

David Mallery Presents

The First Five Years of the Teaching Career

*A Gathering for
Early Career Teachers*

April 21-23, 2010 • ACE Center • 800 Ridge Pike • Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

Seminar Leaders



Robert Evans

Robert Evans is Executive Director of Human Relations Service in Wellesley, MA. He is the author of many articles and two books, *Family Matters: How Schools Can Cope with The Crisis in Childrearing*, and *The Human Side of School Change*.



David Mallery

David Mallery an independent consultant to schools who has been organizing seminars since the early 1960s. He developed the well-respected Westtown Seminar on Teaching, which is now in its 45th year.

David Mallery Seminars

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This seminar will be a set of vigorous, practical, explorative experiences for people in the first five years of their teaching careers. There will be opportunities for sharing, discussion, examination of questions, problems, strategies, hopes, concerns, reflections, plans. We will focus on such areas as these:

- ✓ Bringing together a teacher's own personal style and vision with the particular students, materials, colleagues and school he/she is working with
- ✓ Getting some useful perspectives on one's self as a teacher and learner
- ✓ Strategies for developing as a teacher as one's career unfolds
- ✓ Connecting with a wider professional scene than one's own school
- ✓ The teacher as counselor: grades and comments, relationships with students
- ✓ Collegueship with other faculty across generations, subjects, career histories
- ✓ The young teacher's impact on an established school
- ✓ Building useful connections with the parents of one's students
- ✓ Strategies for not getting trapped in either-or positions (academic rigor *or* compassionate advice; whole-group activity *or* individual activity; "liberal" *or* "conservative": college- prep *or* learning for personal purposes; competition *or* cooperation; one teaching style *or* an alternative one, etc.) and strategies for transcending those either-or-traps.
- ✓ Moving beyond stereotype on who is conservative, liberal, tough, easy, athletic, academic

There will be a variety of approaches to these matters: large and small group discussion, solo work, planning, sharing, role-plays and simulations, presentations, films.

Seminar Program

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

12:00 noon Arrival, registration, settle into rooms, meet other participants. Buffet lunch served.

1:30 PM. **Opening Session: How It Looks to Me:** Sharing of experiences, views, surprises, dismays, up-days, down-days, things learned, questions, concerns, hopes...

—David Mallery and the seminar participants

5:00 PM. Social Hour.

5:30 PM. Dinner.

6:30 PM. **Screening of feature film:**

The Competition (1981) directed by Joel Oliansky and starring Richard Dreyfuss, Amy Irving and Lee Remick. This remarkable film is gathering its own delayed-action enthusiasts since it came and went early in 1981. Its portrayal of young pianists meeting for an international contest on which career launchings depend is powerful, witty, troubling, moving, provocative. The obsessed, driven, one-thing-in-life performer is in there, as is the one using his talent and the contest to move up and out, as is the continuing of a great tradition (from Beethoven's teacher on down!). Competition itself, single-mindedness, focus on achievement at a very high cost in a limiting of life and experience, men's and women's quite different history and needs and attitudes in competition, are threads in the drama and are of major interest to people in education, as teachers, as persons. As an added bonus, the musical performances in the film are first-class and extensive.

Brief break following the film. Then some discussion of the film, responses of themes in it, sharing of people's different experiences of it.

10:00 PM. Evening is adjourned.

Thursday, April 22, 2010

7:00 AM Breakfast.

8:45 AM **Making Your Mark, Finding Your Niche, Coming Into Your Own:**

The opportunities for newer teachers are exceptional. Schools face changes in everything from curriculum and instruction to enrollment, advising, and governance. They need new competence and energy, fresh eyes and flexibility. But newer teachers themselves face a range of challenges, including:

- how to connect to, earn a place among, oppose, older colleagues
- how to manage students who are harder to teach and advise and parents who are more demanding and less supportive
- how to avoid exploitation and burn-out
- how to plan a career path (why didn't I go to law school? should I now?)

This session will explore the changing context of human dynamics in schools and outline some key strategies that can help newer teachers sort out their own directions and emerge as key members of a school community.

—Dr. Robert Evans and the seminar participants

12:00 noon Lunch.

1:15 PM. **Strategy-building Session:**

Development of a specific plan for carrying out back at school: each teacher chooses a plan, question unit of learning, program, activity, curriculum move, counseling effort, organizational change, personal life-planning design, to work on alone, uninterrupted, for a half hour. In that half hour, each person lists actual steps, strategies, next moves, which seem appropriate and promising to bring the plan or way-of- proceeding into action. Then the group reassembles, and we go into conversation teams of four people. In these sessions, each member has

fifteen minutes to be "on," to explain the situation, proposal, plan, to the other three colleagues, to be heard out, to get a sympathetic ear, to receive questions, suggestions, ideas, helpful encouragement, so that at the end of the fifteen minutes, the person has a longer list of possible strategies than the list he or she started with at the beginning of the fifteen minutes. The next person in the foursome is "on," then the next, then the next... The conversation groups can not only be useful to the four members but can, over the coming weeks and months, provide by mail, phone and possible visits, on-going support, planning, sharing that may be of real value.

4:00 PM. End of Session. Free time.

6:00 PM. Social hour.

6:30 PM. Dinner.

7:30 PM. **Screening of feature**

film: *Finding Forrester* (2000). A story of a once world-famous, now reclusive writer and a remarkable high school student whose evolving relationship illuminates the lives of each of them. The film was written by Mike Rich, who later wrote the excellent *The Rookie*, and directed by Gus Van Sant, who directed *Good Will Hunting*. There are extraordinary performances by Sean Connery, Anna Paquin and F. Murray Abraham, all three former Oscar winners), and by Rob Brown, an 11th grader who never acted in a film before).

Brief break following the film. Then some sharing of people's reflections on the film.

10:00 PM Evening is adjourned.

Friday, April 23, 2010

7:00 AM Breakfast.

8:30 AM **Solving People-Problems in a School:** The focus will be on actual issues which can come up for a

Friday, contd

one-to-five-year teacher: a student in personal and/or academic difficulty; a classroom or course or section or team or choir or activity that just isn't working; a school parent who comes on with criticisms; conflicts, misunderstandings with colleagues or supervisors; questions; questions of the teacher's own relationship to the school, the community, the life in and surrounding the job. We will examine moves the teacher could make to identify, work on, solve problems him/her self and how to decide where to go, whom to seek out, for partners, help, perspective in the solution of a problem. There will be a discussion, role-plays by the participants of actual school issues that have arisen, reflections on the one-to-five-year teacher as an active and creative agent in the solution of people-problems in the school David Mallery and the Seminar participants.

10:30 AM Break for coffee.

10:45 AM **Final Session:** Looking back, looking ahead, resolves, hopes, plans for the continuing and flourishing of the career and the life.

12:00 noon **Adjournment.** Lunch available for those requesting it.

Travel Information

Date and Time: Wednesday, April 21, 2010, arrival 10 AM to noon. Session starts at noon with lunch. Adjournment will be at 1:00 PM Friday, April 23, 2010.

Place: ACE Conference Center
800 Ridge Pike
Lafayette Hill, PA 19444
610-825-8000

All rooms are comfortable doubles with private bath.

Cost to the School: \$1,050.00 overnight. For requested single rooms, if these are available, an additional \$150.00. For those arriving Tuesday evening, please add \$150.00. Day only, \$950.00.

Important Note: *Only those should apply for this seminar who can arrange to arrive on time and stay the full span of the seminar. We build this seminar together, start to finish. Thus there should be no question of someone not being there to start the process, or leaving early, as each person's part in creating the seminar's content and tone is crucial. That is really the point and meaning of the seminar.*

Travel Information: Assume 1 hour by cab from Philadelphia airport to ACE Center, and the same from ACE to the airport at the end. Assume a 45 minute cab drive from 30th Street Station in Philadelphia to ACE, and the same for return. Try to plan plane arrivals in Philadelphia not later than 10:00 AM Wednesday, or plane departures not earlier than 3 PM Friday. International and West Coast people are encouraged to come in Tuesday evening to the ACE Center. Additional cost: \$150.00. We will send directions and information on pool arrangements.



our seminars



The Experienced Pro

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A gathering for the school's stars—a chance to come together with fellow Experienced Pros to reflect, explore, and share news and ideas.

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www.davidseminars.com/adminlife/



A set of vigorous, practical, explorative experiences for people in the first five years of their teaching careers.

For more information go to
www.davidseminars.com/first_five_years/

faculty days

Led by David Mallery, experienced seminar leader for programs for teachers, administrators, trustees and parents, and consultant to schools around the U.S. and to international schools in Europe and the Far East.

This will be a day of reflection, of celebration, honoring teachers at this school and the profession of teaching. There is much to celebrate: the richness they bring to the school; the talent and spirit alive in the faculty and the school's history; and their resolve, as individuals and as a school, to make their professional and personal journey soar and the school continue to flourish.

In this celebration time, we will be together as a total group and in small, short conversations of two and three people, then coming together to share finds, then moving forward with different partners...on through a day of conversation, reflection, collegueship.

There will be no lecture of exhortations from "outside." The richness, the subject matter of the day will be the abundance of experiences, talents, shared visions alive and vibrant in the gathered faculty.

For more information go to
www.davidseminars.com/faculty_days/



Registration Sheet

To be held Wednesday, April 21, 2010, 12:00 noon through Friday, April 23, 2010 at 12:00 noon at ACE Center, 800 Ridge Pike, Lafayette Hill, PA 19444, 610-825-8000; David Mallery office: 215-242-0731. **Important Note:** Only those who can do the full span of the seminar, from noon Wednesday to noon on Friday, should sign on.

Please make check payable to: **David Mallery Seminars** and mail with return sheet to: David Mallery Seminars, 9006 Crefeld St., Philadelphia, PA 19118

Name Mr./Ms./Mrs.	Subject(s) and Grades	Yrs of Teaching Experience	Overnight @ACE Center	Tuesday Arrival?
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Signed: _____

School: _____

School Address: _____

E-Mail: _____

School Phone: _____

Cost: \$1,050.00 per person overnight(double rooms). \$950.00 if staying at home. Early arrival on Tuesday, April 20, 2010: \$150.00. Request for single room, \$150.00.

Tax I.D. #25-156-4299