



November 2012

Newsletter

Co-op Family Center
 2250 Patterson St
 Eugene, OR 97405
coopfamilycenter.org

Upcoming Dates:

Nov 22 & 23: Co-op closed for Thanksgiving weekend
 Nov 28: Portrait Night, 5-7pm
 Nov 30th: Winter break schedules due to office
 Dec 1: Barnes & Noble gift wrapping
 Dec 7th: Last day of fall term
 Dec 10-21: Co-op open during winter break. Pre signed up enrollment only
 Dec 24-Jan 4: Co-op closed for holiday and Teacher In-Service
 Jan 7: Winter Term begins

Portrait Night

Parents, mark your calendar for our November Parent Night, you will not want to miss this!

You may have noticed the center-wide study of self-portraits, that began in September. Children's portfolios are beginning to reveal original drawings from the studio with Alison and now it's your turn to have some fun.

Wednesday, November 28th from 5-7:00, parents will be able to join Alison in the Community Room for a chance to create a self-portrait using a variety of materials that our children have been exploring this fall. Drawing, clay and mixed media with natural materials, all will be choices for your creative expression.

From 5-6:00 is a time just for parents and 6-7:00 is family time with your children.

Portraits will be on exhibit in your child's room for the

December 6th IDEA (International Democratic Education Association) tour.

Join our staff and children in expressing who we are through the art of the self-portrait. The children will love you for it!

Alison McNair
 Studio Art Teacher
 Co-op Family Center

Gift Wrapping at Barnes and Noble

On Saturday, December 1st, from 10-4, we will have a gift wrapping table at Barnes and Noble. All donations we receive for this fundraiser will go into our technology fund. If you like to wrap gifts and have an hour or two available on Saturday, December 1st, please sign up on the Parent Board or let Alisa know. Also, if you are not the greatest gift wrapper, take this opportunity to make a donation and bring your gifts to our table at Barnes and Noble. Let family and friends know about this helpful fundraiser!

Coloring Books

Get your holiday shopping started at the Co-op!

As our new holiday fundraiser, the Co-op will be producing coloring books filled with drawings from our classrooms. These will be great gifts for any young person on your shopping list and a chance to show family from out of town the kind of work being produced by your children and their friends at the Co-op.

All profits will help us meet our fundraising goals for technology upgrades in our classrooms. Both the cards and the coloring books should be ready after Thanksgiving break for ordering.

Thanks for your support!

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From the Studio

Community art events

The Art Studio is requesting wire for projects. It can be jewelry wire, electrical wire, home improvement wire, anything we can cut and bend for projects.

Thanks, Alison

Co-oping

Opportunities

We are beginning to prepare new schedules for winter term. If you are interested in co-oping in the classroom, please talk to the teachers to be able to pick out the best time for you for in class co-oping. Having parents in the classroom is such a benefit to the Co-op, we greatly appreciate your time and support throughout the day.

We are still looking for a family or two that

would like to help maintain the small playground. Ideally with two families we could alternate every other weekend. This job includes sweeping and organizing playground materials. If you are interested, please see Tami

We will also have furniture painting opportunities during winter break. If you are interested in painting and touching up classroom furniture, please see Tami.

**Thank you
Thank you**

We would like to take the opportunity to thank a few parents for their support preparing for our annual Oregon Child Care Division certification. Eric Roberts and Chris and Suzie Watkins help maintain our big playground (Pre K/K and Preschool). They made sure it was cleaned (including all the leaves) and ready for our inspection. Thank you!!

WINTER BREAK SCHEDULES

Can you believe that fall term is almost over? This term has been busy with getting to know our new families and teachers, participating in new events, fieldtrips and all the fall term parent meetings!

Now we are preparing for winter break. The UO is closed for four weeks, December 10-January 4.

We will be opened December 10-21 to provide care for Co-op families. This time period is for pre enrollment only. We are asking all families to return the winter break schedule request (even if you do not need care). This will allow us to staff according to the number of kids in each classroom and to combine classrooms if necessary.

Winter break schedules have been emailed out to all families, available at the front desk and attached to this newsletter, please turn in no later than November 30th. Thanks!!

If you need to make a change of schedule for winter term, please see Tami

**Gratitude Baskets for
our Lead Staff**

During the first week of December, I will have baskets in the entry way for each of our lead staff to fill with treats and kind words to thank them for the wonderful job they do every day in the center. Please feel free to bring in homemade goodies or other gifts to put in their individual baskets. Thanks for your generous support! Alisa

Immunizations

We are currently reviewing all immunization forms of the kids enrolled at the Co-op. If your child is in need of updates you will receive a letter from the Co-op this week with the needed immunizations. The Co-op is required to turn the report over to the Lane County Health by January 16th for review. Families will have until February 20th to get their child updated before Lane County imposes an exclusion date. If you have questions, please check in with Tami

Each month, members of the Co-op Board are trying to highlight activities issues of interest to Co-op parents, including things going on in our own classrooms. This month, Board member Katie Drummond writes about a recent popular activity in the Pre K/K classroom.

As a yoga practitioner myself, I was excited to find out that the Pre K/K classroom has started a yoga practice of their own. Kim and Tony have set up a yoga “studio” in the back corner, complete with mats and pictures of yoga poses. In addition to learning classic yoga postures, the kids, of course, like making up poses of their own. At home, my daughter has been showing me some of these new creations.

Teacher Tony said that it has been nice for students to have a physical activity that is also mentally calming. In addition to using yoga as a physical practice, they have been integrating yoga into art and literacy. For instance, a student might do a pose and then draw it, whether literally or figuratively. Students have been telling the story of the Three Little Bears, using relevant yoga poses. Teacher Kim explained that the children have recently been partnering in their yoga poses and she likes the way that yoga then becomes a dialogue between children.

The yoga practice doesn't stop there--once a week, certified yoga teacher and Pre K/K parent Natalie Reeves takes interested students down to the Community Room for additional practice. She admits that she wasn't sure how the yoga would work out with 4- 5- and 6-year-olds, but says that the students have really become involved. She was surprised the other day when students lay patiently and calmly in the relaxation “sleep” pose (Savasana/corpse) for quite a while, playing the Savasana game. Thus, the kids are already developing the difficult art of letting go.

So, the next time you see the Pre K/K students wondering by, notice that extra look of calm, body-mind awareness in their eyes!



Winter Break 2012 Schedule Request

WINTER BREAK

December 10th-21st

7:30am-5:45pm

Due to the office by Friday, November 30th

Co-op Family Center Parents,

Winter break historically tends to be a low enrollment period of the Co-op. In order to provide accurate staffing for number of kids signed up for winter break 2012, we are asking parents needing care to please identify the time of day needed during the break. Classrooms will also be combined to reflect enrollment needs. The Co-op will be closed December 24th -January 4th for holiday break and teacher in-service.

Before signing up for care for winter break care, please consider the following:

- We require all balances to be paid in full by November 30, 2012.
- There is a \$100.00 schedule change fee for any reduction of winter break hours after November 30th. If you need to increase hours after your schedule has been submitted, please see Tami. If space is available; we will gladly accommodate your needs.

MY CHILD'S SCHEDULE FOR WINTER BREAK WILL BE:

DECEMBER 10-14

- Full Time (Time in: _____ Time out: _____)
- T TH (Time in: _____ Time out: _____)
- M W F (Time in: _____ Time out: _____)
- School Age M-F (Time out: _____)
- Other, Special request (approved by Dec 7): _____
- I DO NOT NEED CARE

DECEMBER 17-21

- Full Time (Time in: _____ Time out: _____)
- T TH (Time in: _____ Time out: _____)
- M W F (Time in: _____ Time out: _____)
- School Age M-F (Time out: _____)
- Other, Special request (approved by Dec 7): _____
- I DO NOT NEED CARE

JANUARY 7TH: (4j Kindergarten and School Age only)

Yes, I will need care for my child No, I will not need care for my child

Child(ren) Name:

Parent Signature

Date received by Co-op