

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

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001. note	re: phone number [partial] (1 page)	n.d.	P6/b(6)
002. fax	Evelyn Borges to Bobbie Greene re: SSNs and DOBs (1 page)	03/06/1998	P6/b(6)
003. letter	From: Noa Meyer re: personal (1 page)	03/09/1998	Personal Misfile
004. letter	Noa Meyer to Chris Rees re: personal (2 pages)	05/11/1998	Personal Misfile
005. invoice	re: personal (2 pages)	07/27/1998	Personal Misfile
006. receipt	re: personal (2 pages)	08/15/1998	Personal Misfile

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Noa Meyer Pending

2012-0872-S

rc986

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Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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• Winters class —

P6(b)(6)

C0013

• run by Nancy Schwartz (volunteer)

• 11-15 yr olds

• Larry Colwell teachers
Part

• Joe Stines work

13 yr old girl report

* Jessica 1/20/83

X Cyrus Noel - 13
- missing -

• Hans Taylor 13/1/83

graduates

May 83

212

Nancy
Schwab

works
w/ the kids

East of River Slam
League - Anacostha

Maryanne ~~Bran~~^{oe}
(Borders) 466-2152
May 8th

- Writers Corp
- The East of the River Inter-School
Slam League
- Hart Middle School SG

Evans Jr. [252] h 60 m 5

Kramer

Johnson

7/27/72

The Thompson
Watering club

Stewart
L. 1.66 9/19/72

Public house of 'mpt'

—

East of the River Inter-Scholastic Slam League

Mission Statement

The East of the River Inter-Scholastic Slam League is designed to build upon the success of the acclaimed Hart Middle School Writing Workshop. The Hart Workshop, now beginning its third year, has introduced hundreds of young adolescents to the joys of self expression and the written word, helping to fortify them against the lure of drugs and violence. Students of the Hart Workshops have published two anthologies, given readings at venues throughout D.C., won numerous writing awards, and competed in Poetry Slams both with other young writers and with such nationally known poets as Nikki Giovanni and former Poet Laureate of the United States, Robert Haas. As a result of their experiences with the workshop, many Hart students have been able to further their creative efforts at D.C.'s magnet high schools for academics and the arts.

Under the auspices of the D.C. WritersCorps Program, a project of the Humanities Council of Washington DC, which brings writers into underserved communities, the Hart Workshop has expanded to three other middle schools in the challenged Anacostia (East of the River) area. In addition to exposing many more students to creative writing, the East of the River Interscholastic Slam League gives them the opportunity to participate in friendly competition with other young writers, helping to ease the neighborhood rivalries which often flare into gang violence.

The Slam League will consist of four Writing Clubs/Slam Teams, each under the direction of a volunteer teacher and Slam League Project Director, Nancy Schwalb, founder of the Hart Middle School Writing Workshop. Schwalb will develop writing exercises designed to make poetry accessible and enjoyable to young teens, help to train the teachers and volunteers, and meet semi-weekly with each club. Club meetings will began in November, 1997 with practice slams held at Borders Books starting in late December. The year's activities will culminate in a major venue (such as Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage), with the goal of displaying for the community the talents of young people who are often written off as hopelessly enmeshed in poverty, drugs, violence.

WritersCorps is a program of the Humanities Council of Washington, DC's (HCWDC) City Lights Project, with major support provided by the Corporation for National Service's AmeriCorps Program, the National Endowment for the Arts, and Nissan Corporation. WritersCorps is also supported by other private and corporate sources including Borders Books, Meyer Foundation, Fannie Mae Foundation, Cafritz Foundation, J. Fowler Foundation, and many individuals. The HCWDC is the local, non-profit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, dedicated to providing lifelong learning to local residents.

INTRODUCTION

In the eight short months since its inception, the Hart Junior High Writing Workshop has left its mark on the community. The student writers who have participated in the workshop have spent the year learning about poets and poetry, short stories, the power of the written word, and the joy of self expression. They have written remarkable poems, poems full of wit and beauty and emotion— poems that have made their elders sit up and take notice. And the city has noticed. Students from Hart have read their work in public forums throughout the city: The D.C. Lottery Commission, The Library of Congress, and Borders Books. They have won awards from the Parkmont Poetry Contest. And they were featured in an article in *The Washington Post* that let the world know about the good things that are happening in our corner of Southeast.

This anthology represents some of the finest writing produced in the workshop this year. The students worked hard to develop their talents, and their writing shows it. Their poems are funny and sad, serious, topical, and profound. Sit back, relax, and enjoy them. And remember these names— they are the poets, novelists, and playwrights of the future.

Special thanks are due to the hardworking teachers who made this workshop possible: Irma Morgan, Head of the English Department, Ethel Rivers, Kristina Baumgartel, Eva Fields, Annie Smith, and Carolyn Jackson. Thanks also to Principal Evelyn Gainous, and Vice Principals Willie McElroy and Yvonne Davis, and to the tireless staff that make Hart Junior High the Heartbeat of Southeast.

Funding was provided by Americorps/WritersCorps, The National Endowment for the Arts, NASCC, The D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities, and Borders Books. Thanks to MaryAnn Brownlow, of Borders Books, for her support.

Holly Bass	Tania Nyman
Rick Hummel	Nancy Schwalb
Gary Lilley	Kim Taylor

D.C. WritersCorps Volunteers

HartBeats!

Introduction

As our second year draws to a close, the Charles Hart Middle School Writing Workshop continues to achieve remarkable success. The students have continued their studies of a variety of poetry and poetic forms, and their writing has continued to flourish. This year our students have won a number of writing awards: Yulanda Cunningham, Niyetta Diggs, Starshima Joyner, and April Timberlake won the Parkmont Poetry Contest; Bernard Best, Kevin Butler, Demetrius Ratliff, Corina Snyers, April Timberlake, and Crystal Watts won a total of over nine hundred dollars in the Larry Neal Awards; and Karen Baylor, Joseph Roderick, and David Slaughter were on the winning team in a Poetry Slam against a team of nationally known professional poets. Our students have also read their work and attended readings at a variety of venues throughout the city.

This anthology represents some of the best writing produced by our students this school year. The students have worked hard, and their work shows it. Enjoy!

Special thanks are due to the hardworking teachers who made this workshop possible: Irma Morgan, Head of the English Department, Gloria Ferguson, Eva Fields, Carolyn Jackson, and Ethel Rivers. Thanks also to Principal Evelyn Gainous, and Vice Principals Yvonne Davis and Willie McElroy and to Mrs. Emma Eppes, Mr. Cardell Ellis, and the rest of the tireless staff that make Hart Middle School the Heartbeat of Southeast.

Nancy Schwalb
Kim Taylor
Van Jordan
Yona Harvey

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1997

When Poetry Means Much More Than Lovely Rhyme

By FRANCIS X. CLINES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 — The urban Muse was on the move the other night: 15 "slam poets" — competitive-minded junior high school versifiers — journeyed here on Dec. 16 from East of the River, the threadbare cusp of the city, to have it out in a mainline bookstore five blocks from the White House.

As this city's cultural events go, East of the Anacostia River is nowhere, the city's poverty core, the place for the rarest Presidential photo op. The area's shortchanged opportunities are occasionally debated West of the River, but toward no great change of fate.

Or, as Bernard Best, a cocky seventh-grade bard from Hart Middle School, came close to singing it in his

ers from Hart and from Evans Junior High School competed at their poem recitations in the best Whitmanesque celebration of the song within.

Some shoppers, suddenly enthralled, volunteered to score the competition with big sign cards numbered one to 10. As the words rang through the crowded store, the longing on each young poet's face to be rated perfect was as poignant as the night of lyricizing.

The idea of slam competition poetry reading — an increasingly popular and exuberant performance device for grown-up poets across the nation — took on an extra dimension as the youngsters from the East of the River Inter-Scholastic Slam League came West to sound their stuff.

"Today is the day butterflies fly," announced Syreeta Anderson for the Evans team, big-eyed as her simple life-popping rhythm swept the place.

*People tell lies
Girls trying to get guys
We all should open our eyes
Look up to the skies!*

Listening with moving lips was Nancy Schwalb, a published short-story writer who helped organize the slam league while volunteering to teach poetry writing at four public schools East of the River. She had a grant last year but it fell through this year when Americorps, the national service program, cut back on its financing of Writerscorps, the sponsoring agency that sends creative writers into rough neighborhoods.

"I'm pretty good at short stories, but how much short fiction does the world need?" Ms. Schwalb said in telling why she could not leave her daily rounds of budding poets, even if a sponsor is lacking. "We definitely need more poets, even if we don't

Continued on Page 30

Lyricism 'East of the River' yet over the moon.

poem, "Realize" (the theme sounding wondrously as "Ree-a-LAHZ!"):

*Realize the people on earth
Realize the ladies who are giving birth
Realize the little boys and girls
Realize you don't own this world.*

For 75 minutes, Bernard and the other slam poets applied a kind of half-court-asphalt strophic drive to the lyrics they have been making East of the River.

Their creative energy, their smiles, the scene's swirl of nervousness and self-assuredness stopped holiday shoppers in their tracks at Borders bookstore as the young writ-

Poetry Meaning More Than Rhyme

Continued From First Arts Page

need poems and my main thing is we have to hear what these kids have to say."

For her, one special beauty of the experience is that unlike pupils in the capital's more privileged schools, her pupils tend to find poetry such an unfamiliar novelty that no impediment of sissification is attached. "Boys will try it as much as the girls will: they never heard of Emily Dickinson," she said of a willingness to write that she finds comes with steady coaxing and the lure of trying to top intriguing lyrics.

Those who volunteer like the ideas of rewards — some have even won cash prizes in literary competitions — and team spirit, and some have gone on to the Duke Ellington High School of Music and Art in Washington. Her methods include teaching with the rap lyrics of the Fugees to such Rita Dove poems as "Flash

Cards" or Michael S. Harper's "Here Where Coltrane Is."

Well-chosen poems ringing with the universality of life soon prove infectious. "It's a renaissance," Ms. Schwalb said of the slam league. "Entirely indigenous."

The young poets nodded and smiled at Borders when she mocked "the wrong Hollywood stereotype of all this: the nice teacher struggling in the inner-city schools to finally win over a few kids to write." And they laughed at her way with imagery when she added, "The real Hollywood stereotype would be that the kids' talent and expression and ideas, as soon as they're tapped, come bursting out of them like 'Alien.'"

The slam evening proved rich with images of revels and regrets.

Scrub-faced Isaac M. Colon 3d growled forth fear personified.

*I am fear
I can make your mind turn against*

you and eat you whole.

But he laughed off the end of the world:

*When the earth opens wide
I'll be flyin' in the sky
When the moon turns to blood, you
won't find me, bud.*

Short, thin Louis Hudson brought shocked laughter from the crowd as he piped his graphic, erotic version of "My First Time" and it turned out, in the very last line, to be about his first milking of a cow. Later, stone-faced, he told of living East of the River on "Mad Street."

*You lose your life
By the gun or the knife
Though it'll never happen to me
I still gotta live on the mad street.*

Keon Johnson, charmingly boyish, sang in "Women" of how he had them figured out:

*Don't tell them how much money
you have*

*Don't tell them you love them
Because they say, 'Stop lyin.'*

There was big whooping laughter for Barrett Norris, strutting a rhythmic theme of believe-achieve:

*If I do put my mind to it
I know I can do it
When you see me don't be
surprised
That I got a good job and you're
workin' in Popeye's!*

Life East of the River arrived full-throated in the official city in Crystal Watts's "Hidden Valley":

*A place where you always stay
alive
A place where people don't always
give you a dirty eye
No guns
No people will die
There will always be a tomorrow
in the hidden valley in my
mind.*

The origins of the poetry slam go back to the barrooms of Chicago, said Kenneth Carroll, a poet who is the city coordinator for the Writers-corps. "A poet named Mark Smith

started slams as a way of reconnecting poetry to ordinary people," Mr. Carroll said. "He felt it had become too much in the domain of academia, sort of stuffy library readings, and his thing was that in a bar we'll all read and whoever the audience likes most gets a free beer. It's kind of an irreverent thing, making fun of the idea that you can judge art, really, in any quantifying way."

There is now an annual national slam of ranking poets and some of the student poets here tutored by Ms. Schwalb and D. J. Renegade, a slam poet, got a taste of the big time last April when Robert Hass, the nation's former poet laureate, led Nikki Giovanni and other celebrated poets to a slam that packed Borders with an audience of 800.

The students plug in to the fun of poetry and the whole idea of competition, said Ms. Schwalb. "And parents call me up and say, 'My kid wrote that?'" She fantasizes about having a city championship in poetry writing, just as with football or any other sport. "We should have uniforms, right?" she shouts, and the teams chorus: "Yeah!"

"And Larry Colwell back there," she says pointing to a gray-haired English teacher, "he should be paid as a coach."

"Yeah!" the poets declaim.

The competition proves close, with Hart topping Evans, 391 to 388. Instantly, poets wax crestfallen or squeal with delight.

Ms. Schwalb congratulates the winners and consoles the losers, pointing out that the next slam will come along as surely as the next poem.

As they head back East of the River, the slam poets gleam. "My poem has wings," one of Ms. Schwalb's early students, Zulaikha Edmondson, had written in what now seems a definitive work for the slammers.

*Up the wall
Around and around the room and
There's no barrier in the way
To control it
My poem is strong and determined
And never, not ever
Will it be destroyed.*

Ode and Young

At Workshop, Students Discover Poetry and Themselves

By Jacqueline Trescott
Washington Post Staff Writer

Zulaikha Edmondson, a trim column of white shirt and blue-striped pants, was reading her poem "Wise Words." The words seemed to rush out of her.

My poem knows the ways of the world/ It can lie, she said, the curl of her dark hair kissing her chin. People in the audience may have wished Zulaikha would slow down, but the 15-year-old was racing on. The force of having a lot to say had overwhelmed her in the last few months. When she paused, the on-lookers cheered.

The occasion was an evening reading last week at the downtown Borders Books. A lacquered black lectern had been set up beside the high shelves of show business books. Elvis and the Beatles stared down, frozen in their youth, as members of a younger generation—Michael, Devin, Jeremiah, Rickey, Ayanna, Brandon, Tiffany, Zulaikha, Jevon and Brooke—read their own words, some for the very first time in public.

This night's poets were all students from Hart Junior High School, on Mississippi Avenue SE, who became part of a workshop last fall organized by the D.C. WritersCorps. Most had never met a published writer before Nancy Schwalb, a slight woman with a coming manner and a fistful of Margaret Walker Alexander's writings, walked into the workshop. Schwalb is part of WritersCorps, a collaboration by the National Service/AmberCorps, the National Endowment for the Arts and arts agencies in the Bronx, San Francisco and Washington. Besides visiting schools, writers who participate in the program have fanned out to hospitals, libraries, jails, shelters and community centers, carrying out a mandate issued by President Clinton in 1994 to make a difference by teaching.

In the creative writing classes at Hart, nearly 300 students are studying poets, poetic forms and the synergy between poetry and music. They don't get any school credit; eventually an anthology of their work will be published. Six of them were named finalists in the local Parkmont Poetry Festival, the highest number of any junior or senior high school.

To hear some of the students tell it, they have come alive because they have discovered something inside themselves.

"I thought it would be fun," Zulaikha says of the course. She had written the obligatory school essays, but no poems. "The words just started coming out. Then I started reading [published poems], and I liked trying to figure out what the poet was saying underneath the words." In five months she embraced a whole new world, discovering the works of Georgia Douglas Johnson, Langston Hughes and Ishmael Reed.

Inside Schwalb's bare classroom, the learning process uses a couple of approaches. One is to read a well-known poet who writes about issues the students face. After reading Rita Dove's "Flash Cards," a reflection on math drills, Tiffany Kelley submitted a work called "My Problems Are the Zenith of My Life." When she read it at Borders last week, audience members were falling out of their chairs with laughter. The teachers, said Tiffany, are "the top and the bottom," yet *They make my life a bowl of corn flakes/ That have been sitting/ In wait for an hour.* At another session, Schwalb played the Fuggies' remake of "Killing Me Softly" to illustrate the use of metaphors and similes. Rickey Lewis submitted "As Drifting Waves": *I think about my life as it passes me by/ the sound of the waves as it taps upon my window pane.*

"It's amazing how frank they are," Schwalb says. "There is a boy who is always writing about his failed love affairs. That is very brave. What

they are doing is recognizing their ideas. They are figuring things out."

Now the young poets are facing their public. Up front is Jevon Bilhups, 15, his T-shirt, black jeans and sneakers smartly coordinated. This is his first reading. For practice, he stood in a corner of the bookstore and read his poems aloud. Then, making eye contact with people in the back row, he demonstrated his performer's flair, letting his face take on expressions of self-deprecating humor. His predecessors had simply glued their eyes to the page and read.

Jevon thought poetry was boring until he actually started writing. He immediately like Schwalb's classroom style. "She gave us a poem and told us we had to write one like it. Now that was interesting," says Jevon, who's called "the Bishop" because of his seriousness.

In the school sessions, he liked Schwalb's directive to write about his feelings. After listening to John Coltrane's "A Love Supreme," and a poem about Coltrane by Michael Harper, Jevon hit a Scott Joplin-style reverie in "Feeling the Music": *I feel as if I were playing an upright piano/ about a hundred years old/ and every chord I hit is beautiful/ and makes a new song.*

But sometimes he thinks Schwalb has gone off the deep end. Like the afternoon she gave them a series of poems about rivers. "She told us to write about any river, real or not," says Jevon. His mystification didn't last long. When he read "The Niagara in You" last week, his listeners were rapt with approval. *I see a source of power/ that electrifies a great body/ When I'm dark you add color/ I don't need your help/ let me be me.*

For Zulaikha, the class has become not just a weekly exercise but an expression of the self she had locked in. "The poems were alive," she says of her writing. "And [the experience] was getting away to a place where I didn't know I could go."

BORDERS BOOKS & MUSIC
1801 K STREET NW
entrance at 18th and L Streets
WASHINGTON, DC 20006
202.466.4999 • 202.466.2403 FAX

MARY ANN BROWNLOW
Community Relations Coordinator
202.466.2152
202.466.2403 fax

03/18/98 03:17 PM

(I'm sending you this, only be cause it includes information about Borders' Slam, May 8)

I am writing to invite you to be one of a team of six "venerable" poets to read in our second annual *Bring in da Slam*, a rent party and poetry slam benefiting WritersCorps/East of the River Inter-Scholastic Slam League, the evening of May 8 1998. Last year, then Poet Laureate, Robert Hass lead the "graybeard" team (which included poets Nikki Giovanni and Henry Taylor) into competition before a crowd of 800, as they attempted to slam a team of young poets drawn from WritersCorps creative writing workshops across the city. NPR's Ray Suarez was the "bout emcee" and Susan Starnberg was the host. This year, poets Hal Sirowitz, Naomi Ayala, Jabari Asim, and Reg E. Gaines have agreed to enter into the fray. Ray Suarez will once again be the bout emcee.

WritersCorps/East of the River Slam League is a community service program, funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, Humanities Council of Washington, DC and other corporate and private entities, which uses the literary arts to strengthen reading, writing and communication skills, and to offer a healthy outlet for self-expression. Through public readings and poetry slams, the community as a whole learns about the positive and intellectual capabilities of "at risk" youth from inner-city neighborhoods.

Chicagoan Marc Smith first coined the phrase "poetry slam" in 1987 to describe competitive poetry events that challenge poets to perform as well as they write, and to have fun too boot. For our purposes, each team will consist of six poets who will read their work individually, with their awarded scores (five judges will be assembled to score the performances) counting toward a team total. There will be two rounds, so the audience will be able to hear each poet read twice. Understandably, we want the team of kids to end up victorious. Our goal that evening is to raise awareness and money, not the national poetry standard.

Every penny Borders raises that evening will be donated to Writers Corps/ERSL. We'll raise money is several ways: a \$5 "rent fee" will be levied on everyone who walks through the front door (last year we raised over \$7000 this way); the books of featured readers will be available for sale and autographing. Borders will donate a percentage of the entire day's sales to WritersCorps/ERSL. The magnitude of last year's success still reverberates. The audience was immense and enthusiastic, and the most integrated audience, in terms of race, age, and class, I have ever seen in Washington.

I have attached a recent New York Times article about the slam league, and a Washington Post article about WritersCorps.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

All the best,

Mary Ann Brownlow

March 24, 1998

MEMORANDUM TO CAPRICIA P. MARSHALL

FROM: Bobbie Greene
Bitsey Folger
RE: Slatkin Event

The idea for a recital given by the Slatkins in the White House was born during a conversation between Linda Slatkin and the President back in the spring of '97. The two were having a conversation at an event in the White House. When the President learned that Linda was a professional singer, he suggested that the two play in the White House at a future date. Bitsey was suggested by Melanne to be the liaison with the NSO organization.

Many dates have been suggested but thus far no event has been scheduled. Attached are a few of the memos dating back to July, 1997. The latest list except for May 13th is still current. The Slatkins are excited about the possibility and await word of the scheduling.

Noa -
Bitsey will
fax these
to you to
attach to
send before
Capricia off to
a Sel as (Pls. keep
"TI - Slatkin" file)
Thax,

BOBBIE GREENE

3/20/98

Capricia -

Do you know
where we are
on this?

Ⓟ

NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**Leonard Slatkin, Music Director****John F. Kennedy Center****Washington, DC 20566****TELEFAX COMMUNICATION****DATE: March 7, 1998****PAGES: 1****TO: Bitsey****FAX: 338-7495**

FROM: Beverly Harris
Assistant to the Music Director
FAX: 202-416-8123
PHONE: 202-416-8125

Dera Bitsey:

I have had a chance to talk with Linda about another set of White House dates. We can suggest:

June 7,8,9,10,14,15,16,17 or 23-30.

Linda's preference would be for any of the June 7,8,9,10 dates because Michel Camillo will be here for the Caribbean Festival with the NSO and she says he would bring the house down.

We could also suggest May 13 or 15, but Linda and Leonard will just have returned from extensive travelling and wouldn't have had much time to prepare. These May dates should only be considered if none of the June dates will work.

I am holding all of these dates on Leonard's calendar and will continue to do so until I hear from you.

Thanks for your help. Have a great time at the Opera!

Noa —
For the
tickle.
Thankx
—

Beverly

FAX

Date

2/18/98

Number of pages including cover sheet

TO:

Noa Meyer

Phone

Fax Phone

FROM:

Marcy Whitebook
Center for the Child Care
Workforce
2625 Alcatraz #199
Berkeley, CA 94705

Phone

510-654-1778

Fax Phone

510-654-0877

CC:

REMARKS:

☐

Urgent

☐

For your review

☐

Reply ASAP

☐

Please Comment

Here is the material —

message from President Clinton last year
Description of Working Wage Day this year

We're hoping we can have a message
again this year as discussed w/
Jennifer. Perhaps an inclusive message
will address all the events. Thanks.

I'll be in DC 2/4-6 and hope to meet
w/ White House staff re. our ~~most~~ latest findings
on the work force.

1997

White House Message for Worthy Wage Day

New Book Features Article on Teachers and Providers as Leaders

A new publication by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, *Rethinking Leadership in Early Care and Education*, includes NCECW Research Policy Advisor Marcy Whitebook's article, "Who's Missing at the Table? Leadership Opportunities and Barriers for Teachers and Providers." Order your copy for \$9.95 from NAEYC, 1509 16th Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20036; (800) 424-2460.

Warm greetings to all those observing National Worthy Wage Day, 1997.

Hillary and I recently convened the White House Conference on Early Childhood Development and Learning to share some of the latest information on the crucial importance of the first years of life to our children's long-term growth in language skills, thinking, and emotional health. This compelling new data gives us renewed cause to honor and reward the child care providers and teachers who, in partnership with parents, play such a vital role in the daily lives of our youngest children.

Working Americans know that finding good child care isn't easy, and they are rightly concerned about the quality of care their children are receiving outside the home. Children need sensitive, consistent, well-trained, and well-paid caregivers who will stay on the job; but high staff turnover, fueled by poor wages, poses a great challenge to guaranteeing excellence in our children's care.

When it comes to providing decent child care wages and opportunities for advancement, the Military Child Development Programs, Head Start and other innovative programs have shown it can be done. Because of Military Child Care's strong track record in offering professional training and competitive wages and benefits to caregivers, I have instructed the Secretary of Defense to share this expertise with civilian child care programs throughout the nation so that worthy wages become a reality for all our child care providers and teachers.

As we observe National Worthy Wage Day, I urge my fellow Americans to express your appreciation to the child care providers and teachers in your communities, and to pledge strong support for efforts to ensure that these dedicated workers can have a decent livelihood and a secure professional future. In this way, we can make a lasting investment in the future of our youngest children and of our nation.

Best wishes for a successful observance.

Bill Clinton

Worthy Wage Annual Retreat

As this issue goes out, we are headed for the Worthy Wage Campaign Retreat, June 26-29 in Seattle, Washington. This year's retreat, planned by the Campaign and the Seattle Worthy Wages Task Force, includes a day-long Organizing Training session, led by experienced organizers, with a focus on union

and community organizing and direct action strategies; a Friday-night celebration organized by Seattle members; informal networking; and the Worthy Wage Campaign's Annual Meeting to plan national and local strategies for the coming year. A full report will follow in our next issue!

Public figures will be 'job shadowing' in child care programs to better understand and publicize what demanding, highly-skilled and under-rewarded work this is.

Worthy Wage Day 1998

The seventh annual Worthy Wage Day—Friday, May 1, 1998—is a major opportunity to organize and mobilize, and we are planning to make this Worthy Wage Day the biggest ever. We have the opportunity to make significant progress on child care compensation and quality this year, and the period building up to Worthy Wage Day is an important time to keep these issues alive and prominent.

Our national office will be keeping members informed between now and May 1 with a series of alerts, a state-by-state compilation of the latest child care salary data, and the annual Worthy Wage Day Action Packet. We plan to hold several audio-conferences for teachers and providers from February to April, helping to build the movement by connecting Campaign activists with what fellow members are doing around the country. And the Working Women's Department of the AFL-CIO will be a major partner this year in promoting Worthy Wage Day, and in educating its membership and the general public about issues of child care quality and better compensation for the child care workforce.

CCW and local Worthy Wage Campaigns will be widely distributing our new "Model Work Standards" document that sets forth a vision of fair and decent working conditions in child care centers. We will be responding to the new legislative proposals on child care compensation and training coming out of the White House and Congress. The Campaign as a whole will focus on getting business and labor groups, parents and others more involved in worthy wage issues at the local level. And we will be asking many public figures to "job shadow" in a child care program for part of the day, in order to better understand—and publicize—what demanding, highly-skilled and under-rewarded work this is. We have already asked all of the panelists and participants from the White House Conference to consider job shadowing for the day, and we will be helping local Campaigns to arrange job shadows with high-profile members of their communities. A number of Campaign groups will also be staging rallies, lobbying days, teacher and provider recognition events, and pro-

gram closures to mobilize support for worthy wages.

Media outreach by the national and local Campaigns this year will focus on legislative action, job shadowing and the Model Work Standards. We especially hope that local groups will be able to arrange comprehensive news stories that focus on the child care work environment, such as appeared in the Philadelphia Inquirer in October 1997. Prompted by input from members of the local Worthy Wage Campaign, the Inquirer ran a full-page "Community Voices" feature called "The Days of Day Care," including an editorial by teacher and CCW Board member Gerri DiLisi, and letters and brief articles by ten teachers and providers on the many complexities and challenges of a "typical day" at work. More information about this excellent article is included in the Worthy Wage Day Action Packet—congratulations to the Worthy Wage Campaign of Delaware Valley for making it happen!

Worthy Wage Day will be a time for a number of communities to celebrate their progress in achieving some of the Model Work Standards, and for others to mobilize support for beginning to work toward them. The Standards include recommended provisions on wages and benefits, time off, job descriptions and evaluations, hiring and promotions, grievance procedures, professional development, supervision, decision-making, communication, diversity, the physical setting, health and safety, and professional support. The provision on wages, for example, recommends that the range begin with a locally-determined "living wage" for entry-level aide and assistant positions, and reach parity with public school teacher salaries for the highest-paid teacher positions.

The Model Work Standards will be followed soon by a newly-developed document for family child care providers, and by a resource on proposed salary guidelines that CCW is currently developing for the California Department of Education. We hope that these tools will be used on several levels: at child care programs as a way to assess and improve your job conditions; at the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Worthy Wage Annual Retreat 1997: Focus on Organizing

More than 40 Worthy Wage Campaign representatives from around the country gathered in Seattle this past June to replenish ourselves, gain support, learn from each other, see ourselves as a national movement, and plan directions for the coming year. Major discussion topics included Model Work Standards, engaging family child care providers in the creation of a Model Contract, the issue of unregulated care (see page 3), and creating an organizational home for teachers and providers (for example, should there be a national association or union representing child care workers?). Our hosts, the Seattle Worthy Wage Task Force, also presented a very inspiring panel discussion on "Building a Strong, Diverse Movement."

A day-long training session at the retreat, entitled "Organizing Women in This Political Economy," was led by Kim Cook, Organizing Director of Local 925, SEIU; Sarah Luthens, Community Organizer; and a panel of organizers from child care and other fields. We were particularly challenged by the presenters to become "economically literate," in order to understand that the current distribution of income and wealth is not inevitable or unchangeable: the goals of our society have changed in times past, and can change again.

Some other tips from the panel of organizers: Personalize the issues....Be inclusive, willing to learn, and ready to challenge each other on racism and other forms of bias....Encourage people to tell their stories....Always get names and numbers, and keep in touch: it may take six to eight months for someone to get to a meeting....Let people know that they can become involved at whatever level they're comfortable with....Fight the mythology that we can do it all ourselves, and find allies....Find supportive directors, and have a presence at directors' meetings....Make connections between parents' issues and your own, and communicate with parents about these connections....Take inspiration from labor history and its heroes and heroines....Welcome the moments of surprise.

Retreat participants elected two new members to the Worthy Wage Campaign Executive Council, which advises the national Campaign staff, serves as a liaison to the CCW Board, and helps plan the annual retreat. Welcome to Lori Thames, a child care teacher from Boston, Mass., and Judy Victor, a family child care provider from Rhode Island, who join Kristen Pickering (St. Paul, Minn.), Lauren Tozzi (Seattle, Wash.), and Jennifer Kagiwada (Berkeley, Calif.).

Our next retreat will be held **July 9-12, 1998 in Denver, Colorado** at the University of Denver—located near the downtown area, with a great view of the Rocky Mountains. We will continue our tradition of reserving one day as a training day; this year we are engaging Just Economics to present a day-long session on Friday. They will provide some basic economics education for Campaign members, and develop some specific new pieces that can be used by child care activists for organizing. Begin planning now to join us! ▲

Worthy Wage Day 1998

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

community level, with child care programs and support agencies working together to identify ways to improve the local child care infrastructure; and with policy makers and funders, to raise awareness about the amount of resources necessary to make lasting, comprehensive improvements in the nation's child care system.

This year, Worthy Wage Day comes in the midst of several other events which we hope will also be opportunities to build support for better child care: compensation and quality: the Week of the Young Child, April 19-25, sponsored by NAEYC (1-800-424-2460), Child Care Professionals' Day, April 24, sponsored by Child Care Aware (1-800-424-2246), and National Provider Appreciation Day, May 8, sponsored by Providers First (1-888-3-FIRST-1). Please keep us informed about Worthy Wage Day plans in your community! ▲

A MESSAGE FROM CLAUDIA WAYNE

As many of you know, I have been receiving aggressive treatment for breast cancer since September and have been responding to it very well. During my medical leave, Marcy Whitebook and I are serving as Co-Directors of CCW, and I am continuing to work part time, primarily from home. I have truly appreciated the notes, letters and good wishes that I have received from so many of you during this challenging time. As 1998 begins, I look forward to a year of healing and recovery, and I am very grateful for your support!

WORKING TOGETHER:

GOOD CHILD CARE JOBS and GOOD CARE FOR CHILDREN

**National Center
for the
Early Childhood
Work Force**

*formerly the Child Care
Employee Project*



WORTHY WAGE ACTION PACKET 1998

733 15th Street, NW
Suite 1037
Washington, DC
20005-2112

202/737-7700
202/737-0370 FAX
Worthy Wage Campaign:
1-800-U-R-WORTHY

**Worthy Wage Campaign
Center for the Child Care Workforce
733 15th St., NW, Suite 1037
Washington, DC 20005-2112
Phone 202.737.7700 Fax 202.737.0370
Email worthywage@ccw.org**

2625 Alcatraz Ave.
Suite 199
Berkeley, CA
94705

510/654-1778
510/654-0877 FAX

WORKING TOGETHER for GOOD JOBS AND GOOD CARE

Parents Can't Afford to Pay.

Many working families spend as much as one-quarter of their income on child care.

Teachers and Providers Can't Afford to Stay.

Approximately three-quarters of the child care workforce earns an income below the poverty level. Roughly one-third will leave their jobs this year—most often to earn a better living elsewhere.

Take Action for a Better Way!

Let policy makers know why investment in child care is essential to the well-being of children and families.

Speak Out!

On **May 1 - Worthy Wage Day** - parents, child care teachers, family child care providers and concerned citizens are joining together to take **visible, bold action to call for investment** in better care for children which requires better child care jobs.

Story Time for Policy Makers

In response to research on the brain development of young children, the increased need for child care, and parents struggling with child care cost, President Clinton and members of Congress are proposing legislative solutions. Many policy makers grasp that proposed investments in child care must address both the quality of jobs and the quality of services.

In order to move from proposals to reality, we're organizing a **story time for policy makers**. They need to hear your stories about how the lack of money for child care affects parents ability to work and how living on meager child care wages affects the ability to continue caring for and teaching young children. We need to gather and send stories that will **urge policy makers to pass legislation that helps parents pay for child care and increases the compensation and education of the workforce**. Worthy Wage Day is an opportunity to have an impact by delivering many stories on that day.

Take Steps Toward Better Child Care Jobs

Creating Better Child Care Jobs: Model Work Standards is the new child care workplace assessment tool which provides criteria for improving the center-based child care teaching and work environment. Teachers, directors and parents can work together to **take concrete steps to reduce turnover and improve working conditions**. Around the country, staff and parents will be pledging to take "One Step" toward making child care a respected and rewarding job.

The Worthy Wage Campaign. Good child care jobs are the cornerstone of high quality child care services for children and families. Yet most child care jobs do not pay a living wage, leading to high turnover. The Worthy Wage Campaign is a grassroots effort led by teachers and providers in all child care settings to mobilize to improve their working conditions and gain community respect. Together, we strengthen our voices, foster respect, and promote accessible and affordable high-quality early care and education to meet the diverse needs of children and families. The Worthy Wage Campaign, coordinated by the Center for the Child Care Workforce, began in 1991 as a multi-year effort led by child care teachers and providers around the country to draw attention to the importance of child care work and the desperate need to improve child care jobs.

Worthy Wage Day. May 1, 1998 marks the 7th annual Worthy Wage Day of action. It is a day of activism which includes job shadowing - community leaders and parents working along side teachers and providers; rallies, speak-outs and forums to support proposals for public investment in compensation and training; and, showcasing the recently drafted Model Work Standards, which define the work environment which enables teachers and providers to offer the best care and education for children and accord child care professionals the respect they deserve.



Jon P. Jennings

02/17/98 04:12:34 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Roberta W. Greene/WHO/EOP, Noa A. Meyer/WHO/EOP

cc:

Subject: Warner Movie

I received a call from a friend that is interested in the events, etc. that the First Lady is invited to attend. The reason for the inquiry is that they are doing a movie called "First Man." It is a movie about the first man to occupy the role of FLOTUS. They just want to make sure they have the movie accurate. Thanks.

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002. fax	Evelyn Borges to Bobbie Greene re: SSNs and DOBs (1 page)	03/06/1998	P6/b(6)

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PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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003. letter	From: Noa Meyer re: personal (1 page)	03/09/1998	Personal Misfile
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11/25/97

Office of the First Lady
Margaret Williams
FILES

PEACE CORP
Clinton/Gore Reelect Women
Hillary Rodham Clinton Fan Club
AIDS
CDF
OMB Report Fiscal Year 1997
DLC
NCWP
Visit to Thailand
US Relations with Latin America
Fourth World Conference on Women
UNDP Human Development Report 1996

11/25/97

Office of the First Lady OEOB RM:100
MARGARET WILLIAMS
FILES (records management)

Adoption
Africa
AIDS
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Correspondence Log
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Interns
It Takes a Village
Legal
Lists
Maggie Mail
Memos
Presidential Library
Resumes
WH CD Rom
WH Historical Association

1835 K Street, NW
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20006
Tel: 202/ 728-189
Fax: 202/728-1895

**Americans for
Peace Now**

Fax

To:	Noa Meyer	From:	Sarah Eisinger
Fax:	456-6244	Pages:	2
Phone:		Date:	May 5, 1998
Re:	Job Announcement	CC:	

● **Comments:**

Noa -

If you know someone looking for a job, send them my way! Thanks for your help.

Sarah

*Michelle
371-2858 fax*



Ernest Bogen, Co-President
Mary Ann Stein, Co-President
Mark A. Seal, Treasurer
Rabbi Jay D. Levitt, Secretary

Debra DeLee, Executive Director

<http://www.peacenow.org>

**National Office
and APN Center for Israeli
Peace Security**
Gail Pressberg, Program and
Arab Affairs Consultant
Adam Handler, Director of
Legislative Affairs

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Henry Vorenberg
Rabbi Sheila Felix Weinberg
Paula Weinstein
Leon Wieseltier
Rabbi Cary Yales
Peter Yarrow
Steven Zippertstein
David Zucker
Jerry Zucker

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Title: ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND CEO

Organization: Americans for Peace Now (APN) is a Zionist peace organization working toward a lasting and secure peace in the Middle East. APN advocates for pro-Israel, pro-peace policies in Washington, DC and creates national programming to inform and educate American audiences and raise funds for Shalom Achshav (Peace Now) in Israel.

Description: Opportunity to work for an energetic and committed high-level Executive in fast-paced office. The job offers a close-up view of: the role of the Executive Branch and the Congress in brokering peace in Israel, the organized American Jewish community, and the day-to-day management of a non-profit organization.

Responsibilities:

- Manage office of the CEO including scheduling, arranging travel, drafting correspondence
- Communicate regularly with Board Chair, Executive Committee, Board of Directors and principals in Shalom Achshav in Israel
- Coordinate materials and logistics for Board Meetings

Qualifications:

- Written and oral communication skills
- Highly organized and detail oriented
- 2-3 years experience in the public or non-profit sector
- Interest in, and knowledge of, the Middle East peace process useful

Availability: May 15

Salary: *Commensurate with experience.*

Please send cover letter, resume and references to Sarah Eisinger, Americans for Peace Now, 1835 K Street, NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20006 or fax: 202-728-1895.

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
004. letter	Noa Meyer to Chris Rees re: personal (2 pages)	05/11/1998	Personal Misfile

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PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]