



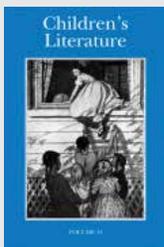
Children's Literature Association NEWSLETTER

Volume 20 | Issue 2
Autumn 2013

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Journal Updates: New Editors



President's Message by Claudia Mills

A year ago I was preparing to host a symposium on ethics and children's literature at the Prindle Institute for Ethics at DePauw University, where I spent two blissful academic years as a visiting professor. Small liberal arts colleges like DePauw value interdisciplinary endeavors, so they were happy to give me funding and support to create a forum where philosophers, children's literature scholars, and children's book authors could come together in an idyllic setting to talk about a range of ethical issues involving the creation, dissemination, and evaluation of children's literature. I invited three keynote speakers: our own Claudia Nelson, who spoke about the once-popular sub-genre of books of "golden deeds" for children; philosophy professor Tom Wartenberg, a pioneer in the burgeoning movement of philosophy-for-children, who provided an ethical analysis of the virtue of courage as presented in Arnold Lobel's *Frog and Toad Together*; and Newbery-honoree Susan Campbell Bartoletti, author of such ethically charged books as *Hitler Youth* and *They Call Themselves the KKK*, who spoke on the topic "Moving through Fear: Writing History for Young Readers." I put out multiple paper calls targeting ChLA members, philosophers, and authors and ended up with a program containing some 35 papers, the vast majority of them (if I do say so myself) absolutely terrific. Best of all, I had the great joy of eavesdropping on fabulous cross-fertilizing conversations among people whose professional paths ordinarily would never have crossed, sitting outside as we sipped wine in the beautiful courtyard of the Prindle Institute on a sunny-but-cool September afternoon.

I have cherished my long association with ChLA for many reasons, but prominent among them is that ChLA is a space where these kinds of conversations take place *all the time*. Our members include those with academic training in many different domains and periods of literature, as well as history, cultural studies, library and information science, education; I myself have felt more than welcome with my degree in philosophy. We have members who fly in to attend our conferences from Taiwan, Australia, France, the Netherlands, Poland, Japan, and other locations around the globe. Our conferences feature sessions on cutting-edge scholarly research in our field, but also panels on pedagogy and talks by practicing children's authors and illustrators. Occasionally we even catch sight of an actual child. Our members are perennially engaged in lively and stimulating conversations that reach across disciplinary, geographical, and other divides.

One of the greatest boons for me in hosting that lovely ethics and children's literature conference was that I could proselytize to prospective ChLA members. One presenter, who was working on a splendid dissertation on C. S. Lewis in a divinity school setting, decided to venture forth to our conference last June in Biloxi. She was amazed, as so many of us have been, to come from her own little corner of the academic world and find hundreds of kindred spirits, different in so many ways but united in a love of children's literature.

Long may our conversations continue!

ChLA 2014 Conference “Diverging Diversities”



The 41st annual Children’s Literature Association Conference, hosted by the University of South Carolina, will be held June 19-21, 2014, in Columbia, South Carolina, at the Marriott Hotel and a variety of campus and downtown venues. Conference attendees may fly into Columbia’s regional airport (CAE) or take a ground shuttle from the Charlotte Douglas International Airport (CLT).

The conference theme, “Diverging Diversities,” celebrates the full range of texts produced across the globe for children and young adults, then and now. It also invites conference participants to reflect on opportunities for furthering the diversity of the genre and its scholarship.

Dr. Katharine Capshaw Smith, Associate Professor of English at the University of Connecticut, will deliver the Francelia Butler Lecture. Smith is the author of *Children’s Literature of the Harlem Renaissance* (winner of the 2006 ChLA Book Award); she is currently writing a study of the Black Arts Movement and children’s literature.

Anita Lobel, National Book Award finalist (Young People’s division) for her memoir *No Pretty Pictures: A Child of War* (1998) and the illustrator/author-illustrator of more than 50 picture books, will deliver a lecture about her life and art on Friday, June 20. More than 70 canvasses of her work, on loan from the National Center for Children’s Illustrated Literature in Abilene, Texas, will be on display at the Richland Library and Columbia Museum of Art.



Additional highlights of the conference include:

- A pre-conference (Wednesday) “Night at the Nick” – an evening of film at South Carolina’s Non-Profit Cinema, the Nickelodeon. Curators from the University of South Carolina’s Moving Image Research Collection will assemble a program highlighting newsreels from the Fox Movietone News collection, short works by itinerant filmmakers, home movies depicting kids at home, school, and play, and short educational films for children. Before and after the show, guests can meet, mingle, and enjoy selections—including beer and wine—from the Nickelodeon’s concessions.
- An opening reception (Thursday) at the University of South Carolina’s Hollings Library, where ChLA members may browse a conference-themed children’s literature exhibit, tour the vaults of the Irving Rare Books Collection, and learn about a newly established library fellowship in children’s literature, as well as recent acquisitions.
- An Awards Banquet (Saturday) that will feature Phoenix Award winner Gary Soto (for *Jesse*, his first young adult novel).
- A Publishers’ Panel where current children’s and YA editors will discuss the state of the field, including the opportunities and challenges for authors from underrepresented groups. Stay tuned for an announcement of speakers (sneak preview: Lee Byrd from Cinco Puntos Press is confirmed).



2014 ChLA International Focus: Poland

The International Committee of the Children’s Literature Association is planning a special country focus panel on Poland, to be presented at the 41st Children’s Literature Association Conference, held at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, SC, from June 19 through 21, 2014. The committee invites paper proposals that focus on any aspect of Polish children’s literature. The authors of two papers selected for the panel to accompany a presentation by the Polish Distinguished Scholar will each be awarded a \$500 travel grant. Send 500-word abstracts, accompanied by up to 250-word bios, to the International Committee, Children’s Literature Association, at info@childlitassn.org with the subject line “International Committee Paper Submission.” The deadline for submissions is November 23, 2013. Authors of proposals selected for the panel will be notified by December 30, 2013.



CALL FOR PAPERS

Children's Literature Association Conference

June 19-21, 2014

"Diverging Diversities: Plurality in Children's & Young Adult Literature Then and Now"



Augusta Baker

Augusta Baker, librarian, activist, "America's First Lady of Storytelling," and lover of owls, served as the University of South Carolina's Storyteller-in-Residence from 1980 to 1994. Baker arrived in Columbia after a momentous career at the New York Public Library. Initially hired as a librarian for the 135th Street Harlem Branch, Baker rose to become Coordinator of Children's Services for the entire NYPL system, the first African American to hold such a position of leadership. Through tireless advocacy for children and their needs, Baker raised awareness of "the denigrating picture of the black child in books that seemed to be among the most popular publications." Thanks to the efforts of Baker, Charlemae Hill Rollins, Henrietta Smith, Pura Belpré, Joseph Bruchac and countless others, the children's books circulating today no longer represent an "all-white" world, as Nancy Larrick described the genre in her *Saturday Review* article of 1965. Yet today's books still fall short of reflecting the diversity of the U.S. population and of portraying the lives of children growing up in a complex, global society.

The 2014 Children's Literature Association Conference invites papers that consider the diversification of the genre—and its limits—both within the U.S. and internationally.

The most common understanding of "diversity" in children's literature relates to ethnic and/or racial diversity. This conference will consider the concept more broadly to include disabilities (differing abilities), gender, sexual orientation, religion, socioeconomic class, and region (especially depictions of the South in children's books). Further, it will consider the ways in which a shifting U.S. population and the effects of deindustrialization, migration to the Sunbelt, and so forth, have influenced children's literature. Other topics to be considered include historical conceptions of plurality, historical innovations in form, adaptations and re-adaptations of texts, the internationalization of the children's literature market, and how the "prizing" of children's and young adult literature has fostered or frustrated diversity.

Though certainly not limited to these ideas, essays might address:

- The meaning and significance of diversity in children's and YA literature in the 21st century
- Innovations in form and aesthetics that reflect diverse populations
- How texts by and about social and cultural minorities have shaped mainstream children's and YA literature
- The impact of bilingual children's books and books in translation
- Regional and international influences in children's and YA literature
- The role of visual images in diversifying children's literature
- The social and cultural influence of diversity in non-book media for children and young adults
- The individual and instructional forces advocating for, and posing obstacles to, continued diversification of children's literature
- Projections of how recent developments in the field may continue to diversify the genre
- The work and literary legacy of Augusta Baker, a pioneer in African American children's literature and the University of South Carolina's Storyteller-in-Residence from 1980 to 1994
- The life and work of Anita Lobel, a featured artist at the conference



Essays considering all aspects of plurality within children's and young adult literature and culture will be given highest priority, but all essays on the genre will be considered. Please submit 250-word abstracts or panel descriptions between *October 15, 2013, and January 15, 2014*. For more information visit www.chlaconference.org.

Children's Literature Panels at the 2014 MLA January 9-12, 2014 Chicago, Illinois

Deliver Us to Normal: Children's Literature and the Midwest

Sponsored by the Children's Literature Association

Kate Slater (Chair)

Our panel examines books for young readers set in the Midwest, considering the ways Midwestern locales participate in the formation of these texts' critical concerns. Located in a geographic and discursive middle, sometimes outwardly simple and often deceptively complex, the Midwest finds a fitting home in its children's literature, which explores similarly liminal spaces. Papers cover a wide range of urban and rural settings, acknowledging that the Midwest is significantly more heterogeneous than often assumed. Michelle Abate argues for the importance of Midwestern urbanization to Edgar Rice Burroughs' imperialism in "The American Urban Jungle: *Tarzan of the Apes* and Chicago." Suzanne Hopcroft's presentation looks at the formation of adolescence within competing cultural and geographic constructs in "Coming of Age in a Divided City: Navigating Chicago Cultures in Sandra Cisneros's Poetic Bildungsroman and Veronica Roth's Dystopian Fiction." Jill Coste shows that rural prairie settings contribute to the construction of othered identities in "When Myth Becomes Truth: Adolescent Identity in Depression-Era Kansas." And finally, Sarah Clere's "Environmental Conservation and Racial Purity in the Fiction of Gene Stratton-Porter" reads the author's ecological children's writing for its fascination with "pure specimens," drawing an analogue to the perceived contemporary threat of non-white immigration.

Randall Jarrell at One Hundred

Sponsored by the Children's Literature Division of the MLA

Chamutal Noimann (Chair), Richard Flynn (Respondent)

In commemoration of the centennial of his birth, our panel is dedicated to the life and work of Randall Jarrell. Jarrell was a prolific and influential literary critic, poet, essayist and novelist. He was a talented teacher and singular writer for children. Jarrell's collaboration with the late Maurice Sendak is the stuff of legends. Patricia Oman (Hastings College) will interpret *Animal Family* through the lens of animal studies in a talk entitled "The Child is the Animal in Randall Jarrell's *Animal Family*." She examines the ways in which Jarrell deconstructs the theoretical animal-human binary. In her paper entitled "Jarrell The Heroic Reader," Molly McQuade (American Library Association) revisits Jarrell's essay "The Age of Criticism" and three of his poems that hold the act of reading as their main subject. McQuade reveals the critic who chose "to be as wild as the readers he envisioned" in his poetry. Harvard University's Stephen Burt will present his paper entitled "Randall Jarrell's Impossible Children," which addresses Jarrell's "unsatisfied, haunting kind of cross-writing" through a consideration of his children's prose, his essays about childhood and education, and his poetry. Burt also promises to treat attendees to a short selection of Jarrell's as yet unpublished verse. Finally, Richard Flynn (Georgia Southern University), author of *Randall Jarrell and the Lost World of Childhood* (1990), will conclude what promises to be a worthy celebration of an American master.



Diaries of the Young Girl: The Craft of Female Selfhood

Sponsored by the Children's Literature Division of the MLA

June Cummins and Rocio Davis (Chairs)



By examining girls' diaries from diverse perspectives, including feminism, the bildungsroman, constructions of adolescence, race, ethnicity, and gender, cultural theory, and new forms of the diary, we insert a heretofore marginalized form into critical and cultural inquiry. This panel explores the literary merits and unique perspectives of girls' diaries, both as works of fiction and as actual journals. Suzanne Ondrus (University of Connecticut) opens the conversation with "Writing to Survive: Child-Writing Characterization in Sade Adeniran's *Imagine This*." Martha Sledge (Marymount Manhattan College) directs attention to the diaries of a previous era in "Constructing the Self: Pocket Diaries as Discipline in 19th-Century America," whereas Tahneer Oksman (Marymount Manhattan College) examines a graphic novel that began as a series of web comics in "'Okay! Fine! You can read it!': Memory, Adolescence, and Belonging in Lauren Weinstein's *Girl Stories*." And, finally, Anastasia Ulanowicz (University of Florida) considers the presentation of trauma through diary format in "Witness, Re-Vision, and the Constraints of Child Authorship in Nadja Halilbegovic's *My Childhood Under Fire: A Sarajevo Diary*."

Children's Literature and the Common Core

Sponsored by the Children's Literature Division of the MLA

Jan Susina (Chair)

Using a roundtable format, five speakers will examine the effects of the English Language Arts Standards of the Common Core State Standards on the teaching of college courses in children's and young adult literature. The featured speakers for the session are Sarah Minslow, University of North Carolina, Charlotte; Kristin McIlhagga, Michigan State University; Michelle Holley Martin, University of South Carolina, Columbia; Joe Sutliff Sanders, Kansas State University; and Daniel D. Hade, Pennsylvania State University, University Park.

While each speaker will present prepared remarks for 5-7 minutes, the session is intended to be an active dialogue and discussion between the speakers and the members of the audience. Speakers will consider if the Common Core State Standards effectively prepare students for college-level academic work and literacy in the workplace. The political and social implications behind the stated education goals of the Common Core will be examined. Since the Common Core recommends that 70% of the texts used by the twelfth grade should be informational texts, how will this affect the teaching of fiction, poetry, and drama? Can the Common Core address issues of cultural diversity given the increasing gap between students of color and their predominantly white K-12 teachers? The session has been selected as part of the conference's presidential theme of "Vulnerable Times."

Broadway Babies

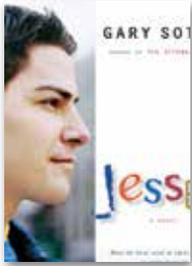
A special session

Donelle Ruwe (Chair)

In "Broadway Babies," panelists explore the role of the child performer in *Annie*, *Oliver!*, and *Newsies*. In "Belting: The Construction of Childhood Voice in *Annie*," James Leve (Northern Arizona University; author of *Kander and Ebb*, 2009) examines the semiotics and sexuality of child belting as he explores Annie's relationship to Shirley Temple and Ethel Merman. Child belting is relatively rare in musicals and thus links Annie to adult female performance in general and, he suggests, to Merman in particular. Marah Gubar (University of Pittsburgh; author of *Artful Dodgers*, 2009) presents "Urchins, Unite: *Newsies* as an Antidote to *Annie*." When *Newsies* opened in 2012, the *New York Times* panned it as a retread of *Annie* for its cynical capitalizing on "urchin appeal." Gubar argues that *Newsies* is actually a radical re-envisioning of *Annie's* plot, transforming its thinly disguised valentine to big business into a celebration of working-class solidarity and collective action. In "'There's Going to Be a Change in This Workhouse': Lionel Bart's *Oliver!* and Postwar Youth Culture," Marc Napolitano (United States Military Academy, West Point) shares his interviews with cast members from the original West End production in order to tease out how the musical promotes an exuberant British postwar youthfulness despite running afoul of stringent licensing laws regarding child performers.

<http://www.mla.org/convention>

2014 Phoenix Award Winners



2014 Phoenix Award Winner
***Jesse* by Gary Soto**
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 1994

Gary Soto's *Jesse* is both a coming-of-age story of one Mexican-American boy with a poetic sensibility and the story of a community and a country at a difficult time—

facing poverty and prejudice and war, problems we are still facing today. *Jesse* offers an unembellished slice of life in Vietnam-era Fresno, California. In the backdrop are Governor Reagan, President Nixon, and Cesar Chavez. In the foreground are 17-year-old Jesse, his older brother Abel, and their family and friends. To escape an increasingly drunk and violent stepfather, Jesse leaves high school six months before graduating, moves into an apartment with his brother, and enrolls at a junior college. To afford rent and food, Jesse and Abel work cotton and fruit fields, collect discarded items to sell at garage sales, and do laundry at their mother's home. Their life is often bleak, especially when they least expect it: a planned spring break trip to Pismo Beach ends in cold and misery as they camp by the side of the road, unable to find rides; and a rare date for inexperienced Jesse ends up in a confrontation with a high school bully. Friendships with single mom Glenda and with Leslie, an artistically talented Vietnam veteran-classmate of Jesse's, bring them some comfort; and Glenda's mom and baby, as well as

Jesse's naïveté, provide poignant humor. The power of this book lies in Jesse's response to a life where "no one was smiling and no one was getting up to set the crooked world straight."



2014 Phoenix Honor Book
Under the Blood-Red Sun
by Graham Salisbury
Delacorte, 1994

Graham Salisbury's gripping adventure explores a range of feelings at a time of terror and uncertainty. Tomi's life in 1941 Hawaii

has its ups and downs. His crotchety grandfather's Japanese patriotism frequently embarrasses the eighth-grader. Encounters with a local bully are balanced against the pleasures of baseball and of fishing on his father's boat with his best friend. Pearl Harbor changes everything. His grandfather's attachment to Japan now looks not just embarrassing but dangerous. The bully starts spying on Tomi's family, carrying a rifle as he watches. Worst of all, his father is arrested as a possible spy because of his fishing activities, and his mother loses her job as a maid because she is Japanese. Tomi needs all of his courage and ingenuity to help his family survive in the face of intense anti-Japanese prejudice. Fortunately, in Salisbury's sensitive portrayal, some children and adults make choices that transcend the mass hysteria of that time.



2014 ChLA Phoenix Award Session: Call for Papers

The Phoenix Award Committee and the Phoenix Picture Book Award Committee of the Children's Literature Association are planning a joint session at the 41st Children's Literature Association Conference, held in Columbia, South Carolina, from June 19 to 21, 2014, and hosted by the University

of South Carolina. The Phoenix Awards recognize exceptional books published twenty years previously that did not win a major award at the time, but that the committees have determined to be of lasting value.

The 1994/2014 Phoenix Award goes to Gary Soto for *Jesse* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt). The Phoenix Honor Book Award winner is Graham Salisbury for *Under the Blood-Red Sun* (Delacorte).

The Phoenix Picture Book Award, in its second year of existence, goes to Raymond Briggs for *The Bear* (Random House). Two Honor books were

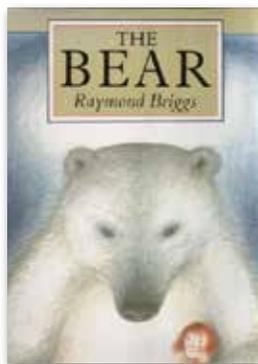
chosen: *Good Night, Gorilla* by Peggy Rathmann (Putnam), and *Swamp Angel*, written by Anne Isaacs and illustrated by Paul Zelinsky (Dutton).

Foremost, the panel organizers seek paper proposals that focus scholarly attention on the winning and Honor books. Papers on other books by the awarded authors and illustrators are also welcome.

Proposals are due by November 30, 2013 to one of the two chairs: Phoenix Committee Chair Lisa Rowe Fraustino (FraustinoL@easternct.edu) or Phoenix Picture Book Committee Chair Eliza Dresang (edresang@uw.edu).

Authors will be notified by January 3, 2014, if their papers have been selected as part of the panel. If not selected for the panel, the authors may elect to submit their papers to the general conference. The call deadline for the 2014 ChLA conference is January 15, 2014.

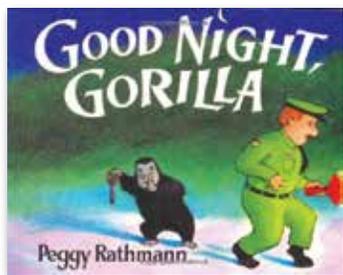
2014 Phoenix Picture Book Award Winners



The winner of the 2014 Phoenix Picture Book Award is *The Bear* by Raymond Briggs, originally published by Julia MacRae, an imprint of Random House.

A powerful depiction of the emotional complexities and longings of childhood, *The Bear* is an engaging and often humorous picture book that leaves readers with much to ponder.

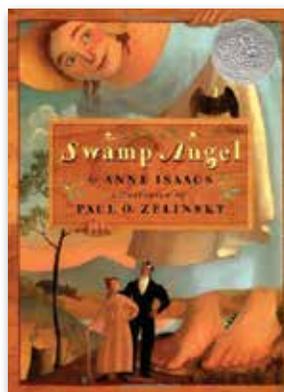
With surprising page-turns, felicitous pauses, and pitch-perfect dialogue, Briggs renders the drama and humor of child-adult and child-bear relations, while questioning the nature of imagination and reality. As a picture book presented in graphic novel format, Briggs's work was ground-breaking when first published and remains cutting edge twenty years later in its creative unity of text and pictures.



Good Night, Gorilla by Peggy Rathmann and *Swamp Angel* by Anne Isaacs and Paul Zelinsky, published by Putnam and Dutton (1994), now imprints of Penguin, were selected as 2014

Phoenix Picture Book Award Honor Books.

Good Night, Gorilla is a mischievous bedtime story peppered with fun and funny details. The minimal text, mainly repetitions of "Good night" in speech balloons, can be read by very young children, while the cartoon-like, yet luminously colorful night-time illustrations tell a hilarious story of seeing and being seen that is much more complex than the words.



Swamp Angel is an "eye-popping" tall tale par excellence. The incongruity and impossibility of the folksy, deadpan text is conveyed by illustrations that strain against their borders. Zelinsky's appropriately faux primitive oil paintings on cherry, maple, and birch veneer are the perfect choice for expressing the essence of this larger than life tall tale heroine.

First awarded in 2013, the Phoenix Picture Book Award is a companion to the original Phoenix Award; it recognizes a picture book published twenty years previously that did not win a major award, but has been determined to be of lasting value.

ChLA Quarterly Update

Editor: Claudia Nelson | **Associate Editors:** Anne Morey and Sara Day

Submissions: chlaquarterly@tamu.edu

Beginning with the Spring 2014 issue (Volume 40.1), the *Children's Literature Association Quarterly* will be administered by a new editorial staff. The new editor will be Claudia Nelson (Texas A&M University). The associate editors will be Anne Morey, Texas A&M University, and Sara Day, Southern Arkansas University.

The editors of the *ChLA Quarterly* will consider scholarly articles on all aspects of children's literature at any time. Articles submitted for publication should be 20-25 pages in length and should conform to MLA style. Please send completed essays by e-mail attachment in Microsoft Word or Rich Text Format to chlaquarterly@tamu.edu.

For all submissions, please double-space all text, notes, and bibliography; do not justify right margins. Please also submit electronically a cover sheet indicating the author's name and address. Identifying information should appear at no other place in the essay. We will not consider work that is

under submission elsewhere or that has been published previously. The *ChLA Quarterly* uses a double-anonymous evaluation system: we will not share the identity of the author with the readers, nor the readers' identities with the author.

Children's Literature Update

Editor: Amanda Cockerell | **Submissions:** child.lit@hollins.edu

The new editor of *Children's Literature* is Amanda Cockerell (Hollins University). The journal's submissions policies will remain the same, and any manuscripts in the pipeline will not be affected by this transition. Manuscripts submitted should conform to the style in current issues. Submission as an e-mail attachment (MS Word) is preferred. To facilitate blind review, the author's name should not appear on the essay. Please provide full contact information in a separate document. Double-spacing should be used throughout text and notes, and submitted articles should run 20-30 pages.

MLA 2015: Call for Papers

Why Dystopian YA Literature? Why Now?

Guaranteed ChLA sponsored session

The Hunger Games. Ready Player One. After the Fear. “Young adult dystopian” is a search category on Amazon. Why is this genre so popular? The books seem to be critiquing consumerism, repressive governments, technology, and science out of control, but is there something more? Something else that is being critiqued that particularly appeals to young adults? Why is this clamor for dystopic lit happening in YA lit? How does writing for a YA audience enhance or restrict dystopic lit? If it is for teens, does it have to have hope? This panel queries the popularity, uses, and cultural work of YA dystopian literature.

Send 500-word abstracts to jcummins@mail.sdsu.edu by March 14, 2014. Put last name and the letters “MLA” in the subject line. For example, “Cummins MLA dystopia proposal.”

Sisterhood and Social Justice in Children’s Literature

*Proposed session co-sponsored by ChLA
and the Women’s Studies Division of MLA*

Sisterhood remains a powerful way of imagining relationships among women, whether via the image of supportive friendship or the evil stepsister. Beyond what may appear to be conventional familial rhetoric lies the possibility for either rivalry or connection across difference.

Send 300- to 500-word proposals on biological or symbolic sisterhood in children’s/YA literature, particularly in relation to social justice, to Mary Jeanette Moran (mjmoran@ilstu.edu) and Deirdre McMahon (dhm33@drexel.edu) by March 15, 2014.

Not an Exit but a Shift: Changing Children’s Literature

Proposed ChLA sponsored session

In her 1998 article “Exit Children’s Literature?” Maria Nikolajeva meditates on contemporary trends in the children’s genre and closes with the statement that “we must acknowledge that, sooner or later, children’s literature will be integrated into the mainstream and disappear.” This panel responds to the question of her title, but it focuses less on the idea of a disappearance or death, and more on a reimagining of the children’s genre. With this in mind, we invite papers that address the ways turn-of-the-twenty-first-century children’s texts have shifted to accommodate and reflect a contemporary childhood through changes in aesthetics, mediums, genres, and/or ideologies.

Topic suggestions include, but are not limited to:

- Changing aesthetics in children’s pictorial art
- Ethics of identity and a twenty-first century ideological inclusion
- Changing constructions of childhood and corresponding cultural experiences of the twenty-first century child
- Historical comparisons and contextual understandings of the child across the genre
- The effects of new media on children’s literature and children’s culture
- The emergence of a clearly marketed pre-adolescent “middle grade” genre and a “new adult” genre
- Analyses of new genre features, literary and cultural

Send 500-word abstracts to Ramona Caponegro (rcaponeg@emich.edu) and Abbie Ventura (abbie-ventura@utc.edu) by March 1, 2014.

ChLA Diversity Committee: Call for Papers

“Authenticity, Artifacts, and Publishing Patterns in Multicultural Texts”

We are looking for papers that address how “other” cultures are represented in translated, multi-cultural, and cross-cultural texts. Are texts considered “authentic” if they do not conform to common expectations regarding the representation of minority or foreign cultures? Do mainstream perceptions of “authenticity” realistically represent “other” cultural points of view? Does referencing quotidian cultural behaviors, which would not be noted by members of the culture itself, reflect a tendency to treat other cultures as anthropological subjects? Have certain artifacts, narrative structures and themes appeared repeatedly, and through repetition, come to signify authenticity? Have identifiable patterns come to be the publishing and literary equivalents of museum artifacts under glass?

Questions? Contact Claudia Pearson at pearsoncrz@earthlink.net. Email your 500-word abstract and 2-page CV by November 30, 2013, attaching it in .rtf, .doc, or .docx format, and including your email and phone number.

2014 ChLA Research Grant Applications

Faculty Research Grants

These grants are awarded for proposals dealing with criticism or original scholarship in children's literature with the expectation that the undertaking will lead to publication and make a significant contribution to the field. Applications will be evaluated based upon the quality of the proposal and the potential of the project to enhance or advance Children's Literature studies. Funds may be used for but are not restricted to research-related expenses such as travel to special collections or purchasing materials and supplies. The awards may not be used for obtaining advanced degrees, for researching or writing a thesis or dissertation, for textbook writing, or for pedagogical projects.

Hannah Beiter Graduate Student Research Grants

These grants are intended as support for research that may be related to the dissertation or master's thesis and are not to be used for tuition. The funding may be used to purchase supplies and materials (e.g., books, videos, photocopies, equipment) or to underwrite travel to special collections or libraries.

Individual awards in each category typically range from \$500 to \$1,500 based on the number and needs of the winning applicants. Up to \$5,000 per category is available to be awarded this year. **Applications will be accepted from January 1, 2014, through February 1, 2014.** Proposals must be sent by email and dated within the stated time frame. Application guidelines are posted online at www.childlitassn.org (under Professional Opportunities); if clarification is needed, you may contact the ChLA office at info@childlitassn.org or Kenneth Kidd, chair of the 2014 Grants Committee, at kbkidd@ufl.edu. Winners must either be members of the ChLA or join the association before they receive any funds.

Grant Application Deadline: February 1, 2014. Submit to Carly Reisner at info@childlitassn.org.

2014 Carol Gay Award Nominations

ChLA is now accepting submissions for the Carol Gay Award for outstanding undergraduate essays on children's literature. Faculty members should submit nominations and papers electronically on behalf of the undergraduate student author. In order to enable blind review, please submit papers to Carly Reisner at info@childlitassn.org as two PDF files or Word documents: one a cover letter providing the paper's title, contact information (street and email addresses) for faculty member and student, an endorsement of the paper, and an explanation of the faculty member's familiarity with the student's work, the other the paper with title but without identifying information as to its author or nominator. Submissions will be forwarded to the members of the Carol Gay Award Committee for blind review.

Papers must be original, show evidence of scholarly research, and include a bibliography listing more than the primary works cited. Written in MLA documentation style, essays should be no fewer than 8 pages and no more than 15 pages including notes and works cited. Senior theses are not eligible. Award winners will receive a \$200 prize, a certificate, and a complimentary year's membership to the Association. With the author's permission, the award-winning essay may also be posted on the ChLA web site. The recipient will have the opportunity to present the winning essay during a session at the annual ChLA conference and to receive his/her award during the awards banquet. If the winner attends the conference, a complimentary banquet ticket is also awarded, and conference registration is waived. Only two submissions per ChLA faculty member will be accepted.

Nominations Deadline: February 1, 2014. Submit to Carly Reisner at info@childlitassn.org.

New Diversity Research Grant

The Diversity Committee is pleased to announce the Diversity Research Grant, supporting research related to artifacts (including media, culture, and texts) about populations that have been underrepresented or marginalized culturally and/or historically, including members of populations marginalized by physical or cognitive disability, sexual orientation, race, or ethnicity. Awards will range from \$500 to \$1000 and will be awarded based upon the quality of the proposal and the expectation that the undertaking will lead to publication making a significant contribution to the field of children's/adolescent literature scholarship or criticism. Within two years of receiving the grant, the recipient will be asked to submit a paper proposal based upon the project for presentation at a ChLA annual conference.

Funds may be used for but are not restricted to research-related expenses such as travel, subvention funds, materials and supplies. Awards may not be used for obtaining advanced degrees, researching or writing a thesis or dissertation, textbook writing, or pedagogical projects. Winners must be members of

the Children's Literature Association and must acknowledge ChLA in any publication or presentation resulting from the grant. Winners will be notified in April and are encouraged to attend the ChLA annual conference, where the awards will be announced.

Proposals should be a single Word document written or translated into English, including (1) a cover page including name, telephone number, mailing address, e-mail address, and status/rank at institution applicant is affiliated with (academic, library, publisher, etc.), if any; (2) a detailed description (not to exceed 1500 words), indicating the nature and significance of the project, rough budget, expected date of completion, and whether also applying for a general ChLA Research Grant; (3) a vitae.

Email completed proposal as an attachment to info@childlitassn.org using subject line: "ChLA Diversity Research Grant Application." Only complete applications received by midnight February 1, 2014 will be considered. For more information, contact Michelle Pagni Stewart at mstewart@msjc.edu.

Grant Application Deadline: February 1, 2014. Submit to Carly Reisner at info@childlitassn.org.

2014 Graduate Student Essay Nominations

Graduate Student Essay Award nominations are now being accepted. Submissions should demonstrate familiarity with previous scholarship, contain original, distinctive ideas, and conform to MLA style. They should be at least 10 pages in length and should not exceed 25 pages, including notes and works cited. The awards are comprised of both a Ph.D. level award and a separate Master's level award. Award winners receive a \$200 prize, a certificate, and a complimentary year's membership to the Association. Recipients are also offered the opportunity to present their winning essays during a session at the annual ChLA conference and to receive their awards during the awards banquet. If the winner attends the conference, a complimentary banquet ticket is also awarded, and conference registration is waived.

Nominations should be submitted by a faculty member on behalf of the graduate student author. Graduate students may not nominate themselves or other graduate students. A cover letter must accompany the submission and provide an endorsement of the paper and explain the faculty member's familiarity with the student's work. Please include both the member's and the student's e-mail and street addresses and indicate if the student is a Ph.D. or Master's level student in the cover letter only. Submissions will be forwarded from the ChLA office to the members of the ChLA Graduate Student Essay Awards Committee and read blind (without cover letter). Only two, whether MA or Ph.D. student, submissions per ChLA member will be accepted.

Nominations Deadline: February 1, 2014. Submit to Carly Reisner at info@childlitassn.org.

ChLA 2013 Conference Wrap-Up “Play and Risk in Children’s and Young Adult Literature and Culture”

From June 13 to June 16, 2013, scholars from around the world met for the Fortieth Annual Children’s Literature Association Conference. Hosted by the University of Southern Mississippi, the conference was held at the IP Resort in downtown Biloxi. Located on Biloxi’s Back Bay and just minutes by trolley from the Gulf of Mexico and downtown highlights, the conference venue allowed attendees to explore the distinct culture of the Mississippi Coast.

About 250 scholars were selected to give presentations on 80 panels that addressed the conference theme of “Play and Risk in Children’s and Young Adult Literature and Culture.” Befitting the IP’s onsite casino, where a number of presenters could be found each evening, paper topics ranged from nineteenth-century board games and contemporary video games to children’s fantasy writers such as E. Nesbit and Neil Gaiman, manifestoes for children’s literature, and dystopian YA fiction.

On the final day of the conference, approximately 40 attendees traveled to the University of Southern Mississippi campus in Hattiesburg for a behind-the-scenes tour of the de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection. Visitors were able to browse the closed stacks and examine original art and manuscripts or rare books and artifacts, including memorabilia from past ChLA conferences found in the ChLA archives housed at de Grummond. At the end of the tour, visitors enjoyed lunch and celebrated the fortieth birthday of the ChLA conference.

Phoenix Award winner Gaye Hıçyılmaz, author of *The Frozen Waterfall*, gave a moving acceptance speech in which she expressed her appreciation for the award and invited the audience to see the beauty of her visit to Biloxi through her eyes. Phoenix Picture Book Award winner Kevin Henkes was unable to attend the conference but provided videotaped remarks about the origin and reception of *Owen*, the book for which he was honored. Phoenix Picture Book Honor Award winner Denise Fleming also attended the conference to be recognized for *In the Small, Small Pond*.

Jerry Griswold, Professor Emeritus at San Diego State University, delivered the Francelia Butler lecture. He reminisced about his experience studying with Dr. Butler at the University of Connecticut before proceeding with his talk, titled “Children’s Literature and Digression.” He addressed the notion of “risky play” and elaborated on ideas found in his book, *Feeling Like a Kid: Childhood and Children’s Literature*. John Cech, Professor of English at the University of Florida, received the Anne Devereaux Jordan Award for Outstanding Achievement in Children’s Literature.

President Claudia Nelson delivered the President’s Address at the annual membership meeting, and President-Elect Claudia Mills assumed the presidency at the banquet on Saturday evening.

This year’s conference was the first to be managed exclusively by the Meeting Expectations team, and the conference organizers want to thank Carly Reisner, ChLA manager, for her hard work and collegiality. Kay Ciesla, also from Meeting Expectations, provided additional support and was much appreciated. Conference organizers Kay Harris, Ellen Ruffin, and Eric Tribunella are especially grateful to Danielle Bishop, assistant curator of the de Grummond Collection, and to Isaac Hudgins, collection specialist, who created and managed the abstract submission website. Laura Hakala, a doctoral student in the English department specializing in children’s literature, served as the administrative assistant for the conference. She and Paige Gray, another English doctoral student specializing in children’s literature, provided crucial assistance to the conference team. English faculty members Alexandra Valint and Jameela Lares served with Kay Harris and Eric Tribunella on the paper selection committee. Roberta Seelinger Trites served as the chair of the ChLA Conference Committee and provided invaluable help to the conference organizers. Many other volunteers from the USM English Department and McCain Library and Archives helped make the conference possible.





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Spread the Word About ChLA

Do you have a web site? A Facebook page?
A Jacketflap.com page? If so, the ChLA
Publicity Committee asks that you help us get
the word out to scholars, librarians, teachers,
and writers about our organization by adding
a link to ChLA on your page.



Our web site can be found at:
<http://www.childlitassn.org/>

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