ArtsWeek Program at the University of the Arts Earns ‘Co-Sponsored Academy’ Designation from National Art Education Association

University program is one of seven nationally to earn commendation for offering “substantive professional development opportunities”

PHILADELPHIA (March 29, 2010) – ArtsWeek, an intensive studio arts program for K-12 teachers offered by the Professional Institute for Educators at the University of the Arts, has earned one of seven nationwide designations of “co-sponsored academy” from the National Art Education Association (NAEA). Co-sponsored academies are member-driven programs that the NAEA identifies as offering “substantive professional development opportunities for members.”

Through ArtsWeek, elementary and secondary school educators attain graduate-level credits by taking University of the Arts instructor-led studio courses in visual art and new media. The teachers / students produce work based on techniques learned in class, discuss art history, consider student learning in the arts, engage in critique sessions, and display final work in a closing exhibition. Participants also submit projects applying what they’ve learned for use in their own classrooms. Course content is designed to provide educators with a quality art experience that inspires them and their students.

“It is a great honor to have ArtsWeek selected by the NAEA,” said Erin Elman, Dean of Continuing Studies at the University of the Arts. “I greatly value what NAEA offers to art educators and what the organization provides in advocacy, leadership, research and continuing education. The NAEA and University of the Arts both address what today’s educators require and seek in terms of professional development to help them navigate these challenging times. ArtsWeek is one such important tool.”

Offered in three locations this summer – Wayne (Pa.) Art Center (June 28 – July 2), GoggleWorks Center for the Arts in Reading, Pa. (July 12 – 16) and University of the Arts (August 9 – 13) – ArtsWeek offers a range of studio experiences including ceramics, collage, creativity in the classroom, digital video, drawing, fibers, glass fusing, jewelry, landscape painting, printmaking, screen printing, watercolor painting, and wearable art. Participants who supply their NAEA ID number at the time of registration will receive a 10 percent tuition discount. Hotel blocks have been reserved at each location for out-of-town participants. Visit cs.uarts.edu/pie for more information.

The University of the Arts is accredited by the Middle State Association of Colleges and Schools and is an approved provider for Pennsylvania Act 48 and NJ Professional Development.

The National Art Education Association is the largest professional art education association in the world. Membership includes elementary and secondary teachers, artists, administrators, museum educators, arts council staff and university professors. NAEA’s mission is to advance art education through professional development, service, advancement of knowledge and leadership.

The Professional Institute for Educators empowers educators across disciplines to continually advance their teaching skills to improve learning for all students. Through graduate courses, PIE develops innovative and creative educational programming to serve the professional development needs of K-12 teachers in and through the arts.

The Division of Continuing Studies at the University of the Arts offers lifelong learning for imaginative individuals of all ages and abilities seeking inspiration, skills building and the opportunity to create.
The University of the Arts is the nation’s first and only university dedicated to the visual, performing and communication arts. Its 2,400 students are enrolled in undergraduate and graduate programs on its campus in the heart of Philadelphia’s Avenue of the Arts. The institution’s roots as a leader in educating creative individuals date back to 1868.

For more information about ArtsWeek or the Professional Institute for Educators, please visit cs.uarts.edu/pie, emailpie@uarts.edu or call 215.717.6006.

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