

## EDUCATION

# National survey gives educators' views of the 21st century school

Children born this year will be among the first to enroll in the 21st century school — a school that America's teachers believe will focus on preparing students for future careers.

According to the Horace Mann Educators' Survey, the Kindergarten through 12th grade teachers have a very distinct picture of the school of the future that indicates how their role will change and how the demands of 21st century society will affect schools and students.

Eighty percent of teachers surveyed see their role in the school of the future as that of a guide to students as they learn independently. Instead of instructing students by traditional lecture methods, educators say they will act as facilitators of learning, using additional

resources such as volunteers, student mentors and technology to assist them. This approach will allow teachers to provide more one-on-one experience with technology.

As computers and other technology become essential to American jobs, it is not surprising that technology will also be an important component of the 21st century school. When asked to name the most important things schools should do to prepare for the 21st century, 40% of teachers surveyed mentioned a single action: schools must keep up with technology providing more computers and better computer training for teachers and students.

Eighty percent of teachers included in the research believe integrating new technology into

the classroom and spending more time with a teacher are the two factors which would most improve students' ability to learn. Teachers say technology could help them provide a customized education for every student by allowing them to create personalized learning materials, as well as taking over some of the less creative classroom tasks, freeing them to work with individual students.

What will students learn in the 21st century school? Only 23% of teachers think students will learn the same types of things they learn now. More than 90% of teachers think that schools should teach students listening and decision-making skills to better prepare them for careers and other adult responsibilities. And, when asked what skills

students will need most in the workplace of the future, teachers overwhelmingly agreed: knowing how to use information to solve problems (95%); an understanding of information-based technology (67%); and a mastery of advanced mathematics and scientific principles (62%).

The survey was conducted for Horace Mann Educators Corporation by Hughes Research Corporation of Rockville, Maryland, among 801 teachers in 50 states, from kindergarten through 12th grade. Horace Mann provides retirement annuities and automobile, homeowners, and life insurance to the nation's educators.

## Graduate College Exploration Day Scheduled For February 1

UNLV's Graduate College is expecting approximately 500 potential students to attend the Graduate College Exploration Day on February 1.

The event, which is free and open to anyone interested in pursuing education at the master's or doctoral level at UNLV, will take place from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the lobby of Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall. Refreshments will be served.

Representatives of some 40 academic departments and more than 60 graduate programs will be present to offer advice and assistance to those who are interested in pursuing graduate education, according to Cheryl

Bowles, interim dean of the Graduate College.

"This event is informational," Bowles said. "It provides a good opportunity for students to explore the many top-notch graduate programs UNLV offers. Also, graduate faculty and students will be on hand to answer questions about graduate study and graduate student life."

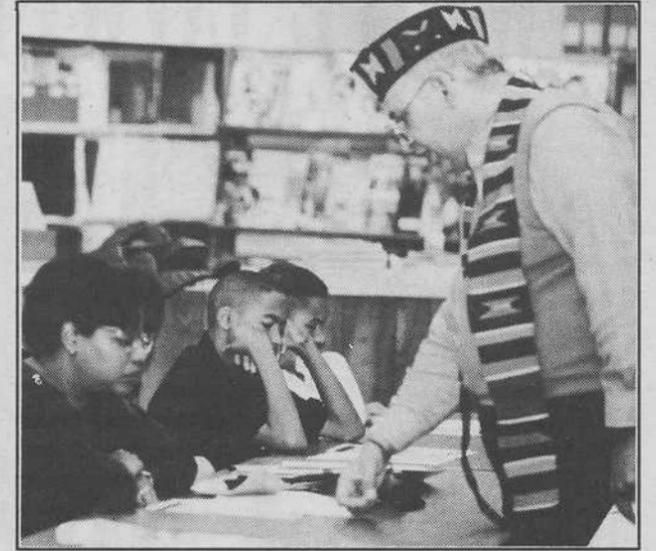
Representatives from the library and from student financial services will be present, as well as members of the Graduate Student Association. Scholarship, fellowship, and graduate assistantship information will be available.

"Graduate College Exploration Day will allow prospective students to accomplish a lot — in one place and in a short time," Bowles said.

Parking for the event has been arranged for parking lot "Y," which is located immediately north of the Judy Bayley Theatre. That lot can be reached by turning into the university from Maryland Parkway onto Cottage Grove Avenue and then turning left at the first opportunity. Current UNLV students attending the event should park in student parking as usual.

For additional information about Graduate College Exploration Day, call 895-4391.

## The Sankofa Communiiversity Presents Black History Academy



Dr. Al Gourrier teaches African history to students of the Sankofa Communiiversity. Photo by Savoy/LVS-Voice

By Nichole Davis  
Sentinel-Voice

Frustrated with the lack of extra-curricular activities for their

teen-agers, three Las Vegas mothers decided to do something about it.

Mary Alyce Smith, Vi Washington and Julia Rutledge recently formed the Sankofa Communiiversity where black teen-agers can learn about their history.

The group sponsors the Black History Academy, a eight-part weekly seminar, that exposes young people to diverse speakers from the Las Vegas community. This is the second session of the academy and organizers hope it gets bigger and better.

State Assemblyman Wendell Williams, University of Nevada, Las Vegas Minority Student Affairs Director Velicia Haron, and local educator Dr. Al Gourrier are three of the upcoming speakers.

Gourrier, who will teach three seminars, serves a dual role. He is also the consultant for the group on such important matters as choosing the name, "Sankofa."

The free seminars started Jan. 6 and will be held every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Cashman Middle School, 4622 W. Desert Inn Road, through Feb. 24.

Diane Walker, a social studies teacher at Cheyenne High School, will host "Before Slavery and Slave Trading."

"The name really came from Dr. Al Gourrier," said Rutledge. "Loosely translated it means remembrance."

Though the classes are open to anyone interested, organizers are hoping to address the needs of one group in particular, middle-class black teen-agers.

Although government programs, like Upward Bound, offer weekend classes, middle-class teens often don't qualify, because their parents have college degrees and make too much money, organizers said.

"Our programs are always (See SANKOFA, Page 16)

## Company to offer student scholarships for 75 in 1996

(NU) — Seventy-five students from around the nation will become recipients of \$1,000 scholarships in 1996, thanks to a special program announced recently by the Minnesota-based food and agricultural cooperative Land O'Lakes.

The program celebrates the company's 75th anniversary and will award students who are pursuing advanced training in the field of agriculture, food science or food production.

Land O'Lakes President and CEO John E. Gherty said, "We strongly believe food and agriculture represent growth industries in our rapidly changing global economy and thus offer abundant career opportunities for today's students. As a grassroots, member-owned business, it has a rich heritage in these industries and a clearly defined vision of what it will take to succeed in the future.

"We see one competitive factor, above all others, as fundamental to long-term success — that involves hiring, training and retraining people with the right skills and education. Through this scholarship program and other initiatives, our



At least 20 high school graduates will receive scholarships this year

company will continue its support for building a stronger United States agricultural sector to serve a world market."

### HOW TO APPLY

Applicants must be enrolled or planning to enroll in an undergraduate program at an accredited college, university or vocational school. Scholarship awards, to be made in May 1996, will be based largely on the applicant's response to an essay question. At least 20 of the 75 scholarships will be awarded to graduating high school seniors.

For scholarship applications, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Land O'Lakes 75th Anniversary Scholarship Program, P.O. Box 39104, Chicago, Illinois 60639. Completed applications must be postmarked by March 15, 1996 and received by March 31, 1996.

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