Thankful.

‘Tis the season to celebrate and be thankful for the gifts and blessings we have in our lives. And, we at COE are thankful for our diverse world and the chance to learn and grow as professionals and individuals.

In honor of the season, we want to highlight a great resource for making your classrooms inclusive and welcoming. The Anti-Defamation League has long been a leader in this area and therefore, produces a stellar guide to help teachers. *The December Dilemma* gives educators an introduction to religion in the classroom, holiday assemblies, performing religious music, holiday displays and legal issues. Check it out at: [http://www.adl.org/issue_education/december_dilemma_2004/default.asp](http://www.adl.org/issue_education/december_dilemma_2004/default.asp)

Please email ideas for future topics or upcoming events to Hanna Wanzlenried-Solberg, TED GA, at hwanzenried@unomaha.edu or by dropping off submissions to Roskens Hall 308B. *Our Lens* is a COE Diversity Committee sponsored project. The next issue will be published in the spring of 2013.

Season Greetings from our COE family to yours!
Professional Development, Curriculum, Resources & Events

International Education Week: November 12-16, 2012
UNO has a whole week of events and outreach planned, including a photo contest, archeology exhibits, lectures, informational booths, food tasting, a global marketplace and volunteer experiences! For a full schedule, please visit: http://world.unomaha.edu/iew/index.php

COE England Study Abroad Experience:
Applications are due on November 30, 2012. To access the application and additional information, please visit: http://culturewalks.wikispaces.com/England

Urban Education (November Issue):
http://uex.sagepub.com/content/current

Suggested Deaf Education Professional Development Books:
• Deaf Education in the 21st Century by Nanci Scheetz
• Alone in the Mainstream by Gina Oliva

Teaching Tolerance:
Making Invisible Histories Visible (this issues features an OPS project):
http://www.tolerance.org/magazine/number-42-fall-2012/making-invisible-histories-visible

ADL’s Curriculum Connection:
The Anti-Defamation League has curriculum for a whole host of topics, including constitutional issues, holocaust and genocide studies, immigrants and immigration, LGBT people and issues, Native American and Indigenous people, people with disabilities, bullying, sexism and gender issues, racism, hate and extremism, and anti-Semitism. Follow this link to find a curriculum topic that you need:
http://www.adl.org/education/curriculum_connections/

“Our cultural strength has always been derived from our diversity of understanding and experience.” ~Yo-Yo Ma (French-born American Cellist)
Upcoming Community Events

The Plains States ADL, Nebraska Educational Television, NE
**Appleseed Event: Not In Our Town, Light In the Darkness** – Aksarben Cinema (2110 S. 67th Street) – Thursday, Nov. 29th at 6 p.m. This is a free screening of the one-hour documentary of a town coming together to take action after anti-immigrant violence devastates the community. Please contact Jessica Gall at jgall@adl.org for more information.

**El Museo Latino:**
Currently, the museum has six exhibits on display, including Graphics of Latin America, Agents of Change: Mexican Muralists and New Deal Artists, and Arte Popular/Folk Art. To learn more about these exhibits and museum times, please visit: [http://www.elmuseolatino.org/exhibits.html](http://www.elmuseolatino.org/exhibits.html)

**Autism Society of Nebraska:**
AMC Entertainment and the Autism Society have teamed up to bring families affected by autism and other disabilities a special opportunity to enjoy their favorite films in a safe and accepting environment on a monthly basis with the “Sensory Friendly Films” program. On December 8, 2012 AMC Oakview 24 Theater will show Rise of the Guardians at 10 am. For more information visit: [http://www.autismnebraska.org/omaha/sensory-friendly-movie-events/](http://www.autismnebraska.org/omaha/sensory-friendly-movie-events/)

**Project Interfaith Program:**
PechaKucha Night Omaha Volume 17: “Pilgrimages.” This program will take place at the Blue Sushi Sake Grill (416 South 12th Street) and be held on Thursday, December 6, 2012, 8:20 - 10:00 pm. For more information visit: [http://projectinterfaith.org/](http://projectinterfaith.org/)

**Empowerment Network Community Meeting:**
This event will be held on Saturday, December 8, 2012 from 8:45 am to 12:00 pm at North High School - Viking Center - 4410 N. 36th Street.

**Holidays Around the World:**
This holiday concert celebrates the holiday season on a global scale. The River City Mixed Chorus - Omaha’s GLBTA Chorus - will sing across nations and continents by featuring music from around the globe. The concert will be held on December 8, 2012 at 7 pm and on December 9, 2012 at 4 pm at First United Methodist Church (7020 Cass Street).

**Durham Western Heritage Museum:**
The American Soldier, From the Civil War to the War in Iraq: A Photographic Tribute. This exhibit will be on display until January 6, 2013. To learn more about this powerful display, please visit: [http://www.durhammuseum.org/](http://www.durhammuseum.org/)

The following list is by no means complete. It is our hope that you use these as suggestions for places to visit and events to participate in and then branch out on your own to find other local programs.

**Malcolm X Foundation:**
The Malcolm X Foundation presents the 20th Anniversary Screening of the film Malcolm X 1992 on Tuesday, November 20, 2012 at 6:30 pm at Film Streams. For more information visit: [http://malcolmxfoundation.org/wp/](http://malcolmxfoundation.org/wp/)

**Nebraska Families Collaborative Community Advisory Board Meeting:**
This is a chance for school administrators, teachers, parents, human service professionals and community members to share their concerns, suggestions and hear about the updates for child welfare and juvenile justice. The meeting will be held on November 28, 2012 from 6:00-7:30 pm at St. Mary’s Church (3529 Q Street).

The 2012 Film Streams screening of Malcolm X, directed by Spike Lee, will be held on November 28 at 6:00 p.m. This screening will be followed by a panel discussion with participants from the Nebraska Children’s Trust Fund and the Children’s Communication Board. This event will be held on November 28, 2012 at 6:30 pm at Film Streams. For more information visit: [http://www.elmuseolatino.org/exhibits.html](http://www.elmuseolatino.org/exhibits.html)

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UNO Criss Library
Multicultural Books

Young Adult Literature:
**I am J** by Cris Beam: J, who feels like a boy mistakenly born as a girl, runs away from his best friend who has rejected him and the parents he thinks do not understand him when he finally decides that it is time to be who he really is (Description via Worldcat).

**Lesson of the white eagle : a novel** by Barbara Hay: A boy questions his friends' attitudes toward Indians after the white eagle takes him back to see the forced removal of the Ponca to Oklahoma (Description via Worldcat).

Children's Literature:
**Li'l Rabbit's Kwanzaa** - Written by Donna L. Washington and illustrated by Shane W. Evans: L'il Rabbit searches for a gift for his grandmother when she is sick during Kwanzaa, and surprises her with the best gift of all. Includes "The Nguzo Saba - The Seven Principles of Kwanzaa" (Description via Worldcat).

**The Hanukah Hop!** - Written by Erica Silverman and illustrated by Steven D'Amico: Rhymed text and illustrations follow a family's activities as they prepare to celebrate Hanukkah (Description via Worldcat).

Need more resources for your classroom or school project? Please contact, Melissa Cast-Brede, Research Services Unit/Education & Psychology Liaison at mcast@unomaha.edu.

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**Reflection: Food for Thought**

How can you employ what you read in this newsletter to your teaching practice or role as a learner?

What will Culturally Responsive Teaching (CRT) look like for you over the coming months – especially given the holiday season?

What events will you attend? Remember, if you're trying something new or going to a different part of Omaha that you are unfamiliar with, it is OK to bring a friend or colleague along to experience the event together. The more the merrier!