

January 2015

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The Touchstone Center's January Newsletter

Greetings....

On March 7th, The Center, in collaboration with Jane Clarke at the City and Country School, will be presenting a reflective conversation, *The Knowing of Play, The Wisdom of Imagining: How do we preserve what matters for children?* Open to anyone interested in discussing the importance of preserving the innate and instinctive knowledge that is play and imagining, this conversation will focus on the different ways each of us can contribute towards keeping alive these necessary and instinctive abilities of childhood. For further information and to register please go to www.touchstonecenter.net.

After its successful showing at the Brooklyn Children's Museum last year, the Center's 45th Anniversary exhibit, [Art Inspires Art: How Does a Bird Imagine? What Does a Tree Know?](#) will be moved to the [Kennington branch](#) of the Brooklyn Public Library from January 16th through August 31st 2015. The exhibit highlights two large participatory sculptural works by Kathy Creutzburg, along with banners of children's original writings. Both sculptures were based on my poems [The Bird of Imagining](#) and [A Tree Lives](#), which grew out of the Center's arts and education work with children in New York City Public Schools.

I am pleased to share with you a moving and delightful performance of a new choral piece composed by Judith Vander, based on my anthology [Miracles: Poems by Children from The English-speaking World](#). A talented choir, trained by Rebecca Comerford and Julija Zonic, made up of young people between the ages of 6 and 17, perform the work. The outstanding performance was conducted by Ms. Vander and took place at the Ojai Art Center in California on November 16th. You can listen to it [here](#).

Best,
Richard

Richard Lewis
The Touchstone Center
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