

# California Kindergarten Association E-News

February 2014

## *PK1 Conference!*

*Once again, we held another fun, outstanding and RECHARGING conference in Santa Clara on January 17-19. From the PreConference Institute, the inspiring keynote by Donna Whyte, a fun-filled concert by Jim Gill and the celebration of our 25th Annual Young Children's Art Exhibit, almost 800 people full of enthusiasm and energy filled the Hyatt Regency Santa Clara.*

*A tremendous thank you to the never tiring PK1 Conference and Art Committees, the CKA Board, presenters and exhibitors for making this another successful year. Thank you, also, to all of those that attended and we look forward to seeing you next year for the 33rd Annual Conference!*

*University Graduate Credit!* You may still earn university graduate credit for work related to the PK1 Conference at a discounted price. Courses4Teachers, in partnership with University of the Pacific, offers graduate-level professional growth credit at a special discount: **Only \$200 for three semester units!** For information or to register for credit, contact Karin Alexander at (925) 837-3817 or email her at [courses4teachers@courses4teachers.net](mailto:courses4teachers@courses4teachers.net).

*We are looking for **Speakers for the 2015 PK1***



The PK1 Conference Committee would like to thank our 2014 conference sponsors!



**Help support CKA at no cost to yourself!**

Any time you shop on Amazon following the link on our site (you'll find one on our home page). CKA receives a percentage of the sale and the price for the shopper remains the same. Thanks for your

**Conference!** The PK1 Conference Committee is now accepting applications to present at the conference on January 17th and 18th. **We are particularly interested in areas related to Common Core Standards, Early Language Learning and critical thinking skills.** If you are interested in applying, [click here](#) for a Call for Proposals. The deadline for submitting applications is April 20th.

### ***Professional Development Workshop Series!***

The California Kindergarten Association will be presenting a series of full- and half-day professional development workshops (PDW's) in various locations throughout the state. Topics will include Transitional Kindergarten, Kindergarten, Common Core, Integrated Art and much more! Our first workshop will be held in **Carlsbad on Saturday, March 29th**. For information on the Carlsbad PDW, please [click here](#).

**Earn up to three graduate-level semester units linked to your attendance. Email [courses4teachers@courses4teachers.net](mailto:courses4teachers@courses4teachers.net) and mention you'd like credit linked to your attendance at CKA's Professional Development Workshop Series.**

We are thrilled with the success of last summer's Transitional Kindergarten workshops and a schedule of more workshops and more topics is in the works! Stay tuned for more dates and locations.

### ***Wanted - CKA Board Members***

The CKA Board of Directors will have openings for incoming board members beginning January, 2015. The deadline for applications is May 1st. If you've ever considered giving your energy to CKA, [click here](#) for an application.

### ***Call for Spring Art!***



support and spread the word!

Ready to get shopping?

[Click here!](#)



### **New to Our Website!**

[Click here](#) for information on the 26th Annual Young Children's Art Exhibit and view pictures from January's exhibit.

For CKA members, check out some of the [handouts](#) from the 2014 PK1 Conference!

### **JOIN CKA!**

Become part of a network of educators who want early childhood education to be the best it can be! CKA members can look forward to:

- TKP Implementation
- Common Core State Standards lesson plans
- More You Tube videos
- More offerings on our website's Members Only Portal

[Click here to join!](#)

Calling all Pre-K, TK, K and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teachers! Now is the time to send in art work created by your students. These projects will be mounted for display at the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Young Children's Art Exhibit in January. All entries must have *minimum* teacher involvement and *maximum* student effort. [Click here](#) to download the required Art Information Sheet for each class. Certificates will be awarded to participating students and teachers.

*Note:* All teachers submitting their unmounted students' art work by **Friday, December 12, 2014** will have the opportunity to win a complimentary PK1 Conference registration. The more entries submitted, the greater your chance of winning. Send your art along with the Information Sheet(s) to: Mary Cain, 94 San Clemente Avenue, Salinas, CA, 93901.

Questions? Call Linda Becker, Visual Arts Committee Chair, at (510) 223-6111 or email her at [lfbecker@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lfbecker@sbcglobal.net).

### *Earth's Birthday Project*

For the past 25 years, Earth's Birthday Project has cultivated hope for the future by inspiring wonder, learning and care for the natural world with our hands on science materials and conservation program, Big Gift to the Earth. Earth's Birthday Project, a 501C(3) non-profit organization founded in 1989, brought 10,000 Head Start children to celebrate the Earth's Birthday on Earth Day in Central Park in 1990. The students had raised over 10,000 painted lady caterpillar butterflies and released them as a gift to the Earth. That was the same year that students at Packard Collegiate Institute raised over \$4,000 to protect the rainforest in Brazil.

To date, students have collected over **6 million dollars in loose change** to protect over **625,000 acres** of critically endangered habitats **in nine countries on four continents**. [This year](#), with our partnership with Nature and Culture Int., teachers, students and families are working to expand the preserve in Peru by 200,000 acres in order to offset thousands of tons of carbon pollution on the planet. ([Click here](#) for a poignant video by Nature and Culture Int. for more information) Through Big Gift to the Earth, one penny protects a square yard, \$50 protects an acre. Learn more [here](#).

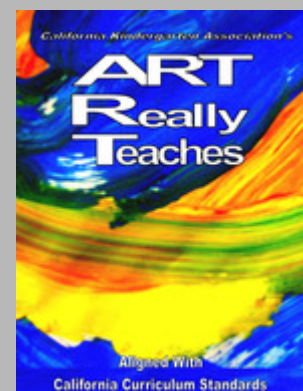
**Get your classrooms involved! It is a simple to implement, very rewarding experience which makes a BIG IMPACT.** [Click here](#) to watch the visual presentation: (advance the frame with the arrow)

### [CKA on Facebook!](#)

Have a comment? Want to chat about early childhood issues? Wondering what we've been up to? Come join us on Facebook and connect with other CKA members! Be sure to check out our "Tuesday Teaching Tips" every week on Facebook!

### **Art Really Teaches (4th Edition)**

Present curriculum to your students using hands-on art experiences! Art Really Teaches includes color photos of art projects by 4, 5 and 6 year old artists, tips for framing art work, a project title index as well as over 400 activities to help you teach the standards!



The cost is \$35 plus shipping and handling. To order a copy, contact First Stage Publishing at (707)664-0164 or email them at [firststageco@aol.com](mailto:firststageco@aol.com)!

Tel: (916)780-5331  
Fax: (916)780-5330  
Email: [cka@ckanet.org](mailto:cka@ckanet.org)

If you would like to be on our mailing list for science materials, we will be happy to mail you a catalog in the spring. You may of course, always order online. Thank you so much for your consideration, care and concern for cultivating the shared values of Earth stewardship in our young children. Together, we are creating a culture of care.



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