

The Pennsylvania Writing & Literature Project

Newsletter



Volume 23, Number 3 Winter, 2003

RIGOROUS, REWARDING & REJUVENATING 2003 WRITING & LITERATURE INSTITUTES

It's never too early to start planning your summer! Why not make time for the Writing or Literature Institute? Become a Fellow of the PA Writing & Literature Project and earn six graduate credits at the same time.

During the four-week Literature Institute we will read, discuss, and write in response to literature as we explore before, during, and after reading strategies. Come learn about guided reading, multicultural literature, the PSSA, and how to provide your students with rich literary experiences, including reading visual text. Get first hand experience with literature circles. Share and enjoy YA literature and picture books and

discuss practical applications for your classroom. Participate in lively and productive conversations about reading and responding to reading. Co-directed by Diane Dougherty and Patty Koller, the Literature Institute will meet this summer in West Chester at the new WCU Graduate Business Center.

During the four-week Writing Institute we will write, discuss, and confer in response to current writing theory, student writing and our own writing. Participants in the Writing Institute share best practices in writing, indulge in writing and reading for pleasure and pedagogical purposes, meet local and nationally published au-

thors, learn about publishing, and publish their own work. Brenda Krupp and Mary Buckelew will co-direct the Writing Institute in West Chester; Hilde McGeehan and Shari Stem will co-direct the Writing Institute in Bucks County.

All three Institutes begin with the Celebrate Literacy Conference June 25 & 26. In addition to providing the keynote, Georgia Heard will conduct workshops for Institute participants.

Applications are considered on a rolling admission basis.

Make this summer one to remember. Join one of our Institutes for the experience of a lifetime!

* * * * *

GEORGIA HEARD TO KEYNOTE CELEBRATE LITERACY IV CONFERENCE

Georgia Heard, internationally known writer, speaker, and educational consultant, will kick off the Celebrate Literacy IV Conference at West Chester University June 25 & 26, 2003. Ms. Heard worked with the Teachers College Writing Project in New York for seven years. She is the author of several books in-



cluding *The Revision Toolbox*, *Awakening the Heart: Exploring Poetry in Elementary and Middle School*, and *Writing Toward Home: Tales and Lessons to Find Your Way*.

Robin Moore, and Judy Schachner will highlight Thursday's program.

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THREE SUMMER INSTITUTES FOR MASTER TEACHERS

Cost Effective Professional Development

Limited number of stipends. Application review begins January 15

FROM THE DIRECTOR

In November, 2002, many PAWLP friends and Fellows received the first of what I hope will be frequent "political alerts." This pre-election message explained the positions of southeastern Pennsylvania's Congressmen when it comes to the National Writing Project. Specifically, the message revealed whether or not they actively support the legislation that funds the NWP and, by extension, PAWLP.

Why should this matter to our friends and Fellows? PAWLP certainly doesn't depend on NWP money for its existence as some newer or smaller National Writing Project sites do. But PAWLP does depend on NWP funds to provide the summer stipends offered for Institute participants. Tuition for six graduate credits increases every year. It's important to subsidize master-teacher participation in our Institutes, for it is our Institutes that provide the most important PAWLP resource of all: our teacher consultants.

Curt Weldon, Joe Hoeffel, Jim Greenwood, and Joe Pitts all won in November. I certainly can't claim they won because of our support, but we can be glad they won because we have theirs. Whatever else those men represent, they represent support for NWP and for PAWLP. Now we can begin conversations with Jim Gerlach, too, for his new Congressional seat is PAWLP territory, as well!

Which brings me to the conversations we have with Congress-

men in Washington every April and at their home offices throughout the year. Who has these conversations? So far our primary political action team consists of Judy Jester, Jamie Fiermonte, Mary Buckelew, and me. But we need more than the four of us for the new state-level initiative promised by the SNAP grant described on page 4 of this Newsletter.

We need Fellows who want to talk with their local legislators. We need Fellows who want to invite legislators to their classrooms to see best-practice literacy instruction in action. We need Fellows who want to help legislators understand what "local control" of education can – and should - mean. In other words, we need Fellows who want to educate the men and women who make decisions that affect our profession, our students, our communities. Without this kind of professional development, our legislators will go on believing that phonics has been scientifically proven to be the most effective way to teach reading; that writing is about grammar; and that glossy scripted curriculum packages are the best way to "deliver instruction." We need Fellows who will change the metaphors – and the minds – that make education policy and education law in Pennsylvania.

If you are one of those Fellows, contact me soon. With the support of SNAP, we can help literacy education find real friends in Pennsylvania.



Conference

-continued from page 1, column 3

Robin Moore, internationally-known author of more than a dozen award-winning books, will awaken the hidden storyteller with his compelling performance of traditional and original tales.



Judith Byron Schachner has been illustrating and writing children's books since 1992. She says, "The great thing about my job is that one day I can be writing about history, as I did in *Mr. Emerson's Cook*. The next day I'm drawing a wacky old woman for *I Know An Old Lady Who Swallowed a Pie*. Or I can bring to life a beloved pet cat in my book *The Grannyman*. I live in a constant state of 3rd grade bliss - making up stories and drawing pictures."



Interactive workshops presented by veteran PAWLP Fellows on current topics for teachers of all grade levels round out the program.

The two-day conference provides teachers with opportunities to mingle with authors, attend workshops, and buy lots of books - both professional and children's. Lunch is provided both days.

For registration information please call 610-436-2202.

THREE MARCH PAWLP DAYS

For Teachers

Putting the Pieces Together: Strategies for Reading & Writing

Keynote Speaker:

Patrick Shannon

Author of *I Shop, You Shop: Raising Questions about Reading Commodities and Critical Literacy*

Professor of Education at
Penn State University

March 1, 2003

Mill Creek Elementary School
Council Rock SD

8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
\$5 donation

For Teachers, Parents and Students

Working Together: Encouraging Literacy in our Youth

Keynote Speaker:

Linda Oatman High

Author of *Under New York, Barn Savers, and Maizie*

March 8, 2003

Sykes Student Union Bldg.
West Chester University
and

March 22, 2003

Jamison Elementary School
Central Bucks SD
8:30 a.m. - noon
\$3 donation

PAWLP COURSE OFFERINGS AT THE CHESTER COUNTY IU

NON FICTION CRAFT LESSONS

- Strategies to help students develop oral language, content area concepts, technical vocabulary and organizational skills
- Non-fiction trade books for read alouds, self-selected reading, reading and writing workshop, mini-lessons

JANUARY 16, 23, 30, FEBRUARY 6, 13

4:15-7:15 P.M.

COORDINATOR: STARR TROUP

PUSHING THE ENVELOPE: A BROADER DEFINITION OF LITERACY

- How the visual arts and verbal arts support each other's development
- The role of community in developing literacy skills
- How teachers' writing supports students' writing
- The relationship between mainstreamed English Language learners and classroom literacy for everyone

MARCH 10, 17, 24, 31, APRIL 7

4:15 - 7:30 P.M.

COORDINATOR: JUDY JESTER

TO REGISTER CALL 610-436-2202



SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY



Teachers As Poets

New ideas for teaching and writing poetry
in the middle and high school classroom

- examine general methods for teaching poetry
- assess the importance of recitation and performance in developing classroom participation
- investigate methods for developing critical/analytical skills
- learn approaches for creative writing exercises

one graduate credit PAWLP course
as part of the

Ninth Annual WCU Poetry Conference

June 4, 6, 7, 2003
West Chester University
plus half-day workshops in
Fall, 2003 and Spring, 2004

Cost : \$630
includes graduate credit, materials, 1 lunch,
2 dinners & banquet
(\$595 w/o banquet)

Enrollment Limited to
15 Middle and High School Teachers

For course requirements and registration call
610-436-2202

PA Writing Project Network Receives SNAP Grant

State Network Action Project (SNAP) grants were awarded to five states in the National Writing Project: Pennsylvania, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, and Texas. These highly competitive two-year grants allow the selected Networks to (1) strengthen existing sites; (2) support development of new sites in underserved areas; (3) act collectively to influence state education reforms and policies; and (4) advocate more effectively for state and federal support and funding.

PAWLP has participated in the PA Network of Writing Projects since its creation by a mini-grant Andy Fishman received in 2001. Mary Buckelew and Judy Jester represent the Project on the Network Council, which Andy directs. Judy will also serve as our representative to the national SNAP leadership team along with Andy who serves as a state director.

PAWLP work supported by this grant will include helping new sites develop leadership; creating public relations opportunities and materials; participating in Network community-building conferences; improving our relationship with PDE; and developing relationships with state and federal legislators from our region. If you want to get involved in any aspect of SNAP work, please call Andy or Mary at the Project office!

PAWLP FELLOWS: CLASS OF 2002

West Chester Writing Institute

Diana Berklich
Radnor Township SD
Michelle Burke
Lansdale Catholic HS
Bernadette Kearns
Tredyffrin-Easttown SD
Lois Lamond
Coatesville Area SD
Betsy Lee
Great Valley SD
Marcy McGee
Vanguard School
Melissa Miller
Lancaster City SD
Arthur Paynter
Lancaster City SD
John Pepe
Octorara SD
Francine Perrine-Wittkamp
Pottsgrove SD
Jan Pizarro
West Chester Area SD
Lesley Roessing
Ridley SD
Virginia Russell
Perkiomen Valley SD
Jill Schumacher
Souderton SD
Elizabeth Sharon
Avon Grove SD
Kara Siegl
Downington Area SD
Kathryn Stuckert
Governor Mifflin SD
Charles Thomas
Ridley SD
Barbara Witthaus
Tredyffrin-Easttown SD

Bucks County Writing Institute

Christine Amato
St. Hubert HS
Jason Bacani
Colonial SD
Bronwyn Barto
Central Bucks SD
Nina Biller
Council Rock SD
Jennifer Dostal
Central Bucks SD
Lydia Dugan
Retired
Catherine Gardner
Central Bucks SD
Tiffany Hamilton
Palisades SD
Cindy Lee Hansen
Upper Dublin SD
Diane Herring
Bristol Township SD
Ruthann Heywood
Upper Dublin SD
Jared Hottenstein
Central Bucks SD
Anne Marie Johnston
Pennsbury SD
Donna Kennedy
Council Rock SD
Barbara Korb
Bucks Co. Community College
Pnina Krik
Abington SD
Margaret McDonald
Upper Moreland SD
Angela Schenck
Central Bucks SD
Kristin Simon
Central Bucks SD
Craig Smith
New Hope Solebury SD
Sheri Young
Upper Moreland SD
Deborah Zweitzig
Centennial SD

KUDOS

Linda Kerschner, '98 WC Writing, published an article in the May, 2002 issue of *English Journal* entitled "Teaching World Literature: Preparing Global Citizens."

Lynne Dorfman, PAWLP co-director, and **Rose Cappelli**, '96 WC Writing, presented a workshop entitled Practical Mini-Lessons for the Domains of Writing:K-6" at the KSRA conference in October.

Sue Mowery, '89 WC Writing, was presented the 2002 Literacy Award at the KSRA conference in October. This annual award goes to the person or organization who does the most to promote literacy in Pennsylvania.

Dr. Cecelia Evans, '81 WC Writing, directs the family writing program *With Pens in Hands*. The program, which has served 87 families with a total of 119 children, is going into its third year of operation.

Mary Buckelew, PAWLP Associate Director, **Judy Jester** and **Diane Dougherty**, PAWLP co-directors, presented a workshop at the NCTE Conference in Atlanta entitled "Visualizing Our World: Art and the Language Arts."

The Pennsylvania Writing & Literature Project Invitational Summer Institutes

What happens in a Writing Institute?

- Writing of all kinds, some assigned, some self-selected, in a model writing workshop environment, with mini-lessons, response groups, peer and teacher conferences
- Reading current professional literature on the teaching of writing, with opportunity to pursue topics of individual interest
- Experiencing a range of writing and teaching strategies, including individual, small, and whole group activities appropriate K-12 and across the curriculum
- Preparing one presentation to share an effective strategy with other teachers
- Working with visiting scholars and teacher-consultants who present workshops on theory and practice in teaching writing

What happens in a Literature Institute?

- Reading different kinds of literature as a community of readers, some assigned, some self-selected, experienced in literature circles, grade-level groups, and whole class formats
- Reading current professional literature on the teaching of reading, literature, and literacy, with opportunities to pursue topics of individual interest
- Experiencing a range of reading and teaching strategies, appropriate K-12 and across the curriculum
- Preparing one presentation that shares an effective strategy with other teachers
- Working with visiting scholars and teacher-consultants on issues of theory and practice in the field of literature and literacy

-- What teachers have said about their Institute experiences --

"This course is by far the best I have ever taken. It has changed my entire view of writing."

Sixth grade teacher

"I will never look at literature the same way, in teaching or my personal reading."

Fourth grade teacher

"The mix of ideas from teachers at all levels was invaluable."

Kindergarten teacher



"I appreciated the modeling of techniques and strategies implicit in the daily and weekly schedule of activities."

High School English teacher

"What a wonderful experience! I feel really close to this group, and I have already made plans to get together with several other participants...the learning continues!"

Reading Specialist

"I entered the Institute a reluctant teacher of writing. I am leaving with effective writing strategies I can use in the Physical Education setting."

Physical Education teacher

"Overall I loved it!"

Eighth grade English teacher

An Experience of a Lifetime

for English, elementary, and content area teachers, librarians, reading specialists
includes Celebrate Literacy Conference: June 25 & 26,
and four-week Institute: June 30 - July 25

PAWLP's Summer Institutes for **MASTER TEACHERS** Teaching Writing or Teaching Literature

Participants

- ❑ Earn six graduate credits from West Chester University
- ❑ Become Fellows of the National Writing Project, which offers professional opportunities beyond the summer
- ❑ May receive stipends (limited availability - apply early)
- ❑ Qualify to teach in PAWLP's summer Youth Programs, coordinate courses, and present in-service programs

**PA
Standards**

Learn more
--- about ---

**PSSA
Assessments**

Nomination form for PA Writing & Literature Project Summer Institutes

* * Rolling admission - application review begins January 15 * *

- Please send information about the Summer Institute in Teaching Writing
Location (check one): West Chester Bucks IU
 Please send information about the Summer Institute in Teaching Literature at WCU

Name _____

Home _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ e-mail: _____

School/District _____

Address _____

Grade level/
Content area _____

Nominator>Title _____

Please return this form to:
PA Writing & Literature Project
West Chester University
West Chester, PA 19383

610-436-2202

www.pawlp.org

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The Pennsylvania Writing & Literature Project Newsletter is published five times a year by and for those affiliated with the Project. Submissions are always welcome and can be mailed to the Pennsylvania Writing & Literature Project, West Chester University, West Chester, PA, 19383.



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Summer 2004 Opportunities

Pennsylvania Writing & Literature Project, West Chester University

<p>Summer Institutes for Master Teachers July 6 – 30</p> <p>Attendance at Celebrate Literacy Conference June 29 & 30 is included and mandatory.</p> <p>Writing Institutes in West Chester & Bucks County</p> <p>Literature Institute in West Chester 6 graduate credits</p>	<p>Celebrate Literacy V Conference June 29 & 30 12 activity hours or 1 grad credit available</p> <p>Keynotes: Katie Wood Ray, Sue Mowery, and Elvira Woodruff</p> <p>Practical Strategies Workshops by PAWLP Fellows</p>	<p>Visualizing Words and Worlds: Writing, Literature and Art</p> <p>July 12 – 16 at the James A. Michener Art Museum and August 2 – 6 at the Brandywine River Museum 3 graduate credits</p>
<p>At WCU, Graduate Business Center</p> <p><i>Three-credit courses</i></p>		<p>At Bucks County Intermediate Unit</p> <p><i>Three-credit courses</i></p>
<p>Manage a Reading/Writing Classroom, K - 2 and 3 - 8 (includes Celebrate Literacy V conference) June 28 - July 2</p> <p>Teacher as Writer, K - 12 July 6 - 9 and 12 - 16</p> <p>Manage a Reading/Writing Classroom, 6 - 12 July 12 - 16</p> <p>Strategic Guided Rdg Balanced K-2 Classroom July 12 - 16</p> <p>Guided Rdg for Comprehension, 3 - 6 July 12 - 16</p> <p>Writing & Children's Literature, K - 8 July 19 - 23</p> <p>Reading in Sec. English Classroom, 6 - 12 July 19 - 23</p> <p>Strategies for Teaching PSSA Domains, 4 - 12 July 26 - 30</p> <p>Content Area Reading & Writing, 4 - 12 Aug 2 - 6</p> <p><i>One-credit courses</i></p> <p>Readers' Workshop, 2 - 8 July 6 - 7</p> <p>Vocabulary Investigation, 3 - 8 July 6 - 7</p> <p>Exploring the Writing Workshop, 2 - 8 July 8 - 9</p> <p>Creating Author Studies, K - 8 July 8 - 9</p> <p>Speaking a Common Language (ELL), 6 - 12 July 8 - 9</p> <p>Developing Mini-lessons, 1 - 8 July 21 - 22</p> <p>Non-fiction Craft Lessons, K - 8 July 26 - 27</p> <p>Reading Like a Writer, K - 12 July 28 - 29</p> <p>Readers' Storytelling Theatre, K - 8 Aug. 2 - 3</p> <p>PSSA Reading, 3 - 12 Aug. 4 - 5</p>		<p>Manage a Reading/Writing Classroom, K - 2 and 3 - 8 (includes Celebrate Literacy V conference) June 28 - July 2</p> <p>Reading/Writing in Content Areas, 1 - 6 Aug 2 - 6</p> <p><i>One-credit courses</i></p> <p>Guided Reading, K - 2 July 6 - 7</p> <p>Guided Reading for Comprehension, 3 - 6 July 8 - 9</p> <p>Reading Like a Writer, K - 12 July 12 - 13</p> <p>Creating Author Studies, K - 8 July 14 - 15</p> <p>Readers' Workshop, 2 - 8 July 19 - 20</p> <p>Exploring Writing Workshop, 2 - 8 July 22 - 23</p> <p>Emergent Literacy in Kindergarten July 26 - 27</p> <p>Developing Literature Circles, K - 8 July 28 - 29</p> <p>Vocabulary Investigation, 3 - 8 Aug 2 - 3</p> <p>Non-fiction Craft Lessons, K - 8 Aug 4 - 5</p>



Teachers as Writers and Readers in the Southwest

5 days in New Mexico: August 7 – 12
1 day in Santa Fe, 3 days in Taos
Approximate cost: \$1,250 for travel,
accommodations, some meals and materials
1 – 3 grad credits available, regular tuition fees apply
Registration deadline: March 15
Contact: Mary Bucklew at 610-436-2998

New!