

THE INFORMANT

Newsletter of The Knowledge Center, Inc.

Pro Amore Discendi – For The Love of Learning

September 2009

Lubbock, Texas

Volume 6 Number 1

GRANT SUPPORT – Lubbock area schools will receive continued support for implementation of Core Knowledge thanks to a generous grant from The CH Foundation. The \$67,850 grant will assist area preschools, elementary and middle schools with their various stages of implementation. The funds will provide teacher training through workshops and conference presentations, enrichment presentations for students, and instructional supplies.

HISTORY AND PHOTOGRAPHY – Don Smarto will share his expertise in two areas with middle school students in September. The Hutchinson photography students will attend presentations on the camera and photography by this award winning cinematographer. O. L. Slaton students will view original artifacts from the Civil War period to enhance their studies of this period in America history.



STORYTELLER – National award winning storyteller Jim Weiss will make presentations at several Lubbock elementary and middle schools in October. The recording artist associated with *Greathall Productions* will enhance students' language arts experiences as he shares tales from around the world.



ART and MUSIC PROGRAM – Classical guitarist and art collector Christian Thomas Lee will make presentations at two Lubbock schools in October. Lee will visit art and creative writing students at Hutchinson Middle School as well as students at Centennial Elementary School. Art pieces presented by Lee will serve as prompts for the creative writing students as they prepare works for a literary magazine.

CORE KNOWLEDGE NEWS



UNIT WRITING –Core Knowledge teachers dedicated a week to developing new instructional materials at the Summer Unit Writing Workshop, which was held June 1-5, 2009. Shelly Reid served as the lead presenter and Toby Klameth provided technical support. Teachers attending the workshop represented Centennial, Murfee, Waters, Wheelock, Roscoe Wilson, and Hutchinson. The units developed during the week will be taught in the fall, and several were submitted for unit presentation consideration at the Core Knowledge National Conference.

MINI-CONFERENCE – Over 150 Lubbock ISD Core Knowledge teachers participated in a mini-conference at Murfee Elementary on June 10, 2009. Two-break out sessions included a new teacher orientation, technology show and tell, and more than 16 grade level and fine arts specific sessions. Over 25 Core Knowledge teachers shared their fantastic ideas for bringing Core Knowledge to life to facilitate high levels of student achievement and meaningful learning in the classroom.

The highlight of the conference was a keynote presentation by Dr. Dennis Denenberg, as he inspired everyone to use heroes as a way of teaching students about history and citizenship. One teacher stated, “His presentation was wonderful and provided me with useful ideas that I am planning on using in my own classroom this next year.” Overall, the conference was a fantastic way for Core Knowledge educators to learn and grow as professionals.



EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT NEWS



ART TALK
Award winning artist and illustrator **Mike Wimmer** will visit

Core Knowledge schools in January. He will share art related information with students via a Power Point highlighting his challenges and successes in the world of art and illustration.

HONOR – Congratulations to **Kathy Rollo** on her selection as a 2008 semi-finalist for National Distinguished Elementary Principal. Mrs. Rollo has served as principal of Murfee Elementary School for ten years. She was instrumental in Murfee being named an Official Core Knowledge School and an Official Core Knowledge Visitation Site.



SOCIAL SKILLS TRAINING – Thirty-one area preschool teachers attended a Core Knowledge workshop on Autonomy, Social Skills, and Work Habits. The two-day training was sponsored by The Knowledge Center and was hosted by St. Luke's Preschool. The training included teachers from Christ The King Preschool, Hope Lutheran Preschool, Kid's Kingdom, Oakwood Methodist Preschool, St. Luke's Preschool, Honey, Smith, and Roscoe Wilson. Core Knowledge consultant Katie Huey served as the module trainer.



MUSIC TRAINING - Core Knowledge consultant Jenny Sorey presented a two-day preschool workshop on Movement, Coordination, and Music. The workshop was sponsored by LISD and The Knowledge Center and was hosted by Ballenger Head Start Center. The twenty-two preschool teachers represented Hope Lutheran Preschool, Kid's Kingdom, St. Luke's Preschool, Stubbs, Honey, Murfee, Waters, Whiteside, and Roscoe Wilson.



2009-10 SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS

SUMMER 2009 EVENTS

Core Knowledge Summer Unit Writing Workshop

June 1-5 Hutchinson Library 8:30-3:30

PreK Social Skills Training

August 10-11 St. Luke's Preschool 8:00-3:00

PreK Music and Movement Training

August 17-18 Ballenger Head Start Center 8:00-3:00

FALL 2009 EVENTS

Don Smarto Photography Presentation

September 28 Hutchinson MS 11:00 and 1:00

Don Smarto Civil War Presentations

September 29 TBA O. L. Slaton

Jim Weiss Storytelling Presentations

October 19	9:00	Centennial	1:00	Wheelock
October 20	9:00	St. Luke's	1:00	Lubbock Christian School
October 21	9:00	Rush	1:00	Roscoe Wilson
October 22	9:00	Murfee	2:30	Hutchinson

Christian Thomas Lee Classical Music and Art Presentations

October 29	9:30	Centennial	1:00	Centennial
October 30	9:30	Hutchinson Art	1:30	Hutchinson Creative Writing

SPRING 2010 EVENTS

Mike Wimmer Art Presentations

January 8 TBA Hutchinson

Bill Perryman of History In Person

March 22	9:30	Christ The King (TBA)	1:30	Murfee (Ben Franklin)
March 23	9:30	Lubbock Christian (Sam Houston)	1:30	Iles (George Washington)
March 24	9:30	Waters (Thomas Jefferson)	1:30	Wheelock (Paul Revere)
March 25	9:30	Honey (Abraham Lincoln)	1:30	Centennial (Abraham Lincoln)
March 26	9:30	Bowie (Abraham Lincoln)	1:30	Rush (Ben Franklin)



The Knowledge Center, Inc.

LCU-Education Building + 5601 W. 19th Street Lubbock, Texas 79407

www.theknowledgecenter.org

(806) 928-0008 + sam.ayers@lcu.edu + Samuel J. Ayers, Ed. D. – Executive Director