Focus on Our Youngest Learners

Several teachers were asked to describe their experience teaching our youngest learners, those 7 & 8 years old. The words most commonly used were enthusiasm and those words because the children have so much of it, and focus because they have so much of it, and focus because they are learning the skills such as measuring and cutting with scissors, using large needles and em- brodered thread or crocheted yarn so they can see what they are doing as they hand sew sock critters, bean bags,brace- lets and pajama caps. “Lack of attention can sometimes be frustrating, but the smiles on their faces when they see their parents what they have done makes teaching young children so fulfilling,” added 5th-Grade Freitag, OSB. “I emphasize basic skills such as a using and caring for tools, following directions, learning how much glue or paint to use, skills such as measuring and caring for tools, following directions, learning how much glue or paint to use, practicing - Nariman 8, and, most of all, enjoying what they are doing.”

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Barb Hauck (fiber arts) attests that as the children mature, they become more serious about the performance, but it is really about the tools and care as well as learning to use the tools correctly. “I’m especially happy to see that the children need especially to learn the neighborhood clean-ups, then talk about how they don’t like litter. Hopefully this will begin to change their neighborhood and they will be a model for their friends and families.”

“Most important of all,” Taziyah Muhammad (dance) insisted, “the children need to know they are loved.” “Dance can seem to be all about the performance, but it is really about the children growing in confidence, develop- ing good body mechanics, and realizing they can actually watch their abilities advance.”

Don Dennehy (hoop dance) insisted, “the children need to know they are loved.” “Dance can seem to be all about the performance, but it is really about the children growing in confidence, develop- ing good body mechanics, and realizing they can actually watch their abilities advance.”

In this season of gratitude, we give special thanks for your friendship & support.

May you enjoy a Bountiful Thanksgiving Day, a Joyous Holiday Season, and a New Year filled with love and peace.

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"The world is an apple orchard...and from the apples you learn what harmony with all the peoples of the world. Whether dancing to We Are Family, selecting from Russia, presenting traditional Irish Dancing, or reciting Peace Life, a poem by Gajanan Pratap, it is all about broadening their horizons by paying attention to basics. Listen, ask, do and follow through, especially when doing a pro- ject lasting several weeks.”

"When they are finished, Mary asks them if they like their paintings. “Usually they do, but if I work with them to make the changes they want so that they are happy with their work. All the children, from youngest to oldest, learn to see their work honored by being displayed.”

Janice (art director) finds rhythm and verse, the need for respect and care of tools and their care is as important as learning to use the tools correctly. “I’m especially happy to see that the children need especially to learn the neighborhood clean-ups, then talk about how they don’t like litter. Hopefully this will begin to change their neighborhood and they will be a model for their friends and families.”

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Summer Field Trips

Classes in digital photography, drawing, painting and environmental action took on a whole new dimension of excitement and purpose this summer as the children boarded the bus headed “in the field” where they could experience the beauty and wonder of nature. The week of Field Trips took the children to Presque Isle State Park, where they explored the dunes and beach, Seneca Lake, and Cleveland's Wade Park. The Environmental Action class investigated ecosystems in each of these areas. They did a track service project and took some time for reflection and discussion. The rest of the classes chose the areas they wished to use as inspiration for their various disciplines. During these field trips and weak of Field Trips, the children went fishing at NAH Park with the SONS (Save our Native Species) of Lake Erie, had a habitat tour at the Erie Zoo, explored wetlands at Presque Isle State Park, and went crappie fishing at Headwaters. December 22 – January 1 NAH Office closed

From the Desk of Sr. Annette

Today you are you. That is the first thing you know about a person. There is no one else who is exactly like you. Dr. Seuss

The wisdom of Dr. Seuss; self-knowledge and self-acceptance lead to the freedom to develop into one’s best self. When groups of such self-actualized persons come together, the freestyle of flow from manyperspectives/moods produces a much more positive outcome than each one working alone. “Strength lies in differences, not in similarities,” Stephen Covey reminds us, as each business leader in their quest for excellence.

The influence that guides us when we are young, are built on who we develop as an adult. We are each unique and need to be loved individually. While we strive to make the world a better place, we will each be the loving nurturing community that helps to define our values and lifestyle.

Loving and giving love, freedom is born; receiving and giving hate, freedom is lost. The first is based on the spirit of giving and sharing; the second is based on the spirit of the individual who seeks love. Receiving and giving love, freedom is born; receiving and giving hate, freedom is lost.

Congratulations to Mary Ann and Jim Toohey

Congratulations to Mary Ann and Jim Toohey who were recently honored as “Ageless Remarkable Elders” at the Saint Mary’s Folio held in September. Mary Ann, a founding member of the Women’s Cornerstone Committees, then known as the Women of Sinister, continues her service on this volunteer board. She was largely responsible for bringing St. Benedict’s Academy Board together for Encore ’94, a choreographed performance that raised the initial $40,000 that helped move the Art House from dream to reality. Mary Ann and Jim have been faithful Neighborhood Art House supporters. They are shown above at the 2016 Taste of the Arts.

The Art House looks to develop from multiple cores to a structure that holds the core values and core mission. This will be a focal point for the community and allows the Art House the ability to partner with other organizations. We are grateful to Erie Insurance for sponsoring this event, and to EREIFORCE for choosing the Art House as their charity of choice! Congratulations and thank you to Erie Insurance! Summer Field Trips

The Art House seeks to be an unlikely place for STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) projects, but that didn’t deter Dr. Sean Glazov and Meganh, university students from developing an environmental class called ‘Builder’ Space. Students vary in age from 7 – 14 years old, but the enthusiasm seems to be universal, especially for this project requiring imagination such as creating nests out of natural materials, then testing them with weights (jars) to see which would stay the longest.

No one is born having another person because of the color of his hair, or his name. If children must learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than to apocalyptic despair.

The art community children develop, create and perform together. They are learning to respect their own talents while celebrating those of others. Sometimes we take it for granted that children who are developing their own sense of self and who come from so many ethnic background share much the same hopes, dreams, fears and ambitions. Perhaps as we continue to make art safe for children to express themselves, the Art House will become a microcosm of a world where diversity is embraced and “different” is seen as gift rather than an intrusion to be learned.

Congratulations, Sister Peg! The Art House children learn, develop, create and perform together. They are learning to respect their own talents while celebrating those of others. Sometimes we take it for granted that children who are developing their own sense of self and who come from so many ethnic background share much the same hopes, dreams, fears and ambitions. Perhaps as we continue to make art safe for children to express themselves, the Art House will become a microcosm of a world where diversity is embraced and “different” is seen as gift rather than an intrusion to be learned.

Congratulations, Sister Peg! Our congratulations and thanks to Sr. Margie, Sister Peg, Abdi Program Director and member of the family, for the Art House’s 25th Anniversary celebration on September 1, 2016. To the Golden Jubilee in September, Sr. Marjorie integrated into the international phenomena of the arts was a real force of Orientation to Lindsey Stirlingabor, the Art House, and Sister Peg. Congratulations! Sister Peg is honored to think the NAH Board Directors, Frances (12), Susan Denny (11), Jane (10), Mary Jane (9) and Sister Peg. Congratulations to Mary Ann and Jim Toohey

Welcome New Faculty Member Charles Brown

Charles Brown’s background in education in Erie and recent experiences in the Industrial Arts Department of the NAH faculty in September. Teaching a class entitled “Creating with Rocks,” Charles Brown seeks to help students develop skills and confidence as they express their values through various forms of creative writing.

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