



**FORT WORTH
MUSEUM**
OF SCIENCE AND HISTORY

TEXAS CENTER FOR INQUIRY

Building Capacity for Classroom Inquiry

June 11 - 13, 2008

This workshop is designed exclusively for Texas Center for Inquiry alumni and alumni districts interested in deepening their ability to build inquiry-based approaches in both classrooms and professional development.

“The Texas Center directly impacts the quality of science in my district by providing expertise, resources and knowledge in implementation of this critical strategy. I loved the simplicity of these investigations. They will be so helpful in training entry year teachers and others who do not have vast experience in teaching science.”

District Science Supervisor, Institute Participant

**The Texas Center For Inquiry is a collaboration between
The Fort Worth Museum of Science and History
The Charles A. Dana Center at University of Texas-Austin
The Exploratorium**

Supported in part by ExxonMobil Foundation

The Texas Center for Inquiry provides science educators in-depth experiences in science inquiry through institutes, workshops, forums and follow-up coaching. The Center is a collaboration between the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, The Charles A. Dana Center at the University of Texas, and the Exploratorium in San Francisco. The Center's mission is to help professional developers and teacher leaders incorporate phases of science inquiry into their science curricula in ways consistent with the visions outlined in the National Science Education Standards and the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. The Center seeks to create a network of people and institutions by providing leadership in inquiry through inquiry. Center programs are designed to enable individuals, schools and districts to increase their capacity for providing quality elementary and middle science instruction within the context of district-wide reform efforts. The Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, private corporations, and foundations support the Center.

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June 11 - 13, 2008

This three-day workshop provides alumni districts with expanded opportunities to examine strategies and provide techniques for infusing curricula and structured hands-on materials with more open-ended, inquiry-based approaches. It is an adaptation of the Exploratorium's Institute for Inquiry "Increasing Inquiry and Kit-Based and Hands-on Curricula." **There is a specific focus on strategies that give students more responsibility for asking their own questions, doing their own planning and implementing, and communicating their investigations. This workshop explores questions that are fundamental to implementing inquiry in the classroom and:**

- Gives practitioners a personal experience with inquiry through life, earth and physical science investigations, and deepens understanding of inquiry fundamentals: starting points, designing investigations and communicating;
- Provides inquiry experiences that teachers can use to prepare students for self-directed investigations;
- Provides an opportunity to design and get feedback on inquiry implementation in districts;
- Provides collegial conversations to share techniques for increasing opportunities for inquiry.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Teams of educators and administrators who play lead roles in professional development.

COST

Participants' districts are responsible for 100% of travel, lodging, meals and \$225 per participant registration fee.

ELIGIBLE DISTRICTS INCLUDE:

Arlington, Azle, Beaumont, Birdville, Brownsville, Carroll, Cooperas Cove, Fort Bend, Garland, Grapevine-Colleyville, Irving, Keller, Leander, Lewisville, Mansfield, McKinney, Mesquite, Richardson, San Benito, Spring Branch, Stephenville, Stillwater (Oklahoma), Tyler, Weatherford.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

All districts and individuals that have previously participated in the Texas Center for Inquiry "Professional Development Design: Introduction to Inquiry" are welcome to send teams with a maximum size of six participants. Acceptance to the workshop will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration deadline is March 31, 2008. Registration confirmation will be e-mailed to the district team leader after receipt of registration fee.

Application Procedure

Complete the application and mail by March 31, 2008 to:
Cathy Barthelemy, Director of School Services
Texas Center for Inquiry
Fort Worth Museum of Science and History
1501 Montgomery Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76107

Applications are also located on the Museum's Web site: www.fortworthmuseum.org.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Cathy Barthelemy at cbarthelemy@fwmsm.org or 817-255-9416

TEXAS CENTER FOR INQUIRY

Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, the Charles A. Dana Center and the Exploratorium

APPLICATION COVER SHEET

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INQUIRY

Project Name _____

Or

District Name(s) _____

Contact (Dr., Ms., Mr.) _____

Title _____

Work Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Work Telephone _____ FAX _____ E-mail _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Complete and submit the following:

1. Application Cover Sheet
2. Application Questions

An original and one (1) copy of the typed application are due by 5 p.m. March 31, 2008.

Mail to:

Cathy Barthelemy, Director of School Services
Texas Center for Inquiry
Fort Worth Museum of Science and History
1501 Montgomery Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76107
Phone: (817) 255-9416
Fax: (817) 255-9307
E-mail: cbarthelemy@fwmsch.org

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APPLICATION QUESTIONS

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For Alumni Associate Districts Only: Those who have attended Texas Center for Inquiry programs should complete the following questions on a separate page, not to exceed 1 page.

(1) What new inquiry-based professional development opportunities have your district or project provided as a result of participation in Texas Center for Inquiry Institutes? Please be specific.

(2) Provide a tentative team composition for the Professional Development Design Institute. List the roles or positions of team members.