

# WHAT'S **new**

George Washington University Graduate School of Education and Human Development's Department of Educational Leadership has announced the creation of **six new distance-certificate programs** within the educational technology leadership program, all of which will be offered online beginning this fall. Certificate programs are available in the following specialized fields:

- e-Learning
- Instructional Design
- Integrating Technology into Education
- Leadership in Educational Technology
- Multimedia Development
- Training and Educational Technology

**MORE INFO:** George Washington University  
<http://www.gwu.edu/~etl>



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To create a new culture of teaching and learning, the Smithsonian American Art

Museum, with funding from Cisco, has **integrated museum resources** (blogs, podcasts, Webcasts, images, documents, and interactive tools) specifically for teachers to supplement the vast electronic resources of the museum's national education program. Teachers may now access scores of just-released, classroom-tested strategies for using artworks as primary sources in interdisciplinary lessons. Also available are video-conferencing tours for classrooms, as well as teacher guides, lesson plans and online activities—all of which include corresponding standards and grade levels.

**MORE INFO:** Smithsonian American Art Museum  
<http://www.americanart.si.edu/education/index.cfm>



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Through its new grant program, Turning Technologies, LLC (an ISTE 100 member) will provide **TurningPoint Student Response Systems** to 15 K–12 classrooms nationwide.

Selected applicants will work with the company to share best practices, lesson plans and other materials that will facilitate further discussion and integration of response technology in K–12 classrooms. The competition is open to all accredited, public, private and charter schools. Application deadline is Sept. 15, 2008.

**MORE INFO:** Turning Technologies, LLC  
<http://www.TurningTechnologies.com/K12Grant/>

Siemens, Discovery Education, and NSTA are proud to announce the first of its kind national, K–12 student sustainability competition. Launching this fall for grades 6–8, the **Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge** will provide students and teachers with the tools and resources to inspire innovative thinking about sustainability issues, and engage them in developing actionable solutions for a greener world. Teams of students will identify an environmental problem in their community, research, and then recommend a reproducible environmental improvement program. In 2009 it will expand to kindergarten and elementary school students. In 2010 it will include high school students, complete with standards-based lesson plans, teacher materials, student projects, and prizes.

**MORE INFO:** We Can Change the World Challenge  
<http://www.wecanchangetheworldchallenge.com>

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Aspen Learning, Inc. has released **OpenClassroom Server**, an appliance for K–12 classroom or computer lab use combining learning management tools, collaborative software, and personal storage space. The self-contained server supports up to 200 students, is simple to set up and maintain, and delivers a suite of Web 2.0 applications to facilitate safe, private collaboration and communication within a networked environment. The price is \$1,200.

**MORE INFO:** Aspen Learning, 1.408.264.6767  
<http://www.aspenlearning.com>

Mac users can more effectively stay organized by using a new personal database created by FileMaker. Designed specifically for Mac OSX Leopard, **Bento** allows users to manage contact details, coordinate events, track projects, catalog inventory, record hours worked and payments due, and so on. The cost is \$49 for one or \$99 for a family pack of five licenses.

**MORE INFO:** FileMaker, Inc., 1.800.725.2747  
<http://www.filemaker.com>

Excelsior Software's **Comprehensive Grants and Funding Program** has been launched to support educators' efforts to boost student achievement. Designed to help educational institutions obtain financial support for sustainable, standards-based learning programs, "This initiative is more than a grants program," said Ferdi Serim, the firm's grants manager. "We will work with school and district coordinators to develop strong proposals for state, federal, and foundation-based resources." For prices, contact the company.

**MORE INFO:** Excelsior Software, 1.800.473.4572  
<http://www.excelsiorsoftware.com>

## Coming Next Issue in **L&L**

### Ed Tech and Project Management

Project management is not a skill set schools typically teach and assess, yet mastering the process of managing projects is critical for students to succeed. Researchers Bjorn Norstrom, Carol Smith, and Annika Haglund describe a collaboration pilot initiative in project management education between IBM and a middle school in Vermont.

### E-Waste: Managing the Tech Waste Stream

Demand for environmentally responsible stewardship extends to the educational technology sector. *L&L* Senior Editor Caprice Lawless offers an overview of local and national e-waste legislation and resources for related classroom projects.

### Staff Development Builds Community

Think back on the best professional development experience you have ever had. What made it so effective? In most cases, memorable learning opportunities are fun, collaborative, and influential. Jennifer Arns, instructional programs director for the Organization for Educational Technology and Curriculum, outlines the Ed Tech Professional Development Cadre, a PD model whose results have exceeded everyone's expectations.



**Teen Girls and Technology** by Lesley Farmer provides a framework for teachers, librarians, youth workers, and parents for empowering girls to succeed in the hi-tech world. Exploring the disconnect many girls have with technology, Farmer instructs adults in what they can do to create an environment in which girls are comfortable engaging with and learning about technology. The book highlights and examines successful school and after-school programs that have instilled confidence in teen girls and increased their interest in technology-based careers. Farmer is a professor and coordinator of the Librarianship Program at California State University, Long Beach. The book costs \$21.95.

**MORE INFO:** Teachers College Press, Columbia University, 1.800.575.6566, <http://www.tcpress.com>



Hitachi America, Ltd. has introduced the **CP-X206** and **CP-X306 3 LCD projectors**.

Both offer remote-control and maintenance via a LAN connection. Also, by using Hitachi's proprietary My Image technology, administrators can send still images to every projector on the network. To provide security instructions and information for emergency purposes, the images can be automatically displayed on every projector, regardless of whether it is in use at the time. The machines feature Hitachi PJMan software, allowing users to control and monitor multiple projectors via a Web browser without downloading and installing application software. This allows the monitoring of lamp life on every projector on the network from a single remote location. Additionally, the timing of switching the projector's power on and off can be automatically scheduled from a computer. The price for the CP-X206 is \$795; for pricing on the CP-X306 3L, contact Hitachi.

**MORE INFO:** Hitachi, 1.619.591.5413  
<http://www.hitachi.com>