Teacher of the Year Provides Students Opportunities to Prove Themselves

Guided by the philosophy of treating all people with respect and compassion, Jonathon Philipp believes, “My students haven’t always been good citizens, but they still have the potential to impact their communities in a positive way, and education can be a gateway to that potential. Not only do incarcerated individuals need opportunities to prove themselves to their communities, but they often need to prove something to themselves first. Education allows them to improve and grow, whether they are trying to learn to read or preparing to enter college.”

2017 Wisconsin Correctional Teacher of the Year Jonathon Philipp
(continued on page 2)
In recognition of his enthusiasm, dedication and tireless work to provide his students with opportunities to transform their lives, the CEA-Wisconsin Executive Board is proud to name Jonathon Philipp as the 2017 Wisconsin Correctional Teacher of the Year.

Jon has spent his entire six year teaching career as an employee of Criminal Justice Treatment Services at the Outagamie County Justice Center. He is a graduate of UW-Oshkosh with a Bachelor of Arts in Radio-TV-Film with a minor in Creative Writing. He obtained his Post Baccalaureate Teacher Certification from UW-Milwaukee and holds a DPI License in Early Adolescence through Adolescence English Education.

Jonathon Philipp believes that when working in a county jail setting, it is essential that a teacher is flexible with his time and can adapt to each student. He does his best to make sure nobody is excluded from opportunities to learn while incarcerated in Outagamie County. Jon asserts, “It is very difficult for someone who has a desire to learn to make it through Outagamie County Justice Center without getting into class.” In 2016 there was an average of about 47 students in GED/HSED classes each month, with about half of them working towards a GED/HSED and the other half refreshing basic skills. In addition, he averaged about 10 females and 7 males a month in the two Creative Writing classes he offered.

Criminal Justice Treatment Services Director Bernie Vetrone is proud of the Outagamie County Justice Center’s education program and credits Jon as being instrumental to its success. “Jon’s commitment and passion for giving inmates the tools they need to break the cycle of criminality is one of the reasons Outagamie County is a national leader in criminal justice alternative interventions. I’m very pleased Jon is receiving the recognition he greatly deserves.”

One of the ways Jon gets so many people involved in education is to offer flexible scheduling that follows the individual through his/her time in jail. Jon teaches a Monday-Friday class in GED/HSED Preparation for students in Lock-up. On Monday and Wednesday, he has class for students refreshing basic skills, working on employability skills or improving their typing skills. On Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, Jon has class for students refreshing basic skills, working on employability skills, improving their typing skills and also provides extra time for students of the Fox Valley Technical College teacher who has classes on Monday and Wednesday. Jon also teaches Creative Writing for males and females and an ESL class as needed.

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The CEA-W News Review is published by the members of the Correctional Education Association-Wisconsin Chapter. The opinions herein are entirely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the executive officers, the Department of Corrections, or the body as a whole.

It is our hope that this newsletter will be used to communicate information concerning activities, special events, new directions and policies of CEA-Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Department of Corrections.

Articles for publication may be submitted to the CEA-W News Review Editor Jerry Bednarowski at: jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com
Jon is able to adjust his GED/HSED class for Huber/GPS inmates to find the best time for students who are working outside of the jail. When a student goes to work in the jail’s kitchen, Jon meets with them individually to continue their work on GED testing.

Due to the close working relationship Jon has with the in-house GED test site administrator, Deena Larsen, if someone enrolls in school needing a GED/HSED, that inmate is able to test quickly and repeatedly to successfully complete the test. The test examiner tests weekly and more if necessary. In 2016, 36 OCJ inmates took the GED or HSED test, and 25 obtained their GED or HSED certificate. Inmates were able to take 120 tests, including Health and Citizenship, with 91% of them achieving passing scores.

Education at Outagamie County Justice Center is a team effort. To maximize programming for all inmates and reduce wait times for class involvement, Jon collaborates with Fox Valley Technical College teacher Kara Woodford. To provide high school programming for qualifying young people, including minors housed as adults and on occasion to provide GED testing for students working on GED02, he coordinates with the Appleton School District and Kim Melchert. To give the very low-level readers additional assistance, he works with Anne Schauman at the Alternative Center for Education to provide a reading specialist.

When a student is leaving jail, Jon works with Jessica Fleek and Charis Hoff at the Prosperity Center to provide a pathway for released students to transition into local technical colleges to complete their GED or enroll in vocational programming.

While working with students to transform their lives, Jon believes, “School should be fun. I try to keep my classes upbeat and light because many of my students have had a negative experience in school. I hope my class instills confidence and excitement in them, which leads to better attendance and attitude toward other students. When I am able to have a community of learners, student outcomes are improved.”

Jon feels that teaching in corrections goes beyond providing students with the basics of reading, writing and arithmetic. He sees teachable moments everywhere and stresses that a teacher must be flexible enough to seize those opportunities. “Because they deal with past scars, current stresses, and fear for their future, sometimes I have to change directions and have an open discussion about an issue that has been on their collective mind, which often leads to some of my favorite classes as a teacher.”

Jon is the fifth county jail instructor to be named Wisconsin Correctional Teacher of the Year. He joins Anita Wilcox, Blackhawk Technical College/Rock County Jail (1998); Sharon Abel, Lakeshore Technical College/Sheboygan County Detention Center (2006); Marianna Ruprecht, Northcentral Technical College/Marathon County Jail (2011); and Willa MacKenzie, Western Technical College/La Crosse County Jail (2013).

The CEA-Wisconsin Executive Board is pleased to recognize Jonathon Philipp as the 2017 Wisconsin Correctional Teacher of the Year. He will receive a plaque attesting to his achievement and a $250 stipend. Jon will be furnished expenses to represent Wisconsin at the CEA Leadership Forum and Region III & IV CEA Conference to be held on April 9-11, 2017 at the Cleveland Airport Marriott in Cleveland, Ohio. If he is selected as the Region III Teacher of the Year, Jon will be furnished expenses to attend the 72nd Annual CEA International Conference and Training Event to be held in San Antonio, Texas on July 30 - August 2, 2017.

To join CEA go to: www.ceananational.org
CEA-WISCONSIN TRAINING DAY • MAY 1, 2017
Fox Valley Technical College Public Safety Center • Appleton, WI

Safety by Choice, Not by Chance

Correctional Education Association
“Transforming Lives”
CEA-Wisconsin Training Day
“Safety by Choice, Not by Chance”
Monday, May 1, 2017
Fox Valley Technical College Public Safety Center
Appleton, Wisconsin

The Wisconsin Chapter of CEA is hosting its annual training day on Monday, May 1, 2017 at the Fox Valley Technical College Public Safety Center in Appleton, WI. This year’s theme is “Safety by Choice, Not by Chance.”

The Training Day Planning Committee is working to make this training day an excellent professional development opportunity for educators working in prisons, jails, and detention centers. There will be four breakout sessions, two before lunch and two after. The workshops will focus on many aspects of safety in the workplace — from managing disruptive students, to de-escalating conflicts, to gang awareness, to internet safety. The 2017 CEA-W Teacher of the Year will be honored and silent auction will be featured.

Construction of the new Public Safety Training Center has helped Fox Valley Technical College become a national leader in public safety training and resources. The 75-acre, $35 million complex is as close to the real thing as it gets. The facility provides a rare, state-of-the-art space for public safety personnel and people studying in the field. The space includes a six-story burn tower, mock village, Boeing 727 airplane and train cars for simulated training scenarios. Tours of the facility will be available during the Training Day.

When making your professional development plans for 2017, be sure to include the CEA-Wisconsin Training Day. Register early because Training Day enrollment will be limited to 125 participants.

Tentative Workshops Sessions

- Weaving Mindfulness Throughout Your Day
- The Happiness Advantage
- Riot Reality & Lessons Learned: An Inside Out Perspective
- Vicarious Trauma
- Managing Manipulative Inmates
- Security Threat Groups
- Personal Safety and Hostage Survival
- Resiliency in Criminal Justice
- Mitigating Challenging Emotions and Behaviors in the Workplace
- Tours of Public Safety Training Center

A complete description of workshops with presenters will soon be posted on the www.ceawisconsin.org website.

Register today for a great professional development experience for correctional educators! Hope to see you at the Fox Valley Technical College Public Safety Center!

Training Day Registration Form Is on Page 6
Registration Form
CEA-Wisconsin Training Day
Monday, May 1, 2017
Fox Valley Technical College Public Safety Center
Appleton, Wisconsin

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Please register by April 1, 2017

Registration Fees
Registration includes continental breakfast, lunch, and snacks

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☐ Vegetarian meal
☐ Special accommodations: _______________________________________

Payment Information
A $10 administrative fee will be charged for cancellations after April 15, 2017.

Registration questions - contact Ray Schlesinger at 608-244-1009 or schlesinger1009@charter.net.

NOTE: Non-CEA members who would like to join CEA and pay the member rate can obtain a membership form from CEA’s website, www.ceanational.org and mail the form with payment to Ray Schlesinger at the address below.

Send payment with registration form to:
Ray Schlesinger
CEA-Wisconsin Treasurer
824 Christianson Avenue
Madison WI 53714-1105

Payment options:
Check(s): payable to CEA-W for Training Day price
Purchase order no.: ________________________________
Sorry we are unable to accept credit cards or P-cards

Lodging Information
The CEA-Wisconsin Executive Board is arranging with a nearby hotel to set aside a block of rooms at state rates for Training Day participants who would like to arrive early and enjoy shopping at the Fox River Mall or attractions in Appleton. The hotel will be within a 10 minute drive from the Fox Valley Technical College Public Safety Center. Hotel registration information will be posted on the www.ceawisconsin.org website by April 1, 2017.
Get Your Copy of *Gazing Within* at CEA-Wisconsin Training Day

The Creativity Booklet for 2017 – *Gazing Within* – will be distributed at the CEA-Wisconsin May Training Day. Those not attending the CEA-W Training Day will receive their copies by mail.

This year the CEA-Wisconsin Creativity Contest committee received about 350 entries, which included 270 pieces of writing and 80 pieces of artwork. The entries came from 33 Wisconsin Institutions, including 11 county jails.

This is the 17th year that CEA-Wisconsin has invited incarcerated writers and artists to submit their works for its annual edition of the CEA-Wisconsin Creativity Contest booklet. Each year CEA-W publishes original prose, poetry, and ink drawings from Wisconsin’s jail, prison, and juvenile facility populations. All levels of writers and artists are encouraged to offer submissions.

The committee met in January to read through the writings and look at the artwork. Each entry is scored by each committee member participating in the judging. The number of published entries is limited due to space, so the highest scoring entries are included in the final booklet. Approximately 75 entries are included in this year’s booklet.

The committee consists of Nancy Alderton, OSCI; Margaret Done, MSDF; Laura Gebhardt, OCI; Jim Gordon, GBCI; Laurie Jarvis FVTC/Waushara County Jail; Linda Lentz, JBCC; Tim Mahoney, WRC; Sharon Nesemann, WRC; and Steve Schmick, OSCI. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Creativity Contest Committee, contact Nancy Alderton at nancy.alderton@wisconsin.gov.

This year Ed Gallatin and his workers at Oshkosh Correctional Institution typed and formatted the pages. Each person whose work was published will receive two copies of the book and all CEA-Wisconsin members will receive one copy of the book. One copy is sent to each institution library as well.

The CEA-Wisconsin Creativity Contest Committee would like to thank all of the educators in Wisconsin’s prisons and jails for their help and contributions to the contest’s success.
President’s Message

Congratulations to Johnathan Philipp for being named CEA-Wisconsin’s Teacher of the Year!

Each year the Correctional Education of Wisconsin (CEA-W) in cooperation with the International Correctional Education Association recognizes a teacher who has made an outstanding contribution to correctional education. This award is available to any teacher who has been an active member of CEA-W for one year, has taught in correctional institution for 51% of his/her teaching assignment for a minimum of two years, and has demonstrated devotion to the teaching profession as evidenced by a willingness to work beyond his/her job description.

Jon is very deserving of this award as his work as the Adult Education Instructor at the Outagamie County Jail and is a true testament to our profession. Make plans now to attend “Safety by Choice, Not by Chance” on May 1, 2017 at the Fox Valley Technical Public Safety Training Center and congratulate Jon on a job well done.

Laurie
jarvis@fvtc.edu

Mark Your Calendar
72nd Annual CEA Conference and Training Event
San Antonio, Texas
July 30 - August 2, 2017