

ArtExpress

All Around the Sites

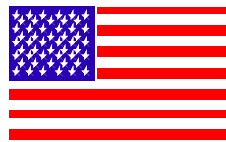
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With the recent horrible events in New York City and Washington D.C. on everyone's mind, adults will need to be ever mindful of helping young children cope with their feelings. Watch children carefully for signs of stress and use the expressive arts to help them communicate and share their feelings. Follow their lead when discussing the tragedy. You might talk to children about the bravery of the firefighters and rescue volunteers. Take time to celebrate the joys of everyday experiences. Some classrooms have been creating the American flag from construction paper, glue, paint, and decal stickers and proudly displaying them at their school.



The Arts Education Partnership recently issued this statement: *The arts have a profound and essential role to play as our nation and its people search for healing and direction in the wake of the terrorist attacks. We urge all of our arts education colleagues to offer support and services to schools and communities so that through word, image, song, drama, and dance we bond, heal, and grow. The arts will be more important for young people than ever now as they offer unparalleled tools for building understanding, for searching out meaning and beauty, and for providing a means of self-expression.* Look for other information on their web site: www.aep-arts.org

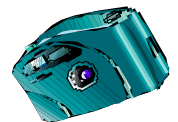
Site Staff Make Changes

Change can be both a challenge and an opportunity.

teacher at MacArthur Early Childhood Center in Macomb, Illinois and has joined the faculty of Curriculum and Instruction at Western Illinois University, Macomb, Illinois. Cathy is teaching ECH 473 (Social Studies, Music, and Art), ELED 170 (Pre-student Teaching Field Experience), and is supervising students in early childhood field experience. Expressive Arts Replication Site teacher, **Katrina Hamilton**, continues to teach Pre-K classes in Canton, Illinois; but her classroom is now located at the Westview Elementary School instead of Lincoln School.

Photography Exhibit

Sandy Lowder (art teacher at The Hope Wall School, Aurora, Illinois) is an artist. She is exhibiting black and white photographs from September 7th through November 25th at the Aurora Public Arts Commission building. The Exhibit is entitled "Children of Hope" and features children at the Hope Wall School participating in activities during the 2000-2001 school year. The exhibit is located on the 1st Floor Gallery of the Aurora Public Arts Commission, 20 E. Downer Place, Aurora, Illinois. Congratulations Sandy! What a wonderful way to use your art talents to advocate and support children at your school.



Music Blocks Mozart

Katrina Hamilton (Westview PreK Program, Canton, Illinois) wants to let everyone know about a new product, Music Blocks Mozart (from Neurosmith at \$69.99), that is becoming very popular in her

classroom. The following, found at www.amazon.com, are excerpts from over 60 rave reviews about this product from customers.

“Music appreciation starts at an early age with Music Blocks. Youngsters not only get the chance to experience classical music, they get to create it. Each primary colored block plays a different phrase of Mozart’s *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* (A Little Night Music) when placed on the base that fits



on a child’s lap. Children can make their own kind of music by arranging the blocks in different order and by turning them from side to side. The sturdy, radio-like box; five colorful, sensor-controlled blocks; and one of several memory cartridges are included in the Music Blocks Mozart set. Together, they create a unique learning product for young children. The objectives of this developmental toy are simple: to introduce children to classical music and to challenge them in identifying sounds and instruments (woodwinds, violins, a xylophone, trumpets, human voices, and a percussion ensemble). Each block activates a segment of the composition and switching the blocks around creates a new song. The quality of the sound is impressive. It’s stereophonic, rather than synthetic, though it’s all created digitally. Included in the box is *Music and Your Child’s Mind*, an informative sourcebook for adults interested in exploring classical music with their developing children.”

Child Data

Thank you in advance for getting the fall child and family data forms to the Expressive Arts Outreach Project. Reminder: The fall child data due date is **October 15, 2001**.



Technology Support

Mark your calendar. You are invited. The Expressive Arts staff has scheduled a technology support day from 9 am to 4 pm in our new computer lab (HH 37B) on **Friday, October 19, 2001**. EA staff will be available to answer technology questions to meet your individual

needs and expressive arts software will be available for preview. Contact Judy, Carol, or Merriam (Phone: 1-309-298-1634) if you plan to attend and let us know what your technology support needs might be.

- Judy Potter, ex 302 or JD-Potter@wiu.edu
- Carol Schneider, ex 256 or CL-Schneider@wiu.edu
- Merriam Guzman, ex 255 or MB-Guzman@wiu.edu

Look for notice of other technology support days to be scheduled throughout the year.

The Power of Play

I tried to teach my child with words
They passed her over unheard
I tried to teach my child with books
He gave me only troubled looks
Despairingly I turned aside
How shall I teach this child?, I cried
Into my hands she put the key
Come, she said, *Play with me*.
Author unknown

Up-Coming Events

September 28, 2001—Judy Potter and Merriam Guzman will present “Art+Music+Dance+Drama = Early Literacy” at the 5th Annual GEM Early Childhood Conference in Pontiac, Illinois.

October 12, 2001—Judy Potter, Carol Schneider, and Merriam Guzman will be presenting Expressive Arts sessions at the Sharing a Vision Conference, Springfield, Illinois.