How people learn English as second language

LCCC to host comparative religion panel

Alden Romero College Talk

The Diversity Council of Lewis and Clark Community College will present a comparative religion panel, entitled “Appreciating Our Peers — Understanding Other Faiths,” at 7 p.m. Oct. 2, in the Art Whitney Room in the college’s Godfrey campus.

The program is for everyone to come together peacefully and to listen respectfully to people talking about their faiths. Dr. J. David Davidson said, “Their purpose is to inform us about their religion. This is not a debate.”

Professor Seran Aktuna

“English has long been considered the language of business and science,” she explained. “But it can also intertwine as in the cases of accounts, sometimes just carrying grammatical use from the mother tongue to the language that you were learning.” Seven children of parents who use languages other than English – but who themselves are raised in English-speaking countries – go through a different learning process.

“It’s probably in terms of the input,” she said. “Because they are receiving input in Spanish, Chinese or Japanese at home, and when they come to school it is a different set of rules and pronunciation patterns and so on, and they have to deal with both.” There is also a lot of peer pressure on children to be exactly like their classmates, so they learn this psychological barrier in terms of their upbringing, to acquire their home language. “However, Aktuna dismisses the idea that children raised in bilingual environments should only be spoken to in one single language. ‘That’s definitely not right,’ she said. ‘It used to be the perception. There are still professionals who do believe in that, although there is empirical evidence that shows that bearing two mental language systems, you learn the cognitive and linguistic development of a child. Countries like India, where communities are very linguistically diverse. If linguistic diversity created confusion, you would have many Indians, half of these Indians, complete, and not so. It is not like bilingualism or multilingualism creates confusion. It is just the perception.’”

“She agreed that the sooner you try

Auction

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“We’ve got an awful lot of stuff from the community every year,” said Sid Denny. “This year we received a lot of different items. And large items, like bronzes, antiques to plastic toys, we’ve got a little bit of everything.”

In the last 25 years the Stephenson House has held several auctions, he said. “This year we got a lot from the community. It was a real flood of items. We’ve got about 3,000 items. We’re expecting to sell a lot of items.”

All money raised goes back into the running of the house and educational programs provided. “It all goes to the programs,” he said. “The programs are the main thing we do here. We do activities offered. We have school groups, individual groups, for each individual age group; anthropology summer camp, arts and crafts camp and Mrs. Lucy’s Yoga for Kids, which are low-cost activities offered.

For anyone interested in coming to the auction, Denny recommends coming around 8 a.m. to register, get a bid number, and look around at the display of large items, and that the auction will move quickly because of the large amount of items and around noon they will close. At the auction, bidders can immediately pay for their item and leave with their purchase.

Sid Denny. “This year we got a real flood of items that come in, they like to tell their stories. We’ll have a dad come in and talk about his family. We’ll have a mom come in and tell us about her family.”

For information on this panel discussion, see the website.

Nature in the classroom

A giant sunflower head became a cross-curricular teaching tool at St. Boniface School, under the guidance of Mrs. Carol Peterson. Students used the flower in science to talk about how and where seeds form, how they spread, and how they grow. Plus, the number of seeds in the flower can be counted, and they used to learn value-in-number in math.

CONTEST

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Pants, whimsical, creative – those are the scenarios this contest wants. Hicks said it has no rules about whether the pants are of a certain style or an art form.

“The people can use their pants to do whatever they want to do,” he said. “They can put a lot of time in. They can get very creative,” said Hicks. “We can tell some of the humorous pot-a-lot of the pants. Some are humorous pants, some are humorous pants that come in, they like to tell their stories. We’ll have a dad come in and talk about his family. We’ll have a mom come in and tell us about her family.”

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Awards & Arts

Friday, Sept. 28

Gary Stone and the unit Band, The Family Jam Boys, The Gramophone, St. Louis, Doors 8:00 p.m.

The Ravishers w/ Metro’s Eduboo Chamber, The University of Missouri, St. Louis, Doors 8:00 p.m.

Rice, Blueberry Hill, St. Louis, Doors 8:00 p.m.

Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band, The Family Jam Boys, The Gramophone, St. Louis, Doors 8:00 p.m.

Respighi/Pines of Rome, Powell Hall, St. Louis, 7:00 p.m.

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