miles as hosts and mentors), Conferences with the Alliance for Arts Education in Manitoba, annual attendance at SAG at the WAG, and a recent tour in Chicago to visit schools and view the exhibit from Reggio Emilia. Staff members at

our school serve on the board of ArtsJunktion, and regularly volunteer there.

The core change began in our classrooms- we have brought Nature in, and are sincerely trying to incorporate the message that the environment is the "third teacher".

Purchasing quality art supplies, such as brushes, watercolor paper and paint, and drawing materials, has helped students produce quality work. Our hallways have frames with student artwork, batik banners on Virtues and we are presently installing a Canadian Landscape Tile mural. Our Parent Advisory Council purchased a Kiln for our use three years ago, and it is well used. Our multi-age classes, the teachers of whom are

leading the way, studied the artist Andy Goldsworthy with our students. We are fortunate to have our school situated near woods and grassland, so we created our own Goldsworthy creations. Photos were taken, and cards produced and sold by the students. Profits have been put toward creating a fountain in our library, with clay tiles made by students surrounding it.

Our future plans for our school, are to continue with class visits to another Arts infused school, Strathcona. As well, we are hoping to create outdoor artwork on our playground.

Our journey is ongoing and we are still in very early stages. Visiting other schools, and continuing our Professional Development, then sharing with our staff are how we will continue to infuse the arts.

Heather Korlak
Art Teacher, Beausejour Early Years



The Arts Play Central Role in Human Rights Inquiry Journey

At Grosvenor School the staff, student, and parent community have completed Year 1 of a 3 year inquiry study on Human Rights and The Canadian Museum For Human Rights.

It is our intent for the children of Grosvenor School to become leaders for human rights. Our task is to help develop a growing understanding of how power and privilege can be used to promote justice and equity by exploring issues of race, class, culture, body size, ability, family make-up, gender, and so much more.

We want people to know that when they walk through the doors of Grosvenor School, that human rights education is at work; by the kinds of resources and materials being used, by the kind of work and student learning being displayed on the bulletin boards, and by the learning conversations students and staff are engaged in.

Year 2 will be a continuation of our whole school inquiry as students continue their exploration of human rights and human wrongs while continuing to honor the past, question the present, and build the future. The grade 5 and 6 classes will be creating videos based on human rights issues. Students will be creating plot summaries, storyboards, and short films to showcase their understandings of human rights. Depending on the chosen theme of each film, drama, art, music and movement may all be included in some form in the films.

For more information about the project feel free to contact Karen Pellaers at Grosvenor School (kpellaers@wsd1.org).



Treasure boxes filled with "treasure", accompanying the treasure boxes were Treasure Poems.



Human Rights Poetry Books – In the style of Quentin Blake, Students created watercolor books that included poetry based on all 30 Human Rights.

My Love

by Alex R.

You can take away my home,
You can take away my toys,
But you can't take away my loving family.

I can do without a T.V,
I can do without an IPod,
But I can't do without my cherishing friends.

I can live without electronics,
I can live without extras,
But I can't live without,
Family And Friends.



Do you have the latest Alliance DVD?
"Between Hearts and Minds: The Arts In
Education"

Copies available.

Email scottee_aaem@shaw.ca

Major Conference a Big Success

The Alliance joined with Manitoba Arts Council and the Canadian Symposium for Arts and Learning from Dec. 2 – 4 at the University of Manitoba Faculty of Education for CSAL's fourth annual conference. *"Arts and Learning: Shaping our Future Together,"* integrated the tripartite foci of the UNESCO roadmap: research into the impact of arts education; arts education policies, programs and professional practices; and advocacy for arts education. Delegates enjoyed an exciting array of artistic and educational sessions featuring renowned keynotes, multiple paper presentations, panel and poster presentations and performances and exhibits from schools.

The highlight of the three day conference was the talk by Ken Robinson who spoke to a sold out audience at the Burton Cummings Theatre.



Delegates enjoyed a creative moment with artist Jackie Traverse who invited visitors to create their own individual interpretations of her linear drawings on small canvases. The individual pieces were numbered and photographed. ***Try to find your contribution above!***

Art as Collaboration

The artful person is able to see the potential in what has been thought to be a disaster by others.

Such was the case with the art work that had been donated to be used as a door prize for all the people who stopped by the AAEM information table set up at the Canadian Symposium for Arts and Learning hosted by the University of Manitoba on December 2 - 5, 2010.

The art work entitled "Changes" had started as a number of pen and ink drawing of white poplar trees from the Duck Mountain Provincial Park. When the final drawing was near completion, the disastrous ink blob hit the skyline. To the rescue came the artist's daughter, to rip all the trial paintings into long narrow strips, putting them back together with glue and a gentler attitude. What emerged was a collaboration entitled "Changes" to reflect the process the drawing had gone through and the need there is to very quickly change our public attitude, to honestly protect our natural environments before they are changed beyond repair.

The recipient of "Changes", Shawna Hasanally, was delighted to hear the story of collaboration that went along with her drawing. She is going to try to use a similar process with her Grade 6 students at Carpathia School, who are often critical of their art work, helping them to develop their own artful thinking.

We'd like to thank all participants who stopped by to enter the draw.

We now have 177 new members!

**** WELCOME ****



Don't Miss This:

The Creative Disposition: Understanding Creativity Competencies and Creative Maturity

Another AAEM Presentation

Thursday, March 3rd, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.

University of Winnipeg Eckhardt Gramatté Hall

gallery 1C03

**** DOORS ARE OPEN ****



The Alliance for Arts Education in Manitoba in collaboration with University of Winnipeg Gallery 1C03 and in conjunction with the exhibition *Minutia*, presents a talk by Robert Kelly, artist, educator researcher Eckhardt Gramatté Hall.

From March 3 - April 2, 2011, Gallery 1C03 at the University of Winnipeg will be presenting *Minutia*, a conceptual solo exhibition of 11 bookworks by Calgary-based artist Robert Kelly. Kelly teaches in the Faculty of Education and in the Department of Fine Arts at the University of Calgary. Kelly's research areas encompass artist process, creativity theory, design, and curriculum theory and design. He has delivered numerous keynote presentations on the concept of creativity and has recently edited a benchmark book on creativity and education entitled *Creative Expression, Creative Education: Creativity As A Primary Rationale For Education* published by Detselig Publishing.

The Creative Disposition: Understanding Creativity Competencies and Creative Maturity

Robert Kelly PhD – University of Calgary

The Creative Disposition will explore the attributes that constitute the concept of creative maturity with specific focus on the nature and dynamic of idea generation and development. How does one systematically develop and monitor creative development in an educational setting among students and educators? Creativity should be a primary rationale for education. Systematic creative development is often assumed within educational practice and in many contexts not considered at all. Central to understanding the concept of creative maturity is clarity of meaning of the vocabulary and dynamic of *longitudinal creativity*. Longitudinal creativity deals with the nature of idea generation and development over time through several iterations of form. Developing an understanding of how to create an environment that enables longitudinal creativity is equally important. A template comprised of creative

maturity components, environmental and time factors will be explored to enhance development and assessment of environments that support creative development. Bring your sense of humour and ideas to share in this interactive presentation.

ROBERT KELLY

Educator and artist Robert Kelly is an associate professor in the Faculty of Arts and an adjunct associate professor in the Faculty of Education at the University of Calgary. He is co-editor of the book entitled *Creative Expression, Creative Education: Creativity As A Primary Rationale For Education*. He is currently researching and developing two new volumes on creativity in education focused on developing personal and professional creativity entitled *Creative Journey* and the methodology of creativity in educational practice entitled *Educating For Creativity*.

Robert has received numerous awards for teaching excellence and is featured on the University of Calgary's Great Teachers website. He is currently pioneering four new courses on creativity in educational practice in the new Masters of Education program at the University of Calgary. Robert Kelly has done numerous keynote presentations, lectures and workshops across Canada on the topic of creativity.

As artist, his most recent work is his conceptual *Minutia* installation showing in March at Gallery 1C03 at the University of Winnipeg consisting of eleven books of concrete poetry on lecterns, based on the sentence fragment "the first time I heard the sound of a page turning." His other major bodies of work include his painted *Concept of Raven* series and his newly developed *White Noise* outdoor installation project.
www.robertkelly.ca rkelly@ucalgary.ca



On **Monday, May 2nd** thousands of Canadians will unite in song.

Will you be involved?

Show your love of music and your support for music education by performing a short concert in your community.

Everyone can be a part of this national event celebrating the important values music education provides to our children.

Everything you need to participate is **free** and online.

Please register today!

www.musicmonday.ca

Download:



Arrangements



Demos



Lyrics (in French and English)



PR toolkit



Premier Greg Selinger is inviting Manitobans to share their ideas about education.

YOUR OPINION MATTERS!

KEEP THE ARTS STRONG IN MANITOBA SCHOOLS!

PLEASE TAKE THE SURVEY: www.gov.mb.ca/conversation_edu/index.html

- Give our kids the best start.
- Improve quality and results.
- Make schools more parent-friendly.
- Fill out the questionnaire and HELP support the arts, creating more options and opportunities for our children.

SPREAD THE WORD!