



Post Fellowship Reporting - Project Summary

Report Title: "Figurarsi su Firenze" a.k.a. Figure on Florence
Name: Linda Kay Gamble and Marjorie Lynn Hollingsworth

Other Team Members:

Program: Oklahoma Program

Trip Dates: 11/30/-0001 - 11/30/-0001

Location Visited: Florence, Italy

Post Fellowship Reporting Template: PFR Template 01

Project Summary: "Figurarsi su Firenze" a.k.a Figure on Florence was a month long journey to discover art and science in Italy. The centerpiece of the trip was the four weeks spent at the Florence Academy of Art where Lynn, the forensic science teacher studied portraiture, techniques and traditions focused on facial anatomy and structure while Kay, the anatomy teacher studied figure drawing utilizing the academic method employed by the major Realist ateliers of the 19th century. Our goal was to encourage and motivate our students in anatomy, physiology, zoology, botany, biology, chemistry, and forensic science to look at things with the objectivity of a scientist and the intensity of an artist. The inspiration for this fellowship was our love of art and science and our desire to experience the art and science of Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci in their hometown. During the week we worked in our designated studios every afternoon from two until five. On Thursday mornings we met local art restorer and historian, Joan Reifsnider at a different museum; The Bargello, The Uffizi, The Academia, and The Pitti Palace for a guided tour and insider's perspective on the magnificent art and history of Florence. The rest of the time we jaunted into the hills of Fiesole overlooking Florence, took cooking classes in the Tuscan hills, listened to evening concerts in the Piazza della Signoria, bought fresh produce in open air markets, chatted with local Florentines and dodged busloads of tourists from all over the world. We "became" Italian when strangers on the street asked us for directions. It was fabulous!

Career Impact: * Gained the ability to transform our teaching practices into a culturally enriching tool for our students.

- * Acquired artistic techniques that will allow us to expand our teaching strategies for various classes.
- * Developed new curriculum.
- * Gained new insight on the creative approach to teaching science.
- * Gained a more realistic perspective of cultural differences.
- * Experienced the origins and history of rudimentary concepts with regard to drawing the human figure.
- * Experienced living in another culture.
- * Staying in touch with new friends from all over the world that were also students at the Academy.

Classroom/Community Impact:* Provided an opportunity to develop new and creative strategies for teaching science.

- * Participated in art instruction from the Florence Academy of Art developing techniques that will increase our students' enthusiasm for utilizing art in learning science.
- * Developed new curriculum.
- * Gained the ability to transform our teaching practices into a culturally enriching tool for our students.
- * Experienced the origins and history of rudimentary concepts with regard to drawing the human figure to facilitate active learning in the classroom
- * Experiencing a low energy consumption society and gathering ideas for implementing energy conservation in our school

Open Response: * A multi-media presentation highlighting our trip using examples of how art and science are closely related.

- * An educational multi-media presentation for in-class use demonstrating the sight-size method of drawing.
- * Interdisciplinary curriculum on art and science.
- * Interdisciplinary curriculum on the artistic influence of other cultures on science.
- * Presentation to local artist association
- * Perfecting our culinary skills.
- * Continuing to use the sight-size drawing method learned from the Florence Academy of Art.

Quote: The essence of great science is creativity. Having the imagination to visualize the unknown is the key to understanding. It is easier to convince a student to explore their untapped abilities when you have taken the opportunity to explore your own.

Photos:



A night view of Santa Croce



Piazza Michelangelo



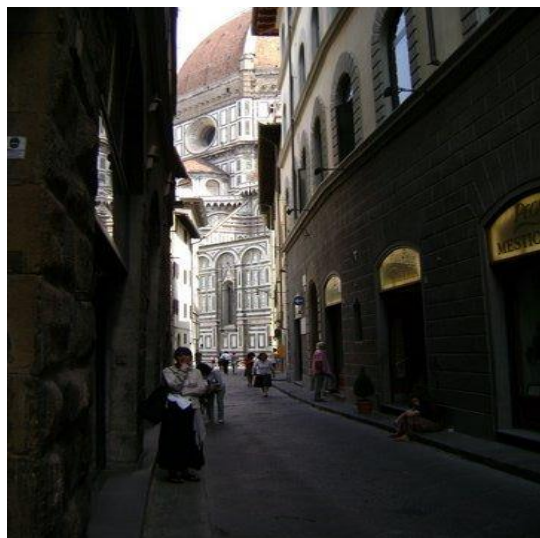
Kay working in the figure drawing studio



Ponte Vecchio across the Arno River



Lynn learning to cook the Tuscan way



Kay standing on del Proconsolo with a view of the Duomo



Lynn enjoying the trip to Fiesole



A view of Florence from Fiesole