Undergraduate Spotlight

From Stanton Man: When going to Carnegie Mellon, most students will be stressed, pull all-nighters, or even be unhappy about their grades. Students here look at extra-curriculars to get their minds off the inevitable stress. For me, there are two stress relievers - music and the Children's School.

I am currently a junior in the Dietrich College of Humanities & Social Sciences studying Decision Science, with minors in Music Performance & Business Administration. When looking into my music minor, it is something that I love doing and will be with me for the rest of my life. The Children's School is one form of stress relief that comes once in a lifetime. There's something extremely special about this school that I can't seem to put my finger on. I'm not sure if it's the passion from the teachers, or the happiness of the friends, but the atmosphere puts me at ease.

I originally heard about this job from a bagpipe performance I did for the children. After I performed, the feedback from the school was incredible. I felt a sense of ease and friendship from the friends and teachers, so I knew that I wanted to work here. I still remember my first day well. I was nervous, but also really excited. Once I started working, everyone was so accepting and friendly. It really was a breath of fresh air from my daily work schedule at the university. When I leave at 2 pm on Monday / Wednesday or 5:30 pm on Tuesday / Thursday, I always feel the same no matter how I entered the school feeling. There's a sense of accomplishment, as well as joy and tranquility, after every day. Although this is my first semester, I'm eager to be working here for the rest of my CMU career.

Undergraduate Research

Dr. Anna Fisher and Graduate Student Lucy Erickson's Developmental Research Methods students are preparing their final projects for the semester. They are beginning to pilot test their projects on the topics listed below. Families whose children participate will receive fuller parent descriptions via the child’s backpack, and there are some samples on the next few pages. Everyone can read the study descriptions on the Research Bulletin Board across from the new library cabinets. Notice the interesting range of important topics in early childhood development!

• The impact of fine or gross motor exercise on creativity (The Copy Cat Game, K)
• The impact of encouragement on balancing ability (The Balancing Game, PM 4’s and K)
• Gender effects in the ability to recognize emotions (The Faces Game, AM 3’s and K)
• The impact of reward distance on delay of gratification capability (The Puzzle Game, AM 3’s)
• Familiarity effects on memory game performance (The Matching Game, AM 4’s)
• The impact of feature appeal & sibling status on sharing (The Playdough Game, PM 3’s & 4’s)