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Note to reporters/editors: Virtually all K-12 educators in your area probably will be interested in this program. Also please note that it has expanded this year, and the application deadline is a month earlier than before.

Lilly Endowment announces new expansion of fellowship program

Now beginning its 16th year, the Lilly Endowment Teacher Creativity Fellowship Program is being expanded to include principals and assistant principals of public and private schools in Indiana.

Including these new categories, the program now encompasses K-12 licensed classroom teachers, guidance counselors, resource teachers and library/media specialists in Indiana public and private schools with at least three years' experience. Also eligible are former Teacher Creativity fellows who received their award before 1996.

Total participation in the program passed the 1,200 mark this summer as another 100 fellows fulfilled their renewal goals. The 2002 fellows have pursued renewal programs that have taken them all over the world, introduced them to new arts and crafts or sharpened their skills in current ones and allowed them to pursue their interests from going on archaeological digs, to studying rain forests, to traveling to Russia to learn more about poet Aleksandr Pushkin.

“Their enthusiasm for their projects is contagious,” says Sara B. Cobb, Endowment vice president for education. “It is gratifying to see the enthusiasm and new insights generated by these renewal projects reflected in their teaching.”

Each recipient receives a grant of \$7,500. The Endowment will provide up to 120 awards – 100 for teachers and 20 for principals and assistant principals.

(more)

Teacher Creativity Fellowship Program
Add 1

Teachers participate in a six-week, full-time project in the summer which may begin after June 1, 2003, and must be completed by Aug. 31, 2003. The fellowship period, however, will run through May 2004, so recipients will have extra time for their renewal work, to expand their projects or develop connections to classroom teaching or learning.

Principals and assistant principals, who may not have extensive time available during the summer, may propose time lines that – over the course of a full year – will allow them to engage in renewal activities that fit their schedules.

Applications must be postmarked by Dec. 2 – this is a month earlier than in previous years. Notification of grant awards will be made by the end of February 2003.

For specific questions about the program or application procedures, please contact the Endowment by e-mail, info@teachercreativity.org, or consult the program's Web site, www.teachercreativity.org.