Welcome to the first issue of the Spring 2010 CASSA Newsletter! This newsletter is full of updates on past events, reminders of upcoming events, and fun ideas that you can do with children. Also, there is a hidden symbol in this newsletter. Be the first to spot this and email the exact description of the location of the item to csuf.cassa@gmail.com for a chance to win a prize. Good luck!
-CASSA EXECUTIVE BOARD

CASSA, would like to hear from you, our members, with your opinions about our events. If you have anything you would like to add to the newsletter, please email CASSA Information Manager, Lindsey Ellsworth, at LE127@csuf.fullerton.edu with your thoughts.
As, CSUF was hit with the unfortunate freeze on Spring transfer students, CASSA knew recruiting new members to the organization would be dramatically affected this semester. CASSA loves to welcome incoming transfer students and act as a catalyst to student’s campus involvement while easing the transition to the university and fighting member loss. With no new transfer students and numerous CASSA members graduated and parted ways with CSUF, the CASSA Board members had the difficult task of maintaining an active organization. However, the executive board ambitiously, and optimistically represented CASSA at Discoverfest and dedicated hours in the sun to bring awareness to CSUF students about how great an organization CASSA is. CASSA was able to recruit over 60 new members, bringing CASSA’s overall member count to over 200! The CASSA Executive Board is constantly striving to create a bigger and better organization, and we are thankful for all of our member’s support, especially at Discoverfest.
PIZZA SOCIAL SUCCESS!

Once again, CASSA started off a new semester with their traditional Pizza Social. After weeks of recruitment in classrooms and at Discoverfest, new, returning, and inquiring students piled into the new CASSA location in the EC 34 classroom to find out what CASSA has to offer this semester. Attendants were provided a lunch of delicious pizza and snacks, information on upcoming events, and a fun game of CASSA BINGO. We had so many attendants that every seat was occupied with eager, returning and potential CASSA members. It was the perfect start to what would become a very fun-filled, exciting semester with CASSA.

CASSA Fundraiser at Rubio’s

The Rubio’s Fundraiser was held on February 25th from 2PM to closing time and 20% of whatever was ordered went towards CASSA! Members also received one hour under ‘Event Attendance’ for ordering with the Fundraiser flyer. This event was a great way for members and friends to socialize as well as support CASSA. I went to the Fundraiser at four o’clock to 6 o’clock with friends, and former CASSA members, and ordered fish tacos and chicken tacos. They were delicious! We noticed that there were a lot of empty seats and very few people in the restaurant. I was a little worried at first but soon realized that because this time frame is neither lunch nor dinner, few members showed up. However, by dinner time, Rubio’s was packed with people including members and their friends. It was great to see more people walking in. As I left, more members began walking in. Overall, this fundraiser event turned out great. I had a blast socializing, eating, meeting new friends and seeing members supporting CASSA.

- Melody Tsai, CASSA Finance Manager
Arts and Crafts for Kids

As a member of CASSA, many of you probably spend a lot of time with children, whether at an internship, job, or at home... or at least you plan to. We all know children can be a handful at times, so here is an inexpensive, fun idea to bring to the children in your life.

**Batiking: School of Fish**

What you will need:
- A box of crayons OR oil pastels
- Watercolors
- Paintbrushes
- Clean water in a bowl or Spray bottle
- Water Color paper, or a thick, sturdy paper that can withstand a lot of water

**Steps:**

1) Using a pencil, draw a school of fish on the watercolor paper
2) Outline and color in the school of fish with designs and patterns using your crayons or oil pastels.
3) Brush or spray clean water over the entire watercolor paper, including the colored fish.
4) Using a combination of blue, green, and purple water colors, paint the ocean background onto the wet paper with the water colors. Colors will bleed into each other creating an ocean water effect, but will not bleed into the waxy images of fish.
5) Let dry and admire your artwork.

*This technique can be used for many other scenarios. Feel free to adapt the image and get CREATIVE.*

Idea provided by Kay Devine, CSUF Art 380
Cinderellas for Life

Early on the morning of March 6, more than 300 volunteers came together to make the dreams come true for over 500 young ladies. These ladies, or “Cinderellas”, who came from the Garden Grove School District, were given an unforgettable experience. Members of CASSA volunteered as “Personal Shoppers” to help these Cinderellas find a dress, a pair of shoes, a purse, and several pieces of jewelry. With only an hour to work with, serving as a “fairy godmother” to these young ladies was definitely a challenge. None the less, each Cinderella not only left with an entire outfit to wear to prom, but with grateful hearts and appreciation. The entire event all came down to one key theme: to give back. The ladies also attended an empowerment workshop and a treasure mapping workshop (mapping out their future). The end of the day concluded with a fashion show and time for the Cinderellas to share their experiences. One Cinderella shared her thoughts, saying that she had an unforgettable experience and “three words: dream come true”.

Prior to the event, CASSA held a donation drive in which 60 formal dresses, 5 pairs of shoes, and several pieces of jewelry were graciously donated by CASSA members. Thank you to everyone who made gave these Cinderellas an opportunity of a lifetime through your donations and your time!

-Lani Endo, CASSA President

Book Doctor

Not only was the Book Doctor Event on January 18, 2010 an amazing way to give back to the community, it was also four hours of hands on work at the Reach Out and Read Clinic. They began this festivity with an icebreaker similar to bingo; however, you had to have an initial on each box from someone in the room. It was a great way for you to meet other people and feel more comfortable in this new environment. After the icebreaker came the book doctoring, the reason we were there in the first place.

Book doctoring is not as hard as it may seem; however, this was not all fun and games. There was a process to this. First, we had to check if the book was even possible to be fixed—no large pen markings, no violent images or words, and no completely ripped off covers. Then, we covered up the pen markings with labels, taped the ripped parts together with book tape, or glued certain pages together to cover up library pockets. And the last step was to clean the book with a disinfectant wipe, and then stand it up to dry. This was repeated with every book that was salvageable.

The people at our table became our “nurses” as we asked them whether or not this book was able to be saved. After we were done, the people at our table whom were once strangers soon became friends. This event was fun, tiresome, and at times dirty, but it was without a doubt, very rewarding. I encourage you all to volunteer for the next one.

-Alyssa Tanaka, CASSA Member
Hey CASSA! Spring break is right around the corner, and what better way to launch off the week than with a carnival? CASSA, along with the other organizations within the College of Health and Human Development’s Inter-Club Council, will be participating in the HHD-ICC’s Spring event. This year’s theme is Carnival of Careers. Come play "Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader" with CASSA’s Executive Board, and other activities at the event, grab some free food, and enter yourself in an Opportunity drawing for cool prizes such as a digital camera, razor scooter, and hundreds of dollars worth of gift cards, as well as learn about potential careers and organizations related to the majors within the College of Health and Human Development. The event will be held on Wednesday, March 24th from 10AM-4PM at the ECS Lawn. Don’t miss out!
The Student California Teacher Association’s Teaching Tomorrow’s Teachers Conference was a great event for anyone who is pursuing a career in teaching. The keynote speaker, Alastair Inman, a junior high teacher, was a great inspiration for us all. He stressed being true to ourselves and bringing something unique to our classrooms. It was apparent that he loves his job, which was also inspirational to see. After his speech, we were all given three options for each of the four workshops to choose from. During the first workshop there was a session about classroom management that was really beneficial for those of us who are nervous about how to manage a roomful of rowdy students. Another session dealt with applying mathematical activities and problem solving skills to real world situations. There were very creative ideas to be learned on how to engage students in a subject that most fear. Another important session dealt with how to talk to parents about sensitive topics, such as trying to explain to parents when there may be reason to suspect a stronger issue behind a child’s certain behavior. At the end, there was a panel of teachers and leaders of school/district programs that answered the moderator or the audience’s questions. The answers and advice were very informative and definitely taken to heart by all of the participants. Overall, SCTA did a fantastic job providing a great opportunity for future teachers!

- Kayla Globerson, CASSA Membership Manager
True Life: I’m A Two Year Old

If any of you know me (Lindsey, Information Manager of CASSA,) you’d know I’m completely obsessed, head over heels in love with my ADORABLE two year old nephew, Dominic. He is my life, and never fails to entertain me. I thoroughly enjoy Dominic’s company, despite the fact that he is in the prime of his “terrible twos.” While he explores the world, tests the limits of his mother, and claims autonomy, comedy is created. Here are some of Dominic’s most recent blunders as he lives the life of a two year old.

February 5th - Dominic loves his white, Velcro, K-Swiss sneakers. While at a doctors appointment, another toddler was wearing the same shoes. Dominic ran up to the child screaming “MINE!”, every two year old’s favorite word other than “no”, and attempted to snatch the shoes right off of the poor tot’s feet. Let’s just say Dominic created a bit of a scene as many two year olds love to do. Lesson learned: Mass production stinks.

February 11th - Today it was raining. Dominic decided to dress himself. Although he remembered his hat and rain boots, Dominic forgot his pants. Oops.

February 24th - While flipping through channels, passing up Sesame Street and Dora the Explorer, Dominic settles on MTV’s newest reality show, “Jersey Shore.” Survey says: Cookie Monster-0, “Snookie”-1.

March 1st - Dominic likes to mimic others. Today he and his mom were calling each other “copy cat” back and forth. After about three, long minutes, Dominic pauses then says, “COPY DOG!” Let’s just say Dominic got the last word in that argument.

* More candid moments with Dominic in the next issue of the CASSA Newsletter*
Guest Speaker Events

Math. Easily some people’s most hated school subject. Unfortunately, this hatred probably begins very early in elementary school. Some of us who plan to be future teachers may fear teaching the subject. After all, how do you make math fun? Lucky for CASSA, on February 23rd, Andy Huffaker, a teacher and Math Coach, came to CASSA to show off a new, fun way to approach teaching mathematics.

After a brief overview of his job description, Huffaker gave a full demonstration of what he actually does. As a teacher and math coach, Huffaker is always trying to come up with different, innovative ways to teach math that can be applied to students’ various learning styles. He presented CASSA with an interactive, kinesthetic activity that he has used to teach 4-5th graders, as well as other teachers and educators, fractions and geometric shapes. CASSA members were able to cut up construction paper and visualize what fractions are, other than a symbolic number. They were then able to see that different shapes can make up the same quantity or fraction of the original square that they started with.
One of CASSA’s mission statements is to create networks and friendships with other students interested in helping children. CASSA member Carmelina Hernandez has shared an example of CASSA fulfilling this goal stating, “I started in the club CASSA last semester. Our first meeting, we played a group game, and the next week, a girl came up to me asking if I remembered her from the week before. I did not. But we exchanged names and numbers anyway, and that’s when I met Jinhee Kim. She is an exchange student from South Korea, and a science major, so there’s very little chance that we would have been friends, or even have known each other, without CASSA. We hang out all the time now- we try and volunteer for the same events, we’ve gone on a road trip to LA, and she’s come over for the holidays. Our first volunteer event, we got completely lost, and so we spent an hour wandering around a swap meet, where most of the people spoke Spanish, and we had no clue where we were. It was awesome. She is my best friend at Fullerton, and I wouldn’t have met her without CASSA.” -Carmelina Hernandez, CASSA Member

This past fall I had the opportunity to serve at Orangewood Children’s Home. Going into the institution I thought it was going to be a sad occasion, and figured I would have to be overly energetic to uplift these children; however, I quickly realized that was not the case. In fact, the children were full of life and taught me so much within the couple of hours that I was there. As I was coloring with the girls and playing basketball with the boys, I noticed a pattern. Those children came to a point of acceptance, and did not let the struggles with their family or current living situation get in the way of them enjoying life. They were joyful and wanted to play and be around others. It was truly an experience of a lifetime and an honor to see those children overcome tragedy. The memories at Orangewood Children’s Home has had an uplifted impact on my life.

- Ashley Hancock, CASSA Member
For more information about becoming a CASSA member or general questions feel free to email us at:
 csuf.cassa@gmail.com
 or stop by our office in EC 553
 Mondays: 9:00-12:45 & 2:25-3:45
 Tuesdays: 9:00-9:45 & 11:00-12:50
 Wednesdays: 9:00-10:25 & 1:15-3:45
 Thursdays: 11:30-2:15 & 4:00-4:45
 Fridays: CLOSED