

THE INFORMANT

Newsletter of The Knowledge Center, Inc.

Pro Amore Discendi – For The Love of Learning

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GRANTS – Schools will again receive grant support for the implementation of Core Knowledge. The CH Foundation provided \$57,500.00 in grant funding to Lubbock area schools. The funds will be applied primarily toward professional development for PreK and classroom teachers and special student programs related to Core Knowledge topics of study.



ART AND MUSIC – Classical guitarist and art collector Christian Thomas Lee will return to Lubbock in November. He will make presentations to creative writing and intermediate art students at J. T. Hutchinson Middle School. Students will use selected art pieces as writing prompts for pieces which will be included in the J. T. Hutchinson literary magazine.

STORYTELING – Jim Weiss will again travel to Lubbock to enhance students' language arts experiences through storytelling. He will make presentations at elementary and middle schools in December. Jim Weiss is an award winning storyteller and recording artist based in Charlottesville, Virginia. Recordings of his stories and books on tape are available through *Greathall Productions*.



HISTORICAL PRESENTATIONS – Bill Perryman of *History In Person* will be in Lubbock to make presentations in March. He will enhance the study of social studies topics through his portrayal of historical figures. He will visit several elementary and middle school campuses performing as William Travis, Paul Revere, Ben Franklin, George Washington, and Abraham Lincoln. Mr. Perryman is a former classroom teacher and educational consultant. He is based in San Antonio and makes presentations to students and educators at schools and conferences throughout the state of Texas.



CORE KNOWLEDGE NEWS

PreK WORKSHOP - To lay the foundation for success in reading, preschoolers must develop graphophenemic awareness and print (text) awareness. Twenty-four early childhood educators from Lubbock area preschools participated in the Core Knowledge training module "Phonological Awareness, ABC's and More." The two-day workshop was held July 17-18 at St. Luke's Preschool. Participants were introduced to relevant research as well as numerous materials and activities to build phonological awareness and letter knowledge in young children.

Dee Riebel



OVERVIEW TRAINING – Teachers who were newly hired at Lubbock area Core Knowledge schools attended a Core Knowledge Overview training. They developed a familiarity with Core Knowledge and reviewed topics of study from *The Sequence*. The session was held at Murfee Elementary School with Dr. Sam Ayers serving as the presenter. A total of thirty-seven teachers attended the training. These educators represented Christ the King Cathedral School, O. L. Slaton Middle School, Murfee, Ramirez, Waters, Wheelock, and Roscoe Wilson elementary schools.



EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT NEWS

BOOKS FOR KIDS - The Hope Community of Shalom was featured in a June 18 article in the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal. A grant from The CH Foundation made possible the renovation and reopening of an unused library inside the Asbury United Methodist Church. This was made possible through a grant from The CH Foundation. Both English and Spanish books are available for students to select on a weekly basis. Books have been provided by Friends of the Library, the First Book program, and Scholastic Books. Donations of used children's books or funds to purchase new books are welcome (2005 Avenue T).



NIE WORKSHOP – In June, thirty-four West Texas teachers attended the Lubbock Avalanche Journal's Newspapers In Education seminar at the National Ranching Heritage Center. They learned that using the newspaper for academics can be a rewarding experience in the classroom. Erin Moore, NIE Coordinator for the Lubbock A-J, presented the workshop which included "Newspapers Inspire and Enlighten," a curriculum guide from the Newspaper

Association of America that helps teachers introduce the newspaper to their students. Videos highlighting "how a newspaper is made" and "what's in a newspaper" were shown. Shelly Gonzales, Features Editor for the A-J, briefly discussed the functions of the newsroom and answered many questions for teachers. Part of the workshop allowed teachers to practice hands-on activities with the day's edition of the Lubbock A-J, which included newspaper vocabulary, learning the parts of the newspaper, and various activities. All teachers received standards-based guides appropriate for their grade level that included a variety of activities using the newspaper for English language arts, math, science, and social studies. Teachers toured the NRHC Museum, and they learned about special programs that NRHC offers such as Ranch Day, a new history competition for students, and Traveling Educational Trunks. Christy Lemons, Manager of Education Programs at NRHC and Emily Arellano, Program Coordinator led the tour and the presentation of NRHC Programs. Participating teachers were awarded six professional development hours for completion of the NIE Teacher's Workshop through The Knowledge Center.

Erin Moore

SCHOLARSHIPS – This fall, a Lubbock Christian University student will receive the Helen Jones Core Knowledge Scholarship.

Keitha Lowe is a senior Early Childhood Education major from Lubbock, Texas. She graduated from Coronado High School in May of 2005. Ms. Lowe will complete her coursework and student teach during the spring semester. After graduation, she plans to teach 3rd grade at a local elementary school. She will also consider beginning work on a Master's degree at that time.



ART EXHIBIT – The students from J. T. Hutchinson Middle School were invited to display their art in an exhibit at the LCU Center for Academic Achievement. The artwork was completed by 6th, 7th, and 8th grade art students. The works will be on display August 25-September 12 (8:00-5:00 M-Th).

ART WORKSHOP – The Area II Art Mini-Conference was held in Slaton, Texas on August 7-8. Seventeen presenters conducted diverse media workshops for art educators. Topics included printmaking, textured Kente cloth, recycled sculpture, clay tile, and graphic design. The Knowledge Center was one of several sponsors of the event.

2008-09 SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug. 25-Sept. 12, 2008 Hutchinson Art Exhibit LCU Center for Academic Achievement

November 24, 2008 Don Smarto Civil War Artifacts
Rush – 2nd Grade (1:10-1:55 and 2:05-2:50)

December 9-12, 2008 Jim Weiss Storytelling
Tuesday, 9th Ramirez (8:30) and Iles (1:30)
Wednesday, 10th Murfee (8:30) and Wheelock (1:30)
Thursday, 11th Christ The King (8:30) and Roscoe Wilson (1:30)
Friday, 12th OL Slaton (9:30) and Hutchinson (2:15)

March 2-6, 2009 Bill Perryman – History In Person
Monday, 2nd Bowie (8:30 Franklin)/Honey (1:30 Washington)
Tuesday, 3rd Christ The King (8:30 Franklin)/Lubbock Christian (1:30 Lincoln)
Wednesday, 4th Waters (8:30 Washington)/Wheelock (1:30 Washington)
Thursday, 5th Hutchinson (9:30 Travis)/Roscoe Wilson (1:30 Lincoln)
Friday, 6th Murfee (8:30 Revere)/Ramirez (1:30 Travis)

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