

Arthur Vining Davis Foundations award CTI \$200,000 grant

Davidson College has been awarded a grant of \$200,000 from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations to support the college's partnership in the Charlotte Teachers Institute.

"This generous support from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations will enable the Charlotte Teachers Institute to provide more innovative programming, and it will ensure CTI's high-quality, professional development reaches more public school teachers, providing a benefit to their students," said Molly Shaw, M.Ed., founding director of CTI. "This is a transformational gift that will help improve public education in Charlotte in the short-term and for the future."

"The strength of CTI lies in the collaborative partners," added Davidson College President Tom Ross. "Its sum is greater than any one individual institution playing a part. This investment by the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations will benefit the teachers, students and communities of the Charlotte area for many years to come."

"In a highly competitive evaluation process involving strong proposals from across the country, the CTI distinguished itself as a top tier organization with the potential to have lasting impact on CMS teachers and students," said William Keator, Vice President for Programs at the Foundations.

Based in Jacksonville, Florida, the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations are a nationally oriented family foundation that honors the contributions and philanthropy of American businessman Arthur Vining Davis.

The grant to support Charlotte Teachers Institute was made available through the Foundations' Secondary Education funding program, which awards grants to new and innovative professional development programs that strengthen teachers and their teaching in grades 9-12. The Foundations also have programs in private higher education, religion, health care and public television. For more information visit www.avdf.org.

Seminar Spotlights:



Writing for Your Life

What is your Identity? Who are you? How are you viewed by others? What is your impact on others? How do the answers to those questions shape your identity? We have been reading various texts about the practice of self and identity to gain insight on identity. Last week we reflected on movies based around teachers. We evaluated their characteristics and thought about ways we were similar or different from the teachers portrayed in movies. We looked at a video summary of *Freedom Writers* and compared it to a *Nice White Lady Teacher Parody*. It was interesting to discuss how Fellows felt about the video summary and parody. We also talked about how *Freedom Writers* and other movies give society a blurred depiction of teachers' roles and expectations.

-- Intisar Hamidullah, CTI seminar coordinator



A Snapshot of Redefining Modernism

CTI Seminar Coordinator Beth Lasure shared this photo and thoughts on a special event in her seminar:

"Our *Redefining Modernism* seminar took a trip to the reserves (a.k.a. -the basement!) of the Bechtler Museum. Christopher Lawing, the museum's director of education, talked at length about the reserves collection, the archivist job (which is immense), along with preservation of these works. We called out some names we knew were in the collection as he brought out prints, jewelry, and books of artists like Henry Moore (seen in photo), Alberto Giacometti, and Jasper Johns. I felt like a little kid in a candy store! An amazing resource - available to us anytime upon request."

Redefining Modernism meets regularly at the Bechtler Museum of Modern Art, with Seminar Leader Shaw Smith, art history professor at Davidson college.

Welcome to a Special Little Fellow!

CTI Fellow Kate Kinsman had a baby boy! **Cal William Reisterer** was born three weeks early on Oct. 2. He weighed 6.1 lbs., was 18.25 inches long and had a full head of hair. We look forward to meeting this sweet little fellow soon!