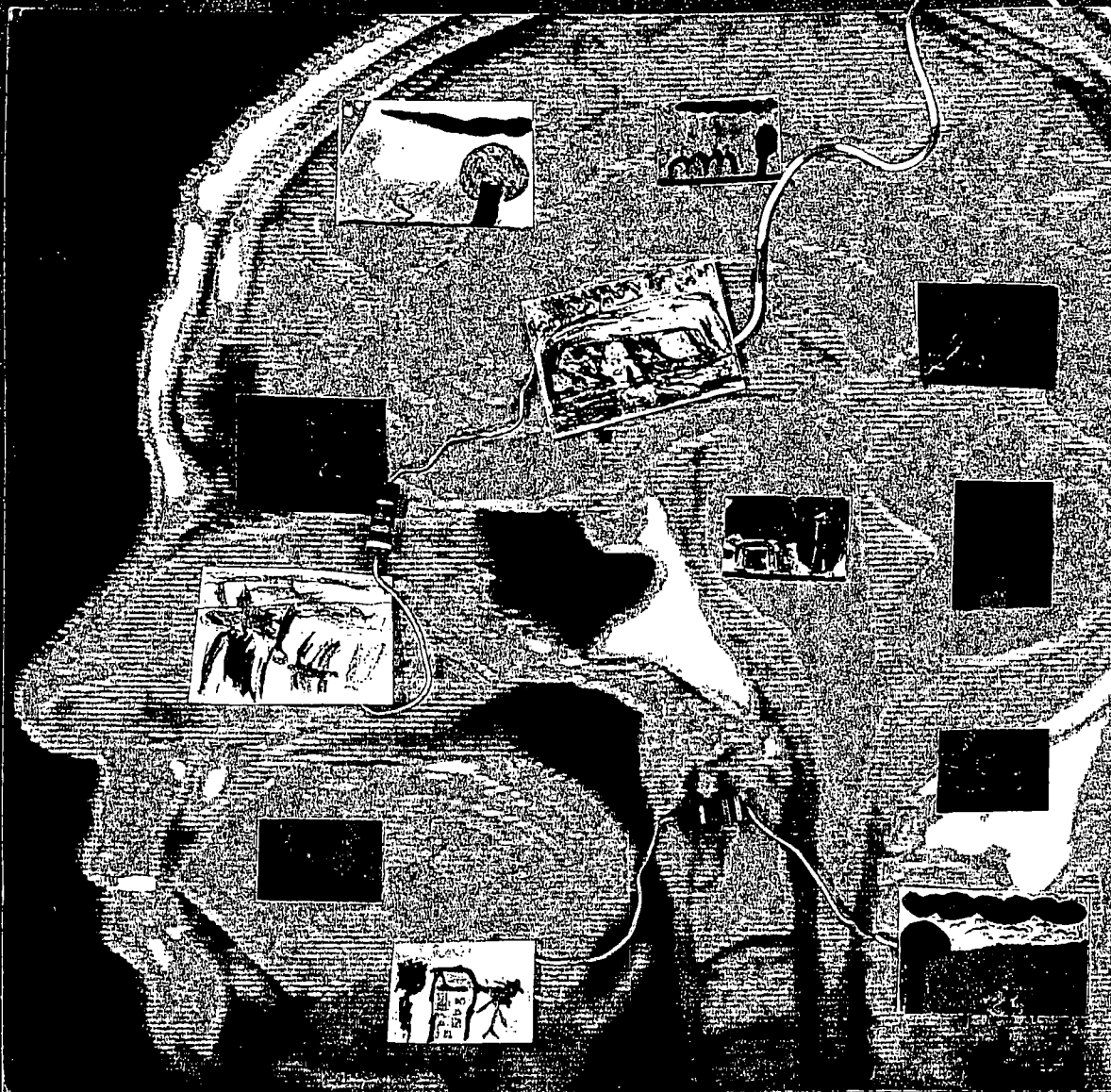
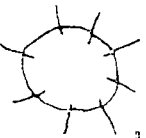
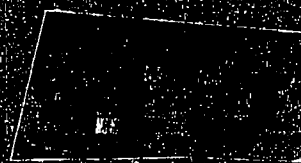




 Calvary
BILINGUAL
MULTICULTURAL
LEARNING
CENTER



CHILD CARE

Remarks by Beatriz Otero
White House Conference on Child Care
October 23, 1997

Good afternoon President Clinton, Mrs. Clinton, Vice President Gore and distinguished guests. Thank you for allowing me to participate in this important conference. I am BB Otero, and I am here today as an educator, child care provider and a parent. My first teaching job after graduating from college was as a child care worker. I stayed in the field for five years and then, like many others, moved on. But eleven years ago I came back to child care at the request of a group of working parents and a local church, who were seeking viable alternatives for their children. We established a small early childhood program in the Columbia Heights neighborhood of Washington, DC in the basement of the church. That small program is now a learning center serving over 220 children and their families, providing early childhood education, before and after school care for elementary and junior students, and home visitation for first time mothers and their babies, all in a building donated by the Bell Atlantic Company of Washington, DC.

As I listen to the various perspectives presented today, I am heartened to see child care redefined as an urgent issue which affects us all. Child care is a struggle for parents, providers, and the children who come to our centers. Let me tell you about my responsibilities as a center director. I work to provide quality and affordable care. I work to ensure that the education we provide is developmentally appropriate. I am responsive to the needs of families. And I support my staff as professionals and as educators. In order to do my job, I must be a business manager, an educator, a fundraiser, a building manager, a community advocate and a social worker. Every day.

Some days my task seems daunting, but I always remember that the hurdles for parents are tremendous. Here's a situation that took place in early October: I get a call from a neighborhood principal saying, "I have a child who has been staying in the playground until 6:00pm for three days in a row. I have the mother here, and she's telling me she doesn't get out of work until 5:30 and doesn't have anyone who can pick him up. I've explained to her that she can't leave the child unattended and that we can't help her. I told her that if it happens again I'm going to call police." I had the principal send the family right over. After interviewing the mother, we learned that she had recently been hired at a neighborhood sandwich shop and was afraid to lose her job if she asked for special hours. Based on the information she gave us, she clearly qualified for subsidized care, so we enrolled the child on an emergency basis and provided a scholarship to cover half of the tuition until we could secure the subsidy. Three weeks later, the child is still on a scholarship. We haven't been able to get the subsidy because we haven't been able to get the employer to verify her wages. At this point the Mom is behind in her payments, but for now, the child remains at the Center. He receives tutoring services coordinated by Howard University's AmeriCorps Program; participates in enrichment activities provided by the Corcoran School of the Arts; benefits from programs such as America Reads coordinated by Foundry United Methodist Church; and enjoys supportive friendships with other children and our staff.

This story is not unique. There are many families like this one at our center -- many of them with more than one child enrolled in our programs. The fact remains, we are not always able to secure a subsidy for every child who needs it, or to sustain a large number of scholarships over extended

periods of time. I find it most painful when parents lose their subsidy after having sustained employment, and begun to make economic gains, and consequently exceed the income allowances for the subsidy program. But upon losing the subsidy, their child care costs might triple. And at that point parents face a difficult choice: give up hard-won economic progress or place their children risk either by leaving them home alone or by placing them in substandard and cheaper care. We cannot continue to allow a system that penalizes parents for succeeding. We need to make a long term investment in families.

Calvary works to make precisely that kind of investment in families. We have grown as our children have grown. We have continually leveraged other resources from parenting classes to employment referrals to crisis intervention in order to sustain our commitment to support families. I know the risks children face if we simply terminate families because they accumulate a debt at the center. As a director I'm constantly balancing between running a business and a social service organization. And the challenges of that are enormous.

This balancing act, which every good center director works to achieve, cannot be sustained on an *ad hoc* basis if child care is to meet the challenge of a dramatically increasing number of families entering the workforce. Here's what I think we need as child care providers to do our jobs well: We need a financially stable child care delivery system; standardized monitoring; third party funding streams through employers; and lower costs of liability insurance.

Let me close by saying something about the District of Columbia. At one point in time, the

District had a model child care system. But the system has eroded dangerously. Cumbersome licensing and monitoring processes have stalled renewal of licenses. Child care subsidies have not increased in 9 years creating a financial crisis for the providers and keeping wages for child care workers so low that too many of them qualify for child care subsidies themselves. And it is this weakened system that will have to meet the challenge of welfare reform. The District's network of child care providers understands that promoting quality child care for all District children will require significant fiscal investment, but we understand that reform of the child care system also requires a reemphasis on early childhood education and early childhood development.

We cannot continue to regard child care as an institutionalized form of babysitting. Child care is fundamentally concerned with early childhood education and development. Early childhood development is the foundation for a child's life-long educational achievement. The reform of child care is above all an educational challenge, and it is a challenge we cannot afford to ignore.

Current Programs:

Early Childhood Education

Bilingual Multicultural Methodology
The Creative Curriculum®
USDA Nutrition Program
Multidisciplinary Arts
Educational Exchanges
Field Trips

School Age Program

Before and After School Care
Summer Camp
Homework Assistance/Tutoring
Field Trips
Multidisciplinary Arts
Clubs

Family Institute

Counseling/Referral/Intervention
Parents' Association
Parenting Workshops
School/Family Linkages
Developmental Health Screenings
Play Therapy

Healthy Families DC

Home Visitation
Parenting Workshops
Child Development Instruction
Information/Referral



Financial Profile:

Sources of funding include government, parent fees, the philanthropic community, special events and individuals. The Learning Center is audited annually by an independent, certified public accounting firm.

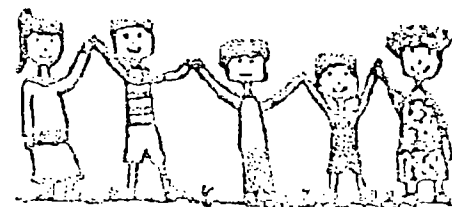


Photographs by Aditi Gupta Mittal

Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center

1420 Columbia Road, NW
Washington, DC 20009
(202) 332-4200
(202) 745-2562 - FAX

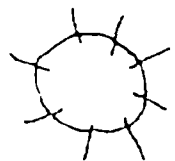
Beatriz Otero
Executive Director



... an oasis for children and families — the multicultural village that raises the child.

History:

Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center (CBMLC) is a private, nonprofit organization providing positive educational experiences for young children. The Learning Center opened its doors in 1986 to 15 neighborhood children ages 3-5. In 1987 its School Age Program began providing care to 5-14 year-olds before and after school and during school breaks and summers. In 1992 CBMLC established its Family Institute to strengthen families and support their involvement with their children's developmental success. In 1994 the Learning Center became a partner in Healthy Families DC, providing support services to first time mothers.



The Learning Center has provided expanded services to more children each year and currently serves

200 in its Center-based programs and 40 infants and mothers in their homes. Quality and constancy of service coupled with remarkable staff continuity form the foundation of the Center's success. In 1994 CBMLC began a Capital Campaign to acquire and renovate its first permanent home. In 1995 it relocated to 1420 Columbia Road, NW, in a facility donated by Bell Atlantic, Washington, DC.

Mission:

- ◆ Provide safe, nurturing and affordable child care for low- and moderate-income working families.
- ◆ Provide educationally excellent, creative enrichment activities that supplement gaps in the children's education.
- ◆ Continue developing a community of learning that nurtures the investment of families in the development, care and education of their children.
- ◆ Embrace the broader multicultural community through education and human service activities.
- ◆ Develop and support creativity, excellence, continuity and accountability among its human resources through in-service training, benefits and career advancement.
- ◆ Develop collaborative relationships with other community organizations to strengthen the network of services available to support families and children.
- ◆ Attain long-term financial stability through fiscal prudence, accountability and the continued cultivation of relationships with public and private funding sources.
- ◆ Complete the renovation of its newly acquired facility to enable the expansion of the Learning Center's program to meet growing community needs.
- ◆ Integrate parents into every aspect of their child's educational experience.

Demographics of Community Served:

CBMLC primarily serves low- and moderate-income, working families, many headed by single parents: 60% Latino, 25% African-American, 11% bicultural families, 4% other.

The community served is primarily from the Columbia Heights, Mt. Pleasant, Adams Morgan and Shaw neighborhoods of Washington, DC. School Age children attend H.D. Cooke, Bancroft, Harriet Tubman and Oyster Bilingual Elementary Schools and Lincoln Middle School.

Staff and Supporters:

Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center's staff includes certified early childhood educators, youth counselors and family support workers supported by an executive director, a deputy director, program coordinators, a family counselor, support staff and volunteers. Other support services are provided by a cook, a custodian, a bus driver and senior aides. The Learning Center contracts services for development, special activities, staff training and accounting. The Center's Board of Directors is comprised of 18 members, 3 of whom are Center parents and the rest of whom are community members with a range of expertise.

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER PROGRAM

Beautification of Columbia Road This project will serve as the major portion of the Calvary Junior High Summer Program and will satisfy the expected work requirement. The three objectives of this activity are to plant and maintain a garden, to help create a safe playground area for the younger children of Calvary, and construct tree boxes along Columbia Road. Students will learn about their responsibility to the environment and to share this information with the community.

The Corcoran School of Art The teens will work with students from the Corcoran to build and develop their individual artistic talents. The partnership will involve art studio classes at the Corcoran Gallery as well as a mural project at Calvary.

Capoeira Classes Nego Gato Capoeira Angola will conduct bi-weekly Capoeira workshops, teaching all aspects of this Afro-Brazilian martial art form.

Publishing Workshop The members of the Junior High Program will create a magazine for the community that reports the news of all of Calvary's programs. Journalism, photography, graphic art, business, and computer skills will be fostered through this project.

Afro-Caribbean Drumming Led by professional drummer Sam Turner, these sessions will introduce the teens to the history and techniques of various types of drum playing.

Power Poets This writing workshop emphasizes self-expression through poetry. Teens will be encouraged to create a book of their own work and read their poetry in "cipher sessions."

Teen Health and Pregnancy Prevention Program This partnership with Calvary's Healthy Families - DC chapter will cover various themes dealing with the pressures of adolescent health and teen pregnancy. Teens will be paired with an infant which they are required to care for in hopes of realizing the severity of being a parent.

Small Team Leadership Projects Once a week, the group will be divided in to smaller teams who will participate in various projects. Individuals will work with members of their team to create and develop leadership-focused projects to be presented at an end of the summer ceremony.

FLOC Outdoor Adventure Camp This week-long overnight camp in West Virginia is designed to build the self-esteem and confidence of the individual teens as well as team building. Activities include rock climbing, canoeing, swimming, cooking, hiking, ropes courses, outdoor sports and arts & crafts.

Important Notes Please report to Calvary each morning by 9 AM and promptly sign in (failure to do so will affect payment). If a student expects to be late or absent, please call to notify a staff member.

Everyone is required to deposit at least 1/2 of every check into a savings account.

Teens are responsible for bringing their own lunch everyday except for Wednesdays; leaving to buy lunch during the day is not permitted.

A plain white T-shirt and black sweatpants are required for the Capoeira classes and will be left at Foundry for the duration of the program. Please bring a bathing suit and towel every Thursday for swimming.

Each day, teens are also responsible for getting home from our Foundry location (16th and P St. NW). No one is allowed inside Calvary after 5 PM without special permission.

Junior High Program Staff

Senior Counselors

Steve Vigil, Jeanna Penn, Nick Blatchford

Junior Counselor

Charis Willis

School Age Program Coordinator

Maria Steinmetz

Executive Director

Beatriz Otero

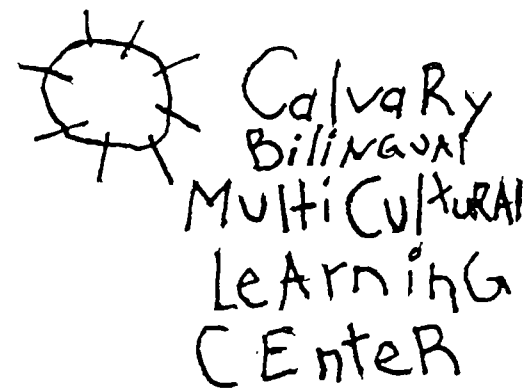
Calvary Bilingual Multicultural

Learning Center

1420 Columbia Road, NW

Washington, DC 20009

202-332-4200 fax 202-745-2562



**JUNIOR
HIGH
SUMMER
PROGRAM**

1997

JUNIOR HIGH SUMMER PROGRAM SCHEDULE 1997

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9am - 9:45am Morning Meeting @ Calvary	9am - 9:30am Morning Meeting @ Calvary	9am - 9:30am Morning Meeting @ Calvary	9am - 9:30am Morning Meeting @ Calvary	FIELD TRIP FRIDAY 7/4 Independence Day CBMLC closed 7/11 Greenbriar Park 7/18 Bull Run Park 7/25 return from FLOC CBMLC closed 8/1 TBA 8/8 Haines Point Park
10am - 12noon Beautification of Columbia Road @ Calvary	9:30am - 12noon Publishing Workshop @ Calvary	9:30 - 12noon Corcoran Mural Project with Jorge Somarriba @ Calvary	9:30 - 11am Beautification of Columbia Road @ Calvary	
12noon - 1:30pm Lunch on the Mall	12noon - 2pm Lunch/Free Time @ Foundry	12noon - 1pm Lunch @ Calvary	11:30am - 12:30pm Swimming @ YMCA	
1:30pm - 3:00pm Corcoran @ downtown gallery	2:00pm - 3:30pm Afro-Caribbean Drumming with Sam Turner @ Foundry	1pm - 3pm Teen Health/Pregnancy Prevention Program @ Calvary	12:30pm - 2:00pm Lunch and Free Time @ Foundry	
3:30pm - 5:00pm Capoeira Class @ Foundry	3:30pm - 5pm Power Poets/ Hip-Hop Writing Workshop @ Foundry	3:30pm - 5pm Capoeira Class @ Foundry	2pm - 5pm Small Team Projects @ various sites	

* The Beautification of Columbia Road Project will include the following community events:

Sat. July 12 - community garden project at Calvary

Sat. July 19 - Calvary playground construction

Sat. Aug. 2 - landscaping / tree box construction along Columbia Rd.

* All Junior High Program participants are expected to work on these days and parents and community members are strongly encouraged to participate in the above projects.



Young D.C.



Volume 7, Issue 1

September, 1997

The newspaper by and about Washington area teens

"What did you do during your three extra weeks of summer vacation?"

"I've been staying home and taking care of my siblings. My mom and I went shopping every day."

Brooke Barnett, 14
Deal JHS



"I came to Calvary [Multicultural Learning Center] to learn some math and study literature."

Stephanie Zelaya, 13
Lincoln MS
Photo: Cindy Reyes



"During the time that we have not been in school, I have been learning mostly everything that I will be learning in school."

Alma Vasquez, 12
Paul JHS
Photo: Maria Benitez



"I worked at D. C. Scores for two weeks, then took care of my little brothers, went to the pool, just hung out."

Max Zambrano, junior
Roosevelt SHS
picture not available



"I came to Calvary so we could review the subjects that we studied last year and learn what we are going to do in school next year."

Edward Quinones, 12
Francis JHS
Photo: Dominic Washington



"Since Calvary is the only place I could go, I've been warming up for school."

Cindy Reyes, 12
Francis JHS
Photo: Stephanie Zelaya



"I go to Calvary so I can learn everything that I'll be having in school. We take walks in the park and have morning meeting. We also go to the library for reading and researching. I really learn a lot from Calvary. That's what I like about it."

Maria Benitez, 12
Deal JHS
Photo: Alma Vasquez



"I came here so I could get a head-start on seventh grade and we studied math and literature."

Dominic Washington, 12
Shaw JHS
Photo: Edward Quinones



"I came here to have fun and do homework and study a lot."

Eric Fuentes, 12
Lincoln MS
Photo: Edward Quinones



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Delayed School Start Has Some Parents Scrambling

By Pamela Constable
Washington Post Staff Writer

A dozen children sat in a circle holding hands at a community center in Anacostia last week and practiced sharing an "electrical current" by squeezing the next child's hand as soon as each felt a squeeze from the other side.

"We're not here to hurt each other. We're here to pass the energy around," teacher Patricia Thomas said. "You'll be learning all about energy in science class next week."

Those District children were among the

lucky few who will have something structured and stimulating to do now that the opening of public schools has been delayed three weeks, until Sept. 22, because of unfinished roof repairs. They and about 50 other students are enrolled in Jump Start for Success, a free school preparation program at Covenant House Washington, which has now extended its classes from Aug. 22 to Sept. 19 because of the delay.

"We can spend those weeks talking about school roofs, or we can accept reality and find constructive things for kids to do," said Vincent C. Gray, who directs the nonprofit

program at 3400 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE. He temporarily has added several volunteers and D.C. schoolteachers such as Thomas to his staff.

But across the city, working parents scrambling to find babysitters, day-care programs and organized activities for their school-age children are finding very few affordable options.

In scattered locations, nonprofit educational groups, day camps or parent-teacher associations are cobbling together temporary programs or extending summer activities. However, some of those efforts will be expensive,

and most will accommodate only a few students.

At several meetings this week, D.C. school board member Tonya Vidal Kinlow (At Large) and other officials encouraged parents, community groups and teachers to organize alternative programs, either inside school buildings that are not being repaired or at other sites.

Kinlow said she hoped to have a list of program locations by tomorrow. For information, parents can call the school board at 724-4289.

"This is wreaking havoc with family plans,

from vacations to normal school preparations," said Iris Wilson, president of the PTA at LaSalle Elementary School in Northeast Washington, where two free summer programs for 62 children have been extended into September.

"I have kids in three different schools, and they have been so geared up emotionally about going back," Wilson said. "It's so unfair to lose that."

Wilson, an employment training specialist, said she is especially concerned about single mothers who have enrolled in job training

See SCHOOLS, Page 3, Col. 3

SCHOOLS, From Page 1

programs to end welfare dependence. One client with several school-age children was supposed to begin a nursing program Sept. 3., but now she's "in a real dilemma."

During the school year, the D.C. Department of Human Resources operates subsidized day care for about 2,300 children of low-income parents, including teenage mothers and job trainees. But officials said extending the program would cost the District about \$200,000, which it can't afford.

For affluent parents, the situation is not as dire. Some already have reserved spaces in for-profit day-care centers. The Greater Washington Boys and Girls Clubs, for example, are extending their summer camp through September at two D.C. sites, at a cost of \$85 a week. The D.C. Jewish Community Center plans to offer a September camp, charging

\$200 a week for members and \$300 a week for nonmembers.

But such fees are beyond the financial reach of many District parents, who have been frantically calling PTA leaders, school principals, day-care centers and D.C. government officials for help.

In response, officials at several educational programs have been exploring ways to extend their services. They have called potential volunteers, asked staff members to postpone planned vacations and joined with other programs to help stretch services through Sept. 19.

At the Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center, a subsidized preschool and after-school program in Columbia Heights, Director Beatriz Otero said she is trying to combine staff and service with two smaller neighborhood care programs to handle the sudden influx of students.

"September is a transition month for us, and now everything has been

thrown into turmoil," she said. "We have 80 to 100 kids who are supposed to start coming September 2 before or after school, and now we're trying to find a way to give them a full-day program. We don't want just a recreation program. We want to make it as academic as possible."

Parents still searching for programs likely will have to rely on a hodgepodge of temporary solutions: drafting relatives and neighbors to baby-sit, rotating child-care duty with colleagues at work and organizing group field trips.

"We're lucky because we've got a grandmother here to help, but all of us parents are really scrambling," said Cynthia Bullock, a former PTA president whose son is about to enter Hardy Middle School. "My friends and I have a plan. We'll do trips to museums and things, but for those with younger children, it is much harder."

THE WASHINGTON POST
DISTRICT
WEEKLY

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 1997

Washington Post
ASTRIPCT
 WEEKDAY



At left, Angelica, Steven, and Genesis. Above, the Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center in Mount Pleasant. Below, Nancy Aguilar works on a mural of building blocks.



Bilingual Center Anchors a Neighborhood

By Pamela Constable
 Washington Post Staff Writer

When you walk in the door, the Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center in Mount Pleasant seems like a miniature three-ring circus—a riotous kaleidoscope of colors, sounds and vertiginous activity, all taking place at knee level. But after a while, your eyes and ears begin to pick out patterns and structure in the cheerful chaos, and by the end of the day, you are marveling at how a handful of teachers maintain such unobtrusive order among 75 wriggling, teething 3-year-olds, catching every glass before it spills, every toy before it is thrown and every quavering expression before it turns into a wail.

In one corner of the learning center, a modern, brightly lit labyrinth of rooms that opened in September in a former Bell Atlantic switching station on Columbia Road NW, seven children are playing house, trying on costumes and growling like monsters as they scamper across the carpet on all fours.

Roxana Aguilera, the teacher, is helping Angelica feed her doll a glass of plastic milk when Steven suddenly bonks Saul on the head. In a flash, Aguilera drops to her knees, grabs them both and tells them to give each other a hug. Seconds later, the "monsters" bear down on Wilmer, who shrieks in fright. "No mas monstrros, no more monsters, let's do something else," Roxana says calmly, turning their attention to the costume box.

Across the room, a half-dozen munchkins sit in a circle,

clapping and stamping as two counselors take turns singing nursery rhymes in English and Spanish. First comes "The Itsy Bitsy Spider" and then "Quiero Mucho a mi Abuelita" ("I Love my Grandina"). A shy girl named Genesis keeps sucking her thumb, and her teacher keeps removing it gently and putting Play-Doh in her hands.

On the other side of a partition, eight preschoolers are pasting faces on toilet paper rolls, drawing pictures of their family members as animals and, miraculously, putting crayons away in color-coded trays. In a fourth section, another group of eight is learning to make apple patties, spreading pats of butter with their hands and giggling as the teacher passes around a jar of cinnamon for them to sniff.

Michael, sitting alone in a chair while his play group puts

See PRESCHOOL, Page 4, Col. 3

NEW Day-Care Center Expands

FRESCHOOL, From Page 1

together a puzzle, is taking a required "time out" because he was having trouble sharing his pieces. Every few minutes, Ricky Green, another teacher, puts an arm around him and asks if he wants to rejoin the game. "We never say they've done

The teachers and counselors are almost all bilingual, and students are encouraged to learn about and respect one another's cultures. A play therapist lets agitated or withdrawn children act out their emotions with dolls or in a sandbox. A large after-school program gives older children a structured haven until the work day ends. Parents are urged to visit

values and support they've gotten here will help keep them away from problems like violence and drugs."

To a large extent, Otero's forceful personality is responsible for the transformation of Calvary from a struggling program in a cramped church basement to an ultra-modern facility with an elaborate security system, kitchens in each classroom, an array of social services and ample space for 150 children.

For the first nine years, the program operated at Calvary United Methodist Church on Columbia Road, growing from 15 to 145 children. But beginning in the early '90s, there were conflicts with church officials. The rent was raised and the program was pressed to leave after its lease expired last December.

Otero began seeking a new building and finally persuaded Bell Atlantic to donate the long-unused switching station across the street. Then she and her associates on the board of directors raised \$800,000 from corporations and foundations to renovate the first floor, and construction workers, including some Calvary parents, raced to complete the work before the school year began.

"We were in full crisis mode for over a year, with the District financial crunch bearing down and parents literally not knowing whether they would have a place to leave their kids while they were at work. We were determined not to let Calvary shut down, but it was a time of incredible stress," Otero said.

Now, just two months after dozens of children helped pack up their toys, carry them across Columbia Road and put them away in unfamiliar cubbyholes, the new Calvary appears to be operating like clockwork. At 7 a.m., parents begin dropping off their children for breakfast and a morning of activities. After lunch, the older children begin arriving from local elementary schools, and they spend the afternoon doing homework or taking classes in art, dance and exercise. The action continues until 6 p.m., or until the last child has gone home.

A number of parents said they are delighted by the new facilities, but they said the program's reassuring, stimulating atmosphere was far more important. Their children, they said, are learning tolerance toward others and pride in themselves.

"I cannot praise this program enough. I have seen changes in many of the children here, in mine," said Laura Schenck, a black woman who enrolled in an early-childhood program for her mothers. She now is studying urban and Hispanic culture at the University of the District of Columbia and hopes to get a bachelor's degree while her two toddlers attend Calvary at no cost.

"My son Eric was very timid before. He almost never said anything. Now you should have seen him at the Halloween party, telling stories and acting," said Luz Ramos, a Salvadoran single mother who works as a cleaning woman and pays \$100 a week for her three children to attend the center. "They are learning from both black and white children and the program teaches them that everyone is equal. I don't even have to think about what I'd do if I didn't have this place."



BY ANNALISA KRAFT FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Rolando Coterias, 3, gets creative with clay during play time at the center, which has 145 tiny clients in its new quarters on Columbia Road.

something bad here," Green says. "We just give them a break until they're ready to come back."

More than a day-care center, Calvary is an environment with a mission as complex and ambitious as its name. The children are black, white and Latino; their parents are a mixture of single mothers trying to leave welfare and immigrant couples who work long hours at menial jobs, with a sprinkling of middle-class professionals. Most parents pay a fraction of the \$110 weekly tuition and receive subsidies from city and federal anti-poverty programs.

Beatriz Otero, the director, describes her nonprofit program as an oasis for families and children who face a daunting and often hostile environment outside, and a child development laboratory where self-esteem, tolerance and conflict resolution are nurtured as carefully as vocabulary or motor skills.

and help make decisions. Former participants are encouraged to volunteer or just hang around if they have no place to go after school.

"We help keep families stable and working, and keep their children in a safe environment until the end of the day," said Otero, 44, an educator and longtime activist in the District's Latino community. "We try to maintain that connection as long as we can, and once they're gone, we hope the

"We help keep families stable and working, and keep their children in a safe environment until the end of the day."



"This is me, David, my daddy. This is my sister. This is a kitty cat, my house and the heater."

"Esta soy yo, David, mi papi, esta es mi hermana. Este es un gatito, mi casa y la calefacción."

Angelic

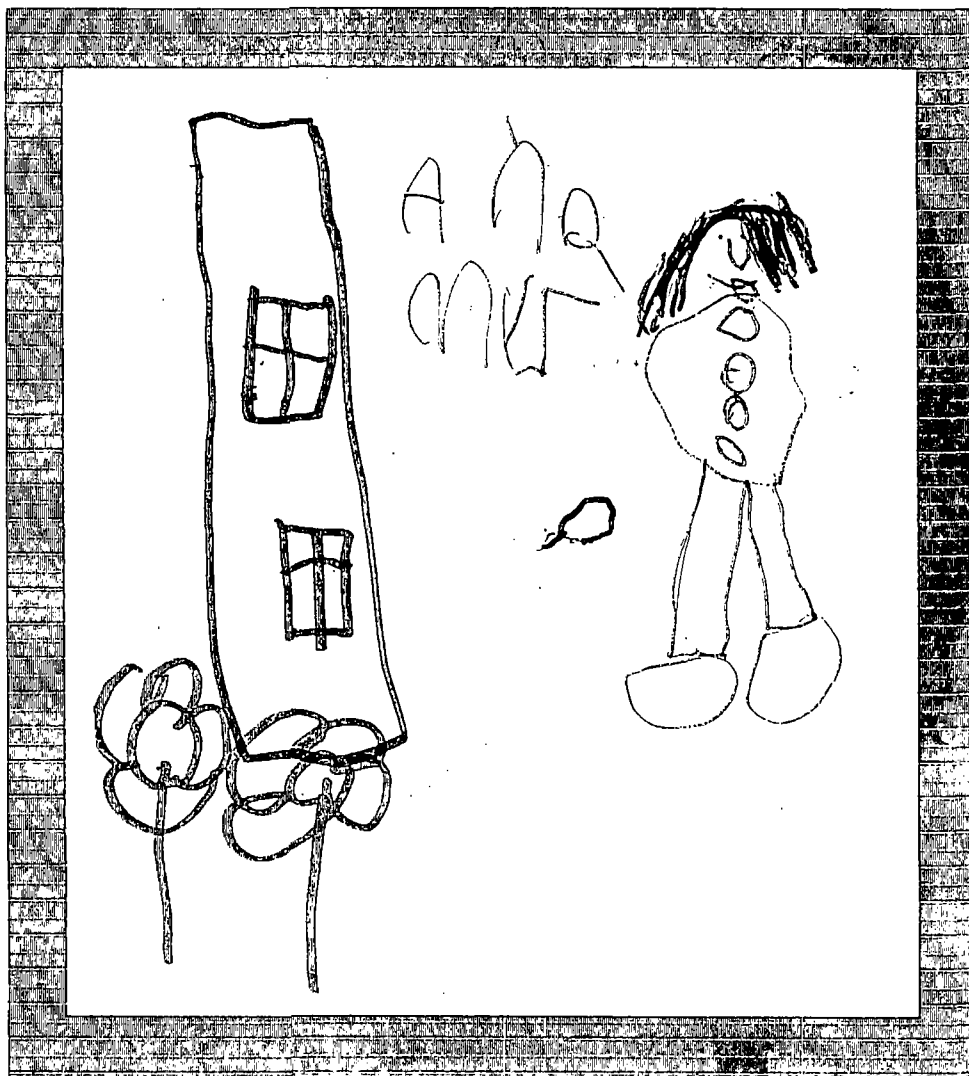


"Yo y mi hermano Xavier estamos jugando con el carro y mis juguetes. Hay nubes y Mr. Sun. Mi cara esta pintada."

"My brother Xavier and I are playing with the car and my toys. There are clouds, and Mr. Sun. My face is painted."

Juan Carlos





"Mi tia hace comida para mi y el bebe."

"My aunt makes food for me and baby."

Ana Maria



"Mi casita, estoy parado en la puerta. Está lloviendo. Arriba hay nubes y también está soleado."

"My sweet home. I'm in the door standing. It's raining. There are clouds above, and it's a sunny day also."



Mauricio

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MULTICULTURAL LEARNING
CENTER
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Rita Soler Ossolinski - VICE CHAIR
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Gretchen Gayle Ellsworth - SECRETARY
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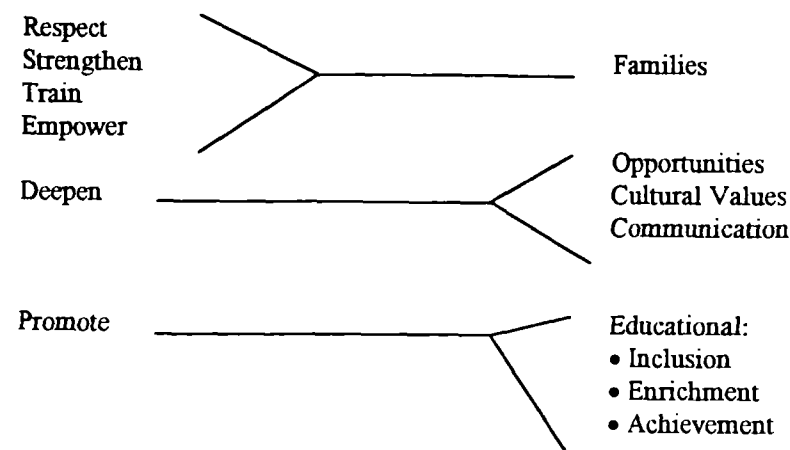
* Parent Board Members

Newsletter Editor/Writer
Elizabeth Bruce

To be published in Winter/Spring, Summer
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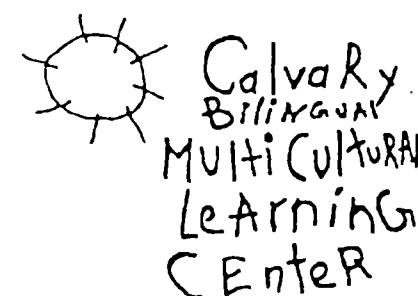
In closing, let me share a summation of our mission drawn from my remarks at the Children's Defense Fund's Conference in April 1997. We at Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center, and our many community partners and friends, are continuing to build institutions that:



Our message is clear: the circle of Calvary Learning Center continues to grow and expand, sometimes with all the speed of the Information Age, at other times, with all the deliberate care of a small child learning to speak. ■



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NEWSLETTER

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CALVARY TEENS JOIN HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON AT FORUM ON PREVENTING VIOLENCE IN GIRLS' LIVES

*Event Sponsored by U.S. Attorney Eric Holder and
Harvard School of Public Health's "Squash It!"
Campaign To Prevent Youth Violence*

Three young women who have long participated in Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center's programs were among the eight panel members hand-picked by forum organizers to join First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton in a discussion of violence in the lives of contemporary teenage girls held Friday, May 17, 1997, at Jefferson Junior High School in southwest Washington, D.C. Co-sponsored by U.S. Attorney Eric H. Holder, Jr., and the Harvard University School of Public Health's "Squash It!" Campaign to Prevent Youth Violence, the event was part of a series of gatherings funded by the Metropolitan Life Foundation that bring young people together with city and national leaders to address the trend of youth violence.

Ivelina Benitez, a 15-year-old 10th grader at Woodrow Wilson High School, Charis Willis, a 15-year-old 10th grader at School Without Walls, and Virginia Miranda, a 1996 graduate of Cardoza High School, joined five other girls from across the city in examining ways in which girls can avoid or recover from such destructive experiences as physical or sexual abuse, rape and sexual misconduct, substance abuse, sexually transmitted diseases, gang violence, teen pregnancy, poverty, gun violence, eating disorders, low-self esteem, etc. The young women from Calvary Learning Center and other settings exemplified the maturity and resilience of young women in making positive choices and overcoming the many challenges and stresses experienced by today's teens to engage in negative behaviors.

As the rates of criminal behavior, adjudication, and incarceration for girls and young women in the United States continue a 10-year pattern of increase, this forum sought to bring attention to the increasing pressures exerted on girls and

young women to engage in high-risk behaviors that frequently result in the tragedies of drug addiction, incarceration, teenage pregnancy, illness, injury, or death. Importantly, the young women from Calvary Learning Center all are or have been D.C. Public School students who have achieved academically and personally.

Commenting on the spin off results of low-self esteem, Virginia Miranda summarized the views of many forum participants. "[It's] really something bothering them inside," she said in reference to conflicts between girls, "Adults are quitting on teenagers. But you have to be there day by day. Don't give up on the kids." ■

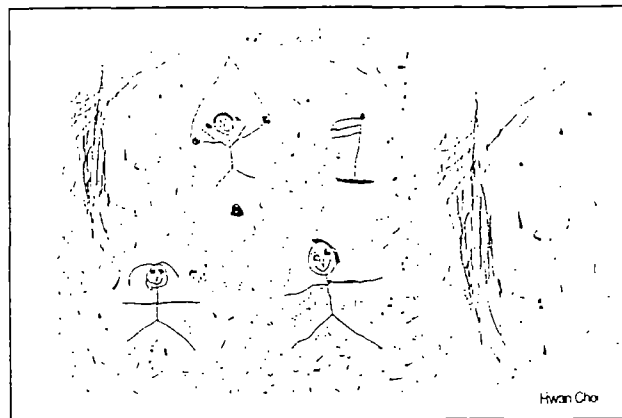
CALVARY BILINGUAL MULTICULTURAL CENTER AND LEADERSHIP HONORED

National MultiCultural Institute Commends Center, Parents and Youth; The Rotary Club of Washington, D.C., Recognizes Beatriz Otero

Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center was recently honored by the National MultiCultural Institute for outstanding work serving a very diverse client population in Washington, D.C. Additionally, The Rotary Club of Washington, D.C., honored Center Founder and Executive Director Beatriz Otero with a Paul Harris Fellow Award as a Community Leader in the District of Columbia.

On Saturday, May 31, 1997, during the National MultiCultural Institute's 12th Annual National Conference.

Calvary Learning Center Board Member Magda Leon, as well as youth leader Charis Willis, received the Institute's award for community service. The Rotary Club of Washington, D.C., presented its award to Ms. Otero at the *Rotary Celebrates D.C. Youth and Education Luncheon* on Wednesday, June 4, 1997. Named after the Founder of Rotary International, the Paul Harris Fellow is the Rotary Club's highest tribute to those who have provided exemplary service to their community. ■



1997 PRE-KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION

Event Set for Friday, June 20th, at All Souls Church

Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center will hold its 12th Annual Pre-K Graduation on Friday, June 20, 1997, from 6:30-8:30 p.m., at All Souls Church Unitarian, 16th and Harvard Streets, N.W. The event celebrates the hard work and accomplishments of the 4- and 5- year-old children who will move on to kindergarten in September, 1997. Additionally, the ceremony honors the dedication and professionalism of the Center's Early Childhood Educators, and recognizes the contributions of parents and volunteers.

A Message from the Executive Director

As illustrated by the stories in this first issue of our newsletter, Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center continues to complete the circle of community we wrap around the children, youth and families we serve. More and more, we are developing ways to nurture and enrich the lives of children and youth as they mature into young women and men. For example, many of our Summer Youth Employment Program workers and Counselor Aides are youth who have been at the Center since their early childhood years.

As most of you know, Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center continues to meet our many challenges with characteristic determination and not a little inventiveness. As forecast by many of us in the child care community, the challenges of "welfare reform" on the poor are upon us. An estimated 4,500 NEW child care slots will be needed in D.C. to allow mothers transitioning off public assistance to enter the workforce, and current legislation mandates that local jurisdictions provide adequate subsidized care. Despite the District's financial crisis, Calvary Learning Center, and other providers like us, will not turn our backs on these children and their families. We must find ways to continue helping the low-income working families we serve retain their hard-won gains. And we must continue reaching out to new families as they reach for greater economic self sufficiency.

Increasingly, our experience caring for children teaches us to link arms with our sister organizations to mobilize the support needed for families in our community. This we do most formally through our two ongoing collaboratives: Our work as a key partner in the **Healthy Families DC Collaborative** brings intensive home visitation and family support to 30 first-time mothers and their infants. Our participation in the **Columbia Heights/Shaw Family Support Collaborative**, helping meet the child welfare needs of these twin communities, places us on the frontlines of the city's move toward decentralized, neighborhood-based family services.

As the same time, the renovation of our facility as a community institution proceeds on three fronts: we continue envisioning the breadth of Calvary's services and programs while negotiating with future tenants and working to meet our Capital Campaign goals.

Outlined within this newsletter are the many funders who help us triumph along this road, and to them and all the individuals and institutions who support us day-to-day and year-to-year we offer again our profound thanks and gratitude.

cont'd. p. 8

CALVARY BILINGUAL MULTICULTURAL LEARNING CENTER

We would like to extend our deepest thanks and gratitude to the following.

CONTRIBUTORS

Anonymous
Apple Computers, Inc. - CTC Net
Arcana Foundation
Bedner-All Souls Church
Advancement Fund
Bell Atlantic, Washington, D.C., Inc.
Diane and Norman Bernstein
Foundation
CBMLC Parents' Association
Citibank
Combined Federal Campaign
D.C. Commission on the Arts and
Humanities
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St. John's Church Lafayette Square
United Methodist Women
Metropolitan Memorial United
Methodist Church
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Wilkes, Artus, Hendrick, and Lane,
Chartered
Donations from Private Individuals

- Friday, April 18, 1997: **Opening of Art Exhibit of School Age Youth Artwork at Rockville Arts Place (RAP)**, a day of interactive audio/video and aerosol art creation.
- Monday, April 7, 1997: **Early Childhood Program participation in City-Wide Rally in Support of Child Care**, District Building.
- Monday, April 7, 1997: **Testimony by Center Parents Carmen Ramos and Magda Leon to D.C. City Council**, District Building.
- Saturday, March 1, 1997: **School Age Youth Participated in DC PACT Violence Prevention Panel**.
- Friday, February 28, 1997--open-ended: **"The War Prayer Revisited," Art Installation based on Mark Twain's epic poem, "The War Prayer,"** combining artworks by Calvary children and youth and Arts Coordinator Elizabeth Bruce, Fellowship Hall, Foundry United Methodist Church.
- Monday, February 17, 1997, 5:00-10:00 p.m.: **"State of the Art VII", Art Exhibition at State of the Union Club of work by a.c.e. (Artists Collective Endeavor) artists and Calvary children and youth.**
- Saturday, February 15, 1997, 2:00-10:00 p.m.: **"8 Hours of Hip Hop," Cultural Festival at State of the Union Club,** Fundraiser for Center's "Visual Communications" Program.
- Monday, January 20, 1997, **School Age Youth rode in Presidential Inaugural Parade.**
- December 24 and 27, 1996, **School Age Children/Sister-to-Sister/Hermana-a-Hermana) Cookie Bake/Holiday Visits at Stoddard Baptist Seniors' Home.**
- October-December, 1996: **Children's Art Exhibits at NCBA Estates** (an independent living seniors' complex),

EOFULA Spanish Seniors' Center, the lobby of **One Judiciary Square**, and **Foundry United Methodist Church**.

Community Service and Educational Exchanges at Calvary

- Summer 1997: **Prospective Cooking Classes taught by Melissa Dhundale, Director of Share Our Strength (SOS)**, a project of Operation Frontline, for **Healthy Families DC Mothers and Boyz to Men** youth group.
- Fall 1996--Spring 1997: **Early Childhood Educational Exchange with Gan Hayered at Adas Israel.**
- December 1996--January 1997: **Volunteer Tutoring and Homework Assistance by Youth from Georgetown University Women's Basketball Team, Edmund Burke School, Washington National Cathedral School, School Age Program.**
- Thursday, December 19, 1996, afternoon: **Capital Hill Choral Society Performance**, Mrs. Buchanan, Director.
- Saturday, December 14, 1996, 9:00-11:30 a.m., **United Methodist Youth of Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church, Holiday Gift Making** by Early Childhood Children.

Festivities at Calvary

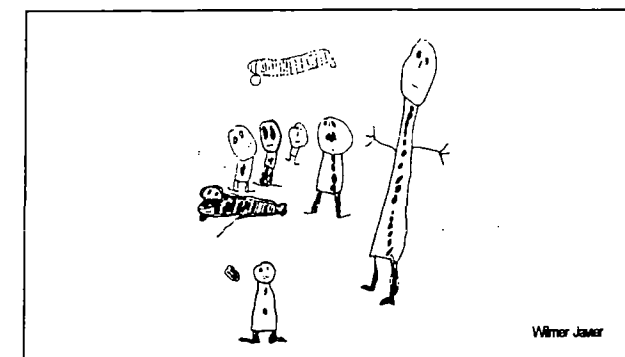
- June 1997: **Parents' Assoc. Yard Sale.**
- Saturday, March 1, 1997: **Parents' Association Fundraising Dinner.**
- Thursday, December 19, 1996, **Early Childhood/School Age Holiday Parties.** ■

While most graduating Pre-K children will remain in the Center's Early Childhood Program through the summer of 1997, the graduation ceremony marks the beginning of Calvary's thorough transition process for children to elementary school. Coordinated by Early Childhood Program Coordinator Ivonne Govea and Pre-K Early Childhood Educators Maru Gomez, Julia Garcia, Liliana Jansen, Ines Amores, Marta Bernal, Beverly Rollins, and Ariana Bock, the ceremony will include performances, a commemorative book of Pre-K drawings, and exhibitions of artwork by the children. These arts activities will include work supported by the Center's Multidisciplinary Arts Project, which is funded in part by the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities (DCCAH) and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). Additionally, the children's visual art works have been created in part through the Corcoran School of the Arts' Visual Arts Community Outreach Program (VACOP), Connie Artiga-Oliver and Cynthia Sambro, Artist/Teachers. ■

CALVARY ARTSTOP "THE DOVE" FEATURED AT WASHINGTON VERY SPECIAL ARTS' FESTIVAL AT KENNEDY CENTER

A 15-foot high fabric Dove of Peace made up of sheer fabric feathers inscribed with drawings and messages of peace and reconciliation by the children, youth, and adults from Calvary Learning Center's Early Childhood and School Age Programs, as well as Foundry United Methodist Church, was on display at the Washington Very Special Arts (WVSA) Festival, Thursday, April 24, 1997, at the Kennedy Center. A second dove was included in the ArtStop

for which school children visiting the festival designed their own fabric feathers on themes of peace, justice, family, etc. Organized by Arts Coordinator Elizabeth Bruce, Calvary's ArtStop at the WVSA Festival received contributions by children from over 25 public and private schools in Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia. The doves are components of a larger art installation entitled *"The War Prayer Revisited"* in which children's and staff's artworks create an alternative, life-affirming scenic response to Mark Twain's poetic indictment of war, *The War Prayer*. Several future exhibitions of *"The War Prayer Revisited"* are projected at area churches. ■



CALVARY COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY LEARNING CENTER

Computers Donated by IMF and Apple Computers; Advisory Team & American University Volunteers To Assist

In November of 1996, Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center launched its Community Technology Learning Center through the donation of ten IBM 486 personal computers from the International Monetary Fund's Civic Program Advisory Committee. With the guidance of School Age Counselor Nick Blatchford, educational software was installed, training sessions were offered, and school age children and staff began using the technology.

The Learning Center subsequently assembled a Technology Advisory Team that includes Sal Acosta (Datatel and CBMLC parent), Arnold Baker (AT&T Solutions), Sarah Irvine (American University), Kathy Jenkins (Howard University and CBMLC parent), Xavier Mandeng (Price Waterhouse), Andrea Schorr (The Morino Institute), and Cory Washington (The Learning Network).

Significantly, American University's Graduate Program for Education and Technology, led by Advisory Team member Sarah Irvine, will place interns at Calvary Learning Center beginning this summer. The interns will work with School Age and Junior High staff to develop and implement a technology and Internet curriculum into the summer and after-school programs.

Additionally, in partnership with the Community Technology Center's Network (CTCNet) with which the Center is now an affiliate, Calvary has been awarded an "Expanding Technology Access" grant from Apple Computers. This award includes key Macintosh hardware and software that will greatly enhance the Center's technological capacity.

The Center's new e-mail address is:
cbmlc@erols.com . ■

MULTICULTURAL ARTS PROJECT

Recent and Upcoming Activities

Arts education and community service activities at Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning escalated in recent months, bringing together exciting new elements. These efforts, which have been supported in part by the D.C. Commission on the Arts and

Humanities (DCCA), the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), and the Beckner-All Souls Church Advancement Fund, involve on- and off-site arts education in dance, music, drama, and choir, as well as performances and exhibitions by children and youth at neighborhood settings and presentations at Calvary Learning Center by area artists and community organizations. Additionally, an intensive schedule of visual arts instruction is offered at the Center by the Corcoran School of the Arts' Visual Arts Community Outreach Program (VACOP).

Calvary Learning Center's recent and upcoming activities include the following:

Arts Education

- Summer 1997: **Visual Arts Workshops with Colombian Artist Jose Gustavo Hernandez Velez of the University of Cauca, Colombia.**
- Fall 1996--Summer 1997: **Creative Writing and Team Building, Sister-to-Sister group with Writer/Educator Marta Urquilla.**
- July 1997: **Visual Arts Workshops for Early Childhood and School Age Children with Argentine Artist Sofia Gawer at the Museum of the Americas, Organization of American States (OAS).**
- May--June 1997: **Early Childhood Drama/Movement Workshops with Arts Educator Sarah Pleydell, who is also a Master Teacher for the Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning through the Arts.**
- February--June 1997: **Early Childhood Movement Workshops with Japanese Dancer/ Educator Fumijo Hashida of World Arts Focus.**

- September, 1996--August, 1997: **School Age Tuna Band with Salvadoran Musician/ Educator Sandra Castellon.**
- September, 1996--August, 1997: **School Age Dance/Movement Workshops with Dancer Educator Anne Stevens of D.C. Dance Theatre, supported by other DCDT members.**
- November, 1996--August, 1997: **"Visual Communications" Junior High Program, University of Maryland's Electronic Media Center with Counselors "One-9" (Michael Silberman) and Nick Blatchford, Fridays and Saturdays.**
- Tuesday, March 25: **School Age children and families attend D.C. Dance Theatre class and rehearsal at Joy of Motion Dance Studio.**
- January 29, 1997, and November 15, 1996, 1:30-3:30 p.m.: **Beginning Ballet Workshops for School Age Children with Barbara Gaskills, Director of The Ballet Studio, Wesley United Methodist Church.**

Tuna Band/Dance Performances

- June 24, 1997: **"Peter and the Wolf," Ballet Performance by School Age Dance Class, Calvary Learning Center (invited audience).**
- Sunday, June 1, 1997, 2-3:00 p.m.: **Tuna Band Performance at Mt. Pleasant Day Festival.**
- Friday, May 9, 1997, 6:30-8:30 p.m.: **Tuna Band Performance at Zoofari, Annual Fundraiser at the Nat'l Zoo.**
- Saturday, March 1, 1997, 12:00-1:00 p.m.: **Tuna Band Performance at DC PACT Conference.**
- Monday, February 17, 1997, 9:30 a.m.: **Tuna Band Performance at Tribute to**

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., MLK Public Library.

- December 31, 1996, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.: **Tuna Band and Dance Class Performance at the Veterans' Home, VA Hospital.**
- Saturday, December 14, 1996, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.: **Tuna Band Performance for the United Methodist Women, Foundry United Methodist Church.**
- Thursday, December 19, 1996, 4:00-6:00 p.m.: **Tuna Band and Dance Club Performances at Calvary's School Age Holiday Party.**

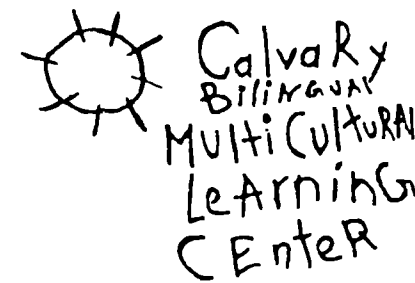
Calvary's Art Exhibitions & Community Service

- Friday, May 16, 1997: **School Age Young Women Participate in Violence Prevention Forum with First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, Ivelina Benitez, Virginia Miranda, and Charis Willis joined Harvard University School of Public Health sponsored discussion at Jefferson High School.**
- Saturday, May 10, 1997: **School Age Girls Participate in Sister-to-Sister Citywide Conference, day-long forum at All Souls Church Unitarian.**
- Tuesday, May 6, 1997, 6:00-7:30 p.m.: **Calvary Staff and Youth Participate in D.C. Agenda and Urban Institute-sponsored Focus Group on Art and Cultural Indicators in the Community.**
- Thursday, April 24, 1997: **ArtStop: "The Dove," an interactive display of the Dove of Peace from the Center's "The War Prayer Revisited" art installation, at Washington Very Special Arts' day-long Festival at the Kennedy Center.**

SPECIAL THANKS TO FUNDERS

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NEWSLETTER

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CALVARY RUNS EMERGENCY FULL-DAY ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Students, Staff and Families Rally for Learning During DCPS 3-Week Delay

While the D.C. Public School System rushed to complete the roofing and facilities work that prompted a 3-week delay in the opening of the 1997-98 academic school year, Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center's School Age Program sprang into action, pulling together a remarkably successful **Emergency Full Day Academic Program**.

Calvary's challenge was:

- To engage 100 students, ages 5-15, for 6 hours per day in academic and creative work for 3 weeks.

How we met it:

- Retained School Age Summer staff full time.
- Detailed all staff with teaching experience to classrooms.
- Recruited youth volunteers as Teacher Aides.
- Sectioned off the facility into mixed-grade classrooms.
- Scheduled library, cultural, and recreational excursions.
- Adapted reading, writing, math, and art curricula. (*Oyster Bilingual Elementary School really came through with textbooks and workbooks.*)

I learned reading, math, and a little bit of science. I feel ready to go back to school. I think that my brain is already recharged.

Anthony, Age 11

They gave me big math problems and I answered them right. I feel ready to get used to the 5th grade.

Luis, Age 10

I appreciate Calvary for believing in us and trying to help us not fall back in school.

Elsa, Age 11

I feel good about going to Calvary for 3 weeks. I feel like I'm getting a headstart on school.

Phenola, Age 9

It's better learning here than just staying home watching TV. It feels good because when we're at school they'll be teaching us things that they taught us here.

Ana, Age 9

In morning meeting I learned talking and listening. I feel good. I feel ready to go back to school.

David, Age 6



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**CALVARY BILINGUAL
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NEWSLETTER

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**OPPORTUNITIES TO
SUPPORT CALVARY:**

- Contribute to our **Emergency Full-Day Academic Program Fund**
- Designate Calvary **# 8123** on CFC/United Way.
- Save **Safeway** and **Giant** receipts to build Calvary's technology resources.
- Come to **HARVEST DAY**, Saturday, October 25, 1997, 11 am to 4 pm

The experience was remarkable. In 3 weeks:

- Staff gained unprecedented insights into the academic strengths and needs of the students.
- Families rallied to support academic readiness.
- Children and youth mobilized themselves.
- Books were read.
- Math problems solved.
- And some stunningly beautiful poetry, stories and artworks were created.

Calvary Learning Center, like other service providers, took on this responsibility because we had to. The stakes for our children and their families were too high.

Turning this crisis into an opportunity, however, was neither easy nor cheap. Calvary incurred about \$10,000 in unanticipated costs for staff, materials, and meals. *This translates into about \$7 per day per child.* About half of this was covered by our extended day school age program contract with the **D.C. Department of Human Services**. The rest we are raising through donations from our friends and supporters.

As we work on meeting this financial challenge, we thank you in advance for any help you can give us.

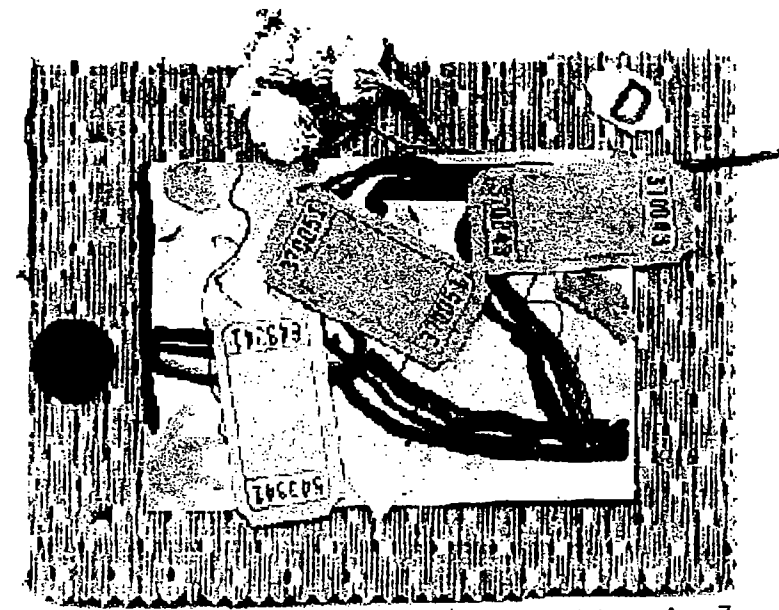


"The Lost Mask"

by Chad, Age 5

Coming October 17- November 14, 1997!

**Exhibit of Writing and Art Done by
Calvary Students During 3-Week DCPS Delay
Lobby of One Judiciary Square
441 4th Street N.W.**



Dominique, Age 7

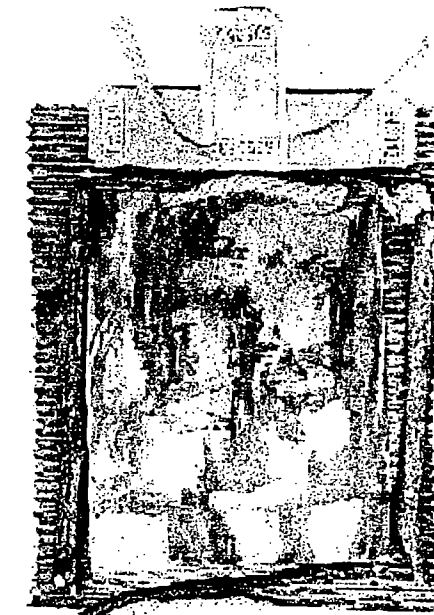
by Students at Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center
during 3-week Emergency Full-Day Academic Program

Breeze goes through the
trees
Dancing are the leaves
Trees smell like pine and
nuts

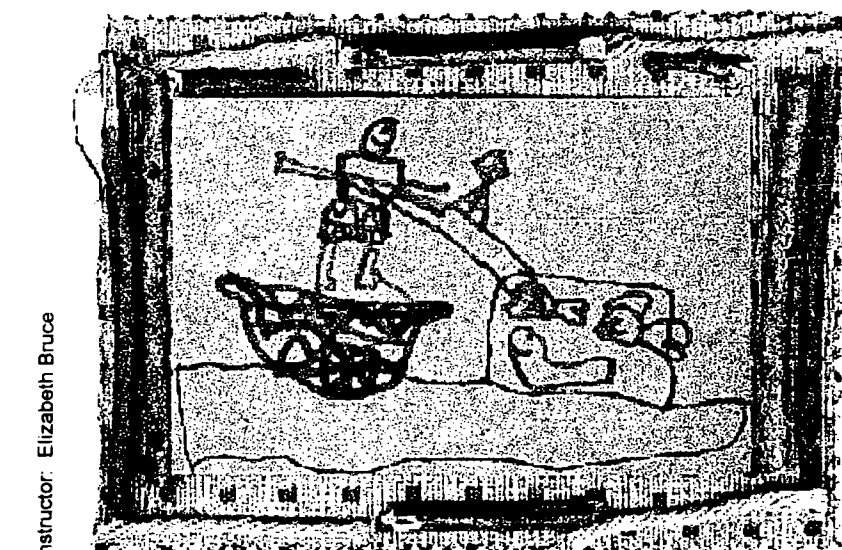
Just like me.

Trees are dressed with the
color of summer
Rainbows dance around
the color of trees
That no wonder why trees
have beautiful colors

Mantza
Age 11



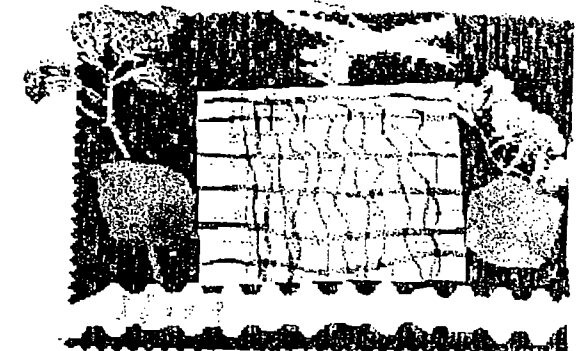
Julian, Age 7



Xavier, Age 7

Mixed Media Collages

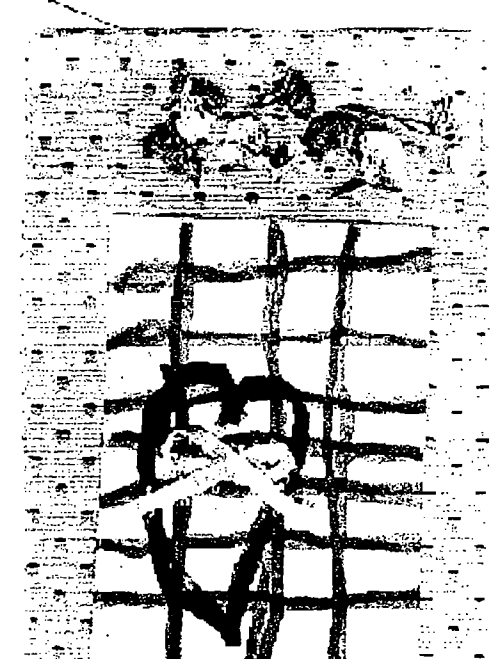
Studies of the Artists
Joan Miró and Paul Klee



Michelle, Age 7

It's blue
It smells good like rose
Like a blueberry apple pie
with smooth
Jiggily
Jelly
Waves
Shaking

Jeanette
Age 9



Tammy, Age 7

Goodbye and *Mil Gracias* to Ivonne Govea

Eleven years after becoming the first teacher of Calvary Learning Center's first class of 15 Pre-K children in 1986, Early Childhood Program Coordinator **Ivonne Govea** has left Calvary to assume a **Classroom Teacher** position in Arlington's bilingual immersion school, **Key Elementary**.

The debt Calvary owes to Ivonne for her tireless professionalism and educational excellence over these many years is immeasurable.

As Calvary Founder Beatriz Otero stated, "Ivonne leaves Calvary with an impressive legacy of hundreds of children nurtured and ready for school. We will miss her badly, but wish her all success in her exciting new position at Key Elementary School."

Mil Gracias Ivonne! Te extrañaremos.



Many Thanks and Goodbye to Departing Staff

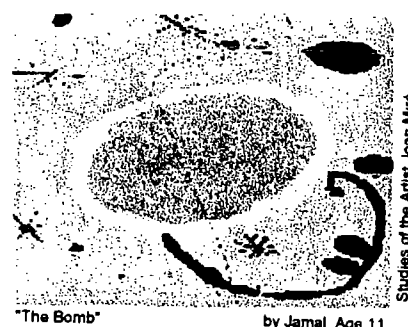
Calvary Learning Center reluctantly said goodbye to a number of other departing staff members. **Nick Blatchford**, Junior High Program Coordinator, is a **Public School Teacher** in New York City. Receptionist **Jamie Torres** is now a **Military Police Officer** in the **U.S. Air Force** in New Mexico. Early Childhood Educators **Inez Amores** and **Beverly Rollins** moved on to other positions elsewhere. Early Childhood Educators **Elvira Leonzo** and **Peaches Hackett** are nurturing their new babies, and **Marta Bernal** is nurturing her family. Assistant to the Executive Director **Naya Bloom** returned to public education as a **Guidance Counselor** at **Paul Junior High**. BB's previous Assistant **Katherine Zuga** is now with **La Raza's Immigration Project**.

Welcome to New Staff

Calvary bids a warm welcome to new Early Childhood Educators **Meliza Brillantes**, **Mahogany Brown**, **Aydee**

Delgado, **Maria Huglett**, and **Lorena Reyes**. Welcome to other new staff, School Age Counselor **Xenia Chavez**, Intake Worker **Jackeline Maynard**, Receptionist **Michelle Guzman**, and Substitute Kitchen Attendant **Marcelina Maynard**.

Remember!
Save Your Safeway and Giant Receipts To Build Calvary Technology Resources



Support Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center!
Designate #8123 On Your Combined Federal Campaign/ United Way Contribution

AUTUMN 1997 ~ NEWS

TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Starting in the summer and continuing this fall the Center's Technology Instructor **P.J. Urquilla** is offering individualized instruction in basic computer use for School Age and Early Childhood Program participants, staff, and Healthy Families D.C. mothers.

P.J. Urquilla, a Junior majoring in Sociology in Education at Haverford College in Haverford, Pennsylvania, will take a year's leave of absence from college to continue as the Center's Technology Instructor.

NEW PARTNERSHIPS

GWU ~ HU ~ AMERICORPS

Thanks to the energy and commitment of **Janice Carmichael** at the GWU Division of University Programs, Calvary has joined in

partnership with The **George Washington University** Office of Community Service's Neighbors Project, and **Howard University** to provide city youth with the opportunity to work and study side-by-side with GW and Howard University **AmeriCorp** college students while completing a Personal Computer (PC) Support Certificate Program.

The Youth Corps members, who are between the ages of 18 and 25, are required to fulfill 900 hours of volunteer work in the nonprofit community and complete AmeriCorps training and coursework for the certificate program. In return, the students will receive a Certificate of Completion from GW's DUP and educational vouchers for \$2,363 which can be applied toward any educational institution or training program. Also, the GW Neighbors Project will provide counseling to assist students in achieving their

educational and career goals beyond the program.

Students attend a 3-hour class 4 mornings a week for 9 months at Calvary Learning Center. Their newly acquired computer skills are applied at their afternoon volunteer placements in local non-profit agencies on projects involving afterschool youth programs, databases development and computer system troubleshooting. Also, students are encouraged to seek internships, mentoring or "shadowing" and employment opportunities through CCE's database of prospective sponsors.

Calvary Technology Instructor **P.J. Urquilla** and **David Ezell** are instructors in this collaborative.

THE PUBLIC ALLIES PROGRAM

Calvary Learning Center is hosting a Public Ally, **Ronald Chacón**, who serves as Youth Counselor/Peer Educator to program participants.

Sponsored by **AmeriCorps, Public Allies** is a 10-month youth leadership, community service program which seeks to prepare young leaders for the challenges of tomorrow. Ronald is a native of El Salvador who has lived in Washington, D.C., for 16 years. He attended Bell Multicultural High School, George Washington University and the Maryland College of Art where he studied Art/Fine Art.

EASTERN MENNONITE UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP

Through the *Eastern Mennonite University Internship Program*, **Alexandra Nuñez** joined Calvary in September 1997 as an Intern. She will work 20 hours per week during the Fall and Spring semesters coordinating Special Projects for the Executive Director. Alex, who is from Orlando, Florida, is a student at the University of Maryland/College Park majoring in International Business/Economics.

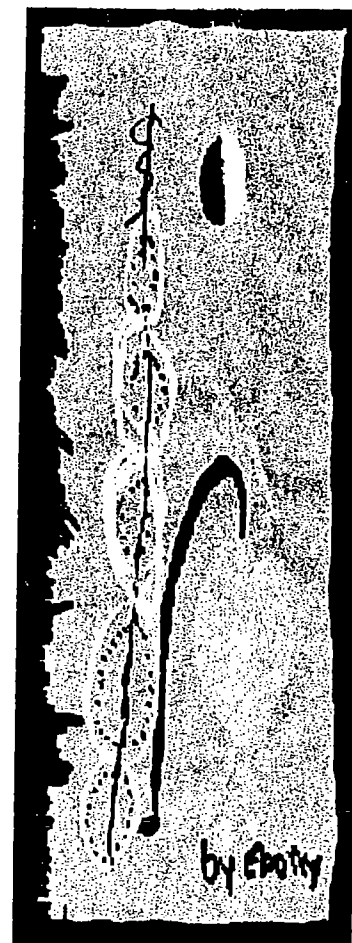
GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP

Starting this fall, the Learning Center is hosting two student teachers-- **Mollie Calabrese** and **Suzie Newell**-- from *George Mason University's Masters of Education Program*. Having studied the Unified Teacher Education Model, these George Mason graduate students will complete their practica under the guidance of Calvary staff **Marú Gómez** and **Liliana Jansen-Checa**.

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP

Calvary Learning Center--in conjunction with *Mary Center, Spanish Cultural Center*, and *Clinica del Pueblo*--joined the "Innovative Education Experience" sponsored by the *Georgetown University's School of Nursing* this year. Through this program, staff from these organizations and community members participate in health and education courses.

Additionally, *Georgetown University's Department of Community Service* is also providing senior Calvary staff continuing education and advanced degree courses. Currently, *Healthy Families DC* Coordinator **Barbara Batie-Jones** is enrolled in a Spanish course, while Early Childhood/Pre-K Educator **Marú Gómez** is taking an English-as-a Second Language class.



"Clueless"

by Ebony, Age 7

Studies of the Artist Joan Miro

service activities during Summer 1997.



by Ana, Age 9

Studies of the Artist Paul Klee

Read*Write*NOW!

Calvary's Summer Camp featured reading and academic enrichment through 1-on-1 tutoring with 15 volunteers from *Foundry United Methodist Church* through the *Dept. of Education's READ*WRITE*NOW!*

SOS Cooking Classes

From Summer 1997 through this fall, the cooking/nutrition program, *Share Our Strength (SOS)*, is offering Cooking Classes to Calvary's Boyz-to-Men, Sister-to-Sister, and Junior High groups, as well as *Healthy Families D.C.* mothers. Kudos to **SOS, Melissa Dhjundale, Nina Williams, Jill Bryson, Bonny Wolf, and Chef Kirk Emery of Galileo** and **Chef Susan McCareight Lindeborg of Morrison-Clark**.

RECREATION!

Swimming at the Y

Again in Summer 1997 school age campers swam once or twice a week for 6 weeks at the *Anthony Bowen YMCA* or the *Rhode Island YMCA*.

FLOC Overnight Camp

Youth ages 10-14 attended *For Love of Children/FLOC's* overnight youth camp--*Leap Wilderness*--in Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, the week of July 21st, 1997. Supervised by School Age staff **Steve Vigil, Jeanna Penn, Meliza Brillantes, Tony Fuentes, Ricky Green, Isaac Saavedra, and Marta Urquilla**. Many thanks to **Mat Curan** and **FLOC**.

Young Life Overnight Camp

In part through the Center's scholarships, several of Calvary's Junior High Program participants spent a week at the *Young Life Program's* Overnight Camp in upstate New

York. School Age Counselor **Raquel Ortiz** supervised. Thanks again to *Young Life*.

Kudos to Summer Camp Staff

Managed by School Age Program Coordinator **Maria Steinmetz**, Calvary Learning Center's Summer Camp staff included Junior High Coordinators **Steve Vigil** and **Jeanna Penn**, veteran Counselors **Ricky Green, Nancy Morales, Mimi Nuñez, Jorge Frederick, Tony Fuentes, Jose Saavedra, and Isaac Saavedra**, as well as new counselors **Lola Bloom, Meliza Brillantes, Raquel Ortiz, Marta Urquilla, P.J. Urquilla, and Charis Willis**. *Congratulations to all on a successful Summer 1997!*



"Handout"

by Lashika, Age 16

Studies of the Artist Joan Miro

instructors included Distinguished Visiting Artists **Jorge Somarriba** and **Liani Foster**. Other Artist Educators include **April Norville, Toni Tramonte, Janice Cheeks, Don Barnes, Michelle Frazier, Haweon Lee, Shara Mays, Abalanda Sullivan, Marlon Woodford**, and **Alison Maffrey**. Many thanks to **VACOP, Julee Dickerson Thompson** and all the instructors.

Museum of the Americas

The Early Childhood Program children participated in Argentine Artist **Sofia Gawer's** Visual Art Workshop at the *Museum of the Americas* within the *Organization of American States (OAS)*.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Columbia Road Beautification

Summer 1997 service learning activities included the second year of the *Beautification of*

Columbia Road Project, operated this summer in partnership with *Funds for the Community's Future*. Goals for the project included finishing the landscaping of tree and flower boxes on the 1400 block of Columbia Road, N.W., completion of a Calvary Learning Center garden and flower boxes, and regular street clean-up. Team-led by FCF's **Maureen Hola** and Calvary Jr. High Counselors **Jeanna Penn** and **Steve Vigil**, the project included 25 youth ages 13-15. A Saturday workday linked the *Thumbs Up* with Center families and neighbors in completing the project.

**HARVEST DAY
for the
Beautification
Project
October 25, 1997
11 am - 4 pm**

SYEP ~ Project PACT ~ ARE ~ Healthy Families DC

With support from *Project PACT/Safe Summer 1997* and *Associates for Renewal in Education/ARE*, this summer

Calvary Learning Center once again was an employment site for *Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP)* workers. Thirty youth, ages 14-18, worked in Calvary's school age, early childhood, and administrative operations.

An innovative community service experience in Summer 1997 partnered Calvary's *Healthy Families D.C. Program* with the Center's *Junior High Program's Health Education and Pregnancy Prevention Program*. Calvary teenagers ages 13-15 provided childcare for the infants and toddlers of the first-time mothers participating in HFDC's parent training activities.

**READING,
WRITING &
COOKING**

Sister-to-Sister

The Calvary branch of the city-wide *Sister-to-Sister/Hermana-a-Hermana Girls' Program*, led by **Marta Urquilla**, continued its writing and community

AUTUMN 1997 ~ ARTS NEWS

CALVARY DANCERS PERFORM AGAIN AT DANCE PLACE

El Teatro de Danza Contemporanea de El Salvador, led by Artistic Director **Miya Hisaka Silva**, again invited Calvary dance students to perform with the company at *The Dance Place* in northeast Washington, D.C. Working through **Anne Marie Stevens, Juan Carlos Rincones** and other members of *D.C. Dance Theatre*, five Calvary girls--**Justine (9)** and **Victoria (6) Cortez, Alexandra (9)** and **Lisa (6) Fuentes**, and **Elena Monterrosa (7)** -- performed Saturday and Sunday, September 27 and 28, 1997.

Nine-year-old **Justine Cortez** also performed with the company at Cardozo and Wilson High Schools and National Cathedral School.

Congratulations to the dancers! Special thanks as always to *DCDT--*

which has headed Calvary's Dance Program for several years, *El Teatro de Danza, Dance Place*, and the girls' families.

CALVARY YOUTH STUDY AT STUDIO THEATRE'S ACTING CONSERVATORY

Seven Calvary youth--**Magaly Benitez (14)** **Eric Fuentes (12)**, **Lashika Hopper (16)**, **Luis Ramón (16)**, **Cindy Reyes (12)** **Alma Vasquez (12)**, and **Morgan Willis (14)**-- were accepted into the scholarship program at *The Studio Theatre's Acting Conservatory*, 1331 P Street, N.W. The youth were required to audition and are participating in rigorous Saturday morning acting classes for 12 weeks, starting September 27, 1997. The classes, which are divided by age, focus on theatre games, improvisation,

monologues and scene study.

Kudos to the young actors! Special thanks to **Maureen Holla** of the *Funds for the Community's Future*, as well as to the youth's families, Studio's **Suzen Mason** and **Troy Patterson**, and Studio Theatre Founder and Director of the Conservatory **Joy Zinoman**.

*Coming in
December!*

**Final Class Performances
by Calvary's Youth
at Studio Theatre
1330 P Street, N.W.
December 20th
1:30 & 3:00 pm**

CENTER CHILDREN & YOUTH RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS TO THE CORCORAN

Beginning in the summer of 1997 and continuing through the fall semester,

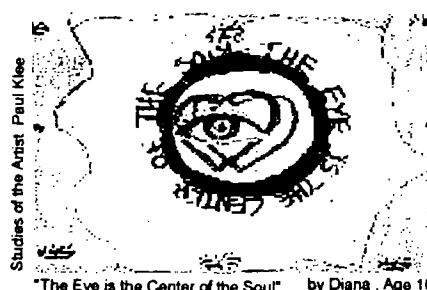
several Calvary children applied for and received scholarships to the **Corcoran School of Art's** intensive art workshops in drawing, painting, and collage at its downtown studio. The summer program featured daily 3-hour workshops for one week periods. The fall program offers 2-hour weekend classes.

All concerned have been delighted with the depth and quality of the children's artistic work. Kudos to **Javier** and **Yesenia Argueta**, **Justine** and **Victoria Cortez**, **Micah-Christian Foster**, **Eric Fuentes**, **Briana Gomez**, **Alfredo Menjivar**, and **Luis Ramon**. Many thanks to **Rona Slade**, Associate Dean of Faculty and instructors **Laura Cooper** and **Nancy Totten**.

COLOMBIAN ARTIST TO OFFER WORKSHOPS AT CALVARY

José Gustavo Hernández Vélez, Professor of Art at the *University of Cauca* in Colombia, will offer his "Presencia Visual Latina" Workshop to the Center's

School Age Program participants during the fall of 1997. Special thanks to former staffer **Lucelly Salazar**.



VACOP ART CLASSES BEGIN

Fall art classes for the Early Childhood and School Age Programs have begun, once again offered through our continuing partnership with the *Corcoran School of the Arts' Visual Arts Community Outreach Program (VACOP)*.

Instructors include **April Norville**, **Michelle Wielgosz**, **Janice Cheeks**, **Naomi Carreon**, **Isabel Armengol**, **Autumn Spadro**, and **Anyahlee Suderman**. Again, many thanks to the *Corcoran*.

BALLET STUDIO WORKSHOPS CONTINUE

Calvary's relationship with *The Ballet Studio* continues to deepen this year through intensive

ballet workshops for Calvary children taught by Ballet Studio Founder **Barbara Gaskill** at her studio on Connecticut Ave. Workshops will be on full-day School Age Program days.

Special thanks again to **Barbara Gaskill** and her able student assistants.

CALVARY YOUTH TO PAINT MURAL FOR U.S. BOTANICAL GARDEN WALL

Under the guidance of **Ronald Chacón**, the Center's Public Ally, who is also an Artist/Muralist, the *School Age Program's Boyz to Men* group will design and paint a 4x8 foot mural to be part of a construction wall installed around the *U.S. Botanical Garden* (next to the Capital) during its 3-year renovation. The mural, which will feature a botanical theme, will be mounted this December.

For information on the Center's Arts Program contact **Elizabeth Bruce**, Arts Coordinator at 332-4200.

9TH ANNUAL SUMMER CAMP

Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center's *9th Annual Summer Camp* featured an unprecedented assortment of arts, academics, technology, recreation and youth service learning activities, most offered in partnership with other community institutions.

Serving 120 school age campers ages 5-15, Calvary's program operated Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. from June 23 through August 22, 1997.

ARTS ACTIVITIES

D.C. Dance Theatre

The Center's long-time partnership with *D.C. Dance Theatre* expanded this summer to include both a continuation of the Modern Dance and Creative Movement Workshops taught by *D.C. Dance Theatre* Company members **Anne Marie Stevens**, **Claire**

Malaquias, **Karen Reedy**, **Alison Crosby**, and **Karla Fingers Coghill**, as well as instruction in Merengue, Salsa, and Tango by Guest Instructors **Alexander Riefe** and **Amy Noll**.

Bilingual Choir

Music and Bilingual Choir Workshops continued this summer for children ages 5-9 under the instruction of veteran Calvary Counselor and Musician **Mimi Nuñez**.

Afro-Caribbean Drumming

At the urging of Calvary pre-teens and teens, the Center initiated Afro-Caribbean Drumming & Percussion Workshops taught by veteran Percussionist/Educator **Sam Turner**. Mr. Turner brought abundant experience as an educator and performer, having performed and/or recorded with such music greats as **Lionel Hampton**, **Montego Joe**, and **Mongo Santamaria**. Turner was assisted by Dancer-

Educator **Fumijo Hashida** of *World Arts Focus*, who taught Early Childhood Movement at Calvary in 1997.

DCCAH-NEA SUPPORT

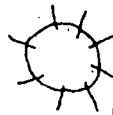
Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center gratefully acknowledges that the dance, choir, and drumming workshops described above were made possible by support from the *D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities* and the *National Endowment for the Arts*.

Corcoran School of the Arts

The Center's collaboration with the *Corcoran School of the Arts' Visual Arts Outreach Program (VACOP)* continued for the summer of 1997. Summer campers participated in weekly art workshops, with older campers going to the Corcoran's downtown studios. VACOP

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