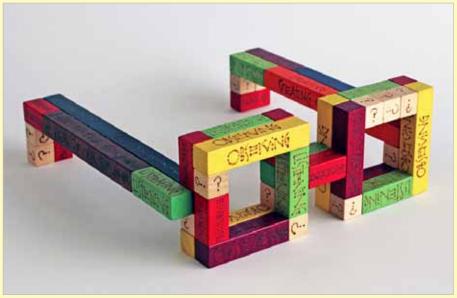




The Western Wave



©2011 Wendy Lew Toda

"Forward the Action" (Created for MCS 512) - Just as the numbers 1-10 are foundational to math, these 10 ways of being form the core of how I coach people toward more of what they dream of for their lives. Mixed media: Miniature math manipulatives, wood-burned text.

What Do You Want to See?

Written by Wendy Toda, Certificate in Tranformational Coaching student



Great questions are the can openers of life. They pry us open, flip us upside down, and jettison us into a whole new world where we will never be the same. The art I create ushers us into that world,

asking intentional questions about faith and humanity. As we engage, our lives can expand and transform, both within and without. The visual language of art makes room for an internal, wordless dialogue to surface and be considered or wrestled with, depending on where you're at. Either way (or both), art has a beautiful way of inviting us to notice, reflect, and respond – to name what has yet to be named, be confronted with what is, and to imagine what could be.

Two current bodies of my work are the Belief Project and the Perspectacles. The Belief Project holds my growing understanding about key beliefs psychologists say need to be in place at each developmental stage in order for us to grow up whole and healthy. It is easy for me to read a list of these beliefs and say, "Yeah, yeah, yeah," and skim over the ones that are not quite mine yet. Creating something visual for each affirmation forces me to

Important Dates

June 2 <u>Campus Connection</u>,11am-1:30pm For Counseling Degrees (pg. 3)

June 6 Discover Coaching RSVP date

June 9 Western Meals (see pg. 4)

June 11 Western Meals (see pg. 4)

June 13 Free <u>Discover Coaching</u> event, 6:30pm-8:30pm

June 16 <u>Campus Connection</u>,11am-1:30pm For Ministry Degrees (pg. 3)

June 17 Father's Day

June 24 2012 Commencement, 4:30pm

July 1-31 Fall 2012 Open Registration

July 4 Independence Day (campus closed)

July 16 Fall 2012 Application Deadline

Aug. 9-10 Global Leadership Summit
Western will have a booth at
various host sites.

Aug. 18 Summer Semester Ends

Aug. 29 New Student Orientation, 6:30-9:30 PM

Sept. 3 Labor Day (campus closed)

Sept. 4 Fall Semester Begins

Other Community Calendar dates

deal honestly with the hard questions about what I really believe about who I am. If I don't believe it, I can't create something from it. This ongoing personal project is presented in the form of a watercolor journal. Perspectacles are mixed media sculptures the size and shape

(continued on next page)

CONTINUED FROM FEATURE ARTICLE, "WHAT DO YOU WANT TO SEE?"

of eyeglasses that explore the ways we see, don't see, or wish we could see. When they are shown, each travels with its own journal, where people can write their responses and read those written by others, creating a larger conversation. The Perspectacles generate reflective dialogue as they create awareness, stir thought, and pose questions. The fact that coaching also moves in these ways piqued my curiosity over a year ago, prompting me to sign up for a "Discover Coaching" event in January 2011 (*The next Discover Coaching is June 13. See pg. 4*).

That evening, I volunteered for Linda Miller's coaching demo, which promptly upended and stretched my little world, shook it around, and exuberantly shot it out of a cannon. In the space of 10 minutes, Linda challenged me to go way outside my comfort zone and gave me space to articulate possibilities for my art that had been "someday" musings at best. Each question was a stepping stone beckoning me further. And further. The session began with me feeling stuck at even picking up the phone to call a gallery. It ended with making plans for how to present my work in two places that offer platforms that engage cultural and political thought leaders around the world: TED (www.ted.com) and the U.N. Why not dream big? I had been curious about coaching before; looking at the view from the new perch I found myself on, and I was sold. Thinking this big broke the inertia and made gallery calls look easy. A few months later, my website launched, and I was meeting with curators around the city. The Perspectacles have since been shown at The Creative Design Lab in Long Beach, and also at various retreats. Stay tuned about TED and the U.N. They are still percolating.

What lies at the intersection of art and coaching? I don't know, but it's most intriguing as I begin to weave them together. One step in that merging direction was capturing my class learning by making art instead of writing papers. Art and coaching echo each other as contexts that make space in which to discover what was unnoticed before and a path to move toward more of who we can be. There is also room to be still long enough to observe our inner landscape, something increasingly rare in our culture. Both give rise to thoughtful, challenging conversations that create movement out of which change can begin, which all makes me wonder if coaching isn't really a form of art, and art a form of coaching...? The creative processes are remarkably similar, even though one is verbal and the other visual. Can you see the ripple effect of that life-changing coaching demo? Those questions keep bouncing around within me, nudging me forward to craft an even greater awareness for us all through art and intentional conversation. And who knows where that might lead?

From top to bottom:

"Missing You" - What happens when a life goes uninhabited? Perspectacle. Media: Fused glass, cold worked.

"Better Tiptoe" - How carefully do you walk? Media: Eggshells.

"Enough Winter" - Where is it time for you to bloom? Mixed Media: Paper flowers, thread, beads, recycled eyeglasses.

"No" can be a beautiful word to speak. Page from the Belief Project. Media: Watercolor and inks.



©2012 Wendy Lew Toda



©2012 Wendy Lew Toda



©2012 Wendy Lew Toda



©2011 Wendy Lew Toda



Campus News

SUMMER ELECTIVE COURSES - IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER!

It's not too late to register for summer electives. Late fees may apply. Students in a degree program can sign up through <u>S.I.S.</u> Those not in a degree program can audit the course by filling out a <u>Non-Credit application</u>.

CNS 565FS ART THERAPY INTRODUCTION -

BEGINNING JULY 18

Instructor: Ann Arnold, LMFT Understand the history of art directives and the way in which they are used as tools in helping children & adults. You will learn how art directives can be used to provide greater insight to people to whom you minister. You will gain experience through in-class art therapy assessments and assigned art experientials to be done out of class.

CNS 564WS SEXUAL ADDICTION: SETTING THE CAPTIVE FREE FROM BONDAGE -

BEGINNING JULY 28

As sex addiction becomes an increasing scourge in our community, and even within our **churches**, we could all benefit by being prepared with this information.

This course will offer a comprehensive overview of the core imperatives that need to be addressed for successful recovery from sexual addiction. These imperatives include: the Brain, Theology of the 12 Steps, Co-dependency, and Family Recovery.

PLANNING FOR FALL 2012

The Fall 2012 Class Schedule is now available, and Open Registration begins July 1st. Please remember that prior to registering for fall 2012 classes, you'll be required to check in with your advisor, either in person or over the phone. Don't wait until the last minute. Summer is a busy time for everyone with regard to vacations, so we encourage you to plan ahead. If you have plans to graduate in the 2012-13 academic year, make sure to inform your advisor so s/he can help you plan out a successful plan of completion. Questions? Contact Carrie Priest.

YOU'RE INVITED!

The entire Western Seminary community is invited to come celebrate with the Class of 2012 at this year's Commencement! The ceremony will be held at Saratoga Federated

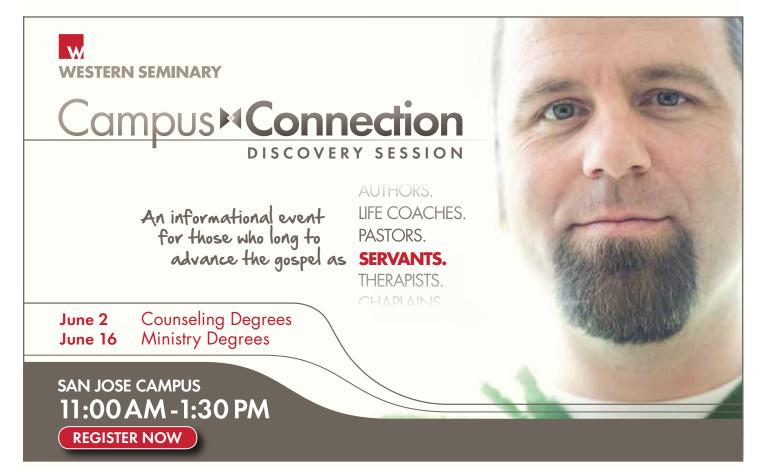
Church at 4:30 PM. Come cheer on and honor your friends and classmates as they celebrate this tremendous accomplishment. We hope to see you there!

COMMENCEMENT HELPERS NEEDED

Commencement is a big deal around here! In addition to honoring and celebrating the Class of 2012, Commencement also serves as a showcase for what this seminary represents. If you would like to help make this whole occasion a special and memorable one for our graduating class, as well as their families and friends, we would deeply appreciate it. We need help with greeting, ushering, helping guests find parking, reception set-up and tear down, etc. If you would like to serve in some way with Commencement, please contact Carrie Priest. Thanks in advance for your help! We cannot pull something off like this without it!

LOOKING FOR MINISTRY, COUNSELING OR EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES?

Check out the Ministry and Employment Opportunities and Counseling binders in the front lobby on campus. New positions have been posted in recent weeks.





WESTERN MEALS

Saturday, June 9

Breakfast foods, pizza or caesar salad for lunch and snacks throughout the day

Monday, June 11

Pizza or caesar salad for lunch or dinner and snacks throughout the day

Students, staff and faculty are invited to enjoy meals together as a community while also supporting Western Seminary.
Suggested donations will be posted.





