Records of the Children’s Education Programs - Community Science Connection, 1994-2000: Guide

The Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University

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Call number: I G-2 CSC
Collection name: Records of the Children’s Education Programs - Community Science Connection, 1994-2000
Archives of the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University
125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts

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Descriptive Summary

Repository: Archives of the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, Jamaica Plain, MA
Call No.: I G-2 CSC
Location: Archives
Title: Records of the Children’s Education Programs - Community Science Connection, 1994-2000
Dates: 1994-2000
Creator: Children’s Education Programs - Community Science Connection
Quantity: 1.42 linear feet (1 archival carton, 1 Hollinger box)
Language of material: English
Abstract: The collection of the Records of the Children’s Education Programs - Community Science Connection, 1994-2000, contains institutional records, educational records, correspondence, and visual materials pertaining to and generated by the Community Science Connection (CSC), a children’s education program at the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University. The Community Science Connection was a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant-funded science education program for elementary students in the greater Boston area. The program was conceived of and managed by Candace Julyan, the Project Director of Community Science Connection, and was a collaborative effort between the Arnold Arboretum and numerous Boston-area schools and teachers. The records directly generated by the Community Science Connection date from 1995 to 1998, the years of the program’s existence and the bulk of this collection, and the records relating to the foundations and conclusions of the program date from 1994 to 2000.

Note: Access to Finding Aid record in HOLLIS.
Preferred Citation: Records of the Children’s Education Programs - Community Science Connection, 1994-2000. Archives of the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University.

Additional Material: Photographs related to CSC are available in the collection I G-2: Children’s Education Programs in various analog and digital formats. For access to these collections please contact library staff.

Processing Information

Acquisition Information
Provenance: These records were largely generated and amassed by Candace Julyan, Project Director of Community Science Connection at the Arnold Arboretum in the mid-1990s and were donated to the archive when she left the arboretum. Other materials amassed from the Education Department.
Terms of Access
Researchers seeking to examine archival materials are strongly encouraged to make an appointment. The Director, or an office of origin, may place restrictions on the use of some or all of its records. The extent and length of the restriction will be determined by the Director, office of origin, and the Archivist and will enforced equally for all researchers.

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Historical Note
The Community Science Connection (CSC) was a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant-funded science education program for elementary school students in the greater Boston area, namely in the cities of Boston, Brookline, and Newton. The program was conceived of and managed by Candace Julyan, who was the Project Director of the Community Science Connection, along with Arboretum staff member Diane Syverson, who had strong contacts with area schools from her previous work.

Starting in February of 1995 with a NSF grant of $1.2 million, the Community Science Connection first sought to educate and prepare the twenty-six teachers in the Boston area who applied and were accepted by the project staff. These initial twenty-six teachers who worked with the Community Science Connection in 1995 were termed “CSC Cohort 1”, or just “Cohort 1”, by Julyan and her staff. “Cohort 2” pertains to teachers who worked with the Community Science Connection from 1996 to 1997. Julyan and her staff also ran the CSC Summer Institute during the summer vacations of the years of the program’s operation in order to prepare incoming teachers for the goals and activities of the Community Science Connection. Thus, the Community Science Connection was a collaborative effort between the Arnold Arboretum and numerous schools and teachers in Boston, Brookline, and Newton.

An important purpose of this science education program at the Arboretum was to incorporate computer technology into the educational and communicational activities of the program. This incorporation of computer technology included use of the Internet to send e-mails, write thread discussions, and input and handle data.

The Community Science Connection ran Seasonal Investigations of Trees, educational activities in which students and teachers would make direct observations of trees on the Arboretum grounds in the fall, winter, and spring. Students would use this information to complete class activities mostly using the online system established by Julyan, and some of this work (writing, data, and

Image 1: Example of a student’s Field Notes, 1998
artwork) was given to the Arboretum by specific schools or classes. Another educational activity was the Schoolyard Tree activity which employed similar work but in relation to trees on each respective school’s property.

The Community Science Connection also pursued and established collaborations with the Polly Hill Arboretum in West Tisbury, Massachusetts, from 1996 to 1997, and the Massachusetts Audubon Society in Lincoln, Massachusetts, from 1997 to 1998, for institutional connection and public outreach.

In 1998, the four funded years of the project came to an end, and with that came the conclusion of Candace Julyan’s project directorship. Since then, the Arboretum has continued to run other children’s education programs.

See also: Candace Julyan published in Arnoldia: http://arnoldia.arboretum.harvard.edu/authors?page=3&start=1


Scope and Content
The 1994-2000 records contain all information pertaining to the planning, activities, and completion of the Community Science Connection while the 1995-1998 records (bulk) contain information generated by the Community Science Connection. The collection includes institutional records (planning notes, overviews, proposals, reports, meeting minutes/notes, bills and invoices, payments), educational materials (classwork, data, online discussions), correspondence interspersed in folders alongside associated records (mail, email), and visual materials (photographs, negatives, contact sheets, slides.)

Arrangement
The collection is arranged in 7 series with Series 3 arranged into 6 subseries. Each folder is arranged in an internal chronological order. Papers that are undated but are not within their own, independent folder are placed at the back of dated materials within folders. Correspondence that is not within its own folder is interspersed with associated papers.

Container List

Series I: Administrative Notes
Series II: Technology Notes
Series III: Educational Materials
  • Subseries i: Fall Investigations
  • Subseries ii: Winter Investigations
  • Subseries iii: Spring Investigations
  • Subseries iv: Schools and Teachers
  • Subseries v: Student Work
  • Subseries vi: Arboretum Data
Series IV: Collaborations with Other Institutions
Series V: Visual Materials
Series VI: Bound/Published Materials
Box 1
Series I: Administrative Notes
Folder
1. Planning Notes, 1994
2. Planning Notes, 1995
4. Planning Notes, undated
5. CSC Overviews, 1995-1998
6. CSC Advisory Council, 1995-1996
9.

Series II: Technology Notes
Folder
2. Technology Agreements, 1995-1997
3. Requests for Internet Access, 1996
5. Correspondence with Teachers about New Technology, undated (previously interspersed with '95/'96)
6. CSC Website, 1996-undated

Series III: Educational Materials
Subseries i: Fall Investigations
Folder
1. Fall Planning Notes
2. Handouts and Worksheets
3. Interviews and Reactions

Subseries ii: Winter Investigations
Folder
4. Winter Plans, Notes, and Worksheets

Subseries iii: Spring Investigations
Folder
5. Spring Plans, Notes, and Worksheets

Subseries iv: Schools and Teachers
Folder
6. Accepted Teacher Applications
7. CSC Principals Meeting, 1995-1996
9. CSC Mailings to Teachers (and Parents)
10. Contact Information and Visit Reports (Cohorts 1 and 2)
11. Directions (Maps) to Schools
13. CSC Meetings with Cohorts 1 and 2 Teachers, 1995-1996
14. Cohort 1 Teachers’ Plans for Spring and Winter Investigations
15. Cohort 2 Handouts
16. Cohort 2 Teacher Surveys
17. CSC Discussion Group E-mail Correspondence, 1996
18. CSC Teacher Interviews and Reflections, undated
20. CSC Meetings with Teachers, 1997
22. CSC Summer Institute Meetings and Reflections, 1995-1996
23. Cohort 2 Summer Institute Sign-In Sheets, 1996
24. CSC Summer Institute Reflections, 1996-1997
25. CSC Summer Institute Applications, 1999
27. CSC Continuation Report Notes, 1995-1998
28. Jane Ravid Correspondence on Curriculum Types
29. Harvard School of Education Work with CSC Students
31. Digital Pictures, Bud Transformation, Taken by Kirstin Behn, March 1999

Subseries v: Student Work
Folder

32. CSC Student and Teacher Writings

Box 2
(Note: Folders 34-38 are located in Box 3 due to being oversized.)

34. CSC Fall 1995 Student Work, 1 (Image 2)
35. CSC Fall 1995 Student Work, 2
36. The Silver Maple Tree Book of Field Notes, Fall 1996 (Box 3)
37. Red Maple Tree Book of Field Notes, Fall 1996 (Box 3)
38. Norway Maple Tree Book of Field Notes, Fall 1996 (Box 3)

Subseries vi: Arboretum Data
39. Tree Selection Survey, 2000

Series number IV: Collaborations with Other Institutions
Folder
1. Polly Hill Arboretum Notes, 1996-1997
2. Polly Hill Arboretum Participants’ Notes
3. Polly Hill Arboretum Notes and Invoices
4. Polly Hill Arboretum Teacher Applications
5. Massachusetts Audubon Society Notes, 1998

Series V: Visual Materials
Folder
1. CSC Photographic Contact Sheets, 1995
2. CSC Children’s Artwork, 1995, Photographs (Slides) by Kirstin Behn
3. CSC Children’s Artwork, March 1996, Slides
4. CSC Negatives by Diane Syverson, 1996
5. Winthrop School, 3’x5’ Photographs by Diane Syverson, 1996
6. Winthrop School, 4’x6’ Photographs by Diane Syverson, 1996

Series VI: Bound/Published Materials
Folder
1. “What Comes Out of a Bud?”
3. “Seasonal Investigations of Trees”
4. “Seasonal Investigations of Trees” (with a letter)
5. Laminated Handout on Seasonal Investigations

Box 3 – Contains oversized material. See Series III, Subseries v: Students Work, for more information.