

Sharing Our Experience with Educators

- From April 2nd to 4th, Mrs. Bird, Mrs. Loomis, Mrs. Perovich, and Ms. Stevens traveled to the campus of Columbia University Teachers College in New York City for the **International Association of Laboratory Schools (IALS)** Conference. Laboratory school educators from the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico attended the annual conference to share the work that is occurring in their early childhood, elementary, and secondary school laboratories. Mrs. Bird and Mrs. Perovich presented a session on "Building Foundations for Friendship and Collaboration in Early Childhood", and Mrs. Loomis and Ms. Stevens led a roundtable discussion on "Strategies for Supporting Dual Language Learners in Early Childhood". The educators also had an opportunity to observe at three different schools, laboratory schools at Bank Street College and Columbia, as well as the New York campus of Avenues: The World School. During the conference, the Children's School sponsored the opening reception, which included delicious food and entertainment by a professional storyteller and a musician.



- During the second week of April, Dr. Carver attended the **National Coalition for Campus Children's Centers (NCCCC)** board meeting and conference in Portland, Oregon. The conference is primarily attended by directors of early childhood programs on college and university campuses, so she presented a session on "The Art of Possibility: Transforming Practices for Educators, Children, and Parents", which incorporated the lessons we have learned from this year's exploration of the twelve Art of Possibility practices (see Director's Corner for the last installment of the series). The session fit well with Debra Sullivan's keynote address on *"Learning to Walk: Changing Yourself, Your Perspectives, and Your Assumptions"*. During the week, Dr. Carver also had the opportunity to visit the Helen Gordon Child Development Center at Portland State University, which is similar in many ways to Carnegie Mellon's Cyert Center.



- Next week, we are broadening our horizons by sending Mrs. Rosenblum and Mr. Salinetto to the World Forum on Early Care and Education in San Juan, Puerto Rico. They will have opportunities to learn about the lives of children, families, and early childhood providers from all ethnic, cultural, political, and religious backgrounds by interacting with approximately 800 early childhood professionals for over 80 nations. We are hoping that they will connect with educators who might be interested in developing international collaborations in the coming years.

