



May 2009

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### smA+rts



OK A+ School [Putnam City Academy](#) honored educators Rick Harvey (above left) and Jim Coffman (above right) this spring as grant recipients from Fund for Teachers, Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence and Tulsa Community Foundation.

The grant will fund their 2009 summer fellowship, which sets out to examine and investigate WWI and WWII sites in France and Holland to enrich history curriculum with video, personal journals and photographs.

Both educators are deeply honored and thrilled to bring back cultural experiences and photographs with historical context to their classrooms.

The team will explore the impact of geography, tactics and strategy on the outcome of the two main war conflicts of the 20th Century in Central Europe.

Harvey, retired military, has taught at PCA for eight years, and Coffman, an educator of more than 20 years, also has taught at PCA for eight years.

"I really have a joy for teaching, I love working with students and seeing them learn and grow," said Coffman.

Harvey said he is particularly interested in gathering civilian interviews from both sides of the conflict to put a personal face with the history, and to further conversations with his students. "It's not just soldiers who were in these wars, but civilians."

Both educators believe this research project is imperative due to the age of the participants of these conflicts, as this opportunity to obtain firsthand accounts could be lost forever.

Hours of preparation have already begun as Coffman and Harvey have contacted local Veterans of Foreign Wars associations to interview Germans, both military and civilian. Plus, they have thoroughly studied and planned their route through France, Holland and Germany.

"I want to help my students understand that it's always about people and how it (the conflicts) affected their daily lives," said Harvey.

[Read more about Fund for Teachers.](#)

**How can you adapt, adopt or create resources to continue learning at any age?**

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)



Welcome to Oklahoma A+ Schools ... Oklahoma's only research-based, whole school reform model with creativity in its mission.

Congratulations to the eight new OK A+ Schools! This year's OK A+ Celebration at the state Capitol included many special guests and speakers. OK A+ Principals are pictured above.

As our network continues to grow, we're excited to participate in a strategic planning grant to help us prepare for the future. If you have not done so, please take a moment to complete one of the following surveys that will help our planning process.

1. [OK A+ Schools Network Member](#)
2. [Other Oklahoma Educators not in the A+ Network](#)
3. [Oklahoma Parents](#)

Continue cultivating creativity in your practice and our communities!

Jean Hendrickson  
Oklahoma A+ Schools Executive Director

## Creative Classrooms



Throughout the OK A+ network, PK-12 teachers nurture creativity in every learner. In this Snapshot of Creativity, students can explore all [multiple intelligences](#) through *I Spy*. Initially written as an early childhood lesson, this could be adapted to various grade levels. [\(Photo from CreativeCommons '09\)](#)

[Click here to view the lesson plan and details.](#) How could you adapt and adopt this for your classroom or practice? How could you integrate technology in your classroom with this lesson plan?

To see more examples of creativity across Oklahoma in an OK A+ [Featured School](#), [click here.](#)

## All Around A+



The Oklahoma A+ Schools® network celebrates creativity across curriculum and community throughout the year.

This week, eight Oklahoma schools were recognized as a new part of the network, now 60 schools strong.

The eight schools joining the Oklahoma A+ Schools® network for the 2009-2010 academic year are [Madill Early Childhood Center](#) in Madill, [Oklahoma City Educare](#) in Oklahoma City, [Peace Academy](#) in Tulsa, [Sacred Heart Catholic School](#) in El Reno, [Santa Fe South Elementary](#) in Oklahoma City, and [Silo Elementary, Junior and High Schools](#) in Durant.

## [Read more New Schools.](#)



[OK A+](#) Executive Director Jean Hendrickson, [Western Village Academy](#) winning educator Joy Rainey, Western Village Academy Principal Peggy Brinson, and [The Oklahoman Educational](#) Services Manager Wendy Kleinman. (pictured left to right)

Earlier this semester, four educators in Oklahoma City Public Schools were honored in the You Dreamed for Me Teacher Recognition program through *The Oklahoman*, SandRidge Energy and [OK A+ Schools](#).

## [Read more about these educators and view photos from their schools.](#)

OK A+ provides Professional Development to more than 50 A+ schools throughout the year. If you are affiliated with an OK A+ School, click here for a 2008-2009 A+ Calendar of Events.

## Get Connected

Oklahoma A+ Schools cultivates creativity across its network and wants to invite you to get active through the arts, education and your community.

### Oklahoma A+ Schools Statewide Conference



Save the Date: Sept. 12, 2009

Whether you're in an OK A+ School, or want to experience OK A+ first-hand, the annual statewide conference is a full day of engaging and relevant professional development.

## [Read more OK A+ Statewide Conference details.](#)

Not in an OK A+ School, but would like to learn more? Click [here](#) to find out how to join the OK A+ Schools network.

Check out [A+ Resources](#) for more links to arts, education and the community.

## Community Happenings and Resources for Educators

### This Month ...

Oklahoma City Philharmonic Youth Concerts  
Book your school-day concert now  
OKC, OK  
[Read More OKC Phil Concerts](#)

Red Earth Festival  
June 5, 6, and 7, 2009  
Red Earth will host educators of grades K-12 for an in-service that incorporates Native arts and culture into language arts, social studies and visual arts curriculum

[Read More Red Earth](#)

### Looking Ahead ...

Art Integration and American Indian Cultural Teacher Workshop

**June 15, June 17, 2009**

The Chickasaw Nation Community Center in Ada and The Chickasaw Nation OKC Area Office in Oklahoma City, OK

Contact: Laura Stewart, Director, Division of Arts and Humanities

Arts in Education Department

580-272-5520, [laura.stewart@chickasaw.net](mailto:laura.stewart@chickasaw.net)

[Read More Teacher Workshop](#)

**Moving Stories from the Page to the Stage: On-going Professional Development workshop for K-12 Teachers**

**Saturday, June 20, 2009, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.**

University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond, OK

Contact: Jamie Jacobson, UCO Director of Dance at (405) 974-5231 or

[jjacobson@uco.edu](mailto:jjacobson@uco.edu).

[Read More Dance](#)

**Save the Date: OK A+ Statewide Conference**

**Saturday, Sept. 12, 2009**

**Moore-Norman Technology Center, OKC, OK**

[Read More Statewide Conference](#)

## On-Going ...

**Junior Achievement of Greater OKC**

**Book Now: Spring Classes Available**

Junior Achievement is dedicated to educating students in grades K-12 about business, work readiness and financial literacy through experiential, hands-on programs.

Contact: Amy Serrata (405) 235.3399 or [aserrata@jaokc.org](mailto:aserrata@jaokc.org)

[Read More Junior Achievement](#)

The Opry Heritage Foundation of Oklahoma presents

*The Opry Heritage Concert Series* Fieldtrips

Now - May 2009

The Rodeo Opry, Oklahoma City, OK

Contact: [E-mail](mailto:) or (405) 297-9773 Cindy Scarberry, Program Director and OK A+ Fellow

[Read More OK Heritage](#)

**Philbrook Museum of Art**

Ongoing

Tulsa, OK

MyMuseum program for families and free second Saturdays

Contact: Cindy Williams, Museum Educator, (918) 749-7941 or

[CWilliams@philbrook.org](mailto:CWilliams@philbrook.org)

[Read More Philbrook](#)

**[ArtSpace] Untitled Educational Tours**

Ongoing

Oklahoma City, OK

[ArtSpace] Untitled would love to host your school group for an educational tour of our exhibit and printmaking studio! We never charge a fee for tours and they are a great way to educate students of all ages about art and the creative process. For more information or to schedule a tour, call (405) 815-9995

[Read More \[ArtSpace\] Untitled](#)

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