



Newsletter

Volume 19 Issue 1

Spring 2012

Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
ChLA Conference 2012 "Literary Slipstreams" Simmons College, Boston, MA	2
ChLA Conference 2013 "Play and Risk ..." University of Southern Mississippi	3
MLA 2012 ChLA Panels - Taiwan Conference - Publication Program	4
- Anne D. Jordan Award Recipient - ChLA Quarterly CFP	5
- Results of the 2012 ChLA Election - ADJ Award - Call for Nominations - ChLA Research Grant Recipients	6
ChLA Awards 2012	7
New Management Co.	8

President's Message

Michelle Martin

In my home state of South Carolina, illiteracy rates run high: 15% for the state, and even in the capital city of Columbia, it hovers around 13%. I find this hard to absorb when children and adults around the state have so many literacy resources available to them. During this first spring as the Augusta Baker Chair in Childhood Literacy at USC, I have taken part in some amazing, free, public literacy events that give me hope for a more literate South Carolina.

USC and the South Carolina Center for Children's Books and Literacy started the spring semester with the big event to unveil a new tour bus donated by BP Oil to "give wheels" to Cocky's Reading Express (CRE), USC's literacy program that takes student volunteers and literacy programming to Title I schools all over the state. USC's President and Provost as well as Columbia's Mayor all spoke on the importance of literacy on that day.

On March 24th, I hosted my first Read-a-Rama program at the Richland County Public Library—a service learning program I have been honing for eleven years—that focused on the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouting. Eighty-five children showed up, and despite the fact that I did not teach this semester, I successfully recruited 45 college and high school student volunteers to facilitate the program, and these came from 7 different organizations and classes at USC, from Benedict College, from Allen University (both historically black institutions) and from four different high schools. The college students had just as much fun as the participants, and I think everyone went home with a greater excitement about books.

I also had the pleasure of participating in this year's State-Wide Read-In on April 12th, an annual advocacy event to which pre-K-12 students and educators came by bus from all over the state to march the three blocks from the State Library to the State House to the beat of the Benedict College Drum Line, where they all "occupied" the front steps of the State House, and heard local "celebrities" read from and talk about their favorite books. Afterward, the 1,200 students who attended this year's event fanned out all over the grounds with blankets, lunches, books, and their "Kids Who Read Succeed" banners, and read the afternoon away. Can a school day get any better than that?

The week ended with the 26th annual A(ugusta) Baker's Dozen, the festival named for the pioneer who spent 14 years as USC's storyteller-in-residence after serving as the first African-American Coordinator of Children's Services in the New York Public Library system. The festival included two hours of outdoor storytelling by 84 tellers (including me) on the grounds of the Robert Mills Historic House to 1,329 4th graders in 73 classes from local schools; a storytelling workshop, and a dramatic performance by Japanese-American librarian, storyteller and performer, Brenda Wong Aoki. The evening performance for families was a standing-room-only crowd of over 250; the kids on the floor up front had the best view.

If you teach in an English Department and make outreach and service learning an integral part of your academic classes, it's likely that you are an anomaly. I certainly was prior to my current position in a School of Library and Information Science. But I did it anyway. And here is why. As university faculty, especially non-Teacher Education faculty, we often distance ourselves from what happens in K-12 education, though we, like K-12 teachers, are educators. We complain when students come to us not knowing how to build an argument, write with active voice verbs, or use a semi-colon. Yet aside from teaching pre-service teachers, which many of us do, most of us have little to do with what happens in schools before students get to us. I figure that if I want students who can write, who have a passion for books and who come to me with an excitement for learning, I am doing my professional self a favor by expending some of my energies on helping to "raise readers" in my community, state and nation. This is why, for me, outreach is worth all the effort.



2012 Children's Literature Association Conference

"Literary Slipstreams"

Simmons College

Boston, Massachusetts

June 14-16, 2012



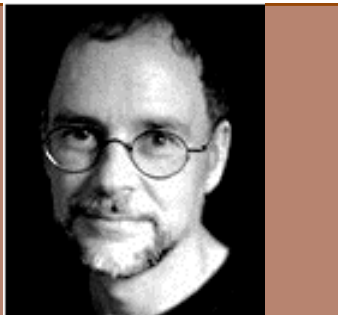
www.simmons.edu/conferences/chla2012

Located next to the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, a short walk from those infamous ducklings, a subway ride from The Horn Book, Inc., and a host of children's book publishers, archival and historical collections, Simmons College welcomes ChLA 2012 to Boston for its 39th Annual Conference. Simmons is an auspicious destination for children's literature scholars; the home of the Knapp Collection—which includes the Horn Book editorial papers—and convenient to the Alice M. Jordan Collection at the Boston Public Library and the historical collections housed at the Boston Athenaeum, the College is not far from literary points of interest in Concord, and we're a day-trip from The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art. Simmons itself is noted for its M.A. program in Children's Literature, as well as its M.F.A. in Writing for Children, its unique M.A. program in Gender/Cultural Studies, and its Graduate School of Library and Information Science. Innovative dual degree programs combine Master's degrees in the College of Arts and Sciences with professional studies in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science and the School of Management.

Appropriately located in the city dubbed the "Hub of the Universe," the ChLA conference, with its theme of "Literary Slipstreams," will consider how children's literature at the beginning of the second decade of the 21st century straddles, crosses, confuses, even redefines genre boundaries. We will revisit Sterling's use of *slipstream* as a "fiction of strangeness" and "a parody of mainstream." How do revisions, re-versions, and retellings challenge the historical record? How do children's and young adult literature, as well as scholarship interrogating these works, invoke hybridity of and beyond literary convention? How does the notion of transition mark both the literature and the scholarship? The conference logo by David Macaulay captures the physical movement, possible irreverence, and spirited playfulness of the "Literary Slipstreams."

Gregory Maguire

Francelia
Butler Lecturer



Karen Hesse

Phoenix Award
Recipient



Additional Conference Events:

- "Business & Art of Children's Music" at Berklee College of Music with Michael Heyman, Michael Moss, Debbie Cavalier, and Mike Carrera
 - Building a Career in Children's Literature Panel
 - Author Readings and Syllabus Exchange
 - (Review) Editors: Roger Sutton (*Horn Book*), Deborah Stevenson (*Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*) and Vicky Smith (*Kirkus Reviews*)
- Extra sessions of interest to writers on Friday and Saturday**

2013 Children's Literature Association Conference

"Play and Risk in Children's and Young Adult Literature and Culture"

The University of Southern Mississippi

Biloxi, Mississippi

June 13-15, 2013

The submission window for 300-500 word paper proposals will be open between October 15, 2012 and January 15, 2013.



The 40th Annual Children's Literature Association (ChLA) Conference will address play and risk in children's and young adult (YA) literature and culture. Much of John Newbery's *A Pretty Little Pocket-Book*, sometimes credited with marking the emergence of children's literature as a literary and commercial enterprise, is devoted to teaching the alphabet through play and games. Innovators of children's literature have taken risks in building businesses or careers around the notion of pleasurable works for children, just as the scholars who gathered for the first ChLA convention in 1974 and those who followed have taken risks to establish the professional study of the "Great Excluded." Thus, from its beginnings as both a literary and scholarly enterprise, children's literature has been linked with play and risk. Many classic and contemporary works for young people represent children or young adults entertaining themselves or taking chances: the March sisters put on plays in *Little Women*, and Beth risks her own life to care for the Hummel baby; Alice plays croquet in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and risks losing her head; Peter and Wendy play house in *Peter Pan* and risk being killed or kidnapped by Captain Hook. Play and risk are everywhere in children's and YA literature and culture.

We invite paper or panel proposals on the following topics:

- play and games in children's and YA literature and culture
- children's games as texts
- children's theatre and drama or school plays
- linguistic, stylistic, or formal play in children's and YA literature
- game theory or risk theory and children's and YA literature and culture
- role-play, performance, or performativity in children's and YA literature and culture
- childhood/adolescence as play, playing at childhood/adolescence
- video games and/as children's and YA literature
- sports or competition in children's and YA literature and culture
- winning and losing in children's and YA literature and culture
- risk-taking in children's and YA literature and culture
- uncertainty or chance in children's and YA literature and culture
- the personal or professional risks of studying, writing, or reading children's and YA literature
- the discourse of "at risk" youth
- how children's and YA literature or culture put children at risk
- the risks of how children and childhood are constructed or experienced
- playing with race, class, gender, or sexuality in children's and YA literature and culture

Check the ChLA website this summer and see the fall newsletter for more information.

Past ChLA-Sponsored Sessions held at MLA (Jan 2012)

“E-Arming the Future? Technology’s Expanding Influence on the Form and Readership of Young-Adult Literature”

Thomas Crisp, Univ. of South Florida
(represented by Tammy Mielke)

Presentations:

Norma Aceves, California State Univ., Northridge

“*Twilight* Online Fandom: Reaching Femininity through Textual Manipulation and Abstraction”

Sara Day, Southern Arkansas Univ. “I’ve Got My iPhone on You: Technology and Surveillance Culture in *Gossip Girl*”

Tammy Mielke, Univ. of Wyoming “Utilizing Technology”

“No(Bodies):

Ghost Children in Juvenile Literature”

Elizabeth Talafuse, Texas A&M Univ., College Station
Presentations:

Judith Abrams Plotz, George Washington Univ.

“Invisible Playmates; or, Childhood Ghosts and Adult Comfort in Burnett, Canton, and Kipling”

Angela Francesca Sorby, Marquette Univ.

“My Other Me: Ghost Doubles in Nineteenth-Century American Children’s Poetry”

Richard McDonnell Flynn, Georgia Southern Univ.

“Children of Air: Children’s Poetry and the Spectral Child”

Joseph Michael Sommers, Central Michigan Univ.

“Embodied in Name Alone: Nobody Owens and the Metonymic Estrangement from the Living and the Dead in Neil Gaiman’s *The Graveyard Book*”

“Race, Girlhood, and Social Justice in Children’s Literature,” has been approved for MLA 2013.



“The Child in the Book” Conference

The newly formed Taiwan Children’s Literature Research Association (TCLRA) will host an upcoming international conference, “The Child in the Book,” co-sponsored with the Children’s Literature Association. This conference will be held on November 16-17, 2012, at Soochow University in Taipei, Taiwan, and is designed to recognize and unite Asian scholars of academic children’s literature with other international scholars in the field. The conference will focus on

questions about the cultural construction of children and childhood in texts for young readers, particularly in Asian texts and in non-Asian texts that feature Asian characters, as well as cross-cultural constructions and understandings of these loaded terms and representations. The conference’s keynote speakers will be Roberta Seelinger Trites from Illinois State University in the United States and Junko Yoshida from Kobe University in Japan.

ChLA’s Book Publishing Program with University Press of Mississippi

ChLA is pleased to announce its new partnership with University Press of Mississippi. UPM has series in Comics and Popular Culture, in Folklore, and in Film, and this year, two UPM books in the Comics series have been nominated for the Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards. In terms of interests and of quality, the press is a good fit for our eclectic yet serious scholarship.

ChLA welcomes book proposals, both for critical studies in children’s literature generally, and for further volumes in the ChLA Centennial Studies series. For general studies, we consider a wide range of approaches and topics, with the exception of curriculum studies or guide books. The Centennial Studies series celebrates the hundredth anniversary of the publication of texts significant in the development of children’s literature. We will consider proposals for texts published in 1913 or later. The following list has possible subjects, but we welcome additional suggestions: 1913 Walter de la Mare, *Peacock Pie* (poetry), Beatrix Potter, *The Tale of Pigling Bland*; 1914 Thornton Burgess, *The Adventures of Peter Cottontail*, Booth Tarkington, *Penrod*; Lucy Fitch Perkins, *Eskimo Twins*, Edgar Rice Burroughs, *Tarzan of the Apes*; 1915 Cornelia Meigs, *The Kingdom of the Winding Road*; 1916: Dorothy Canfield Fisher, *Understood Betsy*.

Visit the Book Publication pages of the ChLA website (www.childlitassn.org) for specifics about submitting proposals or contact chair of the Publications Advisory Board, Teya Rosenberg (tr11@txstate.edu).



In recognition of scholarship and service which have made lasting contributions to the field of children's literature

The Children's Literature Association

Anne Devereaux Jordan Award

is presented to

Karen Nelson Hoyle

Tireless Ambassador for Children's Literature

Throughout Karen Nelson Hoyle's distinguished career, students have relished her courses on such topics as the history of children's literature, children's picture books, and international children's literature. Scholars have learned from her publications and the dozens of presentations Karen has delivered throughout North America, Europe, and Asia. Numerous organizations have also benefited from her tireless service to the profession.

As Curator since 1967 of the Children's Literature Research Collections at the University of Minnesota (including the Kerlan and Hess Collections), Karen built a world-class collection enriched by the unique contributions of authors and artists, collectors, and donors. The materials she amassed will continue to attract and delight patrons of all ages from around the world.

Among her scholarly accomplishments are her monograph, *Wanda Gag, a Life of Art and Stories*, her publications on Scandinavian and Scandinavian-American children's literature, and her studies of books about the immigrant experience. Active in international children's literature circles, Karen was one of three Americans invited in 1989 to present at the USSR Writer's Conference-Conference on Children's and Youth Literature in Moscow.

A vibrant contributor to numerous and prominent organizations, Karen served the Children's Literature Association as a two-term Board Member (1982-88), Treasurer (1988-91), Vice President (1992-93), and President (1993-94). She chaired the program committee for the 1997 annual meeting of the American Library Association, and served as Secretary for the International Research Society for Children's Literature (1987-89). She has been active in the International Board of Books for Young People (IBBY) and the United States Board of Books for Young People (USBBY), among other organizations.

Her breadth of knowledge of and long-term efforts on behalf of children's and adolescent literature have led to her selection for influential award committees. In addition to chairing the 1984-85 Caldecott Award Committee, she served as a committee member for the 1988-89 Hans Christian Andersen Award, the 1993-94 Newbery Award, and the 2003-05 Laura Ingalls Wilder Award.

In recognition of her remarkable contributions, Karen has received numerous honors including the 1992 Minnesota Library Association Distinguished Achievement Award, the 2011 Bridge Award from The Eric Carle Museum, and the 2012 Kerlan Award. The Children's Literature Association adds to this list by giving this consummate children's literature teacher, scholar, curator, and advocate the Anne Devereaux Jordan Award. As we celebrate Karen's many accomplishments, we also acknowledge with gratitude the kindness she has extended to the many ChLA members and friends who have been inspired by her warmth and encouragement.

ChLAQ Special Issue CFP: The selected articles will appear in *ChLAQ* 38.3, Fall 2013

Disabilities in Children's Literature: A Special Issue of *Children's Literature Association Quarterly*

Disability Studies is an interdisciplinary field that began its rise to prominence in the late twentieth century, marked by the founding of the Society for Disability Studies in 1982. The portrayal of disabilities is a well-developed substrata of children's literature, and scholarly work has been produced on it, primarily in the social sciences. *ChLAQ* will devote a single issue to literary approaches to representations of disabilities in children's and adolescent literatures. Papers should conform to the usual style of *ChLAQ* and be between 5000-7000 words in length. Please submit completed essays to Scott Pollard (spollard@cnu.edu) by **1 November 2012**.

Results of the 2012 ChLA Election of Officers, Board and Committee Members

Vice-President/ President Elect

Claudia Mills

Secretary

Jennifer Miskec

Treasurer

Jackie Stallcup

Executive Board

Karen Coats, Michael Joseph, Margaret Mackey

Anne D. Jordan Award Committee

Mike Cadden

Article Award Committee

Susan Honeyman

Book Award Committee

Keith Dorwick, Marah Gubar

Diversity Committee

Karen Chandler, Mpale Silkiluwasha

Edited Book Award Committee

Kathryn Graham, Marilynn Olson

International Committee

Marina Balina, Judith Plotz, Mariana Spanaki

Phoenix Award Committee

Elizabeth Goodenough, Karla M. Schmit

Phoenix Picture Book Award Committee

Nathalie op de Beeck

Astrid Lindgren Award Nominees

Beverly Cleary (USA), Jill Paton Walsh (England)

Anne Devereaux Jordan Award Call for Nominations

The Anne Devereaux Jordan Award is intended to honor the lifetime achievement of an individual whose scholarship and service have had a significant impact on the field of children's literature scholarship. The award is not restricted to ChLA members or to those whose work has benefited the Association specifically. The award may be given posthumously.

To nominate someone for the Anne Devereaux Jordan Award, send a letter that explains the person's accomplishments and contributions to children's literature scholarship to committee chair Anne Phillips (annek@ksu.edu). If possible, include the nominee's current vita with the nomination letter. Nominations must be received no later than October 1, 2012. Although nominees are considered annually, there may be years in which no award is given.

2012 Hannah Beiter Graduate Student Research Grant Recipients

Ph.D. Candidates:

Poushali Bhadury, University of Florida
Maura Cunningham, University of California-Irvine
Katie Strode, University of California-Riverside
Kate Slater, University of California-San Diego
Xu Xu, Pennsylvania State University

2012 Faculty Research Grant Recipients

Ramona Caponegro, Eastern Michigan University

Project: The Prisoner and the Grand Dame: Leo Frank, Anne Carroll Moore, and the Children's Library that Connected Their Stories

Raquel Greene, Grinnell College

Project: The Construction of Race and Ethnicity in Early Soviet Children's Literature

Jane Newland, Wilfrid Laurier University

Project: Painting the Imperceptible: An Interview with Jacqueline Duhème

Anna Pansczyk, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

Project: 'As Wooden as Life': Dolls in Portraiture

Malini Roy, Independent Scholar

Project: William Godwin and the 'Juvenile Library': Romanticism and the Networks of Children's Literature

Sara Schwebel, University of South Carolina

Project: a critical edition of O'Dell's *Island of the Blue Dolphins*

The following Association awards will be presented at the 2012 conference awards banquet:



Anne Devereaux Jordan Award
Karen Nelson Hoyle

Article Award

Winner: David Rudd

"Children's Literature and the Return to Rose,"
Children's Literature Association Quarterly 35.3 (Fall 2010): 190-310.

Honor Article: Zaman Chowdhury

"Dreams do Come True in New Orleans: American Fairy Tales,
Post-Katrina New Orleans, and Disney's *The Princess and the Frog* (2009),"
Papers: Explorations into Children's Literature 20.2 (2010): 25-40.

Book Award

Winner: Nathalie op de Beeck

Suspended Animation: Children's Picture Books and the Fairy Tale of Modernity,
University of Minnesota Press, 2010.

Honor Book: Megan A. Norcia

X Marks the Spot: Women Writers Map the Empire for British Children,
Ohio University Press/Swallow Press, 2010.

Carol Gay Award

Winner: Joanna Persson

"Take it to the Porch: Meeting The Other in *To Kill a Mockingbird*,"
sponsored by Amy Sonheim (Ouachita Baptist University)

Honor essay: Caitlin Benson

"Thank Heaven for Little Girls': Feminine Piety as Agency in *Elsie Dinsmore*,"
sponsored by Jackie Stallcup (California State University - Northridge)

Edited Book Award

Winner: Jackie C. Horne and Donna R. White, editors,

Kenneth Grahame's The Wind in the Willows: A Children's Classic at 100. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 2010.

Graduate Student Essay Awards

Ph.D. level award: Amanda Phillips Chapman

"The Riddle of Peter Pan's Existence: An Unselfconscious Stage Child,"
sponsored by Marah Gubar, (University of Pittsburgh)

Master's level award: Jill Coste

"Coping with Compulsion Through Fantasy in *Harriet the Spy*, *Dangerous Angels*, and *Wintergirls*,"
sponsored by June Cummins (San Diego State University)

Phoenix Award

Winner: Karen Hesse

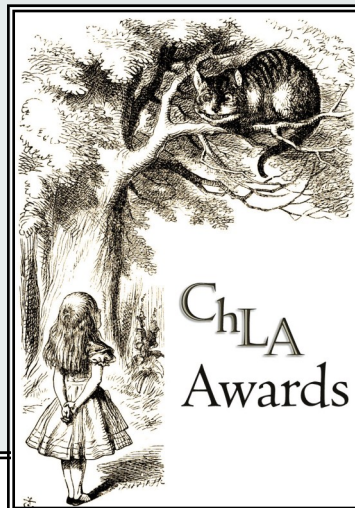
Letters from Rifka (Henry Holt and
Company, 1992)

Honor Book: Michael Dorris

Morning Girl (Hyperion Books, 1992)

Honor Book: Frances Temple

Taste of Salt: A Story of Modern Haiti
(Orchard, 1992)



**International
Sponsorship Grant**

Distinguished scholar for special focus
panel on Philippine children's literature:

Virgilio Almario,
University of the Philippines
(Emeritus)

As many ChLA members know, our longtime, incredibly efficient and hard-working Administrator, **Kathy Kiessling**, has decided to move on to the next great adventure. This means that in summer 2012, the organization will be transitioning after more than two decades to an Association Management Company, Meeting Expectations, based in Atlanta and Chicago. The Executive Board chose Meeting Expectations because of their depth of experience with managing academic organizations similar to our own, our confidence in their meticulous attention to detail and their ability to provide exactly what we need now but also to expand services as our needs grow, and the personal service we feel that each of you will get when you contact the ChLA office. Though we would love to keep Kathy with us indefinitely, we feel that this is a fine time to transition, given that our membership is nearing the 1,000 person mark and last year's conference was the largest we've ever hosted. The ChLA Executive Board believes that you will be pleased with our choice. I would like to express my appreciation to the ad hoc committee charged with finding an AMC for their many hours of hard work, to the ChLA Board and Exec Committee and especially to Roberta Seelinger Trites and Mike Cadden, who co-chaired the ad hoc committee. We will all miss Kathy and wish her all the best.

Communicating with ChLA

ChLA Administration:

**New Mailing Address for ChLA
After July 1
Children's Literature Association
1301 W. 22nd Street, Suite 202
Oak Brook, IL 60523**

On the Internet: www.childlitassn.org

In Print:

ChLA Quarterly Editor: **Kate Capshaw Smith**
(chlaq@uconn.edu)

Children's Literature Association Quarterly,
Dept. of English, 215 Glenbrook Road, Unit 4025,
University of Connecticut, Storrs CT 06269-4025

Children's Literature Editor: **Michelle Ann Abate**
(child.lit@hollins.edu)
Department of English,
Hollins University, Roanoke, VA 24020

ChLA Newsletter Co-Editors:
Ramona Caponegro (rcaponeg@emich.edu)
Cathlena Martin (cmartin16@montevallo.edu)

www.childlitassn.org

Children's Literature Association
P.O. Box 138
Battle Creek, MI 49016-0138
(Until July 1st)

