

***Trees of Knowing  
Birds of Imagining***  
**A Workshop on the Imaginative  
in Learning and Teaching**

This four-session workshop is for teachers, parents and others concerned with the vital role the imagination plays in children's learning – and the importance, as teachers and parents, in sustaining the imaginative throughout our own lives. Our focus for the third year of this workshop will be the exploration of teaching as a poetic gesture and an act of imagining – and the role of improvisation, conversation and questioning as a means of deepening the ever-evolving fabric of children's thought and learning in school settings. Throughout the workshops we will parallel our discussions with hands-on arts activities– as well as initiating and sharing projects, taking place both in and out of school settings, which enhance and deepen the overall intent of the workshop.

The workshop will be conducted by Richard Lewis, Director of The Touchstone Center, in conjunction with Roberta Valentine, Art Teacher, East Village Community School.

**Thursdays,  
MAY 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, & 28<sup>th</sup>  
4:30-6:30 PM**

- Limited to 25 Persons
- There is no fee for the workshop but persons interested in attending are requested to fill out a reservation form available from [www.touchstonecenter.net](http://www.touchstonecenter.net) or by emailing: [rlewis212@aol.com](mailto:rlewis212@aol.com)

The workshop will be held in  
The Art Room, 4th Floor,  
East Village Community School  
610 East 12th Street  
New York, NY

This workshop was made possible, in part, by funding from the New York State Council on the Arts, and the New York City Department of Education.

**The Touchstone Center** is an arts organization founded in 1969 by its present director, Richard Lewis. Through its publications, exhibitions, theatre presentations, workshops for teachers, and artist residency programs in public schools, the Center has emphasized the importance of the imagination, and its relation to the natural world, as crucial to meaningful knowledge and understanding. The most recent artist-residency programs of the Center have been with the Children's Workshop School and the East Village Community School, where its *Bird of Imagining*, *Tree of Knowing*, *Play of Playing*, *Rivers of our Thoughts* and the *Labyrinth of Peace* projects have taken place over the last eight years.

**Richard Lewis** is a teacher and author of a number of books and publications that highlight the imaginative life of childhood. His recent books include: *When Thought is Young*, *The Bird of Imagining*, *A Tree Lives*, *I Catch My Moment*, *Sea Tale* and *Shaking the Grass for Dew*.

**Roberta Valentine** has taught at the East Village Community School since 1996 –where teaching first and second grade for the past eleven years, she always made the arts an integral part of her classroom teaching, and a natural way for her students to extend and apply knowledge in math, literacy, science and social studies. She became the Art Teacher of the school in the fall of 2006.



Cover drawing by Alexi, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, East Village Community School

# Registration Form

*Trees of Knowing  
Birds of Imagining*

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in Learning and Teaching  
SPRING 2009**

Name

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Home Address

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School or Business Address

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Telephone

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Email

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If you are teaching at present we would appreciate your letting us know what subject and/or grade you are presently teaching:

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What interests you about the workshop?

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Please email or mail this registration to:

The Touchstone Center  
141 East 88th Street,  
New York, NY 10128  
212-831-7717  
or rlewis212@aol.com

*Thank you*

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the nature of the workshops we can only accept registrations for all four workshops.

The Touchstone Center  
in association with  
The East Village Community School,  
is pleased to present

*Trees of Knowing  
Birds of Imagining*



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East Village Community School  
610 East 12th Street  
New York, NY