

Soul Shoppe January 2008

Greetings All! We hope this newsletter finds you all moving into the new year with joy! It's been a busy and successful fall for us and we are grateful to work with such amazing schools.

This fall we have trained over 1,000 student Peacemakers, have worked with over 38,000 students so far this school year, including schools in Michigan, New York and Washington states! Wow!

As we head into 2008, we hope to bring more peace, safety and joy into the schools we work with! Thanks for being a part of that journey with us. Here's to a great New Year!

Soul Shoppe in Michigan



Just west of Flint, Michigan on the Flint River sits a city named Flushing. The Flushing School District secured a federal character education grant that paid for Soul Shoppe to come over and facilitate assemblies on bullying. In September, Joseph had a productive visit facilitating the Soul Shoppe assembly [Free To Be](#) at all four Flushing elementary schools. His visit was written up in the [local newspaper](#). Educators in surrounding school districts read the newspaper article, contacted the Soul Shoppe office, and we are thrilled that in February 2008 Soul Shoppe will return to Michigan with TWO facilitators who will facilitate 8-10 assemblies in Flushing and its environs.

Brain-Friendly Resource



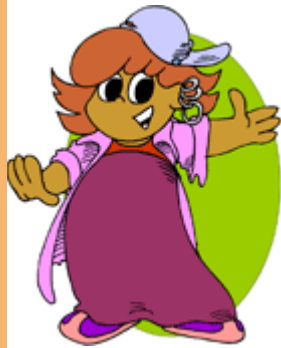
Many of you have heard us say that our programs are "brain-based", but what does that really mean? That means that the design and the facilitation of our programs include key

components that make learning easy. By providing visual, auditory and kinesthetic learning modes through music, storytelling and role-plays students of various learning styles are engaged.

Creating a brain-friendly environment is a key to student learning and achievement. One of the leading authorities on brain based teaching is Eric Jensen, the president of Jensen Learning and also co-founder of the well-known international program "SuperCamp". We have worked with and have been trained by Eric Jensen and SuperCamp. Many of our tools and techniques have come from the research that Eric himself has done.

Jensen Learning provides an amazing array of workshops and training for educators that we highly encourage people to attend. For those in the Bay Area, there is a special "Learning Brain Expo" in San Francisco Jan. 18-21, 2008. Please check out www.jensenlearning.com to learn more and let them know Soul Shoppe sent you.

Turning Things Around



Soul Shoppe teaches students that they have what it takes to make good choices, and we often see children making positive changes in their lives. Last month a Soul Shoppe facilitator was in a 3rd grade classroom, helping students practice "[clean ups](#)"- a tool that goes beyond saying "I'm sorry".

One girl named Tracy obviously had something heavy on her mind and she shared with her peers that she was heavy-hearted because of how she had treated a school friend. The friend had bought Tracy a book, and even though Tracy liked the gift, she had rolled her eyes at the girl and acted ungraciously. Tracy felt terribly about how she acted and she wanted to say she was sorry and "clean up" the situation.

So the facilitator set up a practice session in which Tracy's teacher played the role of the friend, and Tracy practiced what she was going to say to her. Friends in Tracy's classroom promised to support Tracy, and her teacher told her she would check up with her to ask how the conversation went. We have no doubt that this good-hearted young girl made the right choices in this situation.

Contact Us

For more information about about Soul Shoppe, visit our www.soulshoppe.com, or call us at 415.334.0463.