1991 INSTITUTE PLANS UNDERWAY

Reports of activities by NTIEVA teachers have been arriving from throughout the Metroplex since early fall. A great range of individual projects reflect warmth, good humor, concern for students and a real pleasure in teaching that appears to be the trademark of the NTIEVA teacher. We are delighted to be able to tell you that your commitment has already been acknowledged: we have received substantial funding for year two—in fact, for the next three years—by the Amon Carter Foundation of Fort Worth.

The dates for next summer's institute are set for June 17 - July 3. Not only will a number of new schools be added from each of the consortium school districts, but there will be a change in the Institute's format. We look forward to sharing with you more details as our plans develop.

The NTIEVA Staff

Back row: Jack Davis and Bill McCarter
Front row: Harriet Laney, Nancy Cason, and Cassandra Broadus (not pictured: Jo Carlson and Sara Browning)

ART CONFERENCE IN FT. WORTH

The 29th Conference of the Texas Art Educators Association will be held in Fort Worth November 14 - 18 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. A number of exciting tours, workshops, and presentations will be offered. Commercial exhibits will include demonstrations of the latest art products and materials, and visual materials and textbooks, as well as lots of free door prizes.

Dr. Jack Davis and Dr. William McCarter will give an overview and update of the NTIEVA on Sunday, November 18 from 9:00-9:50. Marie Peel (HEB Art Specialist) will present "Caught in a Web of Intrigue...Semantic Webbing" on Sunday, November 18 from 9:00 to 9:50. And Dr. Connie Newton and Dr. JoAnn Canales will present "Activities and Strategies for Vocabulary and Language Development through Art" on Friday, November 15 from 3:00 to 3:50.

Non-TAEA members are invited to attend. If you would like further information, contact TAEA, 4020 McEwen #105, Dallas, Texas 75244.
Exhibit of Russian Art Work at DMA

The first exhibition in the United States devoted to the most important paintings created in late nineteenth century Russia will open at the DMA later this month. Organized with Intercultura of Fort Worth, this exhibition, which traces the history and accomplishments of an artists' group called the Association of Traveling Art Exhibits, is made possible through the cooperative of the Ministry of Culture of the USSR, and by a generous contribution from NCNB.

The artists in the Association of Traveling Art Exhibits were known as the Wanderers. They were the contemporaries and friends of such great Russian cultural figures as Tolstoy, Dostoyevsky, Tchaikovsky and Mussorgsky. Although they shared the esteem and renown of their colleagues in literature and music, today the painters are hardly known by name outside the USSR. The Wanderers is the first of a series of landmark exchange exhibitions organized with the Soviet Union by Intercultura to bring the arts of Russia to the USA. This timely event, which presents so powerfully and movingly the high artistic culture of nineteenth century Russia, gives incontrovertible evidence of the reality of glamor.

Like their contemporaries, the Impressionists in France, the Wanderers (peredviznikhi) were the most talented and daring artists of their time in Russia. In 1870, even before their French colleagues, these Russian artists banded together to bring art to the people. They lived in a time of unprecedented social change, in the wake of the liberation of the serfs by Czar Alexander II in 1861, and they put their art at the service of the ideals they shared with the progressive intelligensia. Rejecting the security and strictures of the Imperial Academy, the Wanderers adopted a realist style, painted subjects from the Russian land and the people, and exhibited their works to the public all around the country.

The DMA Education Department has planned tours for sixth grade students who encounter world history in their social studies curriculum. In addition, a limited number of tours will be conducted for the kindergarten and first grade students of NTIEVA participants. Although the exhibit will be up until January 6, 1991, it is recommended that teachers call the museum at 214/922-1313 at the earliest opportunity to make arrangements.

(Portions of this article are reprinted from DMA Newsletter, Vol.4 No.1, October, 1990.)

Nikolai Yaroshenko, In Warm Country, 1890, oil on canvas, Russian State Museum, Leningrad

The Case of Vincent's Ear

According to the latest news on the medical front, Vincent Van Gogh may have cut off his ear due to a severe case of Meniere's disease, a disorder of the inner ear that is fairly common but was often misdiagnosed as epilepsy well into the 20th century. This is often called tinnitus--a sometimes maddening buzzing or ringing in the ear--a recurrent symptom of the disease, along with vertigo and nausea, visual disturbances and often deafness.

In the Journal of the American Medical Association, Dr. Arenbery of the Colorado Neurological Institute, and his colleagues write that van Gogh's letters "reveal a man constantly in control of his reason, and suffering from severe repeated attacks of disabling vertigo, not a seizure disorder...His voluntary admission to the asylum at St.Remy hoping to find help for his attacks of vertigo...and his rational behavior at the asylum...should forever banish the notion that he was an epileptic or 'mad'." They maintain that this was what made the artist's life a misery and led to his suicide at the age of 37.
EXEMPLARS IN IMPLEMENTATION

Art Across the Curriculum

Susan Keller, Pilot Point ISD, prepared students for a color study by setting up an art center in her room which included Seurat's "Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte" and Van Gogh's "Entrance to the Public Gardens in Arles". These reproductions are being used to illustrate color concepts.

Rose Ann Henzler and Janyce Greenwood, also at Pilot Point Elementary, correlated a Matisse study with their science shape unit and language arts lesson. Students discussed "Ivy in Flower" (Dallas Museum of Art) prior to creating their own organic shape collages. Janyce brought in the book Chick Chick Boom Boom (1989), a beautifully illustrated children's book using cut-paper collage by Bill Martin, Jr. This entire shape study is an example of how art can be used as a basis for an across-the-curriculum unit of study.

Mitchell Does Mondrian!

First grade teacher Peggy Mitchell of Bedford Heights, HEB, found that studying Mondrian not only enlarges children's concepts of what art is, but is helpful in teaching math concepts as well. She began her lesson by introducing the students to primary colors, explaining that all other colors can be made from red, yellow and blue. She showed examples of primary colors used in advertising, and talked about how each of these colors affect us.

Peggy then told her students that a primary color scheme is often one that artists choose to work with, and showed the children several reproductions of works by Mondrian. She pointed out Mondrian's use of horizontal and vertical lines, and his carefully planned and balanced composition.

Math concepts were further reinforced in the production activity. The children made beautiful Mondrian-like compositions, taking into account shape, horizontal and vertical lines, primary colors and balance.

Production Activity in Conjunction with Social Studies Unit "Me, Myself, and I"

MY TEACHER by La Toya Massey Teacher: Helen Price, 1st grade, T.D. Marshall Elementary, Dallas ISD
MUSEUM MESSAGES

Amon Carter Museum
817-738-1933

GEORGE N. BARNARD
Photographer of Sherman's Campaign
September 29 - November 25

FAMILY PROGRAM
November 10th and 11th 2:00 p.m.
Jazz musician, Duane Durrett, will be giving a performance based on Stuart Davis' painting "Blips and Ifs".

CONCRETE: THE IMAGE OF THE NEW;
THE FACT OF THE OLD
November 15, 1990 7:00 PM
David Gebhart, UC, Santa Barbara, will present a lecture on the modern and traditional uses of reinforced concrete in architecture.

Dallas Museum of Art
214-922-1200

SELECTIONS OF EGYPTIAN ART
from the permanent collection of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Opening September 30th on long-term loan

THE WANDERERS: Masters of Nineteenth Century Russian Painting
October 28-January 6

Kimbell Art Museum
Metro 817-654-1034

LIKENESS AND BEYOND:
PORTRAITS FROM AFRICA AND THE WORLD
September 15 - November 11

OLD MASTER DRAWINGS from the National Gallery of Switzerland

THE ARTIST'S EYE: DAN RIZZIE
November 17 - December 16

Meadows Museum
214-692-2516

GILLES LARRAIN
November 8, 1990 - January 6, 1991

Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth
817-738-9215

FANTASY IN FABRIC: The Artist as Couturier
October 27 - December 30

CONTEMPORARY TEXAS PRINTS
November 18, 1990 - January 20, 1991
PUBLIC RELATIONS POSSIBILITIES

Parent support and community involvement is one way of guaranteeing success for your school's DBAE program. There are a number of ways to get others involved. Here are only a few suggestions:

1) Send a letter to parents introducing the DBAE program.

2) Organize an "Art Smart" PTA night for parents to introduce them to DBAE. Provide a few activities to let them see what the students are learning.

3) Organize a Fine Arts Festival. This after-5:00 event might include a "gallery" of students at work in the gym, a performance by the schools' choir, and/or poetry readings by student authors.

4) Arrange for student work to be displayed in the administration offices. Examples of students' descriptive writing could be displayed with reproductions of famous paintings to show how art correlates with other areas of your school's curriculum.

5) Arrange for a student art show at a local bank, mall, or other public place.

These are only a few suggestions. Please feel free to contact the NTIEVA staff for additional information. We will be happy to discuss with you specific ideas and help you get those ideas rolling!

LETTER TO PARENTS

On the next page is a letter to parents introducing the Discipline-Based Art Education program at your school. We are interested in getting parents and the community involved as much as possible. This letter can be photocopied and sent to parents in "take-home folders", individually mailed, or used as a guideline for your own personal letter. We are only offering this letter as a suggestion and hope you will be able to use it.
Dear Parents,

This year your child will be involved in an art education program in coordination with the North Texas Institute for Educators on the Visual Arts. The program will offer children the opportunity to understand, appreciate, and make judgments about art, as well as have experiences in producing art themselves.

Art is an essential part of a child's total education. Using this approach, art will be presented in such a way that your child will begin to make connections between art and other subject areas such as social studies, history, language arts, and science.

We are excited to be able to offer this program at our school. You can become involved by talking with your child about what he/she is doing in art at school. Look closely at your child's art work and share the wonderful experience of art together!