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  *Subject to availability.

The Master Teacher Will:

- Teach a master class on video
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No Purchase or Payment of Any Kind Necessary to Apply for the Agatha Christie Master Teacher Search or Win a Prize. A Purchase Does Not Increase Your Chances of Winning. The Agatha Christie Master Teacher Search begins at 12:00:01 AM Eastern Time on 9/1/14 and ends at 11:59:59 PM Eastern Time on 2/1/15. Applicants must be (i) legal residents currently residing in one (1) of the fifty (50) United States (excluding AK and HI) or the District of Columbia and at least 25 years old at the time of application; (ii) full-time or part-time teachers in public, private or parochial schools currently teaching grades K-12 who have taught for 5 or more years; and (iii) available to travel to London, England departing on September 14, 2015 and returning on September 21, 2015 to attend the 2015 Agatha Christie Festival, if judged to be the Agatha Christie Master Teacher. Total value of all prizes to be awarded is $18,186. Void in AK, HI, and where prohibited. For complete Official Rules and entry requirements, visit http://academichc.com/AgathaChristieTeacher. Sponsor: HarperCollins Publishers LLC, 195 Broadway, New York, NY 10007.
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—Linda, Middle Level member from Delaware

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I’ve been a member of NCTE for about 25 years. For me, NCTE was a place where I went to become a professional. English Journal published the first piece that I [wrote]. Now I’ve written 12 or 13 books. . . . It’s all really the result of NCTE’s investment in me. I had a mini-grant to do a teacher research study and, with that invitation, whole worlds opened up to me. . . . I’m saying all of this to show how great the Council is. It provided all those opportunities for me to grow.

—Carol, Secondary member from Illinois

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Calls for Manuscripts

Writing Matters

December 2015. Writing is the fullest realization of all that is learned in language arts, yet it is often relegated to the end of a unit of study. However, the process of composition can offer much to learners. Creative writing can result in self-discovery, and writing-to-learn can deepen disciplinary thinking. How do you use writing in a meaningful way in your classroom, and to what end? In what ways do digital tools enhance composition and production? In what ways can middle school educators improve their own writing through professional development? In this issue, we explore all aspects of writing, including skills development, writing-to-learn, creative writing, writing across the curriculum, and formal essay writing.
Deadline: December 1, 2014

Research and Investigation

February 2016. We often say that we want our students to be lifelong learners, but how do we make that a reality? One way is to empower students by fostering inquiry and investigation. The ability to formulate meaningful questions and conduct research to address those queries is critical for deepening their understanding of a topic. Middle school students are learning to flex their investigative muscles, to explore the world around them, but they need guidance to do so. How do you foster inquiry in your classroom? What kind of research skills are vital for middle school students to learn in digital environments? In what ways do students share their findings with one another?
Deadline: February 1, 2015

Quality Teaching: 5 Years Later

May 2016. The first issue under our editorship focused on defining quality teaching. We wonder how the thinking about quality teaching has changed in the past five years. How have the Common Core State Standards impacted teaching and learning in your classroom or school? How has technology focused instruction? In an era of new assessments and new curriculum, how do you define quality instruction for all students? We are also interested in what quality instruction looks like for students who have experienced less success in school, specifically students with disabilities, students who struggle academically or socially, students who have been marginalized by schools or society, and English learners. Let’s celebrate good teaching and the excellent teachers who focus their lessons on learning each day.
Deadline: May 1, 2015

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Voices from the Middle, Volume 22 Number 1, September 2014