

2012 WLU Summer Institute

St. Louis, MO • July 19-21, 2012

Reclaiming Joy in Teaching, Learning, and Research

We invite you to join us for the 23rd Literacies for All Summer Institute as we focus on the political act of reclaiming classrooms as places of joyful engagement and complex relationships.

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For more information, visit www.ncte.org/wlu/institute.

Sponsored by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)
and the Whole Language Umbrella (WLU) in cooperation with
the Center for Expansion of Language and Thinking (CELT)





Invitation from the WLU President

The Literacies for All Summer Institute remains the only progressive literacy conference in the world. Our exciting gatherings each summer serve to rejuvenate, educate, and celebrate all that we are doing and also to critique and interrogate policies and mandates that are undermining children's authentic learning. The Institute is not a huge conference, but a more intimate gathering so that first-time attendees and longtime participants become quite close over the course of two and a half short days. Please join us in St. Louis for another wonderful experience beginning with our preconference and going through Saturday evening. There are many unique possibilities available as part of the conference: strands on new media, English language learning and teaching, miscue analysis, critical literacy, and more; bell ringer sessions; keynotes; and a special performance by local slam poets, a jazz band, and Circus Harmony. I truly hope to see you there!

—Rick Meyer, President

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, July 19

- 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. Registration
- 11:45 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Preconference Workshop (tickets required)
- 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Opening Session with Isoke Titilayo Nia

Friday, July 20

- 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Registration
- 8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Opening Session with R. Joseph Rodriguez
- 10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. A Sessions (Bell Ringer)
- 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. B Sessions
- 12:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Luncheon (tickets required)
- 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. C Sessions
- 3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. D Sessions
- 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Circus Harmony & Poets

Saturday, July 21

- 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Registration
- 8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Opening Session with Nikki Grimes
- 10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. E Sessions
- 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. F Sessions
- 12:45 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch on your own
- 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. NCTE Sessions
- 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Trip to the City Museum (tickets are \$17.00, limited to 20 participants) contact Sue Gallivan at sgallivan@ncte.org
- 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. G Sessions
- 3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. H Sessions
- 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Delegates Assembly

BELL RINGER SESSIONS, FRIDAY, JULY 20

10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

A.01 Ruth Davenport, "Reclaiming Joy in the Teaching of Miscue Analysis: Our Shared Journey of Change"

A.02 Tasha Tropp Laman, Amy Seely Flint, and Sanjuana Rodriguez, "Finding Their Way in the World: Writing Art, and Identity with Young English Language Learners"

A.03 Scott Ritchie, Wendy Harris, Elizabeth Hill, Karen Kraeger, and Tiffany Proctor, "Co-Constructing Spaces for Student Agency: Critical Discourse Analysis in K-8 Settings"

A.04 Ken Goodman, Steven Strauss, Eric Paulson, and Peter Fries, "Reading: The Grand Illusion"

SESSIONS TO INCLUDE:

"Water Is Life: Developing Eco-Conscious Curriculum as an Avenue to Teacher/Student Influence in the Classroom, the Capital, and the Environment," presenters: Michael Soares, Paul Ritter, and Megan Bozarth from Illinois.

"Providing Authentic Literacy Activities for Students Who Live in Poverty through Promoting Inquiry-Based Learning in the Content Areas," presenters: Nicky Gilleland, Paul Baldwin, Megan Nason, and Lois Zangara from Georgia.

"Using Technology to Support Content Literacy, and Student Inquiry in a High Poverty, Bilingual Minority 4th Grade Classroom," presenter: Rita Moore from Oregon.

"Breaking through the Mandates," presenters: Cheryl North-Coleman, Bess Altwerger, Kristie Bowers, and Nancy Rankie Shelton from Maryland.

Friday, July 20 • 11:30 – 12:45 p.m.

A TRIBUTE TO JENNIFER WILSON

"What Jen Taught Us...Celebrating the Life and Work of Jennifer Wilson," presenters: Martille Elias, Jean Dickinson, Carol Gilles, Tiffany Haulton, Pamela Jewett, Danielle Johnson, Lisa Schwab, and Tasha Laman.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER INFORMATION



THURSDAY, JULY 19

ISOKE TITILAYO NIA

Isoke Titilayo Nia has been an educator for over twenty-five years mostly spent in New York City's schools. The first several years were spent in independent schools for children of African descent where she taught grades three through eleven. She began her quest for process teaching and learning as a teacher and staff developer in District 17 in Brooklyn before becoming Director of Research and Development at The Reading/Writing Project, Teachers College, Columbia University.

In September of 2001, Isoke founded All Write Literacy Consultants in Brooklyn, New York. She now travels throughout the world learning, and sharing that learning with others who teach literacy instruction. She is known for her dynamic keynote speeches and engaging workshops where she presents on poetry, reading and the African American child, and literature in the writing workshop. She is also a writer of short stories.

Join Isoke on Thursday evening, July 19 from 7:00–9:00 p.m.



FRIDAY, JULY 20

R. JOSEPH RODRIGUEZ

R. Joseph Rodriguez is a lecturer in the College of Education and research associate in the Center for Teaching and Learning at The University of Texas at Austin. He works on projects directly associated with student learning, assessment, and achievement. He teaches courses on language acquisition, content area literacies, pre-service teaching, and research methods. He is serving on the English language arts–reading content coordinating team for the 2012 Series GED Tests, American Council of Education.

Joseph earned a Ph.D. (2001) from the University of Connecticut's Neag School of Education, a master's degree (1999) in English from The University of Texas at Austin, and a bachelor's degree (1997) in modern languages and literatures from Kenyon College. He has taught English and Spanish language arts at various levels in public schools and at the university level. He has worked in educational assessment and program evaluation since 2001. He previously served as director of assessment and accreditation services in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at the University of Houston.

Joseph is the recipient of NCTE Research Foundation's Cultivating New Voices Fellowship (2002–2004). He has published articles in the *English Journal* (2011), *English Leadership Quarterly* (2008), *College Culture*, *Student Success: A Longman Topics Reader* (2008), and *Guide to College Reading* (2003). In 2005, Joseph joined the NCTE Conference on English Leadership (CEL) and served on the CEL 2009 Program Committee. Currently he is serving a term as CEL member-at-large.

Join Joseph on Friday morning, July 20 from 8:30–9:45 a.m.



SATURDAY, JULY 21

NIKKI GRIMES

Nikki Grimes does not consider herself a bona fide storyteller, but, as she told an audience at the Library of Congress, she is happy to own the title Poet. Born and raised in New York City, Nikki began composing verse at the age of six and has been writing ever since.

An accomplished and widely anthologized poet of both children's and adult verse, Nikki is the recipient of the 2006 NCTE Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children.

A New York Times bestselling author and a prolific artist, she has written many award-winning books for children and young adults. Her distinguished works include ALA Notable book *What is Goodbye?*, Coretta Scott King Award winner *Bronx Masquerade*, the novels *Jazmin's Notebook*, *Dark Sons*, and *The Road to Paris* (Coretta Scott King Author Honor Books). Creator of the popular *Meet Danitra Brown*. Nikki lives in Corona, California.

Visit Nikki's website at <http://www.nikkigrimes.com/>.

Join Nikki on Saturday morning, July 21 from 8:30–9:45 a.m.



RECLAIMING LITERACY: SUPPORTERS OF PUBLIC EDUCATION STRATEGIZING TOGETHER

Thursday, July 19 • 11:45 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. • \$65
(includes lunch)

No area of the curriculum has been as deeply affected by the last decade of corporate education reform policy than literacy. Mandated curriculum and high-stakes tests ignored decades of advancement in literacy theory and practice, forcing schools to abandon meaning-centered, literature-rich literacy programs. Legislated malpractice has hurt thoughtful teachers, inflicted wounds on children, and left schools as mere shadows of the substantive and rich places they could be. This session is focused on teachers no longer being perpetual witnesses to curriculum imposed upon them and their students. We will engage in a variety of safe strategies for talking back, acting out, and reclaiming our classrooms.

Goals of the Workshop include:

- Deepen our mutual understanding of the underlying forces that threaten the future of literacy as well as the future of public education.
- Form alliances with education activists to identify common goals for future collaboration at state, local and national levels. This includes the Save Our Schools at <http://www.saveourschoolsmarch.org> (SOS) group.

- Plan steps toward re-establishing WLU's national leadership role for responding to corporate-driven literacy related policies and developing alternative policies.
- Form working groups to develop concrete plans for building actions and campaigns throughout the year that will heighten public awareness of and resistance to corporate reform policies.

Presenters:

Bess Altwerger, Towson University, Save Our Schools at <http://www.saveourschoolsmarch.org/> (SOS)

Ceresta Smith, High School Teacher, Florida, United Opt Out at <http://unitedoptout.com/>

Morna McDermott McNulty, Towson University

Peggy Robertson, Parent, former teacher, Parents Across America at <http://parentsacrossamerica.org/>

Mike Klonsky, retired, University of Illinois-Chicago, Coalition of Small Preparatory Schools at <http://smallschoolscoalition.com/> (CSPS)

Richard Meyer, University of New Mexico

FRIDAY'S LUNCHEON

A Luncheon in Honor of Dorothy Watson's Dedication to WLU
12:45 – 2:00 p.m. *(tickets required \$34.00 per person)*

Dorothy Watson, Professor Emerita at the University of Missouri Columbia, has befriended and mentored hundreds of teachers and children. She has authored and co-authored texts and publications that cover a range of progressive literacy topics. Some of us know her as the first person to have introduced us to the tenets and beliefs of whole language learning; her faith and belief in the wholistic approach to teaching are a living legacy. Most of all, Dorothy has defined the lives of so many young readers, always reminding us that a child is not a test score.

This session is intended for anyone attending the summer institute. Seasoned participants will enjoy reminiscing and learning about Dorothy. Those new to the institute will get a sense of the history, joy, beliefs, and possibilities of being part of an important professional home.

CIRCUS HARMONY

Friday evening • 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Circus Harmony is a ground-breaking, bridge-building project that features circus arts performed by children from different neighborhoods accompanied by music from different countries. The project includes weekly development and training of youth circus performers, rehearsals with professional musicians, and regular public performances.

AN AFTERNOON AT THE CITY MUSEUM

Saturday, July 21 • 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Please consider joining us for a walking trip to the City Museum, one of the most unique and quirky museums in the country. Founded by the late Bob Cassilly, the museum features recycled and repurposed materials and a variety of exhibits and activities. The cost of the expedition is \$17 and includes metro link tickets and admission to the museum. For additional information or to sign up, please contact Sue Gallivan at sgallivan@ncte.org.

AUGUST TO JUNE: BRINGING LIFE TO SCHOOL!

Saturday, July 21 • 2:00 – 4:45 p.m.

The recent documentary August to June: Bringing Life to School follows a year in an unconventional public school classroom that exemplifies the theme of this year's conference, intimately portraying the creative and joyous education of 26 third and fourth graders. Jay Featherstone call it "...a flat out gorgeous, beautiful movie...".

HOTEL INFORMATION

Hilton St. Louis Ballpark Hotel, 1 S. Broadway, St. Louis, MO 63102

All summer institute activities will take place at the Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark. Special room rates of \$135.00 are available until June 27 or until the room block is filled for the dates of July 17 – 21.

The Hilton at the Ballpark is **sold out on Saturday** night because a baseball game is in town. The average room rate for Saturday night is \$309. However, since WLU is going to be meeting in the hotel, they have agreed to take 20 additional rooms from their inventory for us to use on Saturday night, but the cost will be \$195 for that night only. **You will need to book early** to receive that rate. <http://www.ncte.org/wlu/institute>

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REGISTRATION FORM

Member Nonmember First-time attendee

Member No. _____

Please Print or Type Your Name As You Wish It To Appear on Your Nametag.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Country _____

Institution _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Email _____

If you have any disability-related accommodation or accessibility needs, please contact Sue Gallivan by July 13, 2012 at 800-369-6283, ext. 3675 or sgallivan@ncte.org.



 **Refund requests must be made before July 6, 2012.** A processing fee of \$25 will be charged on all refunds. Meal tickets are nonrefundable.

Registration deadline is July 13, 2012
Anyone wishing to register after this date must register onsite in St. Louis.

PRECONFERENCE WORKSHOP

Thursday, July 19: 11:45 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Co-sponsored by CELT \$ 65
(includes lunch)

MEAL FUNCTION

Luncheon, Friday, July 20 \$ 34

CONFERENCE FEES

WLU/NCTE Member \$185

NCTE Member \$210

Nonmember \$260

Full-Time Student* \$100

* Proof of Student status required

Total Fees \$ _____

PAYMENT

All fees must be submitted in U.S. funds.

Check (payable to NCTE)

Purchase Order (must be accompanied by Registration Form)

Charge: MasterCard VISA Discover

Account Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Your signature, authorizing charge. NOTE: Your signature also authorizes NCTE to charge the correct total amount in case of error in addition.

Return completed forms and fees to:

2012 WLU Conference Registration
National Council of Teachers of English
1111 W. Kenyon Road
Urbana, IL 61801-1096

For more information, call:
800-369-6283, ext. 3675
Or visit: www.ncte.org/wlu

NOTE: By registering for this summer institute, I grant WLU/NCTE permission to use photographs taken of me in group settings during the summer institute in future materials.