

December 2011

## North Country Middle School Film Festival



# North Country Middle School Film Festival



North Country Education Services is sponsoring the Second Annual North Country Middle School Film Festival. Student teams in grades 5\*, 6, 7 and/or 8 from SAUs 3, 7, 9, 20, 23, 35, 36, 58, 68, 77 & 84 and Vermont SUs 19 & 21 are eligible to enter a video into this film competition. Multiple teams from one school are allowed.

The conference theme is:

### Our World, Our Fate:

**A true idea doesn't end thought, it activates it!**

The deadline for submission of a two-minute video related to an environmental topic will be Thursday, February 16, 2012. The screening and awards festival for parents, families and students will take place in March. Prizes valued up to \$1,000 to be awarded.

[Download festival brochure](#)

Read [more online](#) or [download full guidelines](#).

## Using iPads to Achieve Educational Success for Students with Disabilities

The use of the iPad to improve educational success continues to grow. This **hands-on** interactive workshop will explore how to successfully use the iPad for students with disabilities. Apps that will be explored include: apps for reading and writing; communication apps, memory, prompting and organizational apps, app for hearing or visual impairments, apps for early learning, apps for math and science, and apps for conducting assessments. In addition, this workshop will discuss and demonstrate various iPad accessories, switches, keyboards, and mounting solutions to accommodate students who experience physical impairments.



*About the presenter:*

**Dr. Therese Willkomm** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Occupational Therapy and the Director of New Hampshire's State Assistive Technology Program with the Institute on Disability at the University of New Hampshire. She holds a Ph.D. in Rehabilitation Technology from the University of Pittsburgh and has over 25 years experience in providing/managing assistive technology services. She is known nationally and internationally as "**The McGyver**" of **Assistive Technology**". Dr. Willkomm has presented in 38 states, five foreign counties, and three U.S. Territories and authored 22 publications including her most recent book titled "*Make A Difference Today – Assistive Technology Solutions in Minutes*".

**Date:** Monday, January 23, 2012 (not Tuesday, January 24th as first announced)

**Time:** 9:00 to 3:30

**Cost:** Full member staff \$100, associate members \$125, others \$140

**Register:** [Online](#) or by calling NCES, 603-466-5437 or 800-268-5437

**Location:** NCES, 300 Gorham Hill Road, Gorham, NH

[Download the brochure](#)

## NH Alternate Learning Progressions

The recently released New Hampshire Alternate Assessment Learning Progressions (NH-ALPs) present an amazing opportunity for both teachers and students to focus on the most important Grade Level Expectations necessary to become proficient in a content area. In addition, these workshops will focus on how using the Learning Progressions can support IEP development, instruction that connects to the general education curriculum, and assessment for students who have a variety of sensory profiles, levels of communication, and learning styles.

Who should attend: General education teachers, special education teachers, speech pathologists, and others putting together Alternate Assessment portfolios are encouraged to attend.

### Write This Way!: Using the NH Alternate Writing Learning Progressions to Develop Student Writing Skills

**Date:** Monday, December 19, 2011

**Time:** 8:30 to 11:30

**Cost:** \$70 members, \$75 associate members, \$80 non-members

This workshop will explore the ways students can communicate in writing without necessarily holding a pencil. Participants will understand the construction of the Writing Learning Progressions, explore resources provided by the NH Department of Education, learn alternative ways for students to express ideas, and examine purposes for writing. Participants will learn to use the Writing Learning Progressions as a developmental pathway to achieving written communication proficiency and its importance in a balanced literacy program. Participants will also explore real-life examples of students demonstrating written communication skills while maintaining authorship.

**Registration:** <https://www.123signup.com/event?id=cchcf>

### Eureka! I've Got it!: Demonstrating Science Skills Using the NH Alternate Science Learning Progressions

**Date:** Monday, December 19, 2011

**Time:** 12:30 to 3:30

**Cost:** \$70 members, \$75 associate members, \$80 non-members

This workshop will focus on understanding and using the Alternate Science Learning Progressions to support critical-thinking skills and scientific process skill development in instruction and assessment for students with disabilities. Participants will review resources from the NH Department of Education, learn to use the Learning Progressions as a developmental pathway for achieving scientific knowledge and process skills, and explore a variety of ways that students can demonstrate scientific skills while maintaining authorship.

**Registration:** <https://www.123signup.com/event?id=cchcf>

**Presenter:** Laurie Lambert

**Location:** NCES, Gorham, NH

## North Country Involvement in CMTC 2011



Colebrook Elementary teachers Meg Sheltry, Anne Marie Gooch, Gina Dagesse and Kathy Lawton Haynes presented CHIP - Colebrook History in Your Town that they received a mini-grant to have students create a walking tour of the town that can be played on smartphones and iOs devices. Technical support for the project was provided by NCES Technology Integration Specialist, Paula Churchill, through additional funding from the Neil & Louise Tillotson Fund and the Rural School Educators Effectiveness Collaborative.



Milan Village staff Geri St. Gelais, Faith Kimball, Kerry Goulet (above) along with principal David Backler were among the presenters from North Country Schools. Lafayette Regional's Garret Ferguson and Ben Woo led a professional skills development session on animation. Josiah Bartlett's Jimi Emery, Sue Chula and Robin Fall presented on Glogging.



The 2011-12 Technology Leadership Cohort participants (above) and their partnering administrator were able to attend one day of the Christa McAuliffe Technology Conference for their participation in Title IID TLC Project coordinated by NCES. The cohort consists of Faith Kimball, Natalie Feigen, Juli Guay, Crystal Shallow, Dena Saulsbury, Elke Carr, Scott Nichols, Amy Bugeau, Stephanie Hogan, Janet Drapeau, Kathleen Boulanger, Jen Carbonneau, AJ Plateau and Geri St. Gelais.

## Military Culture 101

Children face enormous challenges when a family member is deployed to active duty in a "combat zone." Every day, they may have more to do or fewer opportunities to play ball because the family member is away. Every night, the news reminds them that their loved one may not come home.

And the family member staying at home may be under additional stress creating an environment that is quite different from what these children have had before. Military 101 provides information to school personnel on what these children and their families face and how this can impact the life of the child and what it can mean to the child's education.

**Dates:** Wednesday, January 11, 2012

**Repeated:** Wednesday, April 4, 2012

**Time:** 8:30 to 12:30

**Cost:** Free

**Register:** Please call NCES at 800-268-5437 or 603-466-5437

## Reintegration and Special Topics: NH National Guard Follow Up

For those individuals who have already participated in a "Military 101" training (including those who attended the morning session), this session is designed and focused on the return of the Brigade and how it impacts the children.

Special topics include (but are not limited to):

- Reintegration
- Dual deployments of both parents
- The dynamics of being a "step" family

**Dates:** Wednesday, January 11, 2012

**Repeated:** Wednesday, April 4, 2012

**Time:** 1:20 to 3:45

**Cost:** Free

**Register:** Please call NCES at 800-268-5437 or 603-466-5437

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## eRate Webinar

ENA, the selected eRate provider for the State of NH, wants to share with you their free (and expert) tips, insights and advice on the E-Rate process.

ENA is a national top-10 E-Rate service provider and over the years have received \$400 million in E-Rate funding for their customers and been involved in nearly 5,000 Form 471s. They are experts at E-Rate and, as the New Hampshire Schools Connectivity Consortium provider and will help you with every step of the E-Rate process. ENA provides ongoing guidance, training and support to ensure compliance with all E-Rate regulations. They will ensure that you and the rest of New Hampshire's districts that want to participate get their fair share of E-Rate dollars!

Join ENA for an E-Rate Webinar on Thursday, January 5th at 10:00 a.m., CST.

To register for a webinar, please go to <http://www.ena.com/customers/webinars/>. The password to join the webinar is ERate2011 (case sensitive).

## Education in the 21st Century...and Beyond

The LESCEN 4th annual spring conference at Church Landing, Meridith, NH. Featuring keynote speakers Tony Baldasarro and Patrick Larkin. Friday, April 6, 2012. Visit <http://www.lescn.org/fmi>.

## Learning Forward NH Spring Conference

Featuring Ruben Puentedura

May 9, 2012

SNHU, Manchester, NH

[learningforwardnh.org](http://learningforwardnh.org)