2015 Whole Language Umbrella Literacies for All Summer Institute
July 9–11, 2015 • Atlanta, Georgia

Sharing Our Stories, Re-Visioning Our Worlds: Reading, Writing, and Taking Action

The WLU Literacies for All Summer Institute is a small, friendly conference inviting educators from early childhood to college to explore issues through conversation and social action. Interactive sessions invite participants to share thinking around critical issues and engage in firsthand learning experiences. The Institute will feature close to 50 concurrent sessions organized as panels, workshops, and conversations. Themes include writing and composition, parents, literature, English learners, critical literacy, revaluing readers who struggle, digital literacies, and multimodalities.

For more information, visit www.ncte.org/wlu/institute
Invitation to the Literacies for All Summer Institute from the WLU President

Please join us for the 26th annual Literacies for All Summer Institute in Atlanta, Georgia. The theme “Sharing Our Stories, Re-visioning Our Worlds: Reading, Writing, and Taking Action,” invites stories of wonder, triumph, challenges, and resistance as we explore language and literacy learning and teaching. When you attend the Literacies for All Summer Institute, you are joining our professional family. You will notice a spirit of reunion and rejuvenation, and I promise you will leave with new ideas and new friends.

On the 25th anniversary of the first WLU conference in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1990, we reflect on whole language as part of the historic tapestry of progressive education, democratic schools, and critical literacy. Our work builds upon the foundation laid by our mentors and leaders, but the creative work of teachers involves constantly re-visioning the potential of holistic learning communities informed by the most current research and thinking on language education.

The conference site in Decatur offers nearby bookstores, restaurants, and shops, as well as a quick MARTA ride to downtown Atlanta. Come to Atlanta this summer and bring a friend!

Debra Goodman
President, Whole Language Umbrella

Institute Schedule

Thursday, July 9
10:00 a.m.–8:30 p.m.  Registration
8:30 a.m.–11:00 a.m.  Eye Movement Miscue Analysis (EMMA) Researchers Meeting (all are welcome to attend)
11:45 a.m.–6:00 p.m.  Preconference Workshop (tickets required, includes lunch)
7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.  Opening Session: Grace Lin

Friday, July 10
8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.  Registration
8:30 a.m.–9:30 a.m.  Plenary Session: JoBeth Allen
9:30 a.m.–10:00 a.m.  Refreshments
10:00 a.m.–11:15 a.m.  A Sessions
11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m.  B Sessions
1:00 p.m.–2:15 p.m.  Luncheon: 25th Anniversary Celebration (tickets required)
2:30 p.m.–3:45 p.m.  C Sessions
4:00 p.m.–5:15 p.m.  D Sessions
5:15 p.m.–7:00 p.m.  Refreshments and Entertainment

Saturday, July 11
8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.  Registration
8:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.  Refreshments
8:30 a.m.–9:15 a.m.  Plenary Session: Candace Kuby and Tara Gutshall Rucker
9:30 a.m.–11:45 a.m.  Symposium Sessions
11:45 a.m.–1:00 p.m.  Lunch on your own
1:15 p.m.–2:30 p.m.  G Sessions
2:45 p.m.–3:45 p.m.  H Sessions
3:30 p.m.–4:00 p.m.  Refreshments
4:00 p.m.–5:15 p.m.  Closing Session: Peter H. Johnston
5:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m.  WLU Delegates Assembly (all are welcome to attend)

Conference Strands and Themes
- Early Childhood (sponsored by the Early Childhood Education Assembly)
- Teacher to Teacher
- Arts/Multimodality
- Curriculum
- Critical Literacy/Democratic Classrooms
- Digital Literacies
- Language and Culture
- Literacy and Social Action
- Kidwatching/Miscue Analysis
- Multilingual Classrooms
- Parent and Community
- Professional Learning
- Revaluing Learners
- Writing/Composition

At the heart of whole language is the belief that teachers are professionals who make countless decisions every day that make a difference in the lives of learners. Those decisions are not a function of following a prescriptive program. They require knowledge and understanding and skill. For more than 25 years, the WLU Summer Institute has offered teachers a venue for developing insight and for sharing experiences with like-minded educators. Teaching is an honored profession at WLU!

Richard Owen
Richard C. Owen Publishers, Katonah, New York
Featured Speakers

GRACE LIN

Grace Lin is the author and illustrator of picture books, early readers, and middle-grade novels. Her 2010 Newbery Honor book Where the Mountain Meets the Moon was chosen for Al Roker’s Today Show Kid’s Book Club and was a New York Times bestseller. Ling & Ting, Lin’s first early reader, was honored with the Theodor Geisel Honor in 2011. Most of Lin’s books are about the Asian American experience because, she believes, “Books erase bias; they make the uncommon everyday and the mundane exotic. A book makes all cultures universal.” Lin is an Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award nominee for the United States.

Lin will present “The Extra Adjective.”

JOBETH ALLEN


Allen will present “Family Dialogue Journals: Partnerships that Support Student Learning.”

CANDACE KUBY AND TARA GUTSHALL RUCKER

Candace Kuby is an assistant professor of Early Childhood Education at the University of Missouri. She is the author of Critical Literacy in the Early Childhood Classroom: Unpacking Histories, Unlearning Privilege (2013) and co-editor of Disrupting Qualitative Inquiry: Possibilities and Tensions in Educational Research (2014).

Tara Gutshall Rucker is in her eighth year as an elementary teacher in Columbia Public Schools, Columbia, Missouri. She received her MA in Curriculum and Instruction through the Teaching Fellows program at the University of Missouri and is currently working on an elementary mathematics specialist certificate.

Kuby and Rucker are currently writing a book (due out in 2016) about their five years of co-researching in a multimodal writers’ studio.

Kuby and Rucker will present “Embracing the Uncertainties of Literacy Desirings: Sharing Our Stories from a Multimodal Writers’ Studio.”

PETER JOHNSTON

Peter Johnston is professor emeritus at the University at Albany. His recent research has focused on the consequences of teachers’ classroom talk for the ways children learn and experience themselves and each other, and the ways in which engaged reading influences children’s social, emotional, moral, and academic development. He is a member of the International Literacy Association’s Literacy Research Panel and the Reading Hall of Fame. Recent awards include the State University of New York Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Research and Creative Activities and the P. David Pearson Scholarly Influence Award from the Literacy Research Association for his book Choice Words. His newest book is Opening Minds.

Johnston will present “Engagement, Achievement and Ecologies of Classroom Talk.”

I attend the WLU Summer Institute each year to challenge my own thinking about current issues in the field by participating in innovative sessions and networking with colleagues from around the world.

Sally Brown
Georgia Southern University, Statesboro

For more information, visit www.ncte.org/wlu/institute
Symposium Sessions
Saturday, July 11 • 9:30–11:45 a.m.

Symposium sessions invite participants to explore topics in depth and through first-hand experiences. The four extended sessions are offered at the same time so that everyone can participate.

- Disrupting the Commonplace: Critical Literacy in Early Childhood (cosponsored by the Early Childhood Education Assembly)
- Miscue Analysis and Comprehension: Knowing and Supporting Our Students as Readers
- Facilitating Access, Enacting Democracy
- Start a Conversation on Digital Voice in Your Classroom (cosponsored by the National Association for Media Literacy Education)

CEL / WLU Cosponsored Preconference Workshop

Facilitator: Katy Rubin, Theatre of the Oppressed NYC
Host: Rick Meyer, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque

This year’s preconference workshop will focus on the use of dramatic strategies to address issues facing our students, our communities, and ourselves. As teachers and community members, we’re often confronted with events, laws, opinions, mandates, curriculum, and other impositions upon our classrooms, schools, homes, and workplaces. During this workshop we will learn, practice, and plan for the use of theater as a vehicle for raising consciousness and finding viable solutions to complex situations. Whether we face issues of fairness in kindergarten, racism in a third-grade classroom, sexism in a graduate course, or inequity within our community, the strategies presented offer unique ways to articulate and initiate response to critical social issues.

We’re thrilled to have Theatre of the Oppressed NYC leading the workshop. Through partnerships with social service organizations and city agencies, Theatre of the Oppressed NYC creates theater troupes with community members who face pressing social, economic, health, and human rights issues. The troupes create and perform plays based on real-life struggles, which engage diverse audiences in theatrical brainstorming—or Forum Theatre—to activate communities and creatively challenge systems of oppression.

Friday Luncheon: Celebrating the Past, Present, and Future of WLU
July 10, 1:00–2:00 p.m.

At this year’s luncheon, we celebrate 25 reunions since the first WLU conference in St. Louis in 1990. As whole language teachers, we come together around a meal for stories, songs, and images reflecting on friendships and inspirational conference experiences. Storytellers and song leaders include Ken and Yetta Goodman, Amy Seely Flint, and Rick Meyer.

Whether you are a first-time or long-time attendee, you won’t want to miss this year’s luncheon.

Thank you to the National Association for Media Literacy Education for sponsoring this year’s Institute.
New This Year: Early Childhood Strand
Cosponsored by the NCTE Early Childhood Education Assembly (ECEA)

The ECEA encourages early childhood educators to revel in the joy of early literacy at this year’s WLU Literacies for All Summer Institute early childhood strand! The strand features a keynote address by Candace Kuby and Tara Gutshall Rucker and a two-hour symposium, “Disrupting the Common Place,” that will challenge your thinking about critical literacy.

Open your mind to sessions exploring innovative practices that break through the walls of curriculum mandates, as well as studies of CCSS, RTI, and Reading Recovery in early childhood classrooms. Reenvision early childhood classrooms as holistic places where arts flourish, multimedia plays a significant role, and gender stereotypes are questioned. Hear the voices of Jamaican families and children and emergent bilingual learners! Participate in conversations about the power of wordless books, storytelling, and read-alouds.

Don't miss this opportunity to develop sustained collaborations with international early childhood colleagues!

If you’re feeling discouraged and overwhelmed right now, attend the WLU Summer Institute. You’ll be energized and inspired as you learn to look through a different lens at language, literacy, curriculum, and your daily life as a teacher.

Carole Edelsky
Arizona State University, Tempe

Sessions and Events for Secondary Teachers and College Faculty

Whole language engages students in meaning-centered, experiential learning in all P–16 classrooms. Secondary teachers and college faculty are sure to find colleagues at this year’s Institute!

Our Saturday morning symposium features two sessions that offer secondary and college educators extended workshops.

- Start a Conversation on Digital Voice in Your Classroom
- Facilitating Access, Enacting Democracy

In addition, a range of concurrent sessions address secondary and college classrooms, including:

- Helping Special-Needs High School Students through Critical Literacy
- Integrating Visual Arts into the Secondary Classroom
- Making Space for Critical Literacy in a Standards-Driven Curriculum
- Re-Visioning English and Literacy Teaching in Multicultural Secondary Classrooms
- Fostering Student Responsibility in the Twenty-First Century Composition Classroom
- Crossing the Interstellar Divide: Science in the College Composition Classroom

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

Registration Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institute Fees</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WLU/NCTE Member:</td>
<td>$225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCTE Member Only:</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonmember:</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time Student*:</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(*Proof of student status required)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Optional Fees

| Preconference Workshop: | $65 |
| Friday Luncheon: | $35 |

The registration deadline is June 30, 2015. Anyone wishing to register after that date must register onsite in Atlanta.

Hotel Information

All Summer Institute activities will take place at the: Courtyard Atlanta Decatur Downtown/Emory 130 Clairemont Avenue Decatur, GA 30030

Visit www.ncte.org/wlu/institute for information on reserving your room at the Institute rate of $149.

Each year, I look forward to the WLU conference as the keynotes and sessions continue to inspire me and move me forward in my ideas on inquiry-based and critical literacy learning and teaching. I’ve attended WLU since 1996 and have found it to be a professional home that provides space for highly interactive engagement with others also interested in holistic literacy learning.

Peggy Albers
Georgia State University, Atlanta
Literacies for All is more like a revival than a conference—a revival of my teaching spirit and the beliefs about children and learning I hold so dear.

Katie Wood Ray
Waynesville, North Carolina