



CENTER for LEARNING through the ARTS

Quarterly Report

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University of California, Irvine

A Word from the Director...

Liane Brouillette

As 2005 draws to a close, we look back at an eventful summer and fall.

The ArtsCore: K-2 Elementary Teacher Professional Development Institute was launched on August 1-5 under the guidance of Co-directors Gail Miller and Jim Thomas. Teachers who wished to integrate the arts more effectively into their classroom curriculum were brought together with accomplished arts specialists for five action-packed days of arts exploration and lesson study.

This fall we were delighted to welcome Sue Cronmiller, Director of the UCI Poetry Academy, as Associate Director for Community Partnerships and Web-Based Learning at the Center for Learning through the Arts.

On Thursday, November 17, the grand opening of Brightstar Productions, an in-hospital multimedia broadcasting studio at the University Children's Hospital, took place. Initially begun as an outgrowth of Health ArtsBridge, the hospital broadcasting project was made possible by a \$25,000 grant from Hyundai to UCI economics student Jolene Minakary and to former ArtsBridge scholar--and current neuropharmacology Ph.D. student--Shahrdad Lotfipour. Their successful efforts were facilitated by the generous support of Dr. Feizal Waffarn, Chair of Pediatrics.

With the winter holidays almost upon us, there is much to celebrate.

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'Brightstar' Begins Broadcasting at the UC Irvine Children's Hospital

Wendy Lee

"To help bring bigger and better smiles for our young future." That was the goal for UC Irvine students Shahrdad Lotfipour and Jolene Minakary when they set out to create a radio program for the pediatric patients at the UCI Children's Hospital. Two years later, with support from Hyundai Motor America, the dream has become a reality, with a full service interactive broadcasting studio in place at the hospital. Their efforts have resulted in a multidisciplinary collaboration between the University Children's Hospital, UCI College of Medicine, UCI Health Artsbridge, and KUCI. The project aims to benefit pediatric patients by reducing anxiety associated with medical procedures, addressing boredom resulting from extended hospital stays, and giving a sense of empowerment to the children that can contribute to wellness. The project strives to encourage a

more holistic approach to healing by allowing children to have a direct impact on their immediate environment. Children can call in from their hospital beds to request any song or music video or learn to act as guest DJ's. The radio show and music videos will be broadcast on a dedicated station as part of the in-house hospital television network.

In addition to the benefits for pediatric patients, the project contributors believe that pediatric residents will be positively affected as they share experiences with their patients and become acutely aware of the children's various emotional and medical needs. In working with pediatric patients, student volunteers from UCI will be introduced to new settings that integrate the arts, health, and education. This unique project also enables faculty members and

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Picturing Peace at the Jane Addams Hull House Gallery

Jasmine Yep

From February 18 through March 26, 2006, ArtsBridge America will present an exhibition of photographs of peace by K-12 students who have participated in Picturing Peace programs in California, Wisconsin, and Northern Ireland, at the Jane Addams Hull House Gallery in Chicago, Illinois. The Picturing Peace program is an ArtsBridge project curriculum in which college visual arts majors in one semester ArtsBridge programs help K-12 grade students learn to use digital cameras in order to explore and communicate their feelings and ideas about peace. The primary purposes of the program are to develop students' visual thinking, creative photography, digital camera technology skill, and to expand their feelings and under-

standings of peace.

Picturing Peace began in the Department of Education at UC Irvine in 2002 as part of a federally-funded research project, "Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology" (PT3) undertaken by Robert Beck, to develop computer based curricula for teachers. The initial program was called "Look Again" and involved one 4th grade and two 7th grade classrooms in Orange County, California. In 2003 the program, renamed "Picturing Peace" became a collaborative project between ArtsBridge America, the Citizen Peacebuilding Program in Orange County, and Seeds of Hope in Northern Ireland. At this juncture, the curriculum was elaborated through the efforts of Jonathan Cummins, Lecturer

in Time-Based Media at the School of Arts and Design of the University of Ulster, in conjunction with Beck and scholars at UC Irvine. In 2004 the headquarters of the ArtsBridge Picturing Peace program was relocated to Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin. From 2002-2005, Picturing Peace programs have been offered in eleven K-12 classrooms as part of ArtsBridge programs at Lawrence University, UC Irvine, UC San Diego, and the University of Ulster, Belfast.

The Picturing Peace exhibition is presented by the Chicago Jane Addams Hull House Center in collaboration with the Open Book Peace Project. The exhibition encourages visitors to explore how students

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ArtsCore: K-2 Evaluation Underway

Gail Miller

Without a glitch and after months of planning, twenty-seven kindergarten-through-second grade teachers from the Santa Ana and Saddleback Valley Unified Schools Districts attended the week-long 2005 ArtsCore: K-2 Summer Institute. These master teachers were introduced to integration of primary cognitive tools as a "value-added" approach to expanding children's understanding of literature during their read-aloud and shared literacy time blocks.

This framework was presented in morning plenaries by Dr. Liane Brouillette, then reinforced by selected reading materials. In the late mornings and afternoons four outstanding elementary arts specialists delivered daily hands-on workshops, showing how to amplify the cognitive tools through the integration of visual art, drama, music and dance into standards-based classroom instruction. The teachers are now applying the cognitive

tools and using the arts lessons in their schools. Their comments on the results have been overwhelmingly positive.

Since the August institute, a follow-up session with the master arts teachers has been held. With the assistance of Saddleback Valley Unified School District, a year-long, quasi-experimental research study has been initiated. Nine first grade teachers who participated in the summer ArtsCore Institute have been matched to nine non-participant teachers and classrooms across the district. The characteristics matched included teachers' years of professional experience, student demographics in participating classrooms, and 2005 school API. In each classroom, ten-to-twelve students are being pre- and post-tested on listening comprehension, oral expression, and combined reading fluency and retell of a staged reading passage.

As lead researcher, ArtsCore: K-2

Institute Co-director Gail Lynn Miller is looking at whether children in the experimental classrooms demonstrate enhanced literacy skills when compared to students in the control classrooms. As of the Winter Break, one-hundred and seventy first grade students had been tested by three very dedicated graduate student researchers. The master arts teachers will also meet with Gail Miller for multiple recorded interviews over the course of the study. After our first follow-up session in the visual arts (presented by Dr. Kim Burge last November), we are looking forward to the second follow-up workshop. This will be presented by dance specialist Meagan Deakers in January. The third follow-up workshop will be presented by OCDE Arts Coordinator Jim Thomas in March. The post-tests for the research study will be carried out in the following weeks, before district testing in April and May.

UCI College of Medicine Study Published

Johanna Shapiro

Collaboration between the UCI School of Medicine and School of the Arts on a project that hones observational skills in medical students has resulted in an article, "Training the Clinical Eye and Mind: Using the Arts to Develop Medical Students' Observational and Pattern Recognition Skills," that will soon be published in the leading UK medical education journal, *Medical Education*.

The purpose of this study was to better understand similarities and differences in student learning when given an arts-based experience or assigned to do clinically-based observation. The interventions proved complementary. Students in the arts-condition developed empathic skills, while students in the clinical-condition improved their pattern recognition skills.

A separate study, "Analysis of Medical Students' Creative Projects in Gross Anatomy," utilizes a combined quantitative-qualitative methodology to conduct a content analysis of optional creative projects done by medical students enrolled in the first year gross anatomy and embryology course. This study has been extended one year to collect additional data. The study examines preoccupations, concerns, and issues related to anatomy and medicine that students address through original creative work; it explores why students decided either to complete or not complete a creative project; it also investigates whether there is any relationship between creative project completion/non-completion, stress, and test performance.

Journal for Learning through the Arts: A Research Journal on Arts Integration in Schools and Communities

Liane Brouillette, *JLTA* Co-Editor

With the publication of the premier issue of the *Journal for Learning through the Arts*, the initial segment of a journey that began with the Sciences for the Arts conference in April, 2000, has come to a close. At that conference, University of California research scientists, artists, and educators came together to explore what science and the arts had to tell each other about the workings of the human mind. One outgrowth of this effort was the creation of a new research center at UCI, now known as the Center for Learning through the Arts.

With the arrival of a new millennium, much has changed. ArtsBridge, sponsor of the Sciences for the Arts Conference, has become a network of 22 universities, in 13 states and in Northern Ireland. Through the ArtsCore professional development project, dozens of K-12 teachers have learned how to more

effectively integrate the arts into the core K-12 curriculum.

"Conversation and Silence: Transfer of Learning Through the Arts," the article by James Catterall that opens the first issue of *JLTA*, both reminds us of the exciting scholarly dialogue that led to the creation of the Center and challenges us to expand the conversation further.

After January 1, 2006, *JLTA* can be accessed at our eScholarship Repository: <http://repositories.cdlib.org/clta/lta/>. Correspondence concerning the second issue of the journal should be sent to:

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Center for Citizen Peacebuilding

Wendy Lee

With a focus on grassroots programs to bring together people from communities in conflict, the Center for Citizen Peacebuilding at UC Irvine seeks to learn the best ways to foster peace and reconciliation. Each year the Center will sponsor a Best Practices Conference, inviting international experts to share the latest research and experience from the field. Past guests of honor have included Mikhail Gorbachev and the Dalai Lama. Current efforts include peacebuilding in neighborhoods in Orange County and Los Angeles, California as well as in communities in Northern Ireland, the Middle East, Cyprus, and the former Soviet Union.

Recent programs organized by the Center included guest lectures by Shirin Ebadi, 2003 Nobel Peace Prize Winner; collaboration with members of the Scarlet Sisters Circus to assist in the healing process for children and families who have experienced violence; and the Picturing Peace ArtsBridge photography project in Orange County and Northern Ireland. Center Director John Graham and members Larry and Dulcie Kugelman were instrumental in establishing the international network of educators and students who implemented the project. The Center will continue to collaborate with CLTA in using arts and education to promote peace through the planning of research and fundraising that will support the expansion of the Picturing Peace project.

For more information about the Center for Citizen Peacebuilding, please visit: www.citizenpeacebuilding.org.

Brightstar

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researchers to align their agendas with those of the National Institutes of Health, which have called for examination of the benefits of social and educational interventions into traditional healthcare.

Children's hospital radio shows were first implemented in the United Kingdom by the international Radio Lollipop organization, a network that began its operation in 1978. The program spread to Australia, where Shahrddad first learned about its operations and decided to help establish a similar project in Orange County. The UCI Children's Hospital is the first hospital to operate a fully functional music video broadcasting studio for pediatric patients in the U.S.

Picturing Peace

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communicate peace through photography and celebrates the work of Jane Addams, Peacemaker and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931. In conjunction with the exhibition, ArtsBridge America is sponsoring an open call for photo submissions and invites student and adult photographers to submit images of peace to the Picturing Peace Photo Competition.

For more information about Picturing Peace and the exhibition, please visit www.picturingpeace.org or www.lawrence.edu/library/peace/.

Please visit us at the CLTA Website:
<http://clta.gse.uci.edu/>

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