



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Publication of SEPA Educational Calendar**



We are happy to announce that SEPA has published an educational calendar (2014-2015) for distribution to schools. The calendar features information about our educational materials, role model posters and pictures of different activities. It showcases photos from SEPA health & science fun camp, teacher workshops, hands-on-activities and other programs.

Contact us at [sepa@unmc.edu](mailto:sepa@unmc.edu) if you need a copy of the calendar for your classrooms.

**SEPA iBook Publication, *The Power of Role Models***

The University of Nebraska Medical Center's Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA) program and the Nebraska Department of Education Office of Multicultural and Native Education are pleased to announce publication of *The Power of Role Models*.

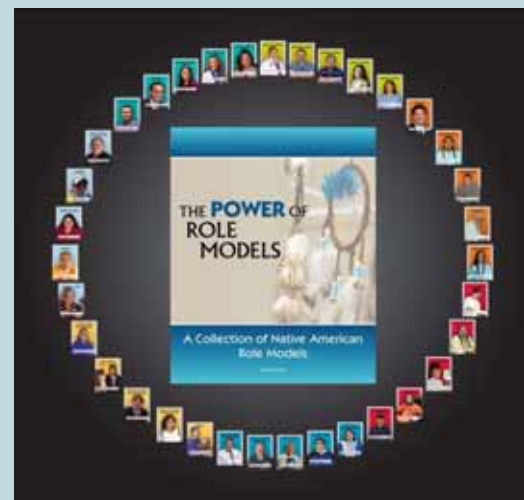
*The Power of Role Models* provides an interactive environment and updates in the lives and careers of the many people featured on the UNMC SEPA role model poster series. Embedded videos, live links to numerous education and career websites, and other resources are readily at hand. *The Power of Role Models* was designed to facilitate classroom participation and discussion. We hope that the people and places featured come alive for teachers and students alike.

The iBook may be downloaded at: (a minimum of 10 minutes is required to download)

<http://www.education.ne.gov/nebooks/ebooks/powerofrolemodels.ibooks>

The PDF is also available at:

<http://www.education.ne.gov/nebooks/ebooks/powerofrolemodels.pdf>



**Role Model Posters**

The Role Model Poster Project features Native Americans in many health and science professions. Each poster includes the name, photograph, and tribal affiliation of the person featured. Additional information for teachers include: education, benefits, motivation, special job skills, and words of wisdom. These posters proved to be a great source of inspiration and motivation to the students and teachers. There are currently seven sets of posters and each set features five tribal members. Set # 8 will feature: a dental assistant, pharmacy technician, biologist, nurse practitioner, and health scientist.

**Jessica Ann Rickert**  
Dentist | Interlochen, MI

**WORDS OF WISDOM:**  
"Do not give up on your dreams. Keep trying, studying and striving; a job well done is its own reward. Serve your community as much as you can and freely share any and all knowledge you have the good for to obtain. Be ever thankful for the talents and gifts you have been given, and use them always to the fullest."

**EDUCATION:**  
D.D.S. - Doctor of Dental Surgery,  
University of Michigan

**FURTHER INFORMATION:**  
American Association of Women Dentists  
[www.aawd.org](http://www.aawd.org)  
Society of American Indian Dentists  
[www.societyofamericanindiandentists.org](http://www.societyofamericanindiandentists.org)

[www.unmc.edu/sepa](http://www.unmc.edu/sepa)

**PRAIRIE BAND POTAWATOMI NATION**

**Jessica Ann Rickert**  
Dentist | Interlochen, MI



**BUILDING BRIDGES**

JANUARY 2015 NEWSLETTER

**HAPPY 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR TO ALL !**

By Dr. Maurice Godfrey, Professor and SEPA Program Director



**Jessica Ann Rickert**  
Dentist | Interlochen, MI

Learn more about our programs:  
Visit our website -  
[www.unmc.edu/sepa](http://www.unmc.edu/sepa)

**Newsletter Committee**

- Maurice Godfrey
- Kim Soper
- Liliana Bronner
- Shrawan (Sam) Kumar

First of all a Happy New Year to all. Hope everyone's holiday break was happy and that school has restarted on a good note. We are about to start the final year of our second SEPA grant and have begun preparation for SEPA III. We finished the last school semester with programs at Marty Indian, Umo<sup>ho</sup> Nation, and Tiospa Zina schools. We are looking forward to a program at St. Augustine and .....(insert your school).....

Physiology Day is scheduled at the Marina Inn on March 3, 2015. More information will be provided very soon. Summer camp for middle school students will be on the campus of the University of Nebraska, Lincoln June 7 to 10, 2015. The theme will be Chemistry and Chemical Engineering. Among the presenters will be Dr. Chris Cornelius who is one of the people featured in our "poster" series. Stay tuned for information about the teacher workshops too.

Among the most important tasks that we have as a SEPA group is to establish our goals for SEPA III and get letters of support for our partnership over the past years. Letters from students and teachers (how SEPA programs have affected me) and of course administrators (importance of our SEPA partnership and its impact) will be an essential part of our application.

As always please let us know what we can do to help you and your students enjoy science!

**SEPA PROGRAM AT ROSEBUD, SISSETON AND MARTY**

By Teri Hartman

On October 22, 2014, Dr. Shrawan (Sam) Kumar and Teresa Hartman, MLS exhibited and presented health career information at the Scrubs Camp at the Todd County High School in Mission, SD. Scrubs Camp is a statewide program in South Dakota designed to increase awareness of health careers: <http://scrubscamps.sd.gov/> SEPA was invited to join the Scrubs Camp by Marj Blare, a member of the SEPA Board and a teacher at Todd County High School.



Approximately 46 high school students took part in the Scrubs Camp. They were divided into 3 groups, each rotating through presentations and hands-on activities. Dr. Kumar presented health career education and skills requirements, and conducted hands-on-activity related to stress awareness sessions for each group as they rotated through his station. He also distributed flier, provided by Mr. Sherman Petite, Graduate Recruiter, UNMC, related to medical and health education and scholarship opportunities at UNMC. Over the lunch hour, Ms. Hartman guided an online exhibit of health career information resources as well as the ebook "The Power of Role Models" <http://www.education.ne.gov/nebooks/agencypartnerauthors.html> and distributed handouts with links of interest for future healthcare professionals.



Event on December 3, 2014

## TIOSPA ZINA TRIBAL SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR AND PARENT'S NIGHT



SEPA team Dr. Godfrey, Dr. Kumar and Ms. Hartman attended the Tiospa Zina Tribal School Science Fair and Parent's Night events on December 3, 2014. Both events were held on the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation near Sisseton, South Dakota.

The team judged approximately 180 science fair projects submitted by students from the 5<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades. The team looked for students' knowledge about the scientific process, their experiment and the results, as well as the communication clarity of their displays and their oral presentations. They also met with a pair of gifted students from the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, who presented a project of their own (and did a very good job of presenting!)

The team submitted their choices for Best in Grade, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> for each grade they judged. The awards were to be given during a school assembly the following Friday.

The team then set up the interactive tables for the Parents' Night events that took place between 5pm and 7pm. The SEPA tables included: hands-on microscope exploration, the stress awareness and identification system, health career information, consumer health information, and hands-on experience creating a polymerizing material using borax solution and glue. Dr. Godfrey also launched 3 rockets.

According to the school records kept that evening, approximately 175 students and parents attended the 2 hour event, enjoying supper and interactive learning events together. Students ranged in age between preschool and middle school, with a few older high school siblings attending with their families. Students and parents that visited the SEPA tables were very engaged with the information shared and curious to learn more. The microscope table was busy all during the event, with students bringing and sharing items with each other to view with higher magnification. The stress awareness table was visited by students and adults alike. Health career information was shared with 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade visitors and their parents. Two parents visited the consumer health information booth. There was a crowd of students and parents for the rocket launches, and the echo of each launch could be heard throughout the exhibit area. The polymerization experiment table was the most visited – many, many families went home with a package of 'silly putty' made by their students' own hands!



## MARTY MIDDLE SCHOOL FAMILY NIGHT

On November 17, 2014 Marty Indian School held a Family Night event. Dr. Godfrey and Dr. Kumar presented fun activities related to science. Students participated in hands-on-activities related to stress management and polymerization.



## PARTNER NEWS

SEPA Advisory Board Meeting held on Friday September 19, 2014

**In attendance:** Hank Miller, Teri Hartman, Pam Boehle, Favian Kennedy, Steve Petry, Julene Kay, Frances Bullshoe, Linda Kendra, Paula Kuebler, Kim Soper, Maurice Godfrey, Carol Rempp, Greg Fripp, Lisa Forcier, Heather Cole, Teresa Milbrodt, Bill Warzak, Shrawan (Sam) Kumar, Kay Earth, Marj B, Sandy Ostrand, Michelle Blackbird, Lili Bronner, Kathi Sanders

**Agenda:** Discussed BSCS Evaluation report, progress of role model poster set 8, SEPA calendar update, Aquaponics project information, updates from Dept. of Education, board member role input and SEPA program staff expectations



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1. BOARD MEETING:** Marina Inn and Conference Center in South Sioux City, Nebraska  
Located near intersection of E 4<sup>th</sup> Street and B St.  
Date: Friday, January 16, 2015 Time: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
- 2. PHYSIOLOGY DAY:** Scheduled at the Marina Inn on Tuesday, March 3, 2015
- 3. SUMMER CAMP:** June 7—10, 2015 at the UNL Campus, Lincoln, Nebraska  
The theme will be Chemistry and Chemical Engineering

<< Email us with your questions at [sepa@unmc.edu](mailto:sepa@unmc.edu) >>