

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSE FOR TEACHERS OF AT-RISK YOUTH

Summer Session: July 9-20, 2012 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 has been supported by the Kellogg Foundation, the California Endowment, the California Arts Council (as an Arts Demonstration Project), and 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. This approach provides visual-spatial musical opportunities for expression and knowing, and a kinesthetic environment that fosters and develops students' movement-oriented needs.
- 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 ten 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

July 9–20, 2012
Mon.–Fri., 9am–5pm

TUITION

\$620

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

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

We were given a multitude of tools that I have used in my classroom. I take more with me this year... I have found that these methodologies have pushed me to become the teacher I've always wanted to be.

—Chandi Wood

Century Day High School
Orange County Department of Education

This course has facilitated teachers' engagement of students with multiple learning styles and challenges. It is providing our core team with a basic understanding of underlying developmental needs and methods that can be readily infused in an alternative setting to break the cycle of failure that so many of our students have come to accept... The effectiveness of the training is evident by teacher and staff enthusiasm to implement what they have learned and the students' enthusiasm in participating as active learners—some for the first time in their educational experience.

—MaryLou Vachet

Orange County Department of Education

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

Tuition: \$620

Optional: 3 Units Academic Credit, \$195 from California State University, Sacramento; CEUs also available

RUDOLF STEINER COLLEGE

36 Years of Excellence in Waldorf Teacher Education

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