

Concordia University, Nebraska
Cross-Campus Collaboration

Dear Colleagues in Christ,

With the 17th Plum Creek Children's Literacy Festival now a memory, it is time to offer thanks to the many professors and students who collaborated to create and implement authentic, discipline-based literacy experiences.

One teacher wrote the following on the evaluation form:

WordSound! Music – this was many of my children's favorite session of the whole day. I must say I hand it to each music professor! They put themselves ENTIRELY into it! Our children had the opportunity to take part and to all be apart because of the way they lead & directed it. They were so well prepared, camaraderie was evident & the final project was so dear. I recorded it on my camera and played it back when we returned the next day. What a memory that I can pull out the entire year. The professors gave us cd's as well as we left. Very kind & thoughtful - - such talent! Thank you so much to the gentlemen! I would love to hear more about the music ministry degree! (underlining added)

One vision of the festival is to expand the sectional offerings to include departments within the university. Following is a listing of the various departments and the title or type of sectional offered to the thousands of children on Friday, September 21st.

Fun Science for Kids	Brent Royuk, science
Duck! Rabbit!	Holly Helmer, library
A Student's Life in Drama	Bryan Moore, drama
Illustrated Image	Brenda Robson, art
Literacy on the Lawn, I	Vicki Boye, HPE
Literacy on the Lawn, II	Karyn Backhus, alum
The Original Art Exhibit	Jim Bockelman, art
WordSound!	Kurt von Kampen, Andrew Schultz, Pete Prochnow, music
Author talks/activities	Janell Uffelman, education

The popularity of department-led sessions has increased to the point that teachers are requesting them a year in advance!

Students who attended Plum Creek in their elementary years are now students in my classroom. They recall their festival experiences with great fondness. Who knows how many of the faces at the 2012 festival will re-appear as Concordia students in the future?

Thank you to all who shared the vision and led their department in celebrating God's gift of literacy across the curriculum. You have planted the seeds of creativity, excitement, and joy for learning! God is faithful and your work will be blessed.

With great appreciation,
Janell Uffelman and Vikki Gremel