'Proj. Now' in Fairbanks

The excitement of observing creativity mixed with the learning process called education is sometimes difficult to capture. But it seems to fill every crack in the rooms occupied by Project NOW, a JOM Program in Fairbanks.

One step inside and you feel happiness and a positive attitude. Project NOW has several different areas a student can explore as an outlet of expression through

multi-media.

Photography takes on a different dimension, not just looking at things differently and taking a picture, but actually watching a print come to life in a

darkroom.

Writing becomes a challenge because a newspaper must go out and journalism is a tool for sending information to many people. Then there is the video-taping, technology of films and watching something you created later.

These media are all around us in our present life. Television and newspapers are a way to express to others how you see yourself.

Exploring artistic ability in the skills of beadwork and skin sewing, woodcuts and silkscreens becomes more than manipulative skills. They take on a dimension of design and techniques.

Project NOW has been funded through the Johnson O-Malley monies since AFN became the Prime Contractor. It is a supplemental JOM Education Program administered by Fairbanks Native Association, sub-contractors to the Statewide AFN/JOM Contract.

The project provides the boarding home students in the Fairbanks area and Fairbanks students with a center for developing their creative

expressions.

The success of the program was observed last month at the Project NOW Show - there were photo-essays, video-tapes, batiks, ceramics, weavings, parkas,

jewelry, and many other creations. The show was a display of great accomplishments.

All around, excited students show what they can do and reveal themselves and their world. Education is a creative process and Project NOW is living proof.