

Wood, Wool and Wax

The Denver Waldorf School's Alumni Newsletter

Volume I, Issue 4

April 4, 2005

UPCOMING EVENTS

SPRING FAIR AND ASSEMBLY

May 14, 2005

This year the Spring Fair will focus on Waldorf Education. Anyone interested in helping with the alumni table, please contact Christa. (303) 777-0531 extension 100.

ALUMNI BRUNCH

May 25, 2005

Three years ago The Denver Waldorf School began the tradition of hosting an Alumni Brunch for our graduating 8th and 12th graders. It was our way of reaching out to Denver Waldorf School Graduates, inviting you to share with new graduates your experiences and insights, to find out how you are faring in life and to gather your thoughts and feelings about the education you received and how it has affected your lives. It is an opportunity to share a sense of belonging to the school community and welcome new graduates into the community of Denver Waldorf School Alumni. This year our Alumni Brunch will be offered on May 25th. We would love it if you could come. Call Christa to RSVP at (303) 777-0531 extension 100.

This picture is from Halloween 1985-anyone recognize these girls?



We were contacted regarding a study involving Waldorf graduates. Below is the letter we received, if any of you are interested the contact information is included in the letter.

March 9, 2005

Dear Waldorf Graduate:

As a Waldorf graduate, you are being invited to participate in an education research study called Waldorf Graduates' Reflections on Art Experience and Engendered Aesthetic Code. This study is being conducted as part of my doctoral dissertation in the Department of Learning, Teaching, and Curriculum at the University of Missouri-Columbia. The study seeks to describe the kinds of art experiences that Waldorf graduates have had in their Lower and Upper Schools. The study will also examine the relationship between these past art experiences and the Waldorf graduates' current attitudes toward art. A significant benefit of participating in this study is the opportunity for the Waldorf graduates to gain insight from the reflection process.

My study is a narrative study where data will be gained from Waldorf graduates' through one-on-one email interviews. I will provide participating Waldorf graduates some interview prompts that will promote reflection about art experiences. The questions that I will pose are open-ended with no single answer; thus any thought or opinion the participants have will be valid and appreciated. The data or stories gained in this process will be co-constructed between the participants and myself; I will provide all participants the opportunity to confirm the narratives and reflections.

As previously stated, the results of this study will be included in my doctoral dissertation. Findings from the study will be presented to other educators and interested parties through professional conference presentations and journal publications. All participant information will be presented anonymously and data will be kept confidential. Neither the participants' names, nor their school(s), will be published in the study. The data collected will not be used for evaluative purposes. Please note that participation is voluntary. Choosing not to participate has no imposed consequences or prejudices and you may discontinue participation at anytime. If you choose to participate in this study, you will share personal art experiences in three to five email responses. The time commitment for the totality of your responses would be approximately one hour. I anticipate the interviews being conducted through the months of March–May. To begin and consent to participation, please submit an email reply to me at cij@mindspring.com. Please state in your reply, 'Yes, I consent to participating in your study.' Thank you for your consideration of participation.

Any questions that you may have will be answered by contacting, Carrie Nordlund, at (573) 642-0815 or cij@mindspring.com. You may contact my dissertation supervisor, Dr. Kathy Unrath, at (573) 884-8935, or UnrathK@missouri.edu. You may also contact the Campus IRB Compliance Office, Office of Research, at (573) 882-9585 or umresearchcirb@missouri.edu.

I look forward to learning about art experiences that occur in Waldorf Schools, hearing Waldorf graduates' opinions, and providing additional views of art curriculum to the larger educational community.

Warmly,

Carrie Nordlund
Ph.D. Candidate
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Fulton, MO 65251

Dr. Kathy Unrath
Ph. D. Dissertation Supervisor
303 Townsend Hall
Columbia, MO 65211-2400

An Autobiography of a fellow Waldorf Graduate: John Reinhart

Besides being a student at Hampshire College, which included 6 months in Berlin, I have diligently worked to acquire many eclectic hobbies. My studies focused on political and social movement(s) and issues of governance. Since graduating, I have put my studies to work going deep undercover to experience the exploitation and alienation of modern capitalist wage slavery. I do computer work for a yarn store, helping funnel money to my extraordinarily greedy boss while driving a truck that won't pass emissions. My co-workers all assume that I studied political science and seem disappointed when I tell them that I studied *political* science. In fact, the only computer related course I took was called *Quantum Computing with No Pre-requisites*, but they usually tune out before I can go into details.

I've taught fiddle lessons, knitting lessons, done freelance computer work, and currently work part-time doing landscaping and greenhouse work. In what little spare time I find, I help out with the monthly *Valley War Bulletin*, writing, editing, proofreading, and fundraising. I lend my support to local labor struggles, yo-yo, and recently completed construction of my first cardboard chair.

Email to: assist@denverwaldorf.org