Children's Studies hosted their Annual Review on May 12, 2011, titled, “Together We Can Make a Difference.” The program featured commentaries from Vickie Shields, Dean of Social Sciences, and Sue Wright, Director of Children’s Studies. Keynote speaker, Tim Henkel, President and CEO of Spokane County United Way, discussed how we can work together to continue to make a difference for kids in the community.

This year, online majors could be a part of the program using Elluminate, an online Web session. The Annual Review featured the annual update, senior portfolio presentations and interviews with students and alumni, as well as the keynote speaker. There were refreshments provided and the tables were decorated with markers and coloring supplies for people to submit ideas about how they could make a difference.

This was the first year of the interview station. Kayla DeLoe, the Community Relations Assistant, sat down in front a live Web cam to talk with students, partners and alumni about the program and how they’ve worked together to make the community a better place for the children. Students expressed their love for children, saying that you really have to have a passion for kids, when asked what advice they had for students pursuing a Children’s Studies degree. Even Nadine Arévalo, the wife of EWU’s president, took a moment to sit down and talk about her love for children. “I work as a mentor at the elementary school and I love it.”

The ceremony concluded with the graduating seniors receiving Children’s Studies cords, symbolizing both the program’s appreciation of the student’s work and the students’ “promise” about how they will work with and for children in the future.
CHILDREN’S STUDIES MAJOR, VANESSA LOPEZ AT BLUEPRINTS FOR LEARNING.

CHILDREN’S STUDIES DEBUTS VIDEO

On the night of May 12, 2011, the Children’s Studies Program unveiled one of its newest developments, an informational Children’s Studies video. The video, created by John Demke of Mar Com, highlights the curriculum, concentration options and employment opportunities available in the Children’s Studies Program. The video features appearances by Vanessa Lopez, a student majoring in Children’s Studies. “I like kids because they’re wonderful to be around,” said Lopez. “This program gives me the flexibility I need and the ability to decide what I want to pursue in my chosen career field.”

The scene of laughter and happiness from cheerful kids playing at the Blueprints for Learning with Lopez is definitely a highlight of the video.

To learn more about Children’s Studies and to preview the video please visit: www.ewu.edu/About/Spotlights/Childrens-Studies-Spotlight.

CHILDREN’S STUDIES PRESENT AT BLUE MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE


EWU’s Sue Wright, director of Children’s Studies, offered a presentation on children’s loss and grief at the conference. This presentation focused on how children experience loss differently and how parents understand and respond to a child who has dealt with grief. Topics included types of loss, how stages of development impact the stages of grieving, and how cultural assumptions about childhood and grief affect the way we perceive and respond to a child’s loss.

Daniel Bigler, Children’s Studies lecturer, entertained with a playful workshop highlighting the many incredible things you can do with a cardboard box. “The Magic of a Cardboard Box: Transforming Your School’s Playground – and Your Kids’ Lives – with Loose Parts,” allowed parents and teachers to learn an easy, practical, creative way to promote child-led free play, using only boxes, strings, fabric and other easily accessible materials.

CHILDREN’S STUDIES CLUB OFFICERS – 2010/11

- PRESIDENT - KELLY JO KEGGERREIS
- VICE PRESIDENT - CHARISE MONGE
- TREASURE - STAN PICHINEVSKY
- SECRETARY - JANA BOWMAN

INTERNSHIPS

If you are planning to complete an internship next year, now is the time to begin the process. To get started, it helps to talk with your faculty advisor, check out resources in the Children’s Studies Office (007A Hargreaves Hall), visit with a Children’s Studies peer mentor, and/or visit the EWU Career Services Internship Office, 114 Showalter Hall. To register for internship credits, see your faculty advisor to complete a Special Course Approval/Registration Form. Internship credits may be CDST 495, ITGS 400, or other approved departmental internships. It is expected that students have declared a major and have completed a significant amount of their course work that can be applied to their internship site.

For more complete information on the Internship Process, check out these links: www.ewu.edu/childrensstudies
www.ewu.edu/Community/Career-Services

“THE MAGIC OF A CARDBOARD BOX...” WORKSHOP

CHILDREN’S STUDIES STAFF 2010-2011

- Stan Pichinevsky - Research Assistant for the Online Program
- Annie Tirado - Peer Mentor
- Judy Reyes - Peer Mentor
- Juan Ledezma - Community Relations Assistant, Event Planning
- Kayla DeLoe - Community Relations Assistant, Communications
- Tegan Baldwin - Technical Writing Assistant

The Children’s Studies staff is located in 007A Hargreaves Hall on the Cheney campus and can be reached by calling 509.359.6813.
CALENDAR
(IMPORTANT DATES/ EVENTS)

June 6, 2011
Summer camps open
www.spokaneparks.org

June 10, 2011
Last day of Spring quarter

June 11, 2011
EWU 2011 Commencement

June 20, 2011
First day of Summer quarter

July 4, 2011
Independence Holiday - no classes

August, 2011
Last day of Summer quarter

MAURICE SENDAK EXHIBIT

Eastern Washington University Libraries was selected as one of 40 libraries nationwide to host “In a Nutshell: The Worlds of Maurice Sendak,” a traveling exhibition opening at the JFK Library on Cheney campus of Eastern Washington University, in November 2011. The exhibit reveals the push and pull of New and Old Worlds in Sendak’s work and shows how Sendak’s artistic journey has led him deeper into his own family’s history and his Jewish identity.

Maurice Sendak is best known as the illustrator of more than 100 picture books, including Where the Wild Things Are and In the Night Kitchen.

The exhibit is an exploration of Sendak’s illustrations and picture books, revealing connections between these iconic works and Sendak’s childhood, family and the popular culture of the time.

FALL COURSES

CDST 301 Intro to Children’s Studies (2) TR 12-12:50 p.m. Tedescoe
CDST 301 Intro to Children’s Studies (2) M 6-8 p.m. Culler
SOCI 101 Intro to Sociology (5) multiple sections
EDUC 306 Intro to Early Childhood Education (1) T 12-12:50 p.m. Sherwood
CEDP 313 Child &Adolescent Development (4) MTWR 8-8:50 a.m. Mehlert
EDUC 325 Inequalities & Impacts on Education Equity (4) MW 10-11:50 a.m. Lui
GEOG 357 Geography of Childhood (3) Web Bigler
SOCI/WMST 370 Sociology of Family (5) Web Tedescoe
CDST 439 Topics in Children’s Studies (5) Web Yonamine Web
SOCI/WMST 483 Sociology of Children (5) M-F 9-9:50 a.m. Wright
CDST 492 Senior Portfolio (2) R 4-6 p.m. Tedescoe
CDST 495 Children’s Studies Internship (4) TBA Wright
CEDP 495 Experiential Learning (4) TBA Melhert

“My Princess Boy” Author Arrives at EWU

Cheryl Kilodavis, author of My Princess Boy, came to EWU’s campus to talk about the importance of your child’s happiness. Kilodavis wrote My Princess Boy as a tool to help people understand her son’s decision to wear dresses. Dyson Kilodavis, Cheryl’s six-year-old son, started wearing dresses around the age of two. At first, Cheryl said that she was against the idea of buying Dyson’s blue Cinderella dress for a Halloween costume. “He just started crying in the store, and it wasn’t until his older brother DeKobe, said, ‘Mom, why can’t you just let him be happy?’, that I decided I should buy the dress.”

Kilodavis, went on to talk of how she started journaling her son’s obsession with pretty things and sparkles. She then decided that it would be a good idea to turn her journal into a book, as a tool for basic conversation of acceptance. Dyson’s love for dresses continued throughout the years and his mom knew that as he was getting older, he was going to be put in confrontational environments. On Dyson’s first day of preschool, she brought a copy of her journal-turned-book, to give to the teacher to help her better understand her son Dyson and his fashion choices. “The teacher loved this book so much, she told me, ‘why not make a copy for all the students?’ and I thought that was a great idea.”

Kilodavis and her family then had to decide how public they wanted to go with the book. “We talked about it for nine or so months before we made a decision to go public.” The book, whose first thousand copies sold out in five days, is Kilodavis’s tool that she takes everywhere that Dyson goes. There are no faces on the characters in the book; Kilodavis says that she doesn’t want to assume emotions that people should or should not feel from reading the book.

Since the release of her book, My Princess Boy, Kilodavis and her son, Dyson, have been featured on television shows like, The Today Show, The Joy Behar Show, and New Day Northwest. Dyson also did a spread in People Magazine, where his mom says that he was extremely fashion conscious. “He packed thirteen different outfits for that photo shoot, he even picked out the purse he wanted me to take to NYC.”

You can learn more about, My Princess Boy, and Cheryl and Dyson Kilodavis at: www.myprincessboy.com