

This is a 2008 RT listserv message. Remember, if you want to respond to an individual, do not use the "Reply" button. Instead, use the "Forward" button and cut-and-paste the individual's email address in the "To" field.

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2008 RT NEWS 33 – January 9, 2009: Book your New Orleans hotel for EB 2009 NOW!
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1. DEADLINES

- **Thursday, Jan 15:** Book your New Orleans Hotel Room!
- **Monday, Jan 26:** Mini-Grant Expenditure Report and Receipts

2. RT PROGRAM NEWS

A. **TO DO NOW:** EB 2009 Preparations: Did you reserve your New Orleans hotel room yet?

From Brooke: Accommodations in convention cities are costly, so book your hotel rooms NOW! Hotel and airfare together will take up a good portion of the \$1000 travel allowance. However, after reviewing hundreds of vouchers, most RTs don't end up spending the entire allowance, **especially** when sharing a room. And in the coming months we'll provide tips on how to stretch that allowance to its fullest.

1. **FINALIZE your hotel rooming partnerships with your fellow RTs.** Use our listserv if you need to broadcast an initial request: 2008rts@lists.the-aps.org
2. **Visit:** <http://www.eb2009.org/HotelInformation.htm>. Pay attention to the Credit Card Scam Advisory! Everyone who attends EB is now booking up the rooms fast, so if you haven't yet, please reserve your hotel room now before they are sold out!
3. **Reserve your hotel room by 1/15 before the less pricey hotels run out!** You are responsible for making your own hotel reservation. The APS Education Office **CANNOT** make the reservations or hold rooms for you. Once the rooms run out, they are out. We can't do anything for you with the hotel requests. They are handled by the EB Housing Bureau, NOT the APS. So **PLEASE make your hotel reservation as soon as possible and no later than 1/15**. Then, email **Scarletta:** swhitsett@the-aps.org, your room/suite-mates and the hotel you've booked no later than next Friday, 1/16.
4. As part of the Fellowship, **your obligations begin in the early afternoon of Saturday, 4/18 and end after 4:00 pm on Tuesday, 4/21**, even though the conference ends on Wednesday, 4/22.
5. Remember that allowable expenses (i.e., airfare, hotel, ground transportation and meals) totaling up to \$1000 will be reimbursed. A complete list of allowable and non-allowable expenses is forthcoming; however, the list is the same from the Forum.

DO NOT REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE! As part of our fellowship program, the APS Education Office takes care of registering you...so, don't worry about registering for EB 2009!

PLEASE WAIT:

1. Our schedule of events and more logistical details about EB 2009 are forthcoming. **The EB 2009 Travel Memo in pdf form will be directly emailed to you in the coming weeks.**
2. **DO NOT book any flights just yet...**the APS Education Office will let you know once you have submitted your final version of your Lesson/Activity Lesson **AND** have been authorized to use our travel agency for booking a flight. Please just wait to book your flight. Airfares are also coming down!

If you have any questions or concerns related to **reserving your hotel room**, visit the EB 2009 hotel information website: <http://www.eb2009.org/HotelInformation.htm>. If you have any **OTHER** questions or

concerns related to EB 2008 at this point, please cc email Brooke (bbruthers@the-aps.org) and Mel (mlimson@the-aps.org).

B. Assignments: Thanks for wrapping up your WISE Assignments #4 and #5, and for submitting your final versions of the Lesson/Activities. Mel is still working with a few of you, so hurry so we can process the stipend associated with this component of the fellowship. WISE Assignment #6 is coming up...you'll receive another email shortly!

Here are encouraging and refreshing reflection notes from a couple of your fellow RTs:

We then hung the posters up in the hall outside my room. Many teachers in my building as well as administrators came by to comment on them. The kids told me that other kids in the school were telling them that they had a "cool" science teacher that actually "does stuff."

I even had a parent mention that her sons (both in my class) were talking at dinner about how "tight" photosynthesis was...

C. 2008 Tax Information: Grantees who received \$600 or more in taxable income (stipends) from the APS in 2008 should be receiving a 1099 MISC report from the APS Business Office in January. If you do not receive your 1099 MISC by the end of February 2009, please let Brooke know (bbruthers@the-aps.org). Please note that the APS does not offer any financial advice. Any questions about your stipends should be directed to your financial planner or the person who does your taxes.

3. RESOURCES

On Research...

- Study Helps Explain Connection Between Sleep Apnea, Stroke and Death

<http://www.the-aps.org/press/releases/09/1.htm>

Sleep apnea is the most commonly diagnosed condition amongst sleep-related breathing disorders and can lead to debilitating and sometimes fatal consequences for the 18 million Americans who have been diagnosed with the disorder. Yale researchers have found that obstructive sleep apnea decreases blood flow to the brain, elevates blood pressure within the brain and eventually harms the brain's ability to modulate these changes and prevent damage to itself. This study identifies a mechanism behind stroke in these patients. The new study helps explain why people with sleep apnea are more likely to suffer strokes and to die in their sleep.

- Sex Differences? Why do females and males have different recovery results from Traumatic Brain Injury? What is the role of the hormone progesterone in TBI recovery? Can progesterone be administered as treatment for such injuries? These and a host of related questions lie at the heart of research by Dr. Donald Stein, now of Emory University School of Medicine, who has been studying this question for many years. To learn more, go to What A Year! and click on the 01.09 icon: <http://www.whatayear.org/>

On Student Mentoring...

- Excerpts from **Spice and Surprise for Advisory**, by Judith Baenan, January 2009 issue of Middle E-Connections, National Middle School Association's monthly e-newsletter.

An advisory program...offers teachers a chance to discuss with students issues that simply don't arise in the course of a regular class. Sometimes teachers are looking for new ways to address difficult topics without putting students on the defensive. One of the best ways to accomplish this is to read to students. The following are some books recommended by the author:

> *Whoopi's Big Book of Manners* (Whoopi Goldberg, illustrated by Olo). Heaven knows middle grades students need to be reminded about manners, and Whoopi's book gets right to the point while entertaining readers and listeners

> *Mr. Peabody's Apples* (Madonna, illustrated by Loren Long). This is a much more serious picture book that addresses the issue of rumors—another everyday occurrence among young adolescents.

> *The Golden Rule* (Ilene Cooper, illustrated by Gabi Swiatkowska). It's quite likely that many of your students, like the boy in this book, have never heard of the "Golden Rule." The boy's grandfather presents the "Do unto others ..." phrase as it appears in Islam, Hinduism, and several other faith traditions. This offers you the chance to discuss this essential concept while honoring students' varying backgrounds.

> *The Honest-to-Goodness Truth* (Patricia McKissack, illustrated by Giselle Potter). Young adolescents are fairly adept at telling half-truths, fibs, and lies. In this story a young girl who has trouble being truthful also struggles to tell the truth in a way that doesn't offend others.

On Technology...

-The top 10 ed-tech stories of 2008:

<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/index.cfm?i=56534>

eSchool News counts down the ten most significant developments in educational technology during the past year

4. OPPORTUNITIES

For Students...

- A Muse in the Marsh, Wetland Poetry Workshop: http://www.wetland.org/education_muse.htm

Join students from around the Maryland region in sharing an amazing day of poetry. Be inspired by several striking wetlands. Use a combination of nature and fun writing prompts to explore a deeper level of creativity. Meet Maryland's Poet Laureate and get feedback on your writing from a professional poet. Don't just write poetry— experience it!

For Teachers...

- The Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship, Deadline: Jan. 13

<http://www.trianglecoalition.org/ein.htm>

The Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship is a paid fellowship for K-12 math, science, and technology teachers. Einstein Fellows spend a school year in Washington, DC serving in a federal agency or on Capitol Hill. To be considered for an Einstein Fellowship for the 2009-2010 school year, apply and submit three letters of recommendation online by January 13, 2009.

- NEA Foundation Learning and Leadership Grants, Deadline: Feb. 1

<http://www.neafoundation.org/grants.htm>

Purpose of Grant: To improve learning in the nation's public schools, colleges and universities by providing opportunities for high-quality professional development.

Eligibility: Practicing U.S. public school teachers in grades K-12, public school education support professionals, or faculty and staff at public higher education institutions.

Amount: \$2,000 for individuals and \$5,000 for groups engaged in collegial study.