Highlights for August 14-20, 2011

Over the summer, many teachers hone their repertoire. Three SFUSD teachers embarked on odysseys in Colombia, Ghana and Italy where they developed skills and gained insights to share with their students.

Leon Sultan, Lincoln High teacher, conducted interviews throughout Colombia’s Isla Providencia to enhance an oral history project for students back here in San Francisco, who will learn to be historians and view their lives as part of a greater narrative. While on the island, Sultan gained insight into differing perspectives and even the practice of tall tale-telling, which he will use to teach not only basic story-gathering skills, but critical thinking for today's world of internet information.

Sue Gonzalez, ER Taylor Elementary teacher, traveled to Elmina, Ghana, to found a book club at the Bantuma School that facilitates literacy skills and international peer relationships among students in West Africa and San Francisco.

Sue Lofthouse, Ruth Asawa School of the Arts, spent time in Florence, Italy to learn techniques and exercises that she can use to encourage the creative process among students with learning disabilities and differences.

Lofthouse, Gonzalez and Sultan were among nine SFUSD teachers who were chosen and funded by the national non-profit Fund for Teachers to pursue continued learning through the summer.

School begins Monday, August 15
Visit www.sfusd.edu for more information

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