



Post Fellowship Reporting - Project Summary

Report Title: The World in Nebraska - Nebraska in the World **Name:** Wendy Smith

Other Team Members:

Program: Nebraska Program

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

Location Visited: Europe

Post Fellowship Reporting Template: PFR Template 01

Project Summary: This summer, I spent four weeks photographing Central Europe in an effort to share with 4th grade students how Nebraska was not sui generis, but part of a bigger world. Traveling through nine European countries and many of its major and oldest cities, I was able to capture its public buildings enabling me to demonstrate to students in Nebraska that the art and architecture which surrounds the students in the community is part of the 'story' of architecture and part of the great work of architects and artists from around the globe. On a personal level, I have always had a passion for the story behind art and architecture as my great and great-great grandfathers passed down stories of their adventures while they decorated Colorado in the late 1800's and early 1900's. Early on, I realized that all public spaces should become a part of the people's ownership: a personal relationship should develop between the citizen and their community. In fact, bridging the gap of the citizenry to their world, they can see themselves as greater stake holders and therefore take a personal pride in their surroundings. I came to realize that Europe had not only shared with me their private art and architectural collection, but also a deep-rooted sense of culture rooted in continuous tradition, a people with an entrenched sense of self, and the purpose behind much of what they do and have done for these many centuries.

Career Impact: *Exposed to landmarks, art/architecture in the homelands of NE's European population and a new appreciation for the intellectual history in a community and how it influences art/architecture

*Experienced first-hand how each country continues to flourish in its individual identity based on language, religion, local forms of government, cuisine, art, architecture, music, literature and centuries old forms of entertainment

*Greater empathy & compassion towards those unfamiliar with the language & customs of another country

*Awakened the idealism of what it means to be 'an American'

Classroom/Community Impact:*A teacher with firsthand experience that can put more of a story behind the history of our European heritage and its cultural influences giving credence to strengths the students' ancestors brought to American giving context to Nebraska's place in the world

*Presentations given to various community organizations, as well as the school community

*Slideshows & photographs of the art/architecture taken in their original settings representing European art/architecture and its ties to Nebraska's place in the world

*Presentations given to various community, as well as the school community

Open Response: *Students will research their own stories of European ethnicity

*Students are collecting their own photographs of family members and researching the country their family originated from

*Familiar with fundamentals of architecture, student will describe a style that characterizes their favorite home/building within their community.

*Students will identify art/architecture within NE and compare it to that of Europe. They will discover NE's connection to the world.

*Students will design and create their own murals which represent their unique heritage and show connections to their

country of ethnicity

Quote: "The older I get, the greater power I seem to have to help the world; I am like a snowball -- the further I am rolled the more I gain." -- Susan B. Anthony

Photos:



Swiss Alpine horns performing for us - what beautiful, soulful music



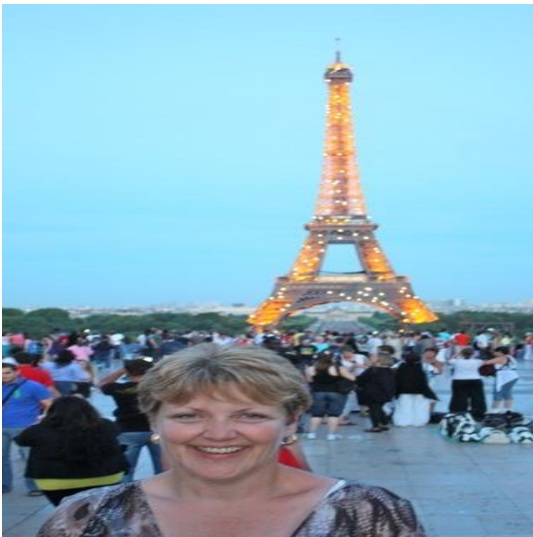
One of Europe's obvious problems...



One of the many fountains of Rome



A serene historic moment in Florence



A beautiful night spent under the Eiffel Tower



Venice, Italy, its architecture & water transportation



Vintage clothing of Heidelberg, Germany



Can't wait to show students how supplies are taken to Venecian business owners