Professional Development Outreach

Professional Development is a high priority at the Children's School because it supports our continuous quality improvement. For our high quality staff, much of our growth comes from preparing professional development experiences for other educators, as well as from collaborating with diverse partners on projects that will impact early childhood education. Here’s a sampling of our recent experiences.

• On August 18th and 19th, we hosted nearly 50 educators for our annual Early Childhood Enhancement Workshops.
  - Meaningful Math: Numbers, Shapes, Patterns, Measurements & Data (Dr. Carver & Ms. Hancock)
  - Building: Beyond the Basics for Young Children (Mrs. Bird)
  - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: Introducing Young Children to Environmental Responsibility (Mrs. Bird & Mrs. Rosenblum)

• White Light Exploration is a collaboration with artist Amanda Long that involves a movement experience with three light projectors to foster learning about traveling light, shadows, and mixing light colors. After all our educators piloted the experience with their children, Mrs. Flynn, Mrs. Opferman, and Mrs. Rosenblum developed a curriculum to accompany the White Light Unit when it travels to other early childhood programs. The Children's Museum will be running the loan program, but we also have a unit for our continued use.

• Message from Me is a collaboration with the CREATE Lab & PAEYC, with funding from PNC’s Grow Up Great initiative. The goal is to develop technology to enhance family communication via child sending digital images with audio messages to adult cell phones or email. These pictures show the initial prototype that we tested in 2010 and the improved model that we will begin pilot testing in October. Our educators will then design the curriculum to familiarize other teachers with the technology and facilitate their classroom implementation. Please be sure to return the permission form if you want to participate!

• Duksung Women’s University Partnership - After hosting 10 early childhood students from Duksung in January 2011, three representatives from the Children’s School have been invited to give seminars and demonstration lessons in Seoul, South Korea. In late October, Sharon Carver, Jean Bird, and Donna Perovich will be interacting with Duksung lab school’s children, parents, and educators, the Early Childhood faculty & students, and the members of the local laboratory school association.