



Creative
Learning

Creative Learning Annual Report

2005



Photo by Dr. Sabah Jadoo

Classic Arabic instruments donated to the Baghdad Conservatory of Ballet and Music, Baghdad, Iraq.



Photo by Creative Learning

Students at the Zarghona Girls School receive supplies for school from the Brentwood High School in California through Creative Learning's School-2-School Initiative.



Photo by Creative Learning



Photo by Creative Learning

A teacher at the Zarghona Girls School sorts through arriving boxes from the Brentwood High School in California through Creative Learning's School-2-School Initiative.

Table of Contents

A Message to Our Supporters	2
Our Organization and Mission	4
Our Projects in 2005.....	6
International	
Pakistan Tent School Project.....	6
Indonesia Tsunami Relief Project.....	7
Guatemala Reconciliation and Reparations Program (GRRP).....	8
School-2-School Initiative.....	10
School-2-School Brentwood / Zarghona.....	11
Philippines	12
Domestic	
Hurricane Katrina Relief Effort.....	14
U.S. Small Business-Washington Metropolitan Area.....	14
Creative Learning Sources of Funding.....	15
Donor Profiles.....	16

Our Board of Directors

Board Members

William J. Kruvant, Creative Learning, Inc. (President)

Marta S. Maldonado (Treasurer)

Lionel Johnson, Citigroup

Barbara Krumsiek, Calvert Group

Our Staff

Jessica K. Wilson

Carola Mandelbaum

Francia Torres



Photo by Creative Learning

Our Volunteers (from left to right)

Wendy Robison, Blake Kent, Aryanna Afshar, Rachel Fineberg, Faisal Sultan, Margaret Mclaughlin, Mimi Tse, Robert Murphi, Francia Torres, Lynn Sheldon, Jessica Wilson, Carola Mandelbaum, Luis Aguilar and Marta Maldonado

A Message to Our Supporters



Photo by Dr. Sabah Jadooa

Students at the Conservatory of Ballet and Music, Baghdad, Iraq, play classic Middle Eastern instruments, donated through Creative Learning.

This has been a challenging year for our country and our world. At Creative Learning, the volunteer staff have been able to respond to many of the urgent needs of children in dire circumstances because of the abundant gifts of our donor community. We would like to thank all of you for your tremendous support, and the trust you have shown us through your donations.

Over the next few pages, you will see summaries of these activities and some photos of our efforts.



Photo by Dr. Uzma Anzar

In some classrooms, boys are assigned duties related to cleanliness and girls were made in charge of the discipline. Children in classrooms were divided according to the groups and each group had a special name (such as tiger group, rose group, red group and so on) and each group had a group leader responsible for monitoring the work of its members and reporting the same to the teacher.

"First you must have compassion, then you can not help but share what you have."

Fannyta Klopfer
Donor, Creative Learning

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Photo by Dr. Sabah Jadooa

Classic instruments shown here were donated to the Conservatory of Ballet and Music, Baghdad, Iraq, bringing music back into the lives of the children.

Our Organization and Mission

Creative Learning provides children and families around the world, especially in areas of conflict, with an array of innovative learning tools and activities that present them with new possibilities.

Both at home and abroad, Creative Learning views social change as an opportunity for communities to improve life for all their members. We work with schools, teachers, governments and private companies to bring the best resources available to advance the cause of empowering children.

Creative Learning invests on small-scale, viable projects that have measurable results by promoting youth programs, school and classroom improvements, arts education, civil society development and entrepreneurship.

Our Values

- We believe in technical excellence, direct communication, teamwork, and self-respect.
- We celebrate differences in individuals and cultures by supporting a wide variety of social, political, and cultural expressions.
- We promote opportunity for all.
- We believe in empowering people.



Photo by Creative Learning

Jaji Maidan Laisa students use the teaching aid materials in their classes to add creativity and fun to learning. Here a teacher shows the new puppets he will be using in his class.



Pakistan

Photos by Dr. Uzma Anzar

(Top left photo)

The materials given included a cupboard, reams of paper, color pencils, glue, scissors, staplers, crayons, pencils, pens, colored paper, binding paper, Cray-paper, story books, 4 floor mats and many other things.

(Right photo)

One essential part of the classroom warm up exercise is the morning meeting. In the morning meeting teachers and students sit in a circle and briefly talk about what they did yesterday and what made them happy and what made them sad. This serves as an ice-breaker which allows even the shyest students to speak up. Morning meeting has become one of the most popular events in every day activities. These activities allow teachers to assess who is an outspoken and/or shy student and how to involve the more reserved and shy students in classroom activities.

(Bottom left photo)

Students at the tent schools in Pakistan not only have a place to go and learn now, but are also receiving added help in dealing with the difficult psychological changes they have had to undergo with the effects of the deadly earthquake through various projects including art.

Our Projects

International

Pakistan Tent School Project (2005)

Following the October earthquakes in Pakistan that destroyed many villages, Creative Learning saw the need to reestablish schools for the children of displaced families. Creative Learning formulated a strategic partnership to fill the need. In coordination with UNICEF's tent village projects and with the assistance of Children's Resources International, Creative Learning has provided \$15,504 that allowed us to:

- Received 24 all-weather tents from Scandinavian Help Effort (SHE)
- Establish 12 schools in the Balakot Tehsil – Each school consists of two tents that accommodate up to 25 children at a time, and utilizes the village teachers to carry on the schools.
- Train 30 teachers in child-centered learning methods and practices that aid in the students' recovery from traumas they have suffered, including psycho-social therapy and general socialization curricula, and utilizing social and artistic activities such as painting, drawing and singing.
- The teachers received four days of intensive training followed by two monthly visits for providing the teachers needed technical assistance, and a methodology book for their reference.
- The classrooms received basic supplies to aid in classroom activities, such as glue, paper, crayons and pencils.
- The activity is aiding approximately 600 children and their families in the social and psychological recovery from the earthquakes devastation.
- To learn more about our partners in this project, please visit:
 - www.childrensresources.org – Children's Resources International
 - www.idsp.org.pk – Institute for Development Studies and Practices
 - www.unicef.org – United Nations Children's Fund

We will expand this activity during the 2006 fiscal year. If you would like to contribute to build a Pakistan tent schools, or provide it with learning supplies, please send a check to our Washington office with "tent school" in the memo line.

Indonesia Tsunami Relief Project (2005)

The December 26, 2004 tsunami left over 130,000 people dead, over 36,000 missing and over 504,000 displaced from their homes, and caused an estimated \$5 billion dollars in damage. The enormity of the loss not only left the Indonesian people in economic upheaval, but also left the education system in disarray. To aid with recovery and reconstruction efforts, Creative Learning launched a campaign to collect funds to help the Indonesian children affected by the tsunami.

- The donations provided school uniforms, shoes, pencils, paper and books for 141 students, a computer and typewriters, six month scholarships for 94 students, text books for three high schools and transportation for the aid distribution.
- Fifteen schools in the Aceh province and hundreds of children were directly assisted through these efforts.
- One hundred percent of all collected donations went directly to help the most vulnerable victims in the Aceh province of Indonesia; \$11,656 dollars was the total donation to the project.
- Creative Learning contacted the Yayasan Inovasi Pemerintahan Daerah/ Center for Local Government Innovation (YIPD/CLGI), a professional Indonesian foundation with links to Aceh, and their local partner Forum



Bangun Aceh (FBA), that volunteered staff time and effort. Working with the YIPD/CLGI and FBA allowed us to channel funds directly to victims on the ground.

- To learn more about our partners in this project, please visit:
 - www.clgi.or.id – Yayasan Inovasi Pemerintahan Daerah (Center for Local Government Innovation)
 - www.fba.or.id – Forum Bangun Aceh

Guatemala



Photo by Creative Associates

People in Guatemala met to honor their friends and relatives who have died in the community's civil unrest, and show support for the reconciliation and reparations effort.

Guatemala Reconciliation and Reparations Program (GRRP)

Creative Learning has developed the Guatemala Reconciliation and Reparations Program (GRRP) with the support of a \$300,000 grant from the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor at the US Department of State. The 15-month project established a working group with members from the Government of Guatemala, civil society organizations, and victim's organizations, working together to channel information into formal processes of investigation and reparations. These efforts are aimed at addressing the painful issue of human rights violations in the 36 year internal conflict. Nearly 200,000 people, mostly civilians, died in the conflict, and the Commission for Historic Truth has documented 669 massacres committed against the civilian population. Investigations into the crimes have been limited and prosecutions rare.

- The GRRP has developed the capacity of local Guatemalan institutions to organize evidence obtained from exhumations and victims' testimonies, and the Working Group will prioritize information and select communities for reconciliation activities.
- The GRRP has supported the reactivation of judicial processes through information collection on selected cases. It is also working with government officials to create a database of all disappearances during armed conflict. The GRRP has received media attention for its efforts, bringing more focus to the quest for justice.

- The GRRP is having significant accomplishments, including new progress on the case of the Massacre of Panzós by contacting family members with the purpose of complementing official information, gaining support from the Special Prosecutor for Human Rights Office for respect of Due Process in the case and pressuring the Government to assign a prosecutor for the case.
- Creative Learning is working with the following Guatemalan state agencies: the National Reparations Program, the Office of the Human Rights Ombudsperson and the Special Prosecutor for Crimes against Humanity. We also work with the civil society organizations: the Association for the Integral Development for Victims of the Violence in the Verapaces, the Association to Promote Integral Development, the Defensoría Indígena, the Families of the Disappeared of Guatemala, the Guatemalan Foundation for Forensic Anthropology, and the Association Utz K'aslemal de Quiché.



Photo by Maria Salome Garcia Ortiz

Members of several Guatemalan state agencies work together in addressing the painful human rights violations of the 36 year internal conflict that have affected the country.



Bi Bi Haleema Laisa students become world explorers, finding their way around the globes. Here it appears they have found Madagascar. Photo by Creative Learning

School-2-School Initiative (2005)

Afghanistan

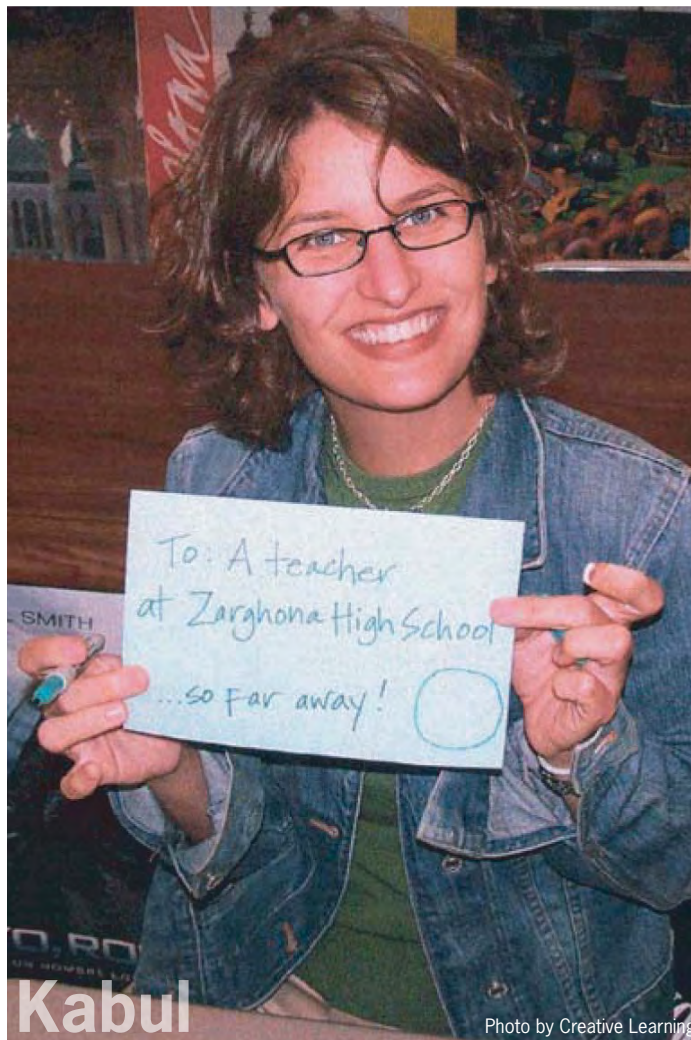
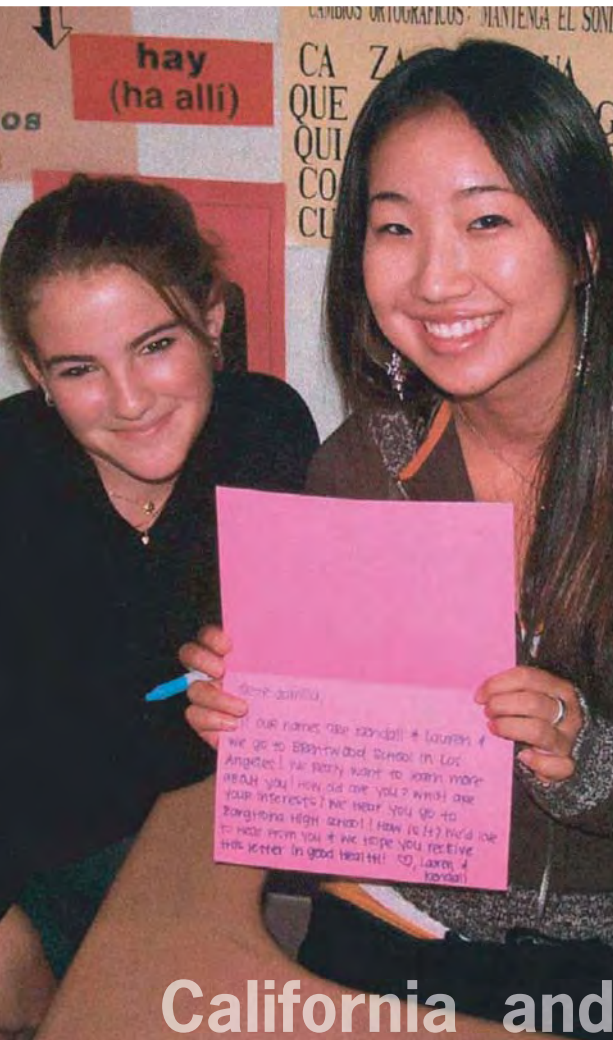
Creative Learning launched a campaign in schools across the United States to raise funds to procure school supplies for children in Iraq and Afghanistan. Up to December 2005, Creative Learning has distributed \$42,000 worth of supplies.

- The school supplies meet basic classroom needs such items as pencil, paper and notebooks. We also supply sports equipment and art supplies, so that these young children, who have lived through the turmoil of war, have the opportunity to play. Our experience has shown that play therapy is an effective way to mitigate trauma in children.
- Primrose Schools, a network of 130 private infant care through kindergarten schools in the East and Southeast of the United States, raised money to purchase \$42,000 worth of active learning kits for elementary schools students in Afghanistan.
- The donations to Afghanistan serve to establish an international network of children that encourages understanding and cooperation between the students and the teachers but also handcrafted friendship bracelets, bookmarks and cards made by the students at the Primrose schools as part of their “Celebrating Cultures” program, which teaches children respect for different cultures.
- To learn more about our partners in this project, please visit:
 - www.primroseschools.com – Primrose Schools
 - www.paxton.com/international – Paxton International
 - www.schoolspecialty.com – School Specialty

School-2-School Brentwood / Zarghona (2005)

Creative Learning has facilitated the relationship between Brentwood High School in California and Zarghona Girls School in Kabul, Afghanistan.

- A cross cultural international dialogue has been opened between the students of the Brentwood High School and the Zarghona School for Girls.
- Brentwood school has organized fundraising activities in its community, and has donated funds every semester to the Zarghona School, for supplies, art and sports equipment.
- An exchange of letters and photos between the students and the teachers of both schools was established and the relationship continues to flourish.



California and Kabul

Students and Teacher from Brentwood High School in California, sent photos and letters to the Zarghona Girls' School in Kabul, Afghanistan, to open an international dialogue between the students of the two countries.



Photo by Creative Learning

Schools in Afghanistan and Philippines were given educational tools and toys to aid in the basic classroom needs and education of young children through the fund-raising of Primrose Schools and the coordination of Creative Learning.

Philippines

Creative Learning is partnering with Primrose Schools, Paxton International and School Specialty to duplicate the success in Afghanistan, by providing school supplies for children in the province of Mindanao, Philippines.

Mindanao is one of the poorest regions of the Philippines, and faces a growing problem of criminal elements and secessionist groups recruiting youth due to the lack of available jobs.

- Creative Learning, with the help of educators, carefully selected culture sensitive learning items that are going to be shipped and distributed as kits to schools in Mindanao
- These items are an invaluable contribution that will help mitigate the harsh reality these children face everyday.



Photo by Creative Learning

John Connelly of Paxton International and Francia Torres of Creative Learning at the Virginia warehouse, review the assembly of school kits.



U.S. Small Business-Washington Metropolitan Area District Office's

Photo by Creative Learning

Honorees, leaders and guest speakers of the Small Business Association Awards Breakfast from left to right are: Norman Francis Hecht, Jr., Christine Krupinski, Rodney P. Hunt, Charito Kruvant, Lee Surut, Vanessa Elizabeth Ali, Payal Tak, Mr. Tak, Brian Hendricks, and Melanie R. Sabelhaus.

Domestic

Hurricane Katrina Relief Effort (2005)

The hurricane Katrina disaster in South Central U.S., left over 1.5 million people displaced from their homes and caused roughly \$75 billion in damages. To aid in the recovery efforts and bolster support for further aid efforts to the hurricane victims, Creative Learning collected \$4,950 in donations with the help of the staff of Creative Associates International Inc.

- The donations were directed to the Katrina Open Arms Fund, managed by the Community Foundation for the National Capital Region, and were distributed to assist in housing, medical care, food, clothing, mental health counseling, financial planning, child care, and to meet other needs of the hurricane victims.
- To learn more about our partners in this project, please visit:
 - www.cfncr.org – Community Foundation for the National Capital Region

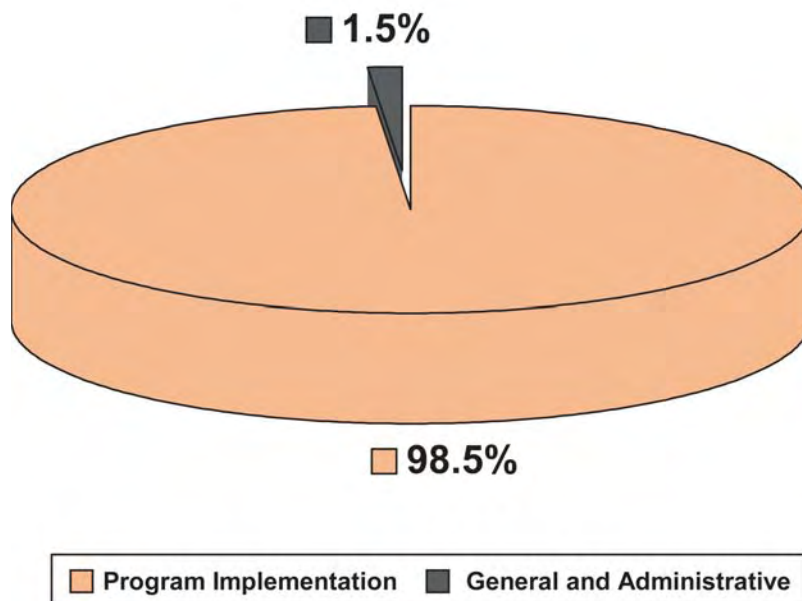
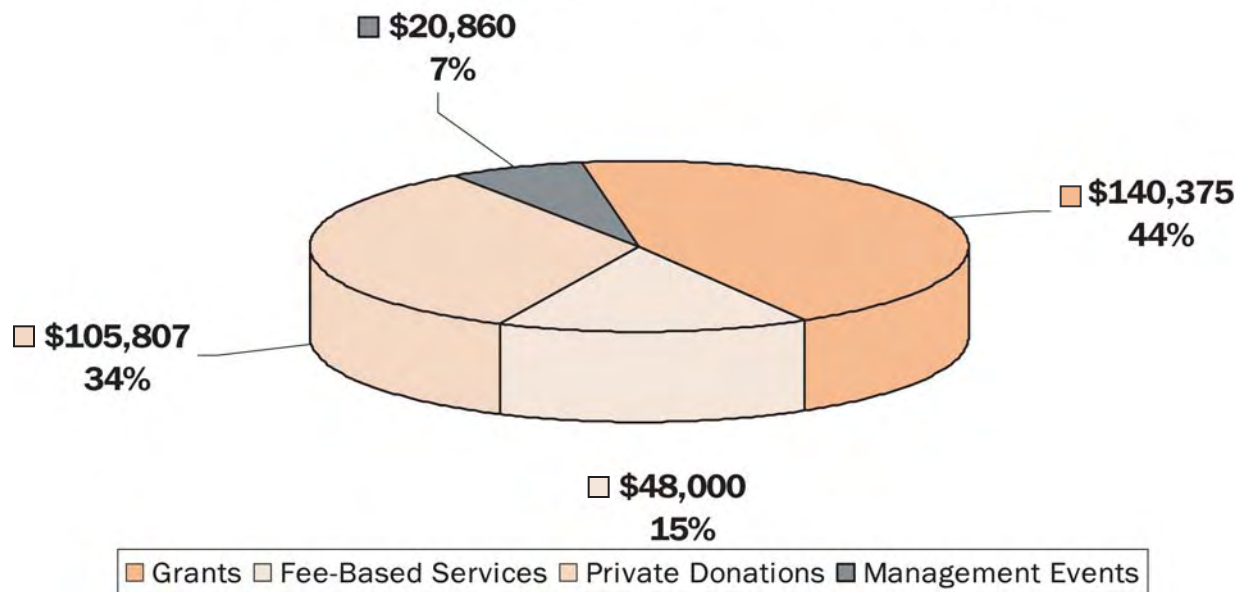
U.S. Small Business-Washington Metropolitan Area District Office's

Creative Learning is dedicated to community development and the promotion of small businesses in the Washington region. As one of SBA-WMADO's partners, Creative Learning sponsors the Metropolitan Area Salute to Small Business Awards Breakfast, an annual event that educates the public about small businesses and honors small business leaders and their achievements.

- This event attracts more than 300 individuals from organizations in both the private and public sectors.
- In the past, Creative Learning has also partnered with SBA-WMADO in Small Business Week events such as the Executive Cost Accounting Seminar and the Economic Development Tour.
 - The Executive Cost Accounting Seminar assists small businesses with U.S. Government contracts in calculating direct and indirect costs, overhead rates, putting together cost proposals for federal government contracts, and preparing for audits by the Defense Contract Audit Agency.

Creative Learning Sources of Funding

Creative Learning is committed to using as much of our funding as possible where it belongs: on the project. In most of our projects we are able to spend 99 to 100 percent of our funding towards fulfilling our mission of providing children and families around the world with an array of innovative learning tools and activities that present them with new possibilities. This is because almost all the effort is volunteer and pro bono work carried out by our outstanding network of development professionals.



Donor Profiles

At what age did you realize the vastness of the world around us? **Fannyta Klopfer**, a systems administrator for Creative Associates International Inc. was taught by her mother as a little child in Guayaquil, Ecuador, the importance of compassion and sharing.

“First you must have compassion,” said Fannyta, “then you can not help but share what you have.”

Fannyta describes sharing and contributions as being an important part of her life. “Life is like a chart with the line going up and down, and I have been at the top and had a lot to give, and I have been at the bottom with little to give, but there are always others who are in need.”

Coming to Creative Associates in 1984, Fannyta said she was attracted by the sister organization of Creative Associates, Creative Learning, and inspired her to commit the past 22 years to the company.

“When Creative Associates can’t do a job, Creative Learning can step in and raise the funds to do it,” Fannyta said. “I knew when I came here I could put all my effort and energy into an organization like this, that invests so much and lets us contribute and be a part of their projects.”



Fannyta Klopfer

Dick McCall, senior vice president of programs for Creative Associates, describes his experiences with charitable giving in much the same way. Raised in a small town, he was always aware of a commitment to the community.

“Part of my allowance went as contribution to the church,” he said, and in high school he gave his time to volunteer work with young kids, coaching them in basketball and baseball, and helping them work through some of their growing pains of self-esteem and other youthful woes.

“I really do believe that if you are fortunate enough to do so, then you should,” Dick said. “Even if it is a modest amount, it’s going to impact some ones life in a positive way.”

Dick has seen Creative Learning as a great outlet for this.

“What I like about Creative Learning is that it is developing personal capacity and empowering people to build better lives,” Dick said.

“I like seeing high schools and grade schools raising money; it’s a reflection of the importance of understanding values and strengthening our own values,” Dick said, of one of his favorite Creative Learning programs, ‘School-to-School,’ that creates a link between schools in the U.S. with schools in countries such as Afghanistan and the Philippines.

“It’s too easy to divorce ourselves from the plight of other people,” Dick said. “I think having an organization like Creative Learning sensitizes us a bit more.”



www.creativelearning.org

Designed by:
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