

EAP Fingerprints on Everything in My Life

An Email from Polly Walton

September 1, 2012

Dear Ann,

I have been reflecting on how you and the EAP experience influenced me. Quite simply, there are EAP fingerprints on everything in my life.



Polly as a Master Student Teacher when at SMU

My proudest accomplishments are my two children, Kela and Andrew. When they were little, I used the things I learned from being part of EAP to stimulate and encourage their individual creativity. The main thing was we had fun experiencing new things together.

Both kids are now grown and successfully making their way in the Texas music scene. As with many young artists, they are teaching to support their families. They are excellent musicians and sought-after teachers, and make me proud every day.

students love Kela because she makes learning to play the harp an exceptional experience. Kela loves creating new, fun ways to motivate their learning.

Andrew is almost 29 and performs in the Dallas/Fort Worth area with the 440 Alliance, a cello quartet, which might sound boring, but it isn't. The group is creating new music for cellos. He is also the

Assistant Orchestra Director at Arlington Seguin High School. As Arlington's newest high school, Andrew has been helping build the orchestra program. His easy-go, friendly nature and love for inventing new things to do on the cello has contributed to the success of the Seguin orchestra. Andrew may be coming with me. I would love for you two to meet.



EAP teacher Polly making magic

I've included links to Kela and Andrew's websites below so you can see and hear.

<http://www.kelaharp.com/Harp/Home.html>

<http://www.the440alliance.com/>

http://www.theshorthorn.com/news/student-band-reaches-reality-tv-realm/article_c43641b4-eee7-56e4-8588-67c79ac5106f.html

I'm still exploring being a children's librarian and turning kids on to reading at Swift Elementary in Arlington. As our campus is located right next to the UTA campus, we have kids whose

parents are university students and professors. They come from cultures all over the world and bring new ideas and ways of looking at the world. Designing learning experiences for them is exciting and challenging at the same time.

I've attached two photos from last spring when author/illustrators Jeff Crosby and Shelley Ann Jackson visited my library. The kids helped Jeff make up and illustrate a sequel to his picture book, Wiener Wolf, a story about a dachshund who needs adventure.



Yes, the wolf is drinking out of the toilet. Some things with kid-generated humor never change!

