

Teacher Resource Center
Monthly Report • November 2012
Prepared by Kirsten Cole for Larry Tietz & the Tietz Family Foundation

At the TRC and elsewhere, many events were set back by the unexpected event of superstorm Sandy. LIU was closed for the week following the storm, and our last arts materials workshop (focusing on clay) had to be postponed. However, upon return to campus we were able to follow through with other planned programming and continue to organize our materials to make them accessible to TRC users. What follows are some highlights from the month of November.

- Offered a session with a teaching artist trained by the Lincoln Center Institute on how to integrate movement and dance into the early childhood classroom, especially as a tool for supporting early literacy, social studies, and number sense. This workshop was very well attended (30+ participants) and included teacher education students from LIU and Brooklyn College as well as teachers from a number of local early childhood centers and schools. Demand for this workshop was high and the workshop was very well received, so we hope to offer another session in the spring.
- Offered the first in a two part series on strategies for working with adolescents with Individualized Educational Programs. This session was well attended by LIU students, many NYC Teaching Fellows, who welcomed this opportunity to look closely at the IEP as a document to understand how to better advocate for the learning needs of their students.
- Led a session for the undergraduate Sociology in Education class. This hands-on workshop asked students to respond to an inquiry into their experiences of what makes a space safe. Students were able to express their knowledge individually and collaboratively through drawing and block building. This working session was followed by writing and discussion with reflections on how learners make meaning and communicate their understandings.
- Met to begin planning a partnership with the Educational Video Center to develop programs that will help future teachers respond to new certification requirements are coming into place in 2014 that will require them to use video as evidence of their teaching. Also planning workshops that will support teachers in using video in an ongoing way as a tool for engaging in inquiry-based, reflective practice.
- Applied to the Poets and Writers grant program to request a small grant to pay the fee for a teaching artist to offer a four-week session for teachers on how to teach poetry to children and adolescents. Anticipate offering these workshops in Jan-Feb 2013.

Upcoming plans for December 2012 and beyond:

- Continue to sort and categorize books from old TRC to add to the library at our new location.
- Catalog full TRC library using online, library database management software.

- Offer second session on strategies for working with adolescents with IEPs.
- Host monthly meeting of the Descriptive Inquiry Study Group.
- Plan and schedule workshops for January and beyond.