



The Touchstone Center's October Newsletter

October 2014

Greetings...

I am pleased to share a recent article of mine, *This Gift, This Knowing: Reaching Toward a Democracy of the Imagination*, published this month in The Educational Forum. The issue is devoted to essays centered on the theme of Aesthetic Arts and Learning and is dedicated to the late philosopher and arts educator, Dr. Maxine Greene. The article can be found [here](#).

In conjunction with our [Arts and Education projects](#), I will be continuing my collaboration with visual artist [Karen Fitzgerald](#), as part of her teaching-artist residency at PS 99 (Q). Our theme this year is *Worlds into Worlds of our Imagining* – exploring some of the ways our curiosity and wonder come alive through the many expressive qualities of our imagination. Karen, after my initial series of visits, will be working for twenty-six weeks with the Kindergarten, 1st and 3rd Grade classrooms, leading art and writing projects culminating in the creation of each child's three-dimensional representation of their own ever wondrous – always evolving – imaginative worlds.

As part of the Center's Archival Project, we have begun to digitize a series of six radio programs entitled [Fire, Fire Burning Bright](#) – originally created in 1985 and subsequently aired on National Public Radio in 1986. The intent of the series was to bring together a group of middle school students from IS 227 in Queens, New York, in order to discuss and write poems based on some of the universal themes of poetry from a variety of individuals and cultures. We invite you to [listen to the third program](#) of the series that was focused on the theme of *Time and Space* – and its many poetic possibilities.

Best,
Richard

Richard Lewis
The Touchstone Center
touchstonecenter.net
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The Touchstone Center
141 E 88th Street Apt. 3E
New York, New York

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