

THE INFORMANT

Newsletter of The Knowledge Center, Inc.

Pro Amore Discendi - For The Love of Learning

March 2006

Lubbock, Texas

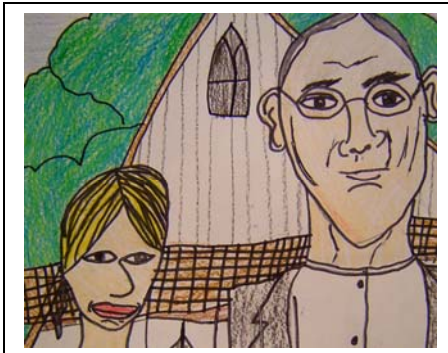
Volume 2, Number 4

ART EXHIBIT - An exhibit of artwork created by LCU art students is on display at the Asbury Gallery (2005 Avenue T – 3rd floor). The artists are members of the Student Art Education Association. The exhibit includes paintings, photographs, and sculptures and is on display Monday through Thursday 9:00-3:00 and Friday 9:00 to noon until March 23.

SUMMER INSTITUTE – The annual Core Knowledge Summer Unit Writing Institute will be held the week of June 5-9 at Hutchinson Middle School. Teachers wishing to attend must be currently teaching at a Core Knowledge school in the Lubbock area. They must also be planning to teach the new unit this fall and be willing to submit the unit for presentation consideration at the next national conference. Application forms will be available to teachers from their campus office. They may also be requested at sam.ayers@lcu.edu. The application/registration deadline is April 21.



OFFICIAL SCHOOLS – Two Lubbock area schools were recently recognized at a special reception by the Core Knowledge Foundation at the national conference. Murfee Elementary School was recognized as an *Official Core Knowledge School* and Christ The King was recognized as the first *Official Core Knowledge Preschool* in Texas.



AMERICAN GOTHIC – In 1930, artist Grant Wood spotted a house with an unusual window. He quickly sketched the house. In his studio, he created a painting that has become one of the most recognized American paintings of all time. By the 1950s, illustrators were creating parodies of this piece. Art students at Hutchinson junior high recently studied *American Gothic*, and they created their original parodies of this popular icon. This artwork will be on display at the Asbury Gallery April 1-20, 2006.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

LEADERSHIP - The annual “Follow The Leader” workshop was held in the Baker Conference Center at LCU on February 6. The leadership seminar was attended by 222 5th and 6th grade students. They represented Bowie, Honey, Iles, Murfee, Waters, Roscoe Wilson, Wheatley, Christ the King, and Lubbock Christian elementary schools. Dr. Fred Hardin shared insightful information with the students through lecture, video clips, and engaging activities about leadership and making good choices.



CIVIL WAR ARTIFACTS – Don Smarto traveled to Lubbock From Dallas to share Civil War artifacts from his private collection with students at Roscoe Wilson Elementary Magnet School. The presentation was attended by the 2nd grade students and served as an extension of their initial study of the Civil War period, which is a 2nd grade topic from the *Core Knowledge Sequence*. The artifacts included a variety of authentic period photographs, tools, stamps, currency, and other items of interest. Mr. Smarto also demonstrated how various artifacts in the collection were used in daily life during the early 1860s.



PHOTO EXHIBIT – Photographer and recent graduate of Texas Tech University Emily Harrison exhibited her photographs at the Asbury Gallery during the month of February. *The Human Condition* featured over thirty photographs taken in recent months. Over 150 visitors participated in the First Friday Art Trail event that showcased her work. Ms. Harrison also made a special presentation to photography students from Hutchinson junior high. She responded to their questions and shared tips and anecdotes from her experiences as a photographer.

CORE KNOWLEDGE ACTIVITIES

HARRIETT TUBMAN SHOW – Hope Shiver traveled from Houston to spend a week presenting her interpretation of Harriett Tubman to students in Lubbock area Core Knowledge schools. Participating elementary schools included Bowie, Murfee, Wheatley, Honey, Rush, Roscoe Wilson, Christ The King, Lubbock Christian, and Idalou. David Keepman also assisted her in presenting Sojourner Truth at O. L. Slaton Junior High School.



NATIONAL CONFERENCE - The 15th Core Knowledge National Conference was held in San Antonio, Texas. In addition to reading and content area specialists, the program featured a keynote address from *Bill Nye the Science Guy*. Lubbock area conference presenters included: Diane Ashby (Waters), Sam Ayers (Hutchinson/LCU), Staci Bishop (LCU student), Briana Blech (O. L. Slaton), David Boyer (LCU), Corey Butler (O. L. Slaton), Shannon Bullard (Honey), Andrea Carter (O. L. Slaton), Kelli Dickson (Iles), Toni Diller (Murfee), Debbi Galey (Iles), Rebecca Gonzales (O. L. Slaton), Clay Gordy (O. L. Slaton), Jean Hines (LCU), Doug Hogan (Wheelock), Katie Huey (Christ the King), Jerard Lafuente (O. L. Slaton), Karla Lewis (Honey), Staci Lewis (LCU student), Cecelia Mendoza (Christ the King), Brenda Parker (O. L. Slaton), Phyllis Powell (LCS), Tammy Stewart (Bowie), Kara Swindell (O. L. Slaton), Candace Tickle (Waters), Shay Troutman (Murfee), Tammy Wood (Bowie), and Holly Womack (Honey). Other presenters at the conference who have attended the Summer Unit Writing Institute in Lubbock included: Leslie Anderson and Sheila Miller (Amistad Charter School-Amistad, NM).

Presenter Toni Diller of Murfee Elementary School



Presenter Cecilia Mendoza of Christ the King



SAM HOUSTON – Coinciding with the observance of Texas Independence Day, Bill Perryman of History In Person traveled to Lubbock to share his portrayal of Sam Houston. In addition to the live performance, Mr. Perryman followed up the presentation with a Power Point presentation highlighting additional facts about the life and lasting contributions of Sam Houston. The presentations were made at Iles, Murfee, Waters, Roscoe Wilson, Hutchinson Junior High School, Christ the King, St. Joseph, and the International Cultural Center.



CORE KNOWLEDGE ASSISTANTS – Two LCU undergraduate students have received the Helen Jones Core Knowledge Scholarship. The teacher education students also learn more about Core Knowledge and serve as assistants at related events.

Marissa Michelle Odom is a 2002 graduate of Shallowater High School. She attended West Texas A&M University and South Plains College before transferring to Lubbock Christian University. Marissa feels God led her to LCU, and she appreciates the blend of integrity and scholarship demonstrated by the faculty and her fellow students. Ms. Odom is majoring in Early Childhood Education and plans to teach following her graduation in 2007.



Cristina Smith is a native of Amarillo. She is a 2003 graduate of Tascosa High School. She attended Amarillo College before transferring to Lubbock Christian University. She recognizes the importance of a quality education and is passionate about teaching children. Ms. Smith is majoring in Elementary Education and plans to teach following her graduation in 2007.



BOWL CHAMPIONS - Congratulations to the teams from Rush Elementary School. The teams from Rush finished 1st and 2nd in the 2006 African American History Bowl.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 1-20	Hutchinson American Gothic Parodies	Asbury	OPEN
May 1-19	Hutchinson Images of Italy Photo Exhibit	Asbury	OPEN
May 2	NIE Teacher Appreciation Reception	LCU	Teachers
May 24-Jun. 22	Kay Smith's Watercolor Exhibit	Asbury	OPEN
June 5-9	Summer Unit Writing Institute	Hutchinson	Teachers

Samuel J. Ayers, Ed. D.
 National Core Knowledge Coordinator of West Texas
 LCU-Education + 5601 W. 19th Street + Lubbock, TX 79407
 (806) 720-7991 office - (806) 720-7566 fax
sam.ayers@lcu.edu

The Knowledge Center, Inc.
 2005 Avenue T + Lubbock, TX 79411

