

Reading Program Newsletter



February 2009

Dear Readers and Teachers of Readers,

As I begin to write this introduction, I note that this is the coldest day in January, 2009. This morning as I drove to work, the thermometer read -22 degrees. This is, I think, the best time to read. It is too cold to be outside for long periods of time. I urge you to try a new author or different genre this new year.

I must admit that I have not yet read any of the *Twilight* series by Stephenie Meyer. Upon the urging of readers, school secretaries, school faculty, and professors, I will change that. In this cold snap, I plan to read *Twilight*, the first book of the series.

There are some fabulous ideas in this newsletter. I say read, read, read, and then read some more.

Enjoy and stay warm,
Peggy Marciniac

TED 705! When Are You?

Students be aware that **TED 705: *The K-12 Literacy Program*** will be offered in fall 2009. This class is required for the MSE Reading and the Wisconsin 017 (Reading Specialist) license. At this time, we intend to offer the course online only and it will be taught by Becky Ardren.

Remember to take TED 705 after taking your 600 level classes.

TED 750 and TED 752

Most of you are aware that we have aligned the MSE Reading program with the MSE in instruction and also our MSE in special education. Students all take TED 750 which is all about types of research and how to go about setting up your own research study. You will actually, with instructor support and peer feedback, begin your required research study in this course. During the next semester, MSE Reading students will sign up for TED 752; this course is the actual completion of your thesis under the direction of UW Superior faculty. The TED 750 and TED 752 sequence need to be taken toward the end of your program. The thesis will also include a presentation.

MSE Reading students may choose a UW Superior reading faculty member to mentor their study. Your advisor will guide you in this process.

Portfolio Discussion

For students graduating in May 2009, this is a reminder to complete your MSE portfolio. You will submit this capstone document and engage in a professional discussion which culminates your program. This semester's Portfolio Discussion will be held on **Wednesday, May 8** from 4PM until 5PM. Please reserve your spot with Dr. Mrciniec at 715-394-8585 or pmarcini@uwsuper.edu.

Two Students Complete Their Thesis!

And so can you! Choosing a topic of interest is an important aspect of writing a solid thesis. Once you have defined a topic, your research will be a focus of your study and your energy. The MSE Reading program is proud to recognize two students who are completing their thesis. They are:

Anne MacLean: *How Does the Effect of a Students' Stage of Spelling Development and Orthographic Knowledge Relate to Gains in Spelling?*

Pam Tomassoni: *Effects of Literacy Coaching on Teachers Working with Struggling Readers*

Congratulations to both Anne and Pam for their successful endeavors.

Lit from the Loft

 by Becky Ardren

Greetings from Vermont where I am teaching UWS on-line courses this semester from my lovely loft office in Essex Junction. Each spring semester I teach Children's Literature which is a favorite time for me to explore new picture books and reading incentive programs. This year I have discovered the *Vermont's Red Clover Award* that promotes reading and discussion of the best of contemporary picture books in nearly all VT elementary Schools. Each year over 20,000 K-4 students participate in reading, listening to, and voting for their favorite books. The Winner is announced in March http://www.mothersgooseprograms.org/lit_red_clover Here are this year's nominations for Vermont's *Red Clover Award*.

Vermont's 2008-2009 Red Clover Nominees

Dadblamed Union Army Cow by Susan Fletcher

Fred Stays with Me! by Nancy Coffelt

Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal: A World Wide Cinderella by Paul Fleishman

Henry's Freedom Box by Ellen Levine

Scaredy Squirrel Makes a Friend by Melanie Watt

Sky Sweeper by Phillis Gershator

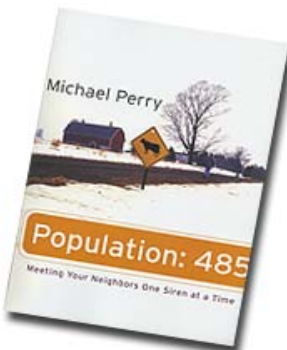
The Chicken-Chasing Queen of Lamar County by Janice N. Harrington

When Dinosaurs Came with Everything by Elise Broach

White Owl, Barn Owl by Nicola Davies

Wind Flyers by Angela Johnson

My grand-daughter Molly, age five, and I have read them all. She votes for *When Dinosaurs Came with Everything* and I vote for *Fred Stays with Me!* Share these wonderful books with your students and families today. You will have a good time. The website above also has teaching ideas for the book. Read On!



One Book One Community Announces the 2009 Book!

Population 485: Meeting Your Neighbors One Siren at a Time by Michael Perry is a celebration of small town life in Wisconsin by volunteer EMT Perry.

Start your One Book reading group today. Share one of the short stories with your students. Friday, May 1, 2009 Michael Perry will be doing an evening reading and a concert with Michael's band The Long Beds, location tba. For questions call Anita Zager at 218-722-5267 or email norlight@norlights.com

The One Book Committee is comprised of librarians, teachers, community members and booksellers. The goal is to promote reading and a community talking about good books. Sponsorship has been provided by: The Duluth Library Foundation, The Arrowhead Reading Council, and Northern Lights Books and Gifts. The complete One Book One Community program will be available soon at www.duluth.lib.mn.us/Programs/OneBook.html

Create an Acrostic

In the cold days of February and March, make time for your students to reflect on what they have learned. Using an acrostic can be an interesting way for a student or a small group of students to think about what they have learned to use in decoding words and handling problems in reading or to record their favorite books. Dr. Schrenker did the following acrostic on some of her favorite recent children's books. The authors are listed in the parentheses.

Rules (Cynthia Lord)

Elijah of Buxton (C.P.Curtis)

Al Capone Does My Shirts (Gennifer Choldenko)

The Tale of **D**espereaux (Kate DiCamillo)

Inkheart (Cornelia Funke)

AND Tango Makes Three (Pete Parnell & Justin Richardson)*

Gathering Blue (Lois Lowery)

*Did you know *And Tango Makes Three* by Pete Parnell & Justin Richardson is now the most often challenged book? See the American Library Association (www.ala.org) for more information about intellectual freedom.

IRA released their Children's Choices for 2008 in their October edition of *The Reading Teacher*. You can also find the list at the IRA website www.reading.org. The neat thing about this list is that children at three different levels (grades K-2, 3-4, and 5-6) review the books themselves and give their choices. What a great way to choose certain "winners" for your library. Two other lists of children's and YA literature are available from IRA: Teachers' Choices and Young Adult Choices.

Summer Literacy Institute Being Planned

UWS Reading Department and Superior Public Schools will hold their third annual Literacy Institute on June 17 and 18, 2009. This year will focus on math and reading.

YOU are Invited to attend Arrowhead Reading Council Events

April 16, 2009 from 4:30 – 5:30 pm

One Book One Community Literature Circle

Ordean Middle School

Duluth MN

Read **Population 485** by Michael Perry and then attend this event to talk about the book with other teachers. Refreshments will be served. This is always a good time. No advanced registration needed.

May 13, 2009 from 5-7 pm

An Evening of the Arts

Northland Country Club, 3901 E Superior St. Duluth MN Fee: \$18 ARC members \$22 nonmembers
Advanced Registration is required. Email rardren@uwsuper.edu for registration information.

Arrowhead Reading Council honors many area artisans with an evening of sharing. Visit with members, get a summer reading list of great books selected by ARC Board Members, and meet the artists. Heavy hors d'oeuvres served with a cash vine bar.

To join Arrowhead Reading Council/Minnesota Reading Association or renew your membership (\$30) contact Debbie Sauer, membership chair. Deborah.Sauer@duluth.k12.mn.us



American Library Association Announces 2009 Literary Award Winners

The American Library Association announced the top books, videos and audiobooks for children and young adults on January 26, 2009. The following is a partial list of all ALA Youth Media Awards for 2009. Go to www.ala.org for a complete list of award winners.

John Newbery Medal for the most distinguished contribution to children's literature. Neil Gaiman, author of "The Graveyard Book," illustrated by Dave McKean, is the 2009 Newbery Medal winner. Four **Newbery Honor Books** were named: "The Underneath" by Kathi Appelt, illustrated by David Small; "The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom" by Margarita Engle; "Savvy" by Ingrid Law; "After Tupac & D Foster" by Jacqueline Woodson.

Dave McKean's illustrations help set a bone-chilling atmosphere for readers of Neil Gaiman's "The Graveyard Book."

Randolph Caldecott Medal for the most distinguished American picture book for children. Beth Krommes, illustrator of "The House in the Night," written by Susan Marie Swanson, is the 2009 Caldecott Medal Winner. Three Caldecott Honor Books were named: "A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever," written and illustrated by Marla Frazee; "How I Learned Geography," written and illustrated by Uri Shulevitz; "A River of Words: The Story of William Carlos Williams," illustrated by Melissa Sweet, written by Jen Bryant.

Michael L. Printz Award for excellence in literature written for young adults. Melina Marchetta, author of "Jellicoe Road," is the 2009 Printz Award winner. Four **Printz Honor Books** also were named: "The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, Traitor to the Nation, Volume II, The Kingdom on the Waves," by M.T. Anderson; "The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks," by E. Lockhart; "Nation," by Terry Pratchett; and "Tender Morsels," by Margo Lanagan.

Coretta Scott King Book Award recognizing an African American author and illustrator of outstanding books for children and young adults. "We Are the Ship: The Story of the Negro League Baseball," written and illustrated by Kadir Nelson, is the **King Author Book** winner. "The Blacker the Berry," illustrated by Floyd Cooper, written by Joyce Carol Thomas is the **King Illustrator Book** winner.

Schneider Family Book Award for books that embody the artistic expression of the disability experience for child and adolescent audiences. "Piano Starts Here: The Young Art Tatum," written and illustrated by Robert Andrew Parker won the award for young children. Leslie Connor is the winner of the middle-school award for "Waiting for Normal." The teen award winner is "Jerk, California," written by Jonathan Friesen.

Theodor Seuss Geisel Award for the most distinguished book for beginning readers. "Are You Ready to Play Outside?" written and illustrated by Mo Willem.

Margaret A. Edwards Award for lifetime achievement in writing for young adults. Laurie Halse Anderson is the recipient of the 2009 Margaret A. Edwards Award honoring her outstanding lifetime contribution to writing for teens for “Catalyst,” “Fever 1793,” “Speak,” a 2000 Printz Honor Book.

Robert F. Sibert Medal for most distinguished informational book for children. “We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball,” by author and illustrator Kadir Nelson, is the winner of the 2009 Sibert Medal.

Andrew Carnegie Medal for excellence in children's video. Paul R. Gagne and Melissa Reilly of Weston Woods Studios, producers of “March On! The Day My Brother Martin Changed the World,” are the 2009 Carnegie Medal recipients.

Odyssey Award for Excellence in Audiobook Production. Recorded Books, producer of the audiobook “The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian,” written and narrated by Sherman Alexie and produced by Recorded Books, LLC., is the winner of the 2009 Odyssey Award.

Alex Awards for the 10 best adult books that appeal to teen audiences. The following winners for 2009 were named: “City of Thieves,” by David Benioff; “The Dragons of Babel,” by Michael Swanwick; “Finding Nouf,” by Zoë Ferraris; “The Good Thief,” by Hannah Tinti; “Just After Sunset: Stories,” by Stephen King; “Mudbound,” by Hillary Jordan; “Over and Under,” by Todd Tucker; “The Oxford Project,” by Stephen G. Bloom, photographed by Peter Feldstein; “Sharp Teeth,” by Toby Barlow; and “Three Girls and Their Brother,” by Theresa Rebeck.



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