

wcte

on a mission to provide...

mentoring scholarship advocacy collegiality

WISCONSIN COUNCIL OF TEACHERS OF ENGLISH

WCTEonline.org

September 2022







IN THIS ISSUE



Peg Grafwallner



Peg Grafwallner, Amanda Zieba to keynote WCTE convention

e are thrilled to bring back the annual WCTE English convention this year on Saturday, Nov. 12.

The day will feature two keynote addresses. Madison's Cooperative Children's Book Center (CCBC) will also provide a presentation supporting the language arts field. Additional breakout sessions will be available on a number of topics relevant to the teaching of English Language Arts and leadership in the field.

WHEN Saturday, Nov. 12, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

WHERE Leopold's Books Bar Caffè 1301 Regent St., Madison

EXTRA! Only convention attendees will receive the poster shown on the next page.

REGISTER here. Lunch is included. More information on page 3.

FOR THE WCTE CONVENTION THIS FALL

CURATING CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS

SATURDAY, **NOVEMBER 12, 2022** LEOPOLD'S BOOKS BAR CAFFE 1301 REGENT ST. MADISON, WISCONSIN



Listen to Leaders and Innovators in Wisconsin Education such as CCBC, Peg Grafwallner, and Amanda Zieba.

> Connect with other Teachers through ConverSTATIONS and shared learning

Collaborate around new understandings with the Wisconsin State Standards, innovations, and state-wide issues



This poster will only be available to convention attendees. It is designed to help students investigate how they might use an English degree.



Arts & Audio/Visual

Have you been told that you have creative writing and visualization skills? Do you enjoy analyzing design decisions and often think it could have been done better? Careers in this cluster involve creative tasks, such as performing or writing. Graphic Designers will have the most openings in this career cluster.

Career Paths

- Graphic Designer
- Director
- Gallery Designer





Communications

Employment in communication occupations is projected to grow 14% in the next 10 years—faster than the average for all occupations. Demand for media and communication occupations is expected to arise from the need to create, edit, translate, and disseminate information through a variety of different platforms.

Career Paths

- Journalist
- Editor
- Correspondent
- Station Manager





Education & Training

Education positions are projected to grow 10% in the next 10 years, but Wisconsin is already experiencing an increased need for K-12 teachers as experienced teachers retire from the profession. If you enjoy sharing your knowledge and skills with others, then a career in education and training may be the right one for you!

Career Paths

- English Teacher
- Corporate Trainer
- Director of Curriculum
- University Lecturer

WHERE CAN ENGLISH TAKE YOU?



Information Technology

Information Technology careers pay more than two times the national average for wages. Wisconsin contains one of the Top 5 nonmetropolitan areas in the nation with the highest employment in IT. Demand in IT includes an emphasis on cloud computing, collection and storage of big data, and information security.

Career Paths

- Technical Writer
- Communications Analyst
- Web Designer
- Video Game Designer



Law & Public Safety

Legal professions require excellent communication skills, perfect for someone with an English background. The demand for more paralegals, legal assistants and lawyers is expanding because more individuals, businesses and governments require legal services in a growing number of areas.

Career Paths

- Paralegal / Legal Assistant
- Court Reporter
- Lawver
- Judge



Marketing & Sales

Organizations will continue to hire marketing experts to create marketing campaigns and expand their market. Those interested in data can analyze what consumers want and what they are willing to pay. Marketing and sales careers rely on effective speaking, writing, and researching skills, which align with an English degree.

Career Paths

- Advertising Executive
- Public Relations Manager
- Market Researcher
- Product Promoter

http://www. wcteonline.org/ YOUR PROFESSIONAL LEARNING NETWORK





FROM THE PRESIDENT >>Justina Plemon

Dear WCTE Members,

Greetings! We are so excited to bring you more information about our fall convention. This year the convention will occur inperson on Saturday, Nov. 12, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Leopold's Books Bar Caffè in Madison. We will hear from instructional coach, reading specialist, author and national presenter Peg Grafwallner, as well as educator and author, Amanda Zieba. The Cooperative Children's Book Center will also present to the group. We have really packed this day with meaningful and local resources for classroom teachers. If you'd like to attend, please register online at this link.

If you are in need of assistance to be able to attend, we are also excited to once again offer four scholarship grants. According to the WCTE Inclusion Invitation: "The Wisconsin Council of Teachers of English seeks to collaborate and engage with teachers who represent the full spectrum of ability, color, religion, age, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and identity. We aim to actively and intentionally improve our practices to foster diverse talents and encourage all members to grow within leadership positions in the organization and to grow individually as educators." The Pooley Foundation Convention Grant has been created to support this invitation by funding teachers from three demographics (first or second-year teachers, rural teachers, and urban teachers) who have not attended a WCTE convention before. Grant recipients will receive:

- free WCTE membership for one year
- hotel room cost (at state rate) for Friday night at the convention site for those who live more than 100 miles from Madison
- registration for Saturday convention.

The Pooley Foundation Convention Grant will be awarded to two first- or second-year teachers, one rural teacher and one urban teacher. The grant application can be found here. The application deadline is Sept. 30. Awardees will be informed by Oct. 10 in order to register for the convention. Any questions can be directed to Pooley Foundation trust officer Lynn Aprill at Laprill8@gmail.com.

Remember to take deep breaths at the beginning of this school year. You are making a difference and you are appreciated.

Justina Plemon

WCTE President

justina.plemon@gmail.com

Instructional Technology Coordinator St. Mary Catholic Schools

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TAKING A STAND>>WCTE Board of Directors

AWARDS>> Jennifer Kieren, Trista Owczarzak

WCTE annually presents several awards to recognize professional contributions and student achievements and to promote excellence in the teaching of the English language arts. These are presented at the convention each fall. We are pleased to announce that Christine Trainor is the recipient of the WCTE High School Teacher of Excellence. She teaches at Shorewood High School. Shannon Lagore will receive the Nancy Hoefs Memorial Award for Outstanding First Year Teacher. She teaches at Oakfield Middle/High School. She is featured on the next page.

In addition, **Siraj R. Kahn** and **Chyaine Rosenthal** will each receive the **Outstanding Student Teacher of the Year Award**. Kahn student taught at Rufus King High School in Milwaukee and Rosenthal at Rosholt High School. They will each receive a certificate and a one-year membership in WCTE.

Finally, **Pernille Ripp** will receive WCTE's **Award for Diversity and Inclusion.** This new award recognizes Wisconsin English teachers who create safe spaces for their students, use inclusive teaching strategies, and embrace diversity — especially diversity that mirrors their students' cultural heritage.

Next year's awards deadline will be May 15.

WCTE High School Teacher of Excellence

This award winner is recognized for excellent practices and contributions in the classroom. **Christine Trainor** is described in her nomination letter as a **skilled and passionate** English teacher. Her curriculum is creative and interesting, allowing for voice and choice. She continuously modifies her curriculum to keep it relevant and unique. Her energy and enthusiasm for teaching is infectious; students love her classes.



Christine Trainor

She is also an inclusive teacher who

believes in educating all students. She designs and teaches classroom

HER ENERGY
and enthusiasm
for teaching is
infectious; students
love her classes.

"

content so that all students can succeed and thrive. She demonstrates a balance of being supportive and understanding of students' differences while also pushing all to achieve and believe in themselves as learners. Her classroom is a place where everyone feels welcomed, supported and respected.

Trainor also excels in building healthy, collaborative relationships with her colleagues, supporting their special needs students. She welcomes support staff to work with her and is receptive to co-planning and adapting her curriculum to meet unique needs of students.

Differentiation comes naturally to her. She is skilled in understanding, planning for, and adapting her curriculum to meet the unique needs of all her students.

Trainor's **can-do positive attitude** is infectious and brings out the best in those around her. She is an educator who strives for excellence in her classroom and beyond.







Trista Owczarzak

Jennifer Kieren
 WCTE Awards Co-Chairs

David Roloff

Award for Diversity and Inclusion

Pernille Ripp teaches seventh grade English language arts at Oregon Middle school. Her nominator emphasized that diversity and inclusion have been at the core of her work. Ripp brings this lens to every lesson, every conversation and every meeting. Because of this, their school community is a more equitable place for all students, staff and families.



Pernille Ripp

Ripp creates a **learning environment** that provides a safe space for all students, regardless of any label. In her classroom all views are expressed, investigated and reflected upon. Many of her former students continue to see her as someone they trust.

Through **diversity of texts**, Ripp has helped teachers build classroom collections that embrace the richness of human form and expression. This has facilitated professional development in the district and beyond, pushing literacy conversations past "just" representation and into who gets to hold the power and who doesn't. As a member of the school's equity team, Ripp helps to develop and deliver professional development around equity in the school.

Beyond her classroom, Ripp advocates for **inclusion in the community**, promoting equity in all areas, from tolerance to social justice. Through her work with Global Read Aloud, millions of students have been exposed to stories they may never otherwise have encountered. She led her school's implemention of a curricular audit tool that helped all teachers analyze the voices, representation and power present in their curriculum so that changes could be made.

Ripp goes beyond the classroom to advocate for **inclusion in the community, promoting equity in all areas,** from tolerance to social justice. She has helped staff become more aware of their own culture and how that impacts their work with the students.

In her classroom, Ripp celebrates and incorporates into instruction the **cultural values of all her students**. She has helped staff become more aware of their own culture and how that impacts their work with their students.

Beyond the classroom, she **builds relationships** with students and families of various backgrounds and experiences.

AWARDS>>continued

Outstanding Student Teacher Award

An English education student at UW-Milwaukee, Siraj Khan student taught at Rufus King International High School in Milwaukee, where his cooperating teacher, Ann Christensen, watched him blossom as an educator.

Christensen said he developed a rapport with his students in a matter of days by not only memorizing their names, but also learning a meaningful bit of information about them as people.



Siraj Khan

Khan demonstrated an insatiable desire to grow as an educator by learning valuable classroom management and instructional techniques from experienced colleagues. He regularly solicited feedback from both teachers and students. When Christensen was absent, he ensured instructional continuity by teaching classes beyond those to which he was assigned.

As the lead teacher of three Media Studies classes, Khan struck a balance between being a caring teacher and an authority figure, a rather exceptional feat for a new teacher, especially in a class where many students have academic and behavioral challenges. He maintained a productive learning environment, recognized potential issues and quickly abated them in a calm manner that maintained student dignity.

Outstanding Student Teacher Award

As an English education major at UW-Stevens Point, Chyaine Rosenthal student taught at Rosholt High School last spring, where her supervising teacher, David Roloff, characterized her as standout out from the crowd an insightful and gifted educator who plans creative and engaging lessons, and is dedicated to their success.

Roloff observed that her level of teaching practice from the first day was astounding. She constructed lessons that capitalized on the unique

CHYAINE'S

TEACHING

practice has

been, in a word,

astounding.



Chyaine Rosenthal

interests and learning needs of her individual students. She could clearly aticulate and purposefully structure the central aspects of her courses for them. While her instruction was challenging, she also **encouraged and supported** students in individualized ways. Her lessons were full of varied and engaging activities while being responsive to students' developing skills.

Rosenthal worked to communicate with parents/guardians and to modify instruction in appropriate ways. She cares deeply about her students,

is insightful, reflective and is dedicated to improving her own practice. Roloff said she is truly one of the most talented preservice teachers he has worked with and the dedicated teacher that today's students deserve.

ABOUT WCTE AWARD WINNERS

The winner of the WCTE Teacher of Excellence receives formal recognition and free registration at the fall WCTE convention.

The winner of the Nancy Hoefs Memorial Award for an Outstanding First-Year Teacher receives free registration and one night accommodation at the fall WCTE convention as well as formal recognition at the convention.

The winners of the **Outstanding Student Teacher** Award will each receive an expense-paid trip to the WCTE convention where they are recognized at a reception, and a paid annual membership in WCTE.

The winner of the Award for Diversity and Inclusion receives recognition at the fall WCTE convention.

Go to www.WCTEonline.org "Awards and Grants" for more details and other WCTE honorary awards!

Nancy Hoefs Memorial Award for Outstanding First Year Teacher

Shannon Lagore works in a 6-12 English department at Oakfield Middle/High School, a rural school district. Colleagues say she feels like a veteran teacher because of her depth of knowedge and understanding of content and teaching practices in all five courses she taught this year. She creates unique and engaging lessons for her students at four different grade



Shannon Lagore

She not only gives up time outside the school day to participate in online webinars and events, she is also an adviser for the newly formed LGBTQ+ club at school. This has been a need for many years, but it took Shannon's initiative to make this a reality. Now the students have a safe space to congregate and learn from one another.

She has **handled difficult situations** like the time when a student had a seizure in class. She has made calls to Child Protective Services as a mandated reporter. Making those calls is heart-breaking, and making them as a first-year teacher is even more difficult.

Shannon has demonstrated a willingness to learn and participate in professional development throughout the year. She is already making arrangements with UW-Stevens Point to mentor and work with pre-service teachers in the coming school year.

Shannon is the first to volunteer and help both staff and students. Learning to be strong in the face of trials is not something one learns in college classes; her actions are clearly a testament to her character and strength. Her willingness to get involved, learn more and help others is incredible. She is a strong member of the staff team and is someone both students and staff can learn from and lean on.



Featured Wisconsin author: Walter Wellesley 'Red' Smith

Walter Wellesley "Red" Smith, born in Wisconsin, is featured on WCTE's Literary Map at https://www.wisconsinlitmap.com/red-smith.html.

• Wisconsin Connection: Green Bay, WI

Born: 1905Died: 1982

• Link to Wikipedia Page

• Link to Author's Website

Born in Green Bay, Wisconsin, on September 25, 1905, sportswriting legend Walter Wellesley "Red" Smith became one of America's most widely read sports columnists. Smith's career began in 1927, at the Milwaukee Sentinel. He then worked

for the St. Louis Journal and Philadelphia Record, before settling in New York, in 1945. From 1945-1966, he wrote for The New York Herald Tribune, where he established his reputation and became widely read and syndicated. After the Tribune folded in 1966, he worked as a freelance writer for a number of years before joining The New York Times in 1971. In 1976 while working for



Walter "Red" Smith Wisconsin-born sports writer

The Times, Smith became the first sportswriter to win the Pulitzer Prize for Commentary.

During his career Smith won a number of other awards including the J.G. Taylor Spink award in 1976, and in 1959 was the first winner of the NSSA's National Sportswriter of the Year award. He was also honored by the Associated Press as the first winner of the Red Smith award for "outstanding contributions to sports journalism." Smith died in 1982. He was inducted into the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Hall of Fame on April 5, 1977.

(From https://nationalsportsmedia.org/awards/hall-of-fame/1977-walter-wellesley-red-smith)

Want to learn more about "Red" Smith and another 132 Wisconsin authors? Visit the Wisconsin Lit Map website at https://www.wisconsinlitmap.com/

The 1976 Pulitzer Prize Winner in Commentary



January 29, 1975 February 14, 1975 March 24, 1975 April 25, 1975 April 27, 1975 June 4, 1975 August 13, 1975 September 14, 1975 September 21, 1975

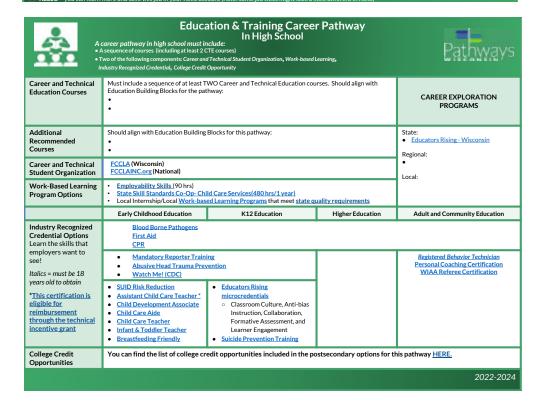
October 1, 1975

WINNING WORK
Everyone Was Patently Reasonable
When It's Midnight in Manhattan
The Champion and His Court
Football's Long Hot Summer II
Down Yonder in New Orleans
How to Get the City Out of Hock
Tidying Up the Reserve System
Football and Union-Busters
Back to the Drawing Board
Joe Was Still Coming In



CAREERS>> Lynn Aprill, North-Central Region Career Pathway Coordinator

Å	Educat	tion & Training Career I <name of="" region=""> 2022-2024</name>	Pathway	Pathyays
	links to find the job titles that seem most intercreate an Academic and Career Plan (ACP) lat		jobs you are interested in from this o	areer pathway in your XELLO
Educational Level May also require work experience, a specific license, and/or background check and fingerprinting	Early Childhood Education	K12 Education	Higher Education	Adult and Community Education
High School Diploma, Certification	Assistant Child Care_Teacher, Child Care Teacher, or InfantToddler Teacher * O Nanny (Au Pair) O Range \$xxx,xxx-xxxx,xxx	Food services worker *O School Safety Officer or Security Personnel School Office Assistant Teacher Assistant *O School Bus Monitor Range \$5000,0000	Food services worker * O Facilities Maintenance Worker Tutor Residential Advisor Range \$xxx,xxx	Community Education Instructor Youth Development Worker Community Recreation Staff Umpire or Referee or Coach*O Range \$xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
Post High School Certification or Technical Diploma (Registered Apprenticeship*)	Early Childhood Education Teacher**() Family Child Care Provider* Child Care Director * Preschool Teacher *() Range \$xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	Bus Driver. * O Range \$xxx,xxx-xxx,xxx	Lab Assistant Range \$xxx,xxx-xxx,xxx	Behavior Technician HR or Organizational Development Assistant Career or Life Coach O Range \$xxx,xxx-xxx,xxx
Associate Degree	Head Start Assistant Teacher * Social and Human Services Assistant.	Paraeducator. * Health Room Aide * IT Support Specialist. * Lab Assistant Short term Substitute Teacher. *	Administrative Assistant O Library Technician O IT Support Specialist O Lab Manager	Community Program Manager Social and Human Services Assistant O Library Technician O
	Range \$xxx,xxx-xxx,xxx	Range \$xxx,xxx-xxx,xxx	Range \$xxx,xxx-xxx,xxx	Range \$xxx,xxx-xxx,xxx
Bachelor Degree and beyond	Head Start Lead Teacher * 4K Preschool Teacher (in a School District) * O Early Childhood Special Education Teacher * O	Education Policy Analyst Rar Teacher • Pre K - 12 Education * O • Special Education * O • Special Education * O • Special Education * O • School Social Worker * • School Social Worker *	gge \$NXX,XXX-XXX,XXX Professor, Adjunct, Instructor () Library Media Specialist () Student Services Staff Disability Services Coordinators Career Services Advisors Admissions Counselors () Academic Advisor	Director of Community Education Corporate Trainer or Development Specialist O Library Media Specialist O
	Range \$xxx,xxx-xxx,xxx	Range \$xxx,xxx-xxx,xxx	Range \$xxx,xxx-xxx,xxx	Range \$xxx,xxx-xxx,xxx
Postsecondary Options	Click <u>HERE</u> for Postsecondary Options	Click <u>HERE</u> for Postsecondary Options	Click <u>HERE</u> for Postsecondary Options	Click <u>HERE</u> for Postsecondary Options



JOURNALISM >> **Linda Barrington**

The Art of the Interview: preparing to write nonfiction

For students

A Master Interviewer: Terry Gross

Watch: Terry Gross: My Job as an Interviewer is to Find Out Something I Don't Know

Big Takeaway:



Watch: "It Made Me Feel Very Connected To People" - Terry Gross On Interviews During The Pandemic

Big Takeaway:

Interviewing Ray Charles

How do you know Terry Gross researches her subject beforehand? What evidence is present of that?

What does Terry Gross do well?

What makes Terry Gross a master interviewer?

What is the story Terry Gross helps to tell about Ray Charles?

Source for Terry Gross guide: Carolyn Fritts, Glenbard West High School, Glen Ellyn, IL., Email: carolyn_fritts@GLENBARD.ORG Used with permission.



FALL CONFERENCE



- Do you want your student journalists to boost their skills?
- Are you ready for your students to be excited to produce quality work?
- Are you fantasizing about taking a field trip again?

Friday, Oct. 14, 2022 | 9:30-1:30 UW-Whitewater

Help students learn basic or advanced techniques in journalism

For more information, please visit www.KEMPAJournalism.org or contact KEMPAJournalism@gmail.com

SPEECH >> Patrick Osowski

Starting off on the right foot effectively lowers anxiety

As the school year starts, it is absolutely a good time to find some opportunities to get students to start on their journey for speaking during class. There are plenty of resources available as to topics that can be used for short speeches, but it is more important to make sure that students feel good both coming in and out of the speaking experience. It isn't earth shattering to say that anxiety about speaking is going to be the biggest barrier to students being able to demonstrate their abilities at speaking in front of their classmates. The best way to combat this is to make sure that each student feels safe and supported in class. Here are a few things that can be done early in the semester to create an environment conducive to low anxiety:

- Make it clear on the first day of class that the room will be a safe place. It seems elementary, but making this clear early without it being a response to students saying they have anxiety about speaking helps a great deal.
- Have students say, out loud in class, that they are nervous about speaking. This goes a lot further than the teacher saying that most of the class is anxious.
- During speeches, even short ones, have students give feeback about something that was done well and something that could be improved for each speech. This could be done on a Google Form or on a note card. Make sure that you scan through them first to make sure the constructive criticism is all solid.
- Actively make sure that every student is paying attention during
- Actively make sure that every student claps for every speaker.
- If there is behavior during a speech that isn't focused and supportive of the speaker, address it in a general way as well as talk to the individual students privately.

Overall, taking solid steps early to make sure that students know that they are safe will go a long way to reducing anxiety for future speaking situations.



Patrick Osowski teaches at Fond du Lac High School, He has a Bachelors in Speech Education and a Masters in Speech Communication. He has taught a public speaking course for 30 years including more than 20 years teaching through UW-Oshkosh CAPP (Cooperative Academic Partnership Program).

LIKE ANY SKILL, showing gratitude in the form of applauding needs to be practiced. We want our students to practice gratitude. We know it's important to their learning and their well-being..

--Mary DeMichele

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for classroom ideas for organization updates for professional development opportunities

We're here to support you!







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FROM THE ARCHIVES >> Marti Matyska

A Glimpse at the minutes of the WCTE...

As with most meetings, we begin with "The meeting will come to order."

CALL TO ORDER

from 1958

The inception of the Wisconsin Council of Teachers of English. Roster included Dr. William Jenkins, Mrs. Gladys Veidemanis (Nicolet HS, Milwaukee), Mr. Paul Kruegar, Professor Lee Buress (UW-Stevens Point), Sister Mary Hester, SSND (Mount Mary College)

from 1960s

In the financial report Mr. Bush reported that "Structural Grammar in the Classroom" by Verna Newsome continues to be the bestselling article with "Grammatical Patterns in Composition" following. "Wisconsin Studies in Literature" sales totaled \$76, even though it is not yet printed."

from 1970s

"It was moved by Burgess (seconded by Dougherty) that Ken Zahorski compile a fantasy bibliography."

from 1980s

The following resolution of the WCTE Convention was respectfully submitted by Jim Gifford: "BE IT RESOLVED that the Wisconsin Council of Teachers of English request all school administrators and teachers in the state of Wisconsin to abolish the assigning of writing for punishing and disciplinary purposes."

from 1990s

Jack Kean reported on a power struggle between the DPI and the new government leadership. "AB 237- this bill states that in teacher preparation in Reading and Language Arts K-8 all methods of instruction must include teaching intensive phonics and must include student competency in the methodology."

from **2000s**

"There was a lively discussion of the following books:"
Snow falling on Cedars
Under the Tuscan Sun
Harry Potter
The Cider House Rules
We Are Our Mothers' Daughters
Poisonwood Diaries
The Green Mile
How the Garcia Girls Lost Their
Accents
Map of the World
Tuesdays with Maury
'Tis
The Business of Fancy Dancing



Marti Matyska, archivist

'Tis
The Business of Fancy Dancing
(Board members' suggestions for
personal reading)

from 2010s

Treasurer's Report—Scott Oates (in absentia) "We're fine."

THE MEETING IS ADJOURNED

The most unique adjournment on our books: "Donna Pasternak moved, Lynn Aprill seconded to adjourn to celebrate our 50th anniversary with wine and chocolate downstairs." The board unanimously voted to do so.

WCTE BOARD MEMBER PROFILE

Hurt prioritizes her professional development

'm Stephanie Hurt and I joined the WCTE board this year. I have taught middle school and high school English in Brodhead for the past 11 years; however, this year, I am transitioning to high school instructional coach.

Stephanie Hurt sthurt5@gmail.com

Last December, I certified with the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards in ELA, and I learned so much from this intense and reflective process.

I have also been extensively involved with the National Writing Project, an organization I highly recommend to all teachers! In my free time, I enjoy running and spending time in the great outdoors with my husband, daughter (11), and son (6).



Stephanie Hurt Brodhead School District

PUBLICATIONS >> Jennifer Moody

New Wisconsin English Journal editor begins fresh era

Greetings, WCTE community!

In August 2022, I accepted the role of editor of the Wisconsin English Journal. I'm very grateful to the WCTE Board for this opportunity and am excited to bring together our experiences, research, inspiration and expertise from across the badger state!

I've lived in Wisconsin for the last seven years — first as a graduate student in the English program at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and now as an assistant professor at Mount Mary University. I'm lucky to have had an educator role model early in life — my mother taught kindergarten for decades at rural schools in Alabama and Tennessee. Although she's happily retired and enjoying time on the Gulf Coast, we often have conversations about current issues in the field of teaching that bridge K-12 and post-secondary experiences.



Jenni Moody (right) with her mom, Brenda Glover, at Fort Morgan Beach

As editor of the Wisconsin English Journal, I hope to hold this space open for all of our experiences, the dialogues we have together and the support we offer each other. I'm open to a wide range of genres and media. From traditional research to visual essays to poetry to TikTok series. If you've got an idea that feels slightly strange, please don't be afraid to send it to me! I hope to meet many of you at our November WCTE Convention and would love to talk through your ideas with you.

Our Fall 2022 issue will be an open theme. Write about that practice or realization that's been resurfacing in your teaching, or maybe a question you've been returning to throughout these past few strange, stressful years.

Additionally, I encourage you to reach out to me if you've submitted a piece in the past and did not receive a response. I am eager to read your submissions!

As I transition into the role of editor, the best way to contact me is through my current school email — moodyj@mtmary.edu. Please send me your submissions, questions and ideas.

I hope you have a good start to the new school year and that the writing muse visits you and your students!

Warmly,

Jenni Moody

Jenni Moody, MFA, Ph.D.



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OPEN THEME

WHAT WE'RE READING >> the WCTE Board

Looking for a good book? Check out these titles, shared by the WCTE Board



Jennifer Kieren Ellsworth HS

Book Lovers by Emily Henry

"The title says it all, but its a fun read for anyone familiar with standard romance book tropes. It's less a romance and more of what family means to the characters. Very enjoyable read!." ~ *Jennifer Kieren*

One summer. Two rivals. A plot twist they didn't see coming....

Nora Stephens' life is books—she's read them all—and she is not that type of heroine. Not the plucky one, not the

laidback dream girl, and especially not the sweetheart. In fact, the only people Nora is a heroine for are her clients, for whom she lands enormous deals as a cutthroat literary agent, and her beloved little sister Libby.

Which is why she agrees to go to Sunshine Falls, North Carolina for the month of August when Libby begs her for a sisters' trip away—with visions of a small-town transformation for Nora, who she's convinced needs to become the heroine in her own story. But instead of picnics in meadows, or run-ins with a handsome country doctor or bulging-forearmed bartender, Nora keeps bumping into Charlie Lastra, a bookish brooding editor from back in the city. It would be a meet-cute if not for the fact that they've met many times and it's never been cute.

If Nora knows she's not an ideal heroine, Charlie knows he's nobody's hero, but as they are thrown together again and again—in a series of coincidences no editor worth their salt would allow—what they discover might just unravel the carefully crafted stories they've written about themselves. ~ *Goodreads*



Stephanie Hurt Brodhead School District

Reading Writing Rigor: Helping Students Achieve Greater Depths of Knowledge in Literacy by Nancy Boyles

"This book explores Webb's Depths of Knowledge Levels 1-4. Most standardized assessments utilize Level 2 and 3 questions; yet, many classroom assessments still focus on Level 1 questions. I was prompted to think about the rigor of my questions and offered practical suggestions for

increasing deep thinking around literacy tasks." ~ Stephanie Hurt

What does rigor, a word that frequently pops up in conversations about education, really mean? More specifically, what does it mean for literacy instruction, and how does it relate to challenging standards-based assessments? In this informative and practical guide, literacy expert Nancy Boyles uses the framework from Webb's Depth of Knowledge (DOK) to answer these questions, offering experience-based advice along with specific examples of K-8 assessment items. \sim *Goodreads*



Jennifer Moody Mount Mary University

She Come By It Natural: Dolly Parton and the Women Who Lived Her Songs by Angeline Boulley

"Smarsh combines research on Dolly Parton with memories from her rural, working class upbringing. The result is an insightful exploration of feminism in both Southern and rural cultures. This book is small, easy to carry around for reading, and divided into digestible chapters." ~ Jennifer Moody

Far beyond the recently resurrected "Jolene" or quintessential "9 to 5," Parton's songs for decades have validated women who go unheard: the poor woman, the pregnant teenager, the struggling mother disparaged as "trailer trash." Parton's broader career—from singing on the front porch of her family's cabin in the Great Smoky Mountains to achieving stardom in Nashville and Hollywood, from "girl singer" managed by powerful men to leader of a self-made business and philanthropy empire—offers a springboard to examining the intersections of gender, class, and culture.

Infused with Smarsh's trademark insight, intelligence, and humanity, *She Come By It Natural* is a sympathetic tribute to the icon Dolly Parton and—call it whatever you like—the organic feminism she embodies.

Infused with Smarsh's trademark insight, intelligence, and humanity, *She Come By It Natura*l is a sympathetic tribute to the icon Dolly Parton and—call it whatever you like—the organic feminism she embodies... ~ *Goodreads*



Lynn Aprill Kohler MS

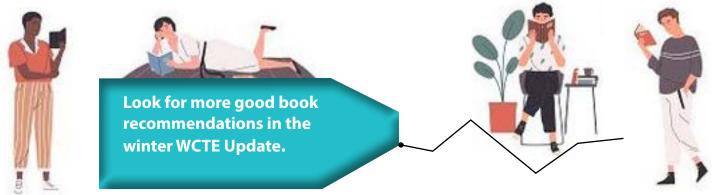
Mississippi Trial, 1955 by Chris Crowe

"Great novelized first-person account of the Emmitt Till murder for middle/high school." - *Lynn Aprill*

Winner of the 2003 International Reading Association Award for Young Adult Novel

At first Hiram is excited to visit his hometown in Mississippi. But soon after he arrives, he crosses paths with Emmett Till, a black teenager from Chicago who is

also visiting for the summer, and Hiram sees firsthand how the local whites mistreat blacks who refuse to "know their place." When Emmett's tortured dead body is found floating in a river, Hiram is determined to find out who could do such a thing. But what will it cost him to know? *Mississippi Trial, 1955* is a gripping read, based on true events that helped spark the Civil Rights Movement. — *Goodreads*





Wisconsin English Teachers' Calendar of Events and Deadlines



September

Sept. 18-24 Banned Books Week: "Censorship Divides Us" https://bannedbooksweek.org/

October

- Oct. 9 Deadline for registration for the Kettle Moraine Press Association Fall Scholastic Journalism Conference. More information at website.
- Fall Scholastic Journalism Conference sponsored by the Kettle Moraine Press Association at UW-Whitewater, *Theme:* Back to Basics. More information at https://kempajournalism.org/8544/uncategorized/kempa-fall-scholastic-journalism-conference-back-to-basics/

November

- **Nov. 11-13** <u>JEA</u> convention in St. Louis, *Theme: Game Changers*
- **Nov. 12** WCTE Fall convention at Leopold Books Bar Caffè, Madison, **Theme:** Curating Classroom Connections
- **Nov. 17-20** <u>NCTE convention</u> in Anaheim, *Theme: iSuenos! Pursuing the Light!*
- **Nov. 20-22** <u>CEL convention</u> in Anaheim, *Theme:* Leading Literacy Coalitions: From Classrooms to Communities

WCTE Update September 2022 President 2nd Vice President Treasurer Justina Plemon Tanya Sponholz Tom Scott 1st Vice-President Secretary Update Editor Sarah Rowse-Borrelli Jennifer Kieren Linda Barrington

INGS WE SAY TODAY ME OME "KNOCK, KNOCK! WHO'S THERE?" "IN A PICKLE" "SET YOUR TEETH ON EDGE "FAINT HEARTED" "SO-SO" "BAITED E" BREATH" "WHAT'S DONE IS DONE" AUGHING STOCK" "HEART OF HEARTS" "VANISH INTO THIN AIR" "MAKES YOUR HAIR STAND ON END" "SEEN BETTER DAYS" "FOR GOODNESS' SAKE"

"GREEN EYED MONSTER" PLA MY OYSTER" "BE ALL / END ALL" "A SORRY SIGHT "THE WORLD IS

You can order this poster for your classroom here or here.