The Pennsylvania Writing & Literature Project

Newsletter



Volume 22, Number 5 Summer, 2002

Celebrate! Celebrate! **Dance to the Music of Literacy**

writing presentations. Children's books. Professional books. Where can you find them together in one place? This summer on June 26th and 27th on the West Chester University campus! Join Laurie Halse Anderson, Peter Catalanotto, Jack McGovern, Julia Blumenreich and Diane Cohle at PAWLP's Celebrate Literacy III Conference.

There will be sessions for everyone. Workshop topics include: Adding Craft to Emergent Writing; Reading and Writing Historical Fiction; Using Peer Conferences to Improve Instruction; Structured Writing for the

Authors galore. Reading and Content Areas; Graphic Organizers for Authentic Assessment; Keeping a Writer's Notebook; and Teaching Style Through Literature. These are just some of the presentations you won't want Are you looking for to miss. practical techniques to teach revision? Are you searching for metacognitive strategies to reach all learners? Do you have English language learners in your classroom who need help developing their English skills for content area subjects? Come to our Celebrate Literacy III Conference!

Presenters will wed process with product and provide practical strategies that teachers can effectively implement (all aligned with PA Standards!). In addition, conference participants will receive myriad bibliographies of professional and children's litera-

Children's Book World and Michaels Associates will have many resources on hand and will be happy to point out favorite and newly published books. Laurie Halse Anderson and Peter Catalanotto will be available for book signings on Wednesday.

Poetry sessions on Thursday will lead to a grand finale, the "Poetry Around," and promises

-continued on page 3, column 3

Three New Courses Offered by PAWLP

PA LITERACY FRAMEWORK

A new Project course, based on the new PA Literacy Framework, is now available.

The PA Literacy Framework -(the latest edition of the PCRP document published in 1978 and 1988) - is a continuation of Language Arts Curriculum documents provided by the PA Department of Education. It is based on the latest research into how children become proficient in all aspects of literacy and grow into life-long learners.

The three-credit course, PA -continued on page 4, column 1

MAKING CONNECTIONS:

LITERACY AND CREATIVITY

SIX SATURDAYS: 9 AM - 4 PM

Participants will explore the connections between reading, writing, speaking, thinking and creativity via their own classroom practice and their own literacy

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-continued on page 4, column 2

THE POWER OF NARRATIVE: WRITING, READING, & IDENTITY

This Advanced Institute will explore "the call of stories" and their relationship to our individual - and collective - professional lives and identities. PAWLP has always been about stories about writing them, reading them, telling them, hearing them. This three-credit graduate course will allow Fellows to consider all kinds of narratives in depth as both writers and readers. The institute will address many questions, including these:

-continued on page 4, column 3

FROM THE DIRECTOR

PSSA Domains Meet the Writing Process: Can a Marriage Made in Harrisburg Survive?

The short answer to this mostly facetious question is yes. Actually, it's YES. Despite the PSSA domains' association with large scale assessment; despite their association with a timed, impromptu, prompt-driven writing sample that has no explicit writing process components; and despite the emphasis on written products created by the PSSA at the apparent expense of writing processes - I contend that the PSSA domains and the writing process are a marriage with great potential that may need just a little counseling. Here's why.

- (1) The PSSA Domain Scoring Guide provides shared language for talking about writing across the grades and across the content areas. No longer does knowledge of what counts as good writing depend on students' ability to "psych out" every teacher they encounter. Nor does deciding what counts as good writing depend on individual teachers' ability - or willingness - to read and distill decades of research and rhetorical theory. The domains do that work for them.
- (2) This shared language and shared understanding provided by the domains gives everyone - teachers, students, parents, administrators - ways to talk about what happens when they use the writing process, i.e., when

they prewrite, draft, revise, and edit. Perhaps even more important is the fact that now everyone knows why they should prewrite, draft, revise, and edit. What was once a process most often referred to only in terms of itself is now a process that can be understood in terms of itself and in terms of its purpose to help students become better writers.

- (3) In addition, the recursiveness of the writing process becomes more apparent and more important when considered in light of the domains. Each domain actually provides reasons to use writing process strategies seemingly out of order. For example, why prewrite after producing a first draft? Perhaps to discover a clearer focus or to develop more illustrative content. Why draft whole new sentences or paragraphs during revision? Perhaps to make the organization of a piece more meaningful. (And I'm sure you've seen student papers that could have been revised for style, as well.)
- (4) Last but hardly least, the domains give us explicitly useful topics for our student conferences and for the minilessons in our writing workshops, too.

I'd even go so far as to suggest that teachers who do not understand and use a writing process approach to instruction will have to invent one in order to teach in the domains. The fact that Focus appears to come first. Content second, Organization third, and

so on is only a result of our leftright orientation to text. Writers - whether teachers or students or Stephen King - don't come up with a point then move on to content without ever looking back. They don't discover all their content at once then move on to organization without ever reconsidering their ideas. Sometimes they write several drafts before they're sure of exactly what they're trying to say. Sometimes they have to completely reorganize information when a new idea presents itself.

So in what order do you teach the domains? Not from left to right. Not randomly. Not in any particular order at all. You teach the domains as they apply to the writing process. In other words. to return to my opening metaphor, you marry the two.

And with a little staff development, this marriage could be very strong indeed.

Scholarship/Sponsorship **Funds Request**

Last year, PAWLP Youth Programs served over 1,300 children in twenty locations in a six-county area. Thirty-seven participants received full or partial scholarships. We would like to offer more scholarship opportunities to worthy applicants.

Please donate to our scholarship fund and help us support more deserving students.

Make checks in any amount payable to PAWLP and mail them to the PA Writing & Literature Project, West Chester University, West Chester, PA 19383.

For more information please call 610-436-3089.

Visualizing Words and Worlds Turns Three

Michener and Brandywine Museum Partnerships Continue to Thrive

Do you believe that painting, writing and reading have something in common? If so, you're not alone. More than three dozen teachers saw the connections among the various media of both the visual and verbal arts by experiencing them for themselves. This past summer, not only did the James A. Michener Art Museum in Doylestown host Visualizing Words and Worlds: Writing, Literature, and Art for the third straight summer, the course also debuted at the Brandywine River Museum in Chadds Ford. Both museums saw participants heed Henry Moore's advice to "Embrace the impossible." They wrote short stories, poems, and essays, painted watercolors, sketched, sculpted, and made block prints - all around themes of their choosing. They then mounted exhibits the last day of class to display talents they hadn't known they possessed and to celebrate the hard work of their two weeks together.

At the Michener Museum, course coordinator Karen Klingerman worked closely with education department liaison Adrienne Neszmelyi. Visual artwork was completed under the guidance of local guest artists Arlene Frimark, Peter Catalanotto, Barry Snyder, and Joan Menapace.

At the Brandywine the course was coordinated by Judy Asselin and Judy Jester. Their education department liaison was Jane Flitner. Guest artists at the Brandywine were Sara Cely Weston, Steve Cusano, Jeff Dippel, and Donna Neithammer, who worked alongside the par-

ticipants as peers.

Both locations featured docent-led and behind-the-scenes tours. Participants were also free to work in the galleries themselves, "taking lessons" from the likes of Edward Redfield and George Sotter at the Michener or from any generation of the Wyeth family at Brandywine. Whether writing in the exercise yard of the former Bucks County Prison or sketching on the bank of the Brandywine River, participants were inspired by their surroundings. One participant's comments sums up the experience best: "Although it was a lot of work, I feel like a writer and artist now. More importantly, with the strategies we've learned I can help my kids feel the same

For more information about this course at either location this summer, contact the PAWLP office at 610-436-2202.

-Judy Jester, PAWLP Co-Director



Celebrate! -continued from page 1, column 3

to be a lot of fun! Published poet/ teacher Julia Blumenreich, author/teacher Wendy Towle, and poet/songwriter/teacher John Sweeney will lead all participants in renditions of original poetry.

Call the office at 610 – 436 – 2202 for a registration form and information on graduate credit or Act 48 hours. We look forward to seeing you this June!

-Lynne Dorfman PAWLP Co-Director

NEW DOMAIN WRITING COURSES

PAWLP has developed two new courses that help classroom teachers explore methods of teaching writing in the five PSSA domains.

The one-credit version, <u>PSSA Domain Writing in the Classroom, K-8</u>, offered at WCU July 8 & 9, focuses on practical lessons for teaching focus, content, organization, style and conventions.

The three-credit version, <u>Strategies for Teaching Writing in the PSSA Domains, 3-8</u>, offered at the Bucks County IU July 22-26 and at WCU August 5-9, connects the writing process and writing workshop to the domains, and develops ways to use the PSSA Scoring Guide to group and direct classroom instruction in addition to domain-focused practical strategies.

Call 610-436-2202 for registration information.

Pa Literacy Framework

Literacy Framework: The Balanced Writing/Reading Classroom, connects the PA standards with the new Literacy Framework. Participants will learn strategies for implementing each of the revised critical experiences - Writing, Reading, Investigating Language, Content Area Writing and Reading, and Literacy Assessment. They will understand the new critical experiences - Early Literacy and Lifelong Learning - and their application to the classroom.

The course, taught this summer by Dr. Marion Dugan, is offered for graduate credit only and includes the Celebrate Literacy Conference. Call 610-436-2297 to register.

To bring this course to your district during the 2002-2003 school year, call Andrea Fishman at 610-436-2202.

Making Connections: Reading, Writing, Speaking, Thinking & Creativity

classrooms regarding the transaction of language and the arts. Connections between the PA Academic standards and theories will be highlighted as well.

Questions: Call Mary Buckelew @ 610 – 436 -2998.

DATES: September 21, October 5 & 26, November 9 & 23, and December 14.

Independent hours. Participants must attend all classes to receive credit - no exceptions.

Prior to class, participants will read portions of *The Reader, The Text, The Poem*, by Louise Rosenblatt.

For registration information please call the office at 610-436-2202.

The Power of Narrative: New Advanced Institute

- What attracts us to stories written or read, told or heard?
- What is the "story truth" in both fiction and non-fiction?
- What stories do teachers' lives tell and what can we learn from the telling?
- How do we compose the stories of our own lives, both be fore and as we live them?

Come to the organizational meeting on Tuesday, May 14 at 4:30PM in the PAWLP office. Help us set the calendar, choose the location*, and begin building our community of readers and writers for this Institute. (We may even decide on some good summer reading!) Call 610-436-2202 to let Andy know you'll attend.

* We will meet in the place most convenient to most participants. It may be West Chester or Doylestown or somewhere in between. Don't let geography keep you from participating.

CAN YOU TOP THIS?

Round Meadow Elementary School in the Upper Moreland School District may have more Fellows than any other single school in our service area. They include: Dina Cassidy, Lynne Dorfman, Kolleen Bell. Linda Christensen, Gloria King, Claire Silva, Maryellen Kenney, Judi Sheer, Mark Curtis, Sue Ferber, and Teresa Lombardi. This summer, Sheri Michaels Young and Megan McDonald will join them as Fellows of the

PA Writing & Literature Project, bringing Round Meadow's total to 13 Fellows!

PAWLP exists to support and encourage teachers and provide professional development opportunites to meet their needs and goals. Additionally, teachers who become Fellows of the Project may supplement their income by presenting in-service programs, coordinating courses, and teaching in our summer Youth Programs.

If you are interested in attend-

ing one of our Institutes in the Teaching of Writing held at West Chester University and the Bucks County Intermediate Unit or the Teaching of Literature held at Plymouth Whitemarsh High School in Plymouth Meeting, please call 610-436-2297.

Institutes run 4 days/week from July 1 - July 26.

Come join our select network of teacher-consultants!

ATTEND AN INSTITUTE THIS SUMMER - WITH A COLLEAGUE!!

SUMMER COURSE OFFERINGS

Three-credit courses

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. + 5 independent hours

Graduate tuition and fees = \$840 for PA residents * CPE graduate level credit available where indicated = \$450

PA Literacy Framework: The Balanced Writing/Reading Classroom (K-12)

At WCU June 25-27 and July 1-3

Graduate credit only

This course includes the Celebrate Literacy Conference

Teacher as Writer (K-12)

At WCUJUN 8-12

Strategic Guided Reading and Writing in

a K-3 Literacy Program

At WCU July 15-19

Strategies for Teaching Writing in the PSSA Domains (3-8)

At Bucks County IU July 22-26

At WCU August 5-9

Speaking a Common Language: The English Language Learner in the Mainstream English Classroom (6-12)

At WCU July 22-26 Graduate credit only

Writing & Children's Literature (K-8)

At WCU July 29-Aug 2

Visualizing Words and Worlds:
Writing, Literature and Art
Two-week course: Mon - Thurs + Tues - Fri
8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
At James A. Michener Art Museum July 15-18 & 23-26
At Brandywine River Museum August 5-8 & 13-16

No previous experience or talent required to apply Enrollment limited to 25 at each location

One-credit courses

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Graduate tuition + fees = \$280 for PA residents * CPE graduate level credit tuition or 15 activity hours = \$150

Teaching the PA Standards through Readers'

Theater (K-6)

At Bucks County IU July 1 & 2

Emergent Literacy (K-3)

At WCU July 1 & 2

Guided Reading & Writing for Comprehension (3-6) At Bucks County IU July 17 & 18

At WCU July 1 & 2

PSSA Domain Writing in the Classroom (K-8)

At WCU July 8 & 9

Developing Literature Circles for your Classroom

At Bucks County IU July 8 & 9 for grades K-8

At WCU July 29 & 30 for Grades K-12

Readers' Workshop (K-6)

At WCU July 10 & 11

At Bucks County IU July 31 & Aug 1

Developing Literature Circles for Your Classroom II

At Bucks County IU July 10 & 11 for K-8

At WCU July 31 & Aug 1 for K-12

Flexible Grouping for Writing/Reading

Instruction (K-6)

At WCU July 15 & 16

At Bucks County IU July 29 & 30

Emergent Literacy in Kindergarten

At Bucks County IU July 15 & 16

At WCU July 17 & 18

Guided Reading & Writing in a Balanced K-2

Literacy Program

Poetry Workshop (9-12)

At WCU July 18 & 19

Poetry Workshop (K-8)

At WCU July 22 & 23

Creating Author Studies (K-6)

At WCU July 24 & 25

At Bucks County IU July 31 & Aug 1

Nonfiction Craft Lessons for K-8 Classrooms

At Bucks County IU July 29 & 30

Preparing for the PSSA Reading Assessment (3-11)

At WCU July 29 & 30

Writing to Learn Across the Curriculum (3-12)

At WCU July 29 & 30

Preparing for the PSSA Writing Assessment (4-11)

At WCU July 31 & Aug, 1

SUMMER INSTITUTES

IN THE TEACHING OF WRITING AT WCU AND BUCKS COUNTY IU OR

THE TEACHING OF LITERATURE IN PLYMOUTH MEETING

Six-graduate credits from WCU Monday - Thursday, July 1 - July 26

Partial stipends available * Application process required

CELEBRATE LITERACY III CONFERENCE

West Chester University June 26 & 27, 2002

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: LAURIE HALSE ANDERSON

\$110 by June 1/\$130 thereafter

CALL 610-436-2202 TO REGISTER

EDUCATION MATTERS

a column from Michaels Associates

What's New, Good (and Discounted) in Professional Reading

The space this column occupies is usually reserved for thoughtful conversation from leaders in literacy education. I know that many of you look forward to it, and I apologize because this time the fault is mine that it is not. It has been suggested (although not yet by anyone at PAWLP) that I attempt to keep a few columns in reserve so as not to miss every third deadline or so. Admittedly, that would take some pressure off but might make life a little less exciting as deadline time nears. The idea makes too much sense to dismiss, however, so as I prepare to journey to San Francisco for the IRA convention, I will bring several back issues with me. The quality of Mascherino's work always helps me to sell prospective contributors on the notion that they really shouldn't miss the opportunity to share their thoughts with us.

By way of further apology, I will follow these words with some suggestions for summer reading and special prices for PAWLP Newsletter readers. First, I'd like to let those of you who don't know already that Bob Boynton of Heinemann Boynton/Cook has passed away. I've never known a finer gentleman in or out of publishing and many of us will miss him. Bob and his longtime friend Peter Stillman used to publish "on an occasional basis" a newsletter in the late eighties called Learning Matters. Afterwards, I published a

newsletter of my own I called, with permission, Education Matters. It didn't take long for me to realize that, due to the time it takes, my newsletter would be on a very, very occasional basis. When Andy Fishman called to suggest a collaboration, I jumped at the chance to resurrect the name.

The suggestions: (Please go to www.michaelsassociates.com to read descriptions of titles that interest you.) PAWLP prices shown expire May 31, 2002 and do not include shipping.

Comprehension Instruction: Research-Based Practices, Cathy Collins Block and Michael Pressley, Editors, Guilford Publishers, \$35.00 (PAWLP \$28.00).

Directing the Writing Workshop: An Elementary Teacher's Handbook, Jean Wallace Gillet and Lynn Beverly, Guilford Publishers, \$25.00 (PAWLP \$20.00).

Dancing With Words: Helping Students Love Language Through Authentic Vocabulary Instruction, Judith Michaels, NCTE, \$19.95 (PAWLP \$15.95). Listening Up: Reinventing Our-

selves as Teachers and Students, Rachel Martin, Heinemann, \$24.00 (PAWLP \$19.60).

Put To the Test: Tools & Techniques for Classroom Assessment, Kuhs, Johnson, Agrusso, Monrad, Heinemann, \$21.00 (PAWLP \$16.80).

Cohesive Writing: Why Concept is Not Enough, Carol Jago, Heinemann,\$17.00(PAWLP \$13.40). Writing Workshop: The Essential Guide, Ralph Fletcher and JoAnn Portalupi, Heinemann, \$17.50, (PAWLP \$14.00)

As always, please mention PAWLP when you call or place it in the body of your purchase order when ordering to receive these special prices. (Exp. 5/31/02).

Thanks,

Sreg Michaels

WHAT PAWLP CAN DO FOR YOU

CERTIFICATES, INDEPENDENT STUDY, CUSTOMIZED COURSES, AND MORE!

- PAWLP offers certificates for its writing and literature programs.
- Independent studies can be arranged through Dr. Andrea Fishman or Dr. Mary Buckelew.
- All courses can be taken to school district sites during the school year and the month of August.
- ☼ Courses can be tailored to fit your district's needs. Most courses can be fashioned for a primary and/or intermediate audience as well as a secondary audience. We listen to our clients' needs and adapt accordingly.
- Our teachers-teachingteachers programs are based on the National Writing Project model.
- Courses present ideas and strategies that are practical, standards and researchbased, and teacher-tested.
- Course dates can be extended over the school year to fit district calendars.
- Come to one of our summer Institutes to become a Fellow.
- Find out about our expanding Youth Programs.
- O Join our PAWLP family.
 You won't be sorry.



2002 Youth Sites



PAWLP Summer Youth Programs continue to flourish. In addition to our original West Chester University site, we have programs at 20 sponsoring school districts in a sixcounty area. More special programs are available this year to supplement our Young Writers/Young Readers workshops.





Session I: July 1 - 12

WCU - Young Readers, Young Writers Workshop, Young Writers on
Computers, and Poetry Workshop (one-week for grades 9-11)

Garnet Valley - YW/YR

Session II: July 15 - 26

WCU - Young Writers Workshop, Young Writers on Computers, YW/YR, and Tolkien/Fantasy Writing

Unionville Chadds Ford SD -YW/YR

* Kutztown SD - YW/YR and Puppetry & Language Arts

Central Bucks SD - YW/YR

Rose Tree Media 5D - YW/YR and Historical Fiction/Poetry

Manheim Township SD - YW/YR

Hatboro Horsham SD - YR/YR and Science Fiction Writing

Methacton SD - YW/YR

North Penn SD - YW/YR and Science Fiction Writing

Wissahickon SD - YW/YR and Memoir Writing/Scrapbooks

Upper Moreland SD - YW/YR and Mystery Writing

Abington SD - YW/YR

Session III: July 29 - August 9

WCU - Young Writers Workshop, Young Writers on Computers, YW/ YR, Web Page Design, and Poetry Workshop (one-week for grades 6-8)

Coatesville Area SD - YW/YR

* Twin Valley SD - YW/YR

Council Rock SD - YW/YR and Poetry Workshop

* Central Bucks SD - YW/YR

Interboro SD - YW/YR

* Colonial SD - YW/YR

* Upper Dublin SD - YW/YR

* Lower Moreland SD - YW/YR

Lancaster City SD - YW/YR



FELLOWS:

A FEW TEACHING POSITIONS STILL EXIST FOR OUR SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMS. CALL 610-436-3089 FOR AN APPLICATION. FOR INFORMATION ON HOW TO DEVELOP A SPECIAL COURSE, CALL MARY BUCKELEW, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, AT 610-436-2998.



MASTER TEACHERS:

WANT TO LEARN HOW TO BECOME A FELLOW OF THE PA WRITING & LITERATURE PROJECT AND TEACH IN OUR YOUTH PROGRAMS? CALL MARY BUCKELEW, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, AT 610-436-2998.





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☐ Name misspelled		Received more than one		Contact person changed
☐ Incorrect address		Remove from mailing list		Other (Specify)

CELEBRATE LITERACY III CONFERENCE

When: Wednesday and Thursday, June 26 & 27, 2002

Where: Sykes Student Union Building, West Chester University

Time: Wednesday: 7:45-4:00 -- Thursday: 8:15-4:15

Cost (includes lunch both days): \$110 for registrations postmarked by June 1,

\$130 for later registrations and walk-ins

FEATURED SPEAKERS:

LAURIE HALSE ANDERSON: Arm Wrestling the Muse

Ms. Anderson is the winner of the 2001 Heartland Award for Excellence in Young Adult Literature for her novel, Speak, the ASPCA Henry Bergh Children's Book Award for Fight for Life, the first in her Wild at Heart series, and the 2001 Teacher's Choice Book Award from the IRA for Fever.

JACK McGovern: Dream Bigger: Why Writing is so Significant in Children's Lives Dr. McGovern is Deputy Director of Program Development for the Children's Literacy Initiative.

DIANE COHLE: Reading Stances and the PSSA Test

Ms. Cohle is principal of Hallowell Elementary School in the Hatboro-Horsham SD, co-author of Connecting Reading and Writing in the Elementary Grades, and a long-standing member of the Pennsylvania Reading Assessment Committee.

PETER CATALANOTTO: Planning an Author's Visit to your School

Mr. Catalanotto is a popular children's author and illustrator whose new book, Matthew A.B.C., will be available for signing along with many other books he has written and illustrated.

SMALL GROUP SESSIONS INCLUDE:

- Adding Craft to Emergent Writing
- Teaching Grammar in the Context of Writing
- Read Alouds, Think Alouds, Think Alongs
- Poetry Workshops
- Metacognition and the Modes of Writing
- Writing Conferences Writing Across Content Areas
- Graphic Organizers
- Reading and Writing with Historical Fiction
- Teaching the Domain of Style through Literature
- Writing Mini Lessons in the Domains
- Flexible Grouping in the Language Arts Classroom
- Writing in the Reading Classroom

- Reading/Writing Connections for Emergent Literacy Classrooms
- What's New in Children's Literature
- Reading/Writing Connections in the Elementary Classroom
- Revision Strategies in the K-8 Classroom
- Peer Conferences to Improve Writing Quality
- Learning to Learn through Nonfiction Writing
- Writer's Notebook
- Helping ESL Students in a Language Arts Classroom
- Creating Author Studies Related to PSSA Standards
- Helping English Language Learners Develop English Skills in Content Area Classrooms

PERSONAL INFORMATION (Please print all information)

Name:	Phone: (H)	(W)
Address:	Town:	State: Zip:
Grade(s), subject area(s) presently ta	ught:	
School District & Building or Private/Parod	chial School (name & location)	
Write phone number and Social Security # on Regular Registration (\$110) Late Registration after June 1 (\$13	I am inter	able to West Chester University rested in ACT 48 activity hours (add'l co rested in one graduate credit (add'l cos
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O Credit card: VISA Mastercard C		
Credit card: VISA Mastercard C Cardholder name: Check or money order #:	Cardholder s	