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A Newsletter for Waldorf School Communities
from the Association of Waldorf Schools of North America

Our teenagers need us to understand how they think – what they need – how to build capacities in them and for them. This year, the **AWSNA Summer Conference** focuses on the topic of adolescence: that marvelous and precarious bridge from childhood to adulthood. The conference will be held from June 22 - 25, 2010 in beautiful Decatur, GA, hosted by The Waldorf School of Atlanta and Academe of the Oaks. Register today at <http://www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=822202> to attend what promises to be an extraordinary opportunity to learn more about adolescence from a Waldorf perspective. Enjoy the usual rich array of focus groups, artistic workshops, roundtable discussions, and an opportunity to network with hundreds of colleagues from across North America. You can register or learn more at www.whywaldorfworks.org.

The project Speech and Drama in Waldorf Schools in North America is about to enter its 18th year! The initiative has facilitated some 150 speech visits to schools in the U.S. and Canada (each visit lasting 1-6 weeks), and comprises professional development and classroom application in a variety of formats with classes, teachers and individual children. It also includes parent education, faculty in-service days and events for the wider community. Founded by speech artist and educator Helen Lubin, and now also including the work of further speech colleagues, the project has grown thanks to the joy of cultivating living language in its supportive role in human development. Schools and speech artists are currently scheduling speech visits for 2010-11. Some funding is available. Contact: helenlubin@gmail.com or 916 966 5749.

“Rudolf Steiner: Alchemy of the Everyday,” is a traveling exhibition organized by the Vitra Design Museum in collaboration with the Kunstmuseums in Wolfsburg and Stuttgart. Opening on May 13 in Wolfsburg, Germany, it is Steiner’s first major retrospective ever staged outside the anthroposophic community. Waldorf alum Douglas Brenner wrote this about the show recently in the New York Times: “Watercolors and sculptures, furniture and architectural models, stage sets and eurhythmy robes, lab instruments and maps will flesh out Steiner’s ideas on (among other topics) prenatal existence and child development, environmentalism and economics, medicine and reincarnation. It is fascinating to examine how Steiner dared to develop this overall vision that included everything from metaphysics and natural science to art.”

Since its inception almost 40 years ago, a group called **“Friends of Waldorf Education” (Freunde)** has been fighting against poverty and social marginalization by making education accessible to children in disadvantaged regions all over the world. The group supports Waldorf schools, early childhood centers, and other educational initiatives, curative and social therapeutic institutions as well as social projects. Since 1994, Waldorf schools in Europe have actively been organizing a social day (WOW-Day – Waldorf One World), when pupils raise funds through various artistic activities or different fundraising campaigns to support educational initiatives around the world. In 2009, more than 278,000 euro was raised, benefitting over 40 educational projects in 20 countries. The next WOW-Day is October 1, 2010. We are happy to announce that the Freunde granted our Teacher Education Network a generous grant for building consistency in our Waldorf Teacher Education Institutes.