

PROGRAM
2009 EDUCATING FOR CHANGE CURRICULUM FAIR
CLAIMING EDUCATION AS A CIVIL RIGHT
SEPTEMBER 26, 2009

9:00-9:30 **Registration and Poster Viewing**

9:30-11:00 **Workshop Session 1**

11:15-12:15 Keynote Address by Jill Freidberg

Education Struggles in the Streets and on the Airwaves: The Mexican Teachers' Movement and their use of Community Media

Jill Freidberg is a Seattle-based filmmaker, editor, and community radio producer who founded Corrugated Films. "Granito de Arena" and "Un Poquito de Tanta Verdad" were both films about the popular uprising in Oaxaca, Mexico. "Granito de Arena" looks at how teachers sparked a resistance movement against the globalization agenda that aims to dismantle public education.

12:15-1:30 **Lunch and Poster Viewing**

1:30-3:00 **Workshop Session 2**

September 26, 2009

Dear Educators, Parents, Community Leaders, Students, and Citizens:

We are excited to welcome you to the *Fifth Annual Educating for Change Curriculum Fair!* This year our theme is *Claiming Education as a Civil Right*. We have planned a day full of opportunities for you to learn and share about this important and timely topic, including a keynote address by Jill Freidberg. We sincerely hope you find your time here to be both informational and inspirational!

As in past years, we are holding this year's Curriculum Fair during National Literacy Month. We recognize that literacy is not simply the act of reading and writing the printed word but the comprehension of print and power, words and actions, people and justice; and that a healthy democracy requires access to literacy for all. The sponsors of this event - the Literacy for Social Justice Teacher Research Group, The Dean's Committee on Social Justice in the College of Education at UMSL, The Literacy Roundtable, Women's Voices Raised, Missouri-PIRC, and The Justice Institute- are proud to work together to bring you this exciting Curriculum Fair. As six unique organizations, we have each contributed to the vision and content of this year's fair as collaborators in a common adventure. We hope you will take with you new ideas for promoting education as a civil right and that we will all work together to ensure a more just, equitable and peaceful world.

In Solidarity,

The Planning Committee - 2009 - Educating for Change Curriculum Fair



WORKSHOP SESSION 1

9:30-11:00

School to Prison Pipeline

Reddit Hudson

Room #201

The purpose of the presentation is to leave participants able to identify policies and practices in schools that contribute to the disproportionate number of minority and poor youth being formally processed into the criminal justice system. More importantly, participants will be given strategies for building new policies and practices that protect children's right to be educated, as it is a right that is recognized in both civil rights and human rights frameworks.

Ekphrastic Response: Redefining our Sight through Sketch and Journaling

Dail Chambers

Room # 202

How have communities used their immediate environment as a foundation of change? Through imagery and text the arts has provided diverse insight for progression and social advancement. This journey will begin in the Harlem Renaissance, exploring the works of community artists and literary figures whose comment on their own surroundings has shaped the gaze and voice of under and misrepresented people in America. We will also investigate responsive works of contemporary Caribbean and African artists for a well rounded view of how visual and literary arts give voices to all.

Responsive creations are critical to the preservation of cultures. Through sketch booking and journaling we will liberate our own sight for a well represented future. The basic technique of "call and response" will begin the process of reevaluation of our surroundings and ourselves. Prior creative writing or visual arts training is not required. This workshop is aimed for all, including community activists and K- 12 educators.

Life over Debt: Understanding Institutionalized Poverty

Lori Reed

Room #204

Many do not realize that for every dollar the continent of Africa receives in aid, it pays \$2.30 in debt service. The Life over Debt workshop is an interactive one that uses role playing to explore the origins and impact of the crushing debt burden carried by the world's poorest countries. As Nelson Mandela says, "poverty is man made and can be undone by human hands." To that end, attendees will also learn how they can support passage of The Jubilee Act, legislation calling for complete debt cancellation for 67 of the world's poorest countries without harmful conditions. Much of the debt can be legally defined as "odious," meaning that it was incurred with neither the consent of nor for the benefit of the people. This is, at its heart, the antithesis of democracy.

Role playing allows participants to gain a better understanding of the issues and pressures facing leaders and international financial institution officials by placing them in those roles and having them interact with one another. The hope is for participants to gain an understanding of how the poverty of the Global South has become institutionalized and to perhaps become a voice in calling for more democratic policies in the Global economy.

Bilingual Education as a Civil Right

Elena Dobrila

Room #206

This workshop will raise awareness of various issues and challenges Latinos face in the public schools, and examine why English speaking Latino students are struggling in school even in the second and third generations. Presenters will explore questions such as: Is Latinos' struggle in school a language acquisition deficiency or is it of a different nature? In what conditions and under what policies do Latinos work best? What kinds of reforms would increase retention and graduation from school? What are the barriers to higher education? What training would be beneficial for teachers to understand and successfully train and effectively relate to their Latino students? Within an interactive approach, answers to these questions will be proposed as viable premises for further research and for potential ways to remedy the current situation. Also, the workshop will include opportunities to debate and support argumentatively various points of view. Short videos will provide not only a source of information but also a starting point for group discussions.



WORKSHOP SESSION 2

1:30-3:00

Subtle Messages in Literature: An Author Study of Anthony Brown

Rachel Hogbin

Room #201

This workshop explores the writing and illustrations of author/illustrator Anthony Brown. Participants will examine Brown's children's books for underlying tones of racial inequality and social classism. In addition, there will be a discussion about lessons that are sensitive to students.

Using Creative Movement to Promote a Peaceful Learning Environment

Alice Bloch

Room #202

This workshop will help teachers feel comfortable using movement in the classroom since movement experiences are based on the concepts rather than on needing to know dance steps. Using the movement concepts of energy, space, and time also enables students to employ all parts of themselves, the intellectual, physical, and creative in the learning process.

Workshop participants learn techniques like mirroring, and moving sculptures that change from aggressive to harmonious, as well as how to teach students to maintain personal space. Exercises are designed to be integrated into core subjects like math, history, science, and literacy, as well as for character development.

Calling Dreams: African American Contributions in the Teaching & Learning Process

April Harris

Room #204

This interactive, hands-on, and group-oriented presentation will posit the question: Do African American students receive equal treatment with respect to the enjoyment of life, liberty, property, and the protection to [under] the law as it relates to education? Education as a civil right is a tumultuous task; yet, one that necessitates probing. Participants will be given resourceful teaching and curriculum tools for guided instruction, activities to engage students, and lesson plans. Participants will divide into groups to develop African American centered curricula when given a particular content area. The inclusion of African Americans and their respective contributions within classroom instruction for the realization of “a dream” empowers students and develops social understandings. Within this presentation we will explicate equality as it relates to instructional outcomes in the state of Missouri and nationally. Solutions will be provided to stimulate creativity and deepen the level(s) of sensitivity towards inclusion of African American contributions, plight, and validity in the school curricula.

United for a Fair Economy

The Justice Institute

Room #206

“Bankers, Brokers, Bubbles & Bailouts” uses participatory activities to illustrate and demystify the underlying economic structures and the recent trends that contributed to the current financial crisis. It identifies the steps leading to the housing bubble and its collapse, reviews the impact of the crisis on jobs, families and communities, and explores strategies for building power through a broad-based, democratic, multi-race, multi-class, social movement for economic justice. This workshop is aimed at activists, students, workers - anyone interested in helping our towns, states, and nation construct an economy that is more equitable for everyone.

Workshop Goals:

- Explore the roots of the economic crisis.
- Review the trends & events that created the housing bubble and its collapse.
- See who wins and who loses as a result of the bailouts.
- Identify strategies to build a social movement for economic fairness.
- Name specific policy & rule changes that will reduce inequality.



CURRICULUM POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Meet with Presenters 9:00-9:30 & 12:15-1:30

Teaching About Genocide

Greg Kuo

This poster presentation will assist educators in teaching about genocide and what Americans can do to stop it. This curriculum teaches about fundamental human rights, and about people around the world who are being denied them – including their right to education. Educators will be introduced to resources from organizations like Facing History and Ourselves, Amnesty International, STAND, and the Genocide Intervention Network.

Getting Home & School on the Same Page: A Viable Plan

Bolanie Ambonisye

Barriers to family involvement in schools seem to be rooted in misunderstanding, judgements, and assumptions. This poster presents a body of information that can help eliminate those barriers.

Culturally Relevant Text Leads to a Culturally Relevant Classroom

Jill Benson, Christel Stoehr, & Michael Nobile

As classroom teachers, we have developed a multitude of reading response tools tailored to books that reflect the race, ethnicity, locations, gender, and socioeconomic status of our schools' student bodies to help students form deep text-to-self, text-to-world and text-to-text connections. We have also developed a student-friendly book rating scale in which readers can evaluate these texts for their effectiveness and relevance.

Peace Jam

Scott Miniea

Peace Jam is an international service-learning program that works with Nobel Peace Laureates to help inspire change within participating youth and their communities. Students are exposed to the Peace Jam service-learning curriculum. This unique learning style helps students master important curriculum content by supporting their making meaningful connections between what they are studying and its many applications. As part of the curriculum, youth are expected to do a service project in their community that addresses one of Peace Jam's ten Global Calls to Action (the ten most important issues the Nobel Laureates feel youth are facing in today's society).

Using Children's Critical Literacy to Teach Reading Focus Skills

Sarah Tehan

The table display will offer a collection of children's critical literacy books that help teach reading focus skills such as story elements, cause and effect, problem and solutions as well as teaching something in regard to social justice. The main handout and poster display will show educators how they can use the book "Our Children can Soar" by Michelle Cook and how to utilize the book to teach summarizing in the elementary classroom. In addition, this lesson will teach the concept "pioneers of change" within the educational system.

Education as a Human Right

ABC's of Literacy

ABC's of Literacy is a joint project of the Literacy Roundtable and LIFT-Missouri with strategic collaboration with Literacy for Social Justice Teachers Group. We will share information about a series of events and activities focused on our theme this past year of education as a human/civil right with banned books as our primary emphasis. These include Literacy Roundtable's book donation and community forum, banned book "read-in" featuring celebrity readers, adult education class banned book clubs, and a media lab training for adult learners & practitioners. More information about the ABC's of Literacy can be found on our blog: www.abcsofliteracy.blogspot.com

Intercultural Mentoring Program: Enhancement of American student understanding and International Student Experience – Program Design
Dana Klar

New this fall 2009 at Lindenwood University is the Intercultural Mentoring Program; a program that connects selected American social work major mentors with 4 – 6 international mentees each. The design of the program has mentors and mentees engaged in individual and group conversations, as well as individual and group activities. The goals of the program are consistent with the theme of this fair in that they embrace civic engagement, respect for diversity, and the wellness of all humans on earth. Specific program goals for the mentees include: 1) improved English speaking skills and 2) improved adjustment to life as a student in the United States; for the mentors: 3) respect for diversity and enhanced intercultural skills. The poster will demonstrate the “program in progress” by sharing the “how to” of current program design.

International Mentoring Program: Enhancement of American Student Understanding and International Student Experience – Student Response
Sarah Brubaker

New this fall 2009 at Lindenwood University is the Intercultural Mentoring Program; a program that connects selected American social work major mentors with 4 – 6 international mentees each. The design of the program has mentors and mentees engaged in individual and group conversations, as well as individual and group activities. The goals of the program are consistent with the theme of this fair in that they embrace civic engagement, respect for diversity, and the wellness of all humans on earth. Specific program goals for the mentees include: 1) improved English speaking skills and 2) improved adjustment to life as a student in the United States; for the mentors: 3) respect for diversity and enhanced intercultural skills.

The poster will explore anecdotal evidence from earlier American student participation with a similar program; and early (only 3 weeks in) student response (both American and international) to program design, goals and activities.



RESOURCE TABLES

AFT/The Organizer

A Different Kind of Bookstore

Center for Global Education at Augsburg College

Children's Legal Alliance

Dail Chambers

The Justice Institute

LSLETA

Literacy for Social Justice Teacher Research Group (LSJTRG)

Literacy Roundtable

Missourians Against the Death Penalty

Missouri Immigrant and Refugee Advocates

Peace Economy Project – The Path to Books, Not Bombs

Save Cleveland High

Well Red Books

What's Up Magazine

Women's Voices Raised

9/11 Questions Group

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank the following people, groups and organizations for their support in making the 5th Annual Educating for Change Curriculum Fair a reality. Over 20 dedicated volunteers assisted, in one way or another, with the planning and implementation of the event. Thank you all for making this year's fair a success!

For their financial support of the 2009 Fair, we would like to sincerely thank:

Literacy for Social Justice Teacher Research Group
The Literacy Roundtable
Missouri-PIRC
Dean's Committee on Social Justice, UMSL
Women's Voices Raised
Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, St. Louis Province
School Sisters of Notre Dame

In addition, we greatly appreciate the in-kind and other direct support from:

Technology and Learning Center, UMSL
Deans Committee on Social Justice, UMSL
Literacy Clinic, College of Education, UMSL
Music Department, UMSL

INFORMATION ON SPONSORS OF THE EVENT

Literacy for Social Justice Teacher Research Group

Literacy for Social Justice Teacher Research Group is a group of adult education instructors, elementary and secondary teachers, and university faculty and students committed to the relationship between literacy and social justice in classrooms, schools, and communities. We are based in St. Louis, Missouri and have collaborated with local and national groups that share common goals and interests. LSJTRG meets twice monthly to share information, discuss literacy research in education, workshop current projects, and plan community organizing and activism.

www.umsl.edu/~lsjtrg

The Literacy Roundtable

The Literacy Roundtable is a consortium of literacy providers throughout the St. Louis-Metro East area. Our mission is to support literacy efforts in the Missouri and Illinois bi-state region. Collectively, we advocate for literacy, build awareness of literacy issues in the community, provide resources through the Vickie Newton Literacy Fund to support learners, and offer tutor workshops. We continue to identify ways to cooperatively UNLOCK the POWER of LITERACY! Visit us at <http://www.literacyroundtable.org>

Dean's Committee on Social Justice, College of Education, UMSL

The Committee on Social Justice in the College of Education's mission is to enrich and enhance the knowledge, skills and disposition of faculty and staff in the College of Education in the areas of diversity and social justice in an effort to improve the climate and culture of the workplace and reflect these improvements in administrative and teaching practices and in the recruitment and retention of a diverse faculty, staff and student body.

Missouri-PIRC

The Missouri PIRC serves parents, schools, and community organizations throughout the state by providing a wide range of information, training, technical assistance, and resources to help parents promote their children's achievement in school.

www.missouri-pirc.org

Women's Voices Raised

Women's Voices Raised is a group of ardent, progressive St. Louis area women who finally got fed up. They became so concerned about the direction of this country and where its priorities seemed to be that they decided to must do something. From frustration and determination, the organization was born. We have built an organization that enables us to study many different issues and take action for a variety of causes. Our members are curious, creative, competent and caring. We believe in doing something meaningful in support of our values, and we have great fun and camaraderie in doing so. If you would like to add your voice to ours, we welcome you to join us.

The Justice Institute

The mission of The Justice Institute is to build a network of leaders, teachers and students, in St. Louis to motivate and empower grassroots activists through political education and training. The vision of the Institute is to ensure economic, political and social justice for working class people through local organized struggle. Through principled political discussion and coordinated action, The Justice Institute seeks to transform our organizations into democratic entities that will grow and sustain themselves. In turn, the social justice movement will be strengthened and the impact of our strategic efforts will deepen and expand. The Justice Institute upholds the organizing and learning models of people like Ella Baker, Paulo Friere and others that respects and reflects the experiences and human rights of poor and working class citizens all over the world