

Dear Friend,

Welcome to *Watt Way*, the digital magazine produced by graduate journalism students at the USC Annenberg School for Communication. In this issue, we explore the world of children, youth and schools. From challenges faced by new teachers to the importance and impact of early education, you will find stories told in a variety of ways: broadcast reports, magazine-style articles, first person essays and narrated slideshows, all of which thoughtfully analyze some of the pressing issues facing public education today.

We have also translated some of our pieces into Spanish and Korean because *Watt Way* has expanded its mail list to include readers whose first language is not English. And because our magazine is also read by journalists who cover education for their print, online and broadcast outlets, we have included a list of our favorite education analysts and experts, beginning with our colleagues at the USC Rossier School of Education, one of the nation's leading centers for the study of urban education. Future issues of *Watt Way* will expand this offering.

The students who produced these compelling narratives are enrolled in USC Annenberg's new graduate journalism course on education, youth and learning. In J584, we examine historical issues and how they have helped create – for better or worse – the schools we have today. We also study and discuss many of the solutions that have taken root and blossomed in schools across southern California and the nation. Offered for the first time in the 2007 fall term, this class is part of USC Annenberg's new master's degree program in specialized journalism set to fully launch in fall 2008 with other specializations in religion, science and urban ecology.

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