Welcome

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the Children's Literature and Reading Special Interest Group newsletter! The goal of this newsletter is to make you aware of SIG happenings, member accomplishments, and opportunities for sharing your work as it relates to children's literature and literacy.

Submissions for the summer edition of the newsletter are due on June 15, 2017 so the newsletter may be completed before the International Literacy Association (ILA) conference in July. If you are presenting at ILA, please let us know! Send your name; institutional affiliation; session title, time, date, and location to danielle.hartsfield@ung.edu. Announcements about publications, awards, grants, promotions, and opportunities of interest to SIG members are also welcome.

CL/R SIG at ILA

If you are attending the ILA conference, please mark your calendar for our SIG session! "Notable Books for a Global Society: Diverse Voices in Literature for Children and Young Adults" will be presented on Monday, July 17th from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM. The location is to be announced.
Amy Cummins, Associate Professor in the Department of Literatures and Cultural Studies at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, published an essay on "Academic Agency in YA Novels by Mexican American Women Authors" in the edited collection Gender(ed) Identities: Critical Rereadings of Gender in Children's and Young Adult Literature (Routledge, 2016). An earlier version of this paper received the Andrist Prize in Hispanic Gender Studies at the conference of the South Central Modern Language Association.

You Just Wait: A Poetry Friday Power Book by Sylvia Vardell and Janet Wong (Pomelo Books) was selected as a 2017 NCTE Poetry Notable. Vardell and Wong recently published a new book in that series, Here We Go: A Poetry Friday Power Book.

Deborah Marciano, Associate Professor of Early Childhood and Special Education at Valdosta State University, authored "Opening Eyes by Opening Classroom Doors: Multicultural Musings of Study Abroad in Italy" in the Journal of Multicultural Affairs.

Carole Peltari, Assistant Professor at College of Brockport (State University of New York), authored "Imagination and Literacy Instruction: A Content Analysis of Literature within Literacy-Related Publications" in Language and Literacy. The article suggests many measurable benefits to incorporating strategy instruction to explicitly teach children to incorporate imagination as they read. She also co-authored "Expanding the Box: Characters Lead the Way" in the New England Reading Association Journal. This study, which took a qualitative approach with early middle school students as participants, sought to learn what effect character-writers and books with character-writers might produce on children's writing and identified three possible effects.

Sue Corbin is the Treasurer of the CLR/SIG and is a past chair of the group as well as a past chair of the Notable Books for a Global Society committee. She is an assistant professor, accreditation chair and incoming department chair of the Division of Professional Education at Notre Dame College in Ohio where she teaches courses in children’s literature and literacy pedagogy. Her current research interests are in mindful reading, using a strategy that she developed and is piloting in four schools, elementary through high school.

Allen Evans is Professor of Teacher Education at Eastern Oregon University and is Past-President of the CL/R SIG. He currently writes a quarterly column on censorship and intellectual freedom for the Oregon Reading Association newsletter "The ORAcle."

Stacie Garrett is the new co-editor for The Dragon Lode. She works at Cameron University teaching Reading Diagnosis (grad and undergrad), Intermediate Reading, Methods of Struggling Readers, and Language Arts Methods. Stacie is currently working on two publications. She recently conducted a study on higher education learning environments and is working on translating the study into a research article for publication. Another article Stacie is currently working on is research on first year teachers’ ability to incorporate the reflective spiral practice. In addition, she has created a language arts summer camp. Stacie is really excited about working with SIG.

Danielle Hartsfield has served as Secretary since 2015. An assistant professor at the University of North Georgia, she teaches undergraduate classes in the early childhood program including Children’s Literature and Language Arts. She is currently interested in researching controversial children’s literature, intellectual freedom, and self-censorship as well as how sociocultural identities are portrayed in books for youth. In addition to her work in the CL/R SIG, Danielle is active in the Association for Library Service to Children, serving as co-chair of the Education Committee and a member of the 2018 Robert F. Sibert Medal Selection Committee.

Anne Katz is a member of the CL/R SIG Board. She is an Assistant Professor of Reading at Armstrong State University in Savannah, Georgia, where she teaches courses in the Reading Specialist M.Ed. program. Her current research and service interests include social justice community literacy initiatives with pre-service educators and middle school students. She is also focused on providing professional development in content-area literacy for Georgia educators through a federal Teacher Quality grant.

Jenn Manak is an associate professor in the Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education at Bridgewater State University. She teaches undergraduate and graduate literacy courses. Jenn’s current research is focused on examining the impact of culturally responsive instruction, including reading and critically discussing multicultural children’s literature, on students’ literacy learning and understandings of various historical events. Her recent project has been focusing on supporting literacy education in Nicaragua and Pine Ridge, South Dakota through teacher professional development.
Prisca Martens is a member of the SIG board. She is a Professor in the Department of Elementary Education at Towson University where she teaches literacy-related courses, primarily children's literature. Her current research areas are using picturebooks as mentor texts to support children's multimodal composing in writing and art; and, analyzing readers' eye movements when reading picturebooks.

Suzii Christian Parsons is an associate professor and the Jacques Munroe Professor of Reading and Literacy at Oklahoma State University. Dr. Parsons teaches undergraduate and graduate courses on literature for children and adolescents and on K-12 reading and language arts instruction, all infused with explorations of cultural diversity and social equity. Her recent research focuses on depictions of adoption in young adult literature and on using young adult literature to help preservice teachers prepare to teach in diverse communities. A passionate promoter of quality literature for young readers, Dr. Parsons has served on numerous book award committees, including chairing the Children's Literature and Reading SIG sponsored Notable Books for a Global Society award. Dr. Parsons lives in Stillwater, OK with her husband, two young teens, two chubby boxers, and a cat who has thumbs.

Lisa Patrick is a general board member. She works as a trainer at The Ohio State University on two literacy projects: Literacy Collaborative and Reading Recovery. She also serves on the NCTE Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children committee and the Hans Christian Andersen Award committee for the United States. Lisa is dedicated to creating a place for artistic writing in social science research and is happiest when reading picture books aloud to children in elementary school classrooms.

Diana Porter currently serves as President of the CL/R SIG. She is completing her 11th year at Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) where she teaches various literacy courses and adolescent literature and supervises practicum students. Her research interests are in the areas of children's/adolescent literature and professional development for teachers. Dovetailing with her research interests, some of Diana's service includes active involvement in the Kentucky Reading Association as past president, directing state grants focused on disciplinary literacy, and chairing the 2017-2018 Notable Children's Books in the English Language Arts (NCBLA) committee.

Lynda Robinson has been teaching at the university level for about 25 years. Her husband was career Air Force, and she has lived all over. She came to Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma about 12 years ago and is sure she will retire there. Lynda is Associate Professor and mainly teaches graduate courses in the M.Ed. Reading program. She is past chair of the Faculty Senate, secretary of her local Daughters of the American Revolution chapter, and current president of both the Lawton Area Reading Council and her local chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma (distinguished female educators). She has been on the executive board of the CL/R SIG for about three years, and last spring, she committed to serving as editor of The Dragon Lode along with colleague Stacie Garrett for the next three years. Lynda's research interests include multicultural children's literature and the history of education, particularly historical aspects of teaching reading.

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Renita Schmidt is a member of the board and the current chair of the Notable Books for a Global Society, a committee operating through the CL/R SIG. Nita is an Associate Professor in Teaching and Learning at the University of Iowa where she teaches elementary literacy methods, children's literature, and qualitative research methods. Her current research is related to policies and practices in elementary literacy assessment and methods of teaching. Her research with elementary aged girls in the book club Strong Girls Read Strong Books was recently highlighted on the Big Ten Network.

Jennifer Shettel is an associate professor in literacy education at Millersville University of PA. Prior to joining the faculty at Millersville in 2008, Jennifer spent 16 years in K-12 public education, as a classroom teacher, reading specialist, and literacy coach. She is a new board member of the Children's Literature and Reading SIG and is a frequent guest blogger for that SIG's regular weekly book review column on the Literacy Today blog. For ILA, she has served on ILA's Elva Knight research award committee and the Outstanding Dissertation award committee. She is a member and former board member of the Specialized Literacy Professionals SIG. Jennifer also contributed to the development of the new position statement, "The Multiple Roles of School-Based Specialized Literacy Professionals: Enhancing Effective Teaching and Learning for All Students", which has been recently been accepted by the ILA Board of Directors for publication and is currently serving on the committee charged with revising the ILA Standards for Literacy Professionals.

Sharryn Larsen Walker is a board member of the CL/R SIG. She is an Associate Professor at Central Washington University, one of the largest producing teacher education programs in the United States, graduating more than 600 teacher candidates each year. She teaches in the Department of Education, Development, Teaching and Learning, specializing in children's literature, literacy methods/curriculum, and assessment. She is active in incorporating academic service-learning in her courses, with a Family Literacy Night (FLN) experience as part of the children's literature course. More than 400 elementary teacher candidates have participated in this experience with more than 1600 books distributed to children throughout the county. Her research areas include incorporating children's literature into teaching.

Deborah Wooten is currently a CL/R board member. This is her second year serving on the Notable Books for a Global Society Committee. She teaches both undergraduate and graduate literacy courses that are steeped with Children's and Young Adult literature. Her research agenda focuses on identifying and implementing best practices with quality content area children's literature with students in rural communities while fostering a love for reading. Deborah is the co-editor of Children's Literature in the Reading Program: Engaging Young Readers in the 21st Century (4th edition). She lives in Knoxville and is an associate professor at The University of Tennessee.

CL/R SIG on Social Media
KEEP UP WITH WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE SIG!


Find us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/CLR-SIG-1616026121951206/.

Follow us on Twitter @CLR_SIG.
Call for Proposals:

The opportunities below are not affiliated with the CL/R SIG but may be of interest to members.

Association for Library Service to Children
Online Continuing Education

The Education Committee of the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association, has identified a need for a webinar series about supporting and celebrating diversity in children's library service. Webinar topics may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Advocating for diverse books
- Evaluating diverse books
- Children's book awards celebrating diversity
- Building your collection of diverse books
- Identifying and mitigating biases and privilege

Webinars are hour-long, online presentations delivered to a live audience. Webinar proposals are invited from anyone with an interest in the above topics. Submissions should target an audience of public and school librarians, teachers, and others with an interest in children and literacy. Proposals are accepted on a rolling basis at http://www.ala.org/alsc/online-education-proposal and are reviewed by the Education Committee each month.

ALSC webinar presenters are compensated $100.

Call for Poster Sessions - 12th IBBY Regional Conference • Submission Deadline May 15, 2017

The 12th IBBY Regional Conference "Radical Change Beyond Borders: The Transforming Power of Children's Literature in a Digital Age," will be held at the University of Washington in Seattle from October 20-22, 2017. It is organized by the United States Board on Books for Young People (USBBY) which serves as the U.S. national section of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY). IBBY was founded to promote international understanding and good will through books for children and adolescents.

This IBBY Regional Conference promises to provide a unique opportunity for teachers, librarians, and other readers to immerse themselves in the world of international children's and young adult literature.

We are welcoming submissions for Poster Sessions at this exciting international event. Please note: because of the limited number of available conference Poster Session slots, the program committee is particularly interested in Poster Sessions that focus on successful, replicable strategies highlighting international literature in schools, libraries, and other diverse community and educational settings.

The IBBY Regional Conference Program Planning Committee will consider the following criteria in reviewing each Poster Session proposal:

A successful Poster Session Proposals should address one or more of the following topics:
- Content focuses on international children's and/or adolescent literature or offers fresh insights or information about international children's and/or adolescent literature.
- Content provides ideas for celebrating the IBBY International Children's Book Day.
- Content provides ideas or successful programs that promote international understanding through literature and literature-based activities.
- Content focuses on diversity and inclusion in children's and/or adolescent literature.
- Content provides information on reading promotion programs and/or activities for children/adolescents.

If you are interested in submitting a poster session, please send a proposal to the IBBY Conference Program Planning Committee by May 15, 2017. Please include the following in your proposal:

- Name, affiliation, address, phone, email, @twitter handle  •  Presentation title  •  Brief description, 25 word maximum
- Presentation narrative: describe the content of your presentation, including how it addresses one or more of the content guidelines, and how you plan to present it in poster format (500 word maximum)

Note: Accepted poster dimensions must not exceed 24" x 36"; supporting handouts required.

Proposal Submission: Email your proposal to: IBBY Regional Program Committee Poster Session Working Group at: 2017ibbyregional@gmail.com Please use the subject line: POSTER SESSION PROPOSAL. More information about the IBBY Regional Conference at: http://www.usbbby.org/