Tutor Talk
A Random Newsletter of the Learning & Tutoring Center

LTC Hosts The Colors of Poetry

In its first-ever exhibition of writing, Georgia Perimeter College displayed more than 50 poems to illustrate “The Colors of Poetry.” The exhibit celebrated National Poetry Month and was shown in the 3rd floor gallery of the library building (NLRC) on GPC’s Dunwoody Campus during the month of April. A poetry reading and opening celebration took place on Thursday, April 5th from 3 to 5 p.m. in the lobby, which included a lovely catered affair.

The idea for the “Colors of Poetry” exhibit came out of The Writers’ Circle, a group of creative writers that meets at the Dunwoody Campus every two weeks to discuss each other’s work and offer feedback.

Gelia Dolcimascolo has been facilitating The Writers’ Circle for the past 18 years. “Somebody asked for more color imagery in a poem during a critique. So the idea was born to write and show poems that contain visual expressions of color,” she said.

In addition to The Writers’ Circle, the exhibit was cosponsored by the Dunwoody LTC, The Writers Institute, The Writers’ Forum, the Dunwoody Office of Student Life, The Chattahoochee Review, the Atlanta Writers Club and the Georgia Writers Association. The works of some 21 poets were represented.

When asked if there would be another exhibit next year, Nancy McDaniel, LTC Writing Center Supervisor and advisor to the Writers’ Circle, said, “There’s no doubt; this will become an annual tradition.”

Poets Visit Dunwoody Campus

In conjunction with the Colors of Poetry exhibition, two poetry workshops were offered on the Dunwoody Campus.

Atlanta poet Amy Pence and Poet Therapist John Fox of California engaged community and GPC poets by challenging their creativity to produce themed poetry in a timed setting.

ABOVE Poets (L-R): Pete Bursi, Mary Grace Schaap, Gelia Dolcimascolo, John Fox, Nancy McDaniel, Mary Frances, Jenny Heaton, and Marianne Patty.
LOLCats (Laugh Out Loud Cats) are a blogging sensation that's slamming the Internet and adding to its culture. The concept of blogging or emailing pictures of cute animals with funny captions is not new.

LOLCats, however, are a little different in that they have taken on their own language, which some have dubbed Kitty Pidgen (KP).

KP is a combination of IM language and verbose grammatical errors and often follows the pattern: I'm in your “x” “y”ing your “z” or “I’m in ur treez eating ur skwirls.”

KP is rife with spelling and subject-verb agreement problems, and it’s not uncommon to see an adorable little kitten next to an empty milk bowl with the caption: I has milk, pleaz?

Though you might be in class thinking, “I’m in ur class acing ur test,” I wouldn’t recommend writing in KP on your essays.

My personal favorite: a picture of a cat curled up in a dictionary with the caption—I’m in ur dictionary verb ing ur nouns.

Visit www.lolcats.com

Quaovi Sodji
LTC Math Tutor

“I always go to work in the math lab feeling that I’m glad to be there.”

Can you speak Kitty Pidgen?

Meet Quao

Quaovi Sodji, a native of the Togolese Republic (Togo) West Africa, is currently pursuing a B.S in Biochemistry at Georgia Tech where he transferred after two years at GPC. His ultimate goal is to earn his medical degree and dedicate his career to medical research.

Quao started tutoring math in the LTC lab on Dunwoody campus during the summer of 2004. “This was very convenient,” Quao said, “as it allowed me to take classes and work at the same location.”

Going through the chemistry and biology courses on Dunwoody gave him the opportunity to expand the scope of his activities at the LTC. As a tutor, Quao says, “I learn more from the students because I get to see the same problem from different angles. By doing so, my previous understanding of a subject is increased.”

Quao believes that one of the great joys of being a tutor is knowing that the help he gives to a student may have been important for the successful completion of his or her class.

You do the math!

Challenging ourselves to solve complex problems helps to keep our brains toned as we age. It’s no secret that mental exercise reduces the risk of Alzheimer’s, so in the interest of good health, try solving the following problem:

A confused bank teller transposed the dollars and cents when he cashed a check for Ms. Smith giving her dollars instead of cents and cents instead of dollars. After buying a newspaper for 50 cents, Ms. Smith noticed that she had left exactly three times as much as the original check. What was the amount of the check? (Note: 1 dollar = 100 cents.)

Answer: see the corkboard at the entrance to the Learning & Tutoring Center.
Meet Brad

Bradford Bentley was born in the cradle of his ancestors of southwestern Virginia and raised in New York. He received a B.A. from Wesleyan University. Then he was on to Yale, where ensued the most fabulous years of his young life—although questionably, he passed up a proffered ride to Woodstock. Emerging in 1971 with a J.D. from Yale Law School, Bradford moved back to the ancestral home, and ultimately to Atlanta. Midway through his thirty-year residency here, he earned a Ph.D. in Education from Walden University. Throughout his varied career, whether it was writing legal briefs or conducting writing seminars, the written word has been at the core of his enjoyment.

“I am proud to be a member of the LTC writing staff and find working with the GPC [students] and fellow tutors to be deeply rewarding.”

Is censorship ever okay?

Vamos a Cuba, a children’s book about life in Cuba has its proverbial head on the chopping block. The Miami-Dade school district is petitioning the courts to ban the book from school libraries not because of what’s in it, but what’s not in it. There’s no mention of the communist dictator Fidel Castro.

In Otisville, N.Y., three inmates have filed a lawsuit over the removal of books from the prison’s chapel library. The books were removed to prevent “radical religious texts” from becoming a resource to violent offenders.

A little closer to home, a Loganville woman is fighting to have the Harry Potter series removed from Gwinnet County School libraries arguing that it promotes witchcraft.

What do you think? Is censorship ever okay? We would love to hear from you. Email your comments to nmcdanie@gpc.edu

Events

The following events are offered most semesters. Please check our Web site for updates.

- ESL Conversation Groups
- How to Analyze Poetry
- Practice Regents’ Essay (ongoing)
- Practice COMPASS
- Writers’ Circle every 1st & 3rd Friday
- Reading Workshops
- Math Workshops
- Group tutoring is available; contact LTC for more information 770-274-5240

Check website for dates and times of events, and then go ahead; mark your Blackberry!
Here in the Learning & Tutoring Center (LTC) we enable students to achieve their educational, personal and career goals by helping them acquire the learning skills and confidence needed to become successful, independent, lifelong learners.

Our vision is to become a comprehensive learning center that maintains a positive atmosphere throughout the Campus through collaboration with students, faculty, staff, and administrators. Visit the Learning & Tutoring Center today, and become a perpetuator of the vision.

Visit our award-winning Web site: www.gpc.edu/~duniss

Tips from Rapstone-Crankstone

**Writing Tip**
Be certain that your essay lives up to the promises made in the thesis statement. First, make sure each body paragraph supports its topic sentence. Then, make sure each topic sentence supports the thesis statement. What are you waiting for? Get to it. I said get!

**Math Tip**
Organize a math study group with your classmates, and plan to meet at least once a week to discuss class notes and go over homework. A group of 3-6 is optimal. If the group is stumped by a particular problem, come to the LTC and request group tutoring.

**ESL Tip**
When using a hyphenated adjective that includes a number, always keep the adjective itself singular. Say *two-lane highway* instead of *two-lanes highway* or *five-layer cake* instead of *five-layers cake*. Ex: I ate an entire five-layer cake and then jogged ten miles down a two-lane highway.