



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
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SCHOOL of GRADUATE STUDIES
AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

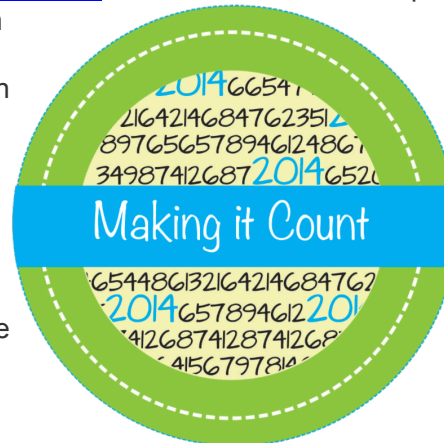
CONTINUING EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

March 2014

Early Childhood Educators Return to Whitewater

Experts, educators, performers, and artists who specialize in early childhood education will come together at the [36th Annual Early Childhood Conference](#) at UW-Whitewater on April 11 and 12. Dozens of sessions on topics ranging from understanding misbehavior to becoming a reflective teacher to supporting language learners will be held on campus. Concerts for children and families, featuring Greg and Steve and Gemini, are offered in addition to the professional sessions. The theme of this year's conference is "Teaching children to count is fine, but teaching them what counts is best." Conference director, Robin Fox (Curriculum and Instruction) notes that teaching young children content is only part of the important work of an early childhood educator.

The conference is one of the largest of its kind in the state and well-known by practitioners and presenters alike. "The Early Childhood Conference is our biggest event of this type all year," notes Ryan Callahan, Director of Continuing Education Services. Over 800 participants and presenters are expected to come from all over the region for the event. "The conference is a great way for early childhood educators to network and get rejuvenated about teaching and learning," says Callahan. "We are proud of the way the conference has supported these professionals for nearly four decades."



Upcoming Events

[Deadline Extended! Education Outreach Grants Due April 4](#)

[Resources for Peace Conference, April 10-11](#)

[A Mission to Honor: UW-Whitewater Students Premiere Documentary on the Fairhaven Veteran's History Project, April 21](#)

[Third Annual Grandchildren's University, June 27-28](#)

Related Links

[Graduate School](#)

[Summer Session](#)

[Winterim](#)

[Credit Outreach](#)

[Workshops and Training](#)

[Camps and Conferences](#)

[Fairhaven Lecture Series](#)



[Domestic Travel Study](#)
[Partners in Education](#)
[Law Enforcement Bachelor's Degree](#)



Revisiting America's Civil Rights Struggle Through Film

Continuing Education at UW-Whitewater will be partnering with the [Fargo Public Library](#) in Lake Mills to host the film and discussion series, *Created Equal: America's Civil Rights Struggle* in April. *Created Equal* is made possible through a major grant from the [National Endowment for the Humanities](#) (NEH), as part of its [Bridging Cultures](#) initiative, in partnership with the [Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History](#) to encourage public

conversations about the changing meanings of freedom and equality in America. Four documentary films will be shown throughout the month at the Fargo Library. James Levy (History), Chandra Waring (Sociology, Criminology, and Anthropology), and Amber Moulton (History) will lead conversations with community members that focus on issues such as equality under the law and civil rights in multicultural America.



Continuing Education seeks opportunities to share the University's resources and expertise to area communities, and the *Created Equal* series is one example of this type of activity. "Our community extends far beyond our campus boundaries," notes Seth Meisel, Associate Dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Continuing Education. "We are pleased the NEH selected UW-Whitewater and the Fargo Public Library to host these discussions for our citizens, educators, and students." All events are free and open to the public. For a complete list of films and events, go to <http://www.uww.edu/conteduc/createdequal/>.



UW-Whitewater Staff Developing Spanish Skills

Last fall, Continuing Education in cooperation with the [Classified Staff Advisory Council](#) started offering beginning conversational Spanish classes for UW-Whitewater classified staff members to further enhance their professional development. Beginning conversational Spanish classes focus on basic conversations that allow participants to communicate with the growing Spanish-speaking population in our region. Participants complete conversation lessons on an online program, then meet in person to practice the lessons with each other and a facilitator. Gisela Sanchez-Lopez, a graduate student in UW-Whitewater's MBA program and Sonia Yadira Gambsky, Graduation Examiner Assistant in the Registrar's Office, both of Mexico, have been integral in developing and facilitating the program. Three sessions have been held since October and others will be held this summer.

Over two dozen classified staff members have participated in the program so far. Julie Marino, Academic Department Associate in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, was part of the pilot class and continues to participate in the program. "I enjoy being able to interact with coworkers in an informal way while working together to learn a new skill," Marino notes. "Learning a new skill makes everyone feel better about



themselves, as does the ability to communicate with others who may need my help but don't speak English." Marino and other UW-Whitewater staff and students are further developing their Spanish skills and the resources for Spanish speakers in the community by participating on a [LEAP](#) team. "We're working hard on creating Spanish resources to make our campus more accessible and friendly to Spanish speaking students and their families and

guests."

For more information on Beginning Conversational Spanish, contact [Kari Borne](#).



Share Your Expertise!

Do you have a special talent, hobby, or area of expertise? Would you like to share that with our community of life-long learners? Contact us! We're looking for instructors for personal enrichment classes. From photography and technology to crafting and personal finance, the topics are limitless. Contact [Kari Borne](#)