

# 2016 Whole Language Umbrella Literacies for All Summer Institute

Literacy That Matters:  
Curriculum, Creativity,  
and Critical Action

July 14-16, 2016  
St. Louis, Missouri  
Clayton Plaza Hotel

For more information, visit  
<http://www.ncte.org/wlu/institute>



## The WLU President's Invitation to the Literacies for All Summer Institute



Please join us in St. Louis, MO, for the **2016 Whole Language Umbrella Literacies for All Summer Institute**. The theme of this year's conference, "**Literacy That Matters: Curriculum, Creativity, and Critical Action**," invites us to share the ways in which we move beyond the limits of mandated curriculum, commercial programs, and testing as we explore language and literacy teaching and learning that matters in the lives of our students and their communities. Building on the lengthy history of progressive education, democratic schools, and critical literacy, the creative work of educators involves constantly affirming the potential of whole language learning communities to examine the reality that surrounds us using multiple literacies and a critical lens. This conference invites educators to come together to learn and explore these issues through a variety of forums including workshops, panels, poster presentations, conversations, and social/political action.

What's especially delightful about this conference is the friendly and intimate atmosphere that infuses all the sessions, casual conversations, and shared meals when longtime participants reunite and invite newcomers to join this very special community. You'll go home with new friends, new ideas to occupy your mind, and renewed energy to maintain holistic, responsive, and relevant learning experiences within your individual classrooms and schools.

See you in St. Louis!  
Caryl Crowell  
2016 WLU President

## 2016 Institute Schedule

### Thursday, July 14

- 10:00 a.m.–8:30 p.m. Registration/Information
- 8:30 a.m.–11:00 a.m. EMMA Researchers (All welcome to attend)
- 11:45 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Preconference Workshop (tickets required, includes lunch)
- 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m. Opening Plenary Session—Mitali Perkins  
Reception follows

### Friday, July 15

- 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Registration/Information
- 8:30 a.m.–9:30 a.m. Plenary Session—Korina Jocson
- 9:30 a.m.–10:00 a.m. Coffee Break, Poster Session Gallery Walk (Posters to remain up throughout the day with written feedback forms available)
- 10:00 a.m.–11:15 a.m. A Sessions
- 11:30 a.m.–12:45 a.m. B Sessions
- 1:00 p.m.–2:15 p.m. Luncheon—Alex Cuenca, speaker (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.–6:15 p.m. Refreshments and Entertainment

### Saturday, July 16

- 8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Registration/Information
- 8:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m. Coffee and light refreshments available
- 8:30 a.m.–9:15 a.m. Plenary Session—Anne Haas Dyson
- 9:30 a.m.–11:45 a.m. E/F 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.–4:00 p.m. H Sessions
- 4:15 p.m.–5:15 p.m. Delegates Assembly (Closing Plenary Session room)
- 5:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m. Refreshments available in Plenary room
- Closing Plenary Session—Donalyn Miller

Schedule information subject to change. Be sure to check [www.ncte.org/wlu/institute](http://www.ncte.org/wlu/institute) for the most up-to-date schedules.



## Featured Speakers



**Mitali Perkins** has written many novels for young readers, including *Rickshaw Girl* (chosen by the New York Public Library as one of the top 100 books for children in the past 100 years) and *Bamboo People* (an American Library Association's Top Ten Novels for Young Adults, starred in *Publishers Weekly* as "a graceful exploration of the redemptive power of love, family, and friendship.") Her newest novel, *Tiger Boy*, is a Junior Library Guild selection and 2016 NCTE Charlotte Huck Award Honor Book. Perkins was born in Kolkata, India, before immigrating to the United States with her family. She has lived in Bangladesh, India, England, Thailand, Mexico, Cameroon, and Ghana. She currently resides in the San Francisco Bay Area with her husband and sons.

See more about her and her work at <http://mitaliperkins.com>.

**Mitali Perkins will speak during the Opening Session on Thursday evening, 7:00–9:00 p.m.**



**Korina Jocson** is an assistant professor and a cross-disciplinary scholar in social justice education at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Central to her work are arts-informed sociocultural approaches that examine youth literacies and issues of equity, access, and inclusion, particularly among historically marginalized youth. Dr. Jocson primarily engages in qualitative inquiry to address persistent challenges in urban education. For over a decade, she has collaborated with educators and cultural workers in support of youth academic, career, and life trajectories. She is the author of *Youth Poets: Empowering Literacies In and Out of Schools* (2008) and editor of *Cultural Transformations: Youth and Pedagogies of Possibility* (2013). Currently, she is completing a book manuscript on youth media and education. Other publications have appeared in scholarly journals such as *Curriculum Inquiry*, *Teachers College Record*, *Daedalus*, *Pedagogies*, and *Urban Review*, as well as in a number of anthologies and edited books. She is an active member of the American Educational Research Association and serves on the Affirmative Action Council (Division G: Social Contexts of Education). Dr. Jocson received her PhD in Education in the area of language, literacy, and culture at the University of California, Berkeley, and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Stanford University School of Education.

**Korina Jocson will speak Friday morning, 8:30–9:30 a.m.**



**Alexander Cuenca** is Assistant Professor of Social Studies Education in the Department of Education at Saint Louis University. He taught middle school social studies in Miami, Florida, before earning his PhD in Social Studies Education from the University of Georgia. His research examines social studies teaching and learning, teacher learning during the student teaching experience, and the pedagogy of teacher education.

Most recently, Dr. Cuenca's work has focused on examining ways to leverage the professional preparation of social studies teachers to address issues of socioeconomic inequality. Dr. Cuenca is coeditor of the forthcoming book, *Rethinking Social Studies Teacher Education for 21st Century Citizenship*. He is an active member of the American Educational Research Association and the College and University Faculty Assembly of the National

Council for the Social Studies.

**Alexander Cuenca will be the featured speaker at the Friday Luncheon, 1:00–2:15 p.m.**



**Anne Haas Dyson** is a former teacher of young children and a fellow of the American Educational Research Association. Among her previous appointments was as a longtime professor at the University of California, Berkeley, where she received the campus-wide Distinguished Teaching Award. She has spent more than 35 years studying the childhood cultures and literacy learning of young schoolchildren, for which she has received numerous awards. Dyson aims, first, to bring respect and intellectual attention to childhood cultures and their relationship to school learning. Young children do not participate in school because they are concerned about the national economy, international competition, or climbing a ladder to academic accolades from a grateful nation. They desire to make sense of their world and to gain companionship in what can be a confusing world.

Second, she aims to document the diversity of resources (languages, popular culture texts, semiotic tools, everyday experiences) our diverse school children bring with them with which to participate intellectually and socially in school, especially in written language development. Her newest publications are *ReWRITING the Basics: Literacy Learning in Children's Cultures* (2013), which won the 2015 NCTE David H. Russell Award, and *Child Cultures, Schooling, and Literacy: Global Perspectives on Children Composing their Unique Lives* (2016).

**Anne Haas Dyson will speak on Saturday morning, 8:30–9:15 a.m.**



**Donalyn Miller** has taught upper elementary and middle school students in northeast Texas and was a finalist for 2010 Texas Elementary Teacher of the Year. She is the author of several books about engaging children with reading, including *The Book Whisperer* and *Reading in the Wild*. Miller is the cofounder of the popular blog *The Nerdy Book Club* and cohosts the monthly Twitter chat #titletalk. Her articles about teaching and reading have appeared in publications such as *Education Week Teacher*, *The Reading Teacher*, *Educational Leadership*, *Horn Book*, and the *Washington Post*.

See more about her work at <https://bookwhisperer.com>

**Donalyn Miller will speak at the Closing Session on Saturday afternoon, 5:30–6:30 p.m.**

## Everyday Advocacy: Changing the Story of Literacy Education CELT/WLU Cosponsored Preconference Workshop



Workshop leaders:

Cathy Fleischer, Eastern Michigan University  
Jenna Fournel, National Council of Teachers of English

The conversation about school reform too often leaves out the voices of teachers—those most intimately acquainted with issues that impact student learning. These voices are essential for citizens and policymakers to hear, but the individual teacher story—powerful though it might be—has proved insufficient to ignite change. This workshop immerses teachers in ways to build upon their individual stories to become everyday advocates—agents for change who work within their local contexts to subvert the current narrative about schools, teachers, and literacy learning in ways that are smart, safe, and savvy. We will introduce attendees to new ways of envisioning their professional roles in the current climate, immerse you in advocacy approaches, share the work of other teacher advocates, and identify and frame an issue as a first step toward beginning your own advocacy work.

As primary author of the NCTE website *Everyday Advocacy*, author of *Teachers Organizing for Change*, and developer of numerous advocacy workshops for teachers, **Cathy Fleischer** will introduce many of the concepts and share experiences of teachers who have attended her workshops. As Director of Communications at NCTE, former teacher, and former consultant with the FrameWorks Institute, **Jenna Fournel** will also introduce many of the concepts, particularly those connected with narrowing and framing issues.



### Symposium Sessions Saturday, July 16, 9:30-11:45 a.m.

Symposium sessions invite participants to explore topics in depth and through firsthand experiences. The three symposium sessions are offered at the same time so that they are not competing with concurrent sessions.

- Critical Conversations about Race, Power, and Education in Our Schools and Communities
- Read, Write, Do, Talk, Draw... That's What Scientists Do! Rebuilding Our Curricular Framework to Support Strong Teaching and Learning
- Reclaiming Curiosity: Having the Courage to Inquire with Kids (cosponsored by the Early Childhood Education Assembly)



# Registration Information

## Institute Fees

WLU / NCTE Member:	\$225
NCTE Member Only:	\$250
Nonmember:	\$300
Full-time Student*:	\$100
(*Proof of student status required)	

## Optional Fees

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

The registration deadline is July 7, 2016. After that date, please register onsite in St. Louis. For other deadlines, please check [www.ncte.org/wlu/institute/registration](http://www.ncte.org/wlu/institute/registration)

## Hotel Information

All Summer Institute activities will take place at the Clayton Plaza Hotel  
7750 Carondelet Ave  
Clayton, MO 63105

Visit [www.ncte.org/wlu/institute](http://www.ncte.org/wlu/institute) for information on reserving your room at the Institute rate of \$119.

**Special discount:  
\$45 off for current  
classroom teachers!**

See how at  
[www.ncte.org/wlu/institute](http://www.ncte.org/wlu/institute)



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Nonprofit  
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National Council of  
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2016 WLU Conference Registration  
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