

Professional Development Course for Teachers of At-Risk Youth

Fall Weekend Session: Nov. 14 – 15, 2003 at Rudolf Steiner College

In this course, educators in alternative schools will learn how infusing a standards-based curriculum with the arts and Waldorf methodology can lead to a successful, transformative educational experience for both teachers and students.

Focus of the course is disseminating an innovative model program for at-risk youth developed over the past several years at the Yuba County Court and Community Schools in partnership with Rudolf Steiner College. The project was recently supported by the California Arts Council (as an Arts Demonstration Project) and is now supported by the Walter S. Johnson Foundation.

Program Highlights:

- Students improve academic skills, as well as their attitude toward school, themselves, and their communities.
- The arts—drawing, music, painting, storytelling, movement, poetry, and drama—are integrated fully into academic lessons.
- The integrated arts program, in sync with current neurological research, increases students' learning abilities, and helps break the cycle of failure and hopelessness in which these students are often trapped.
- The Waldorf-based program has been tested for seven years at the T.E. Mathews Community School in Yuba County with high-risk juvenile offenders, 12 – 18 years old.

What Teachers Will Learn:

- Teachers will develop personal capacities in the arts, literature, music, and movement.
- Teachers will learn to deliver creative, arts-infused thematic lessons within a curriculum that meets state standards, as well as students' developmental needs.
- Teachers will learn how to engage students with multiple learning styles and challenges.

SCHEDULE:

Friday: 7:15 – 9:15 pm
Saturday: 8:30 – 4:30 pm

FACULTY:

Betty Staley, M.A. (Director),
Penni Sparks, Maureen Curran
and others

FALL SESSION TUITION:

\$175* (\$200 after Nov. 6)
**tuition aid available*

On the last day of school, two fifteen year old boys—one Hispanic, the other Hmong—played a Mozart duet on their recorders. Both had been expelled from public schools for violent acts, constant failure in class, and refusal to follow directions. But their music lessons were rigorous. They had never worked so hard on anything. When they finished playing their duet before an audience of 45, classmates cheered and they even clapped for themselves. It was a miracle.

Ruth Mikkelsen Principal
Yuba County Court and Community Schools
2002 – 2003 Administrator of the Year, Colusa/Sutter/Yuba Counties

This project fills an incredible void, a vast gap in the supports, services and opportunities available to young people, especially those with multiple risks and challenges in their lives. It offers both the content and process for creating a cadre of turnaround teachers and turnaround schools that truly can weave a safety net, a fabric of resilience for our most in need young people.

Bonnie Benard
Senior Program Associate and Resiliency Specialist, WestED

Sponsored by The Walter S. Johnson Foundation

Registration: Before November 6, \$175 • After November 6, \$200

Please return registration form to: RUDOLF STEINER COLLEGE, 9200 Fair Oaks Boulevard, Fair Oaks, CA 95628
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Course Information: Please call Arline Monks at 916.961.3932