



December 2005

sfVTSnews

Have you done your VTS lesson this month?

Welcome to our first quarterly sfVTSnews letter for San Francisco VTS teachers.

It will help keep you updated on VTS strategies, keep you current on our events and news at the Community Artreach Program. With no more than four a year.

Community Artreach Program (CAP) NEWS

The 2005 school year – We are delighted to welcome five new schools aboard this year, Bessie Carmichael, Guadalupe, Frank McCoppin, McKinley, and Yick Wo who will join Marshall, Sherman, Redding, Webster and Sanchez. This brings us to 10 schools, working with over 200 teachers to bring the magic of art back to the classrooms of San Francisco.

Special funding for VTS came from a book release party celebrating the collected artworks of Jerry Garcia. Thanks also to Michael Martin Galleries, Paragon Realty and the Lurie Foundation for their ongoing support.

Partnership with the New De Young

On October 15th the new DeYoung museum opened its doors to the public with a festive 31 hours of access to its galleries. Over 50,000 people from San Francisco were there to enjoy first visits to the galleries of the newest Herzog & de Meuron building, architects of the Tate Modern London. We were there, celebrating the Community Artreach Program's partnership with the DeYoung's education department.

The first training at the new museum was a VTS training for teachers and museum educators. In November the De Young hosted Philip Yenawine, the co-creator of Visual Thinking Strategies, for an inspirational weeklong seminar in the de Young tower.

The De Young education staff are strong supporters of VTS program. They volunteered to host SFUSD VTS training in the new tower and provide on-going support to our program. Most important, the new De Young together with SF MOMA will be the host museum for all fifth grade museum trips.

Did you know? The twist in the tower is created by the base, which is in line with the parameters of the park, while the top parallels the north-south avenues of San Francisco's western grid.

VTS HINT for December – Paraphrasing

When your class hears you paraphrase each comment in a VTS discussion it helps the group learn the importance of listening to others. If for any reason you are unsure of the meaning of a student's comment, or whether you heard them correctly, ask the student to repeat, then rephrase the idea. Paraphrasing validates the student and allows you to provide new vocabulary and language.

Contact us for a *VTS jumpstart*: Team teach a lesson, enjoy a class observation.

Let us know how we can help you:

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Hurry – Contact Museums for Spring tours, they fill up fast so call today!

3rd grade – Legion of Honor, Emily Doman, edoman@famsf.org, 415. 750. 3522– www.famsf.org <<http://www.famsf.org>>

4th grade -- Asian Art Museum, Lorraine Tuchfeld, School Programs Assistant, LTuchfeld@asianart.org 415/581-3697, www.asianart.org <<http://www.asianart.org>>

5th grade – (for those not attending MOMA) DeYoung, Emily Doman, edoman@famsf.org, 415/750.3022 – www.famsf.org <<http://www.famsf.org>>

K-2nd grade – Museum tours are not an official part of the VTS program for these grades, however teachers are welcome to visit museum to practice VTS with their students.

If you need help on your museum tours let us know and we will help find volunteers!