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## President's Message

by Kenneth Kidd

I hope this note finds you well despite challenging times. You may have seen the ChLA [Statement on Intellectual Freedom, Diversity, and Global Citizenship](#), which responds to current events and expresses our commitment to the free flow of ideas and people across borders. Now more than ever we must combat nativism, share our work widely, and advocate for the urgency of the arts and the humanities (not to mention civic engagement).

We've had a busy and productive year regardless. Our committees have gone about the demanding if pleasurable task of selecting award and grant winners and conducting other business. Congrats to our winners! We look forward to toasting your success at the upcoming conference. And a big thanks to everyone serving on our committees and indeed everyone willing to serve. If you weren't elected, please keep self-nominating; we will find work for you, worry not!

We also approved a Strategic Plan for 2016-2021, thanks to your feedback and to the ad hoc committee chaired by the remarkable Adrienne Kertzer. I encourage you to review the Plan, accessible under the "About ChLA" and "Governance" tabs. Priorities include planning for diversity and internationalization, as well as planning for finances. We've made good progress on supporting diversity and internationalization, but there's more to do. On the latter front, we continue to see declining revenues from Project Muse and have had to make some funding changes (and please, keep accessing *Children's Literature* and the *ChLAQ* through PM!). We also renegotiated our contract with Meeting Expectations!, our management company. We are grateful to be in the capable hands of Jamie Reed and Ashley Uhl, who will attend the conference; please say hello to them. I appreciate their guidance, and I also thank Roberta Seelinger Trites for her superb work as Treasurer. This might be a good time to remind you that ChLA welcomes philanthropic donations. See the "Donate Now" button on the homepage. Any Powerball winners among you?

Finally, we enthusiastically welcome a new editorial team for the *ChLA Newsletter*, starting this summer: Cathryn Mercier and Amy Pattee of Simmons College. And we express our gratitude to Cathlena Martin and Ramona Caponegro for six years of fantastic work as co-editors. Did I mention they are Florida alumni?

Speaking of Florida: in June we gather in downtown Tampa for our conference, with the timely theme of "Imagined Futures." Meet old and new friends, hear scholarship on a dazzling array of topics, and don't miss the Friday evening Phoenix reception at the Tampa Bay History Center, complete with exhibits, light refreshments, and a chance to meet Phoenix Award winner James Heneghan (generously sponsored by the USF Library and the USF College of Education). The conference location is prime. Restaurants, bars, shops, museums, trolleys, and water taxis abound. Stay an extra day to explore the Salvador Dali Museum or the Chihuly Collection, in nearby St. Pete. Apparently there are amusements in the Orlando area, too? Hope to see you in June!



Kenneth Kidd

## 2017 ChLA CONFERENCE “Imagined Futures”

June 22-24, 2017, The University of South Florida



UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH FLORIDA®

Channelside and historic Ybor City, the conference venue will allow participants to explore Tampa's history, culture, and culinary delights.

The 2017 Children's Literature Association Annual Conference will explore the many possible futures to be found in, through, and for children's literature. We are looking forward to panels on historical views of the future; transportation, travel, and exploration; the future's relationship with natural resources; the relationship between technology and children's literature; and much more.

We hope that many conference participants will join us on Friday evening at the Tampa Bay History Center for a special celebration of the 2017 Phoenix Award winners and Honor books. Enjoy light refreshments, the exhibitions at the History Center, and informal conversation with 2017 Phoenix Award winner James Heneghan.

Before heading to the Tampa Bay History Center, make sure not to miss Friday afternoon's panel sponsored by the International Committee. This year, the panel's focus is on Cuba and Cuban children's literature. Cuban children's author Luis Delgado will discuss the state of Cuban children's literature in the 21st century. Distinguished scholar guests Zeila Frade and Niall Nance-Carroll will present on approaches to studying Cuban children's literature from historical and multicultural perspectives.

The University of South Florida is excited to welcome the 44th annual Children's Literature Association Conference, June 22-24, 2017, at the Hilton Tampa Downtown Hotel!

Set in the heart of downtown Tampa and just a short trolley ride to neighboring



On Saturday morning, Dr. Farah Mendlesohn will present the 2017 Francelia Butler Lecture, titled “Finding Faith in Humanity: Individualist and Collaborative Narratives in Science Fiction for Children and Teens.” Dr. Mendlesohn is Associate Dean at Staffordshire University. She is the author of numerous books on children's literature, including *The Inter-galactic Playground: A Critical Study of Children's and Teens' Science Fiction* (2009) and *Diana Wynne Jones: The Fantastic Tradition and Children's Literature* (2005). She has served as Chair of the Science Fiction Foundation and President of the International Association of the Fantastic in the Arts. Her most recent book is *Children's Fantasy Literature: An Introduction*, which she wrote with her longtime colleague, Professor Michael M. Levy.



Dr. Farah Mendlesohn



## 2018 ChLA CONFERENCE

# “REFRESHING WATERS: SPRINGS, RIVERS, AND LITERARY OASES”

June 28-30, 2018, Texas State University

Texas State University is pleased to host the 45th annual Children's Literature Association Conference, June 28-30, 2018, at the Sheraton Gunter Hotel, San Antonio, TX. San Antonio is a richly multicultural city, having been home to the indigenous Payaya, to Spanish missionaries and soldiers, and to waves of German, French, Polish, Czech, and Irish immigrants. The five original Spanish Missions, including the famous Alamo, located only a six minute walk from our venue, are preserved as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The city is considered one of the best in the country for Mexican food, and the Friday and Saturday nights of the June conference will coincide with Fiesta Noche del Rio, featuring the songs and dances of Mexico, Spain, Argentina, and Texas. Other museums and sites include the celebrated McNay Art Museum (modern art), the Do-Seum (“the Museum for Kids”), Six Flags, and the Tower of the Americas.



## TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY

The Sheraton Gunter Hotel is located in the heart of the city's Downtown district. Opened in 1909, the hotel is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and its Room 414 was the site of an historic 1936 recording session by blues artist Robert Johnson. It is ideally placed within easy walking distance of the Riverwalk and its many delights, including fine restaurants, shops, and, for the energetic, miles of walking/biking trails.

Given the conference location on the San Antonio River and Texas State University's location at the spring headwaters of the San Marcos River, the theme for the 45th conference begins with the name—Yanaguana—of the Payaya's San Antonio settlement.

### “REFRESHING WATERS: SPRINGS, RIVERS, AND LITERARY OASES”

#### Possible topics for the 2018 conference include:

- Water itself and its many metaphoric and symbolic possibilities: water creatures, mythic and/or real; water spaces and their social functions; waterways as hubs and connectors; water as a life source; ecological and environmental issues, particularly surrounding water; renewal and rebirth: personal, cultural, and/or literary, such as reboots in media and literature.
- From a historical/cultural perspective, this area of Texas is known to have been inhabited for thousands of years. There is archaeological evidence of indigenous habitation dating back 12,000 years, and it was a site of colonial exploration, struggle, and conquest from the 16th century on, and of immigration from many parts of the world to this day. Topics thus can include: literature of the southwest United States; exploration; meeting places; indigenous peoples; colonialism and its affects/postcolonialism; immigration and immigrant experiences.
- In connection with Texas State as the alma mater of Lyndon Baines Johnson and as the home of the [Tomás Rivera Mexican-American Children's Book Award](#), topics might include: Mexican-American children's literature; cultural diversity and multiculturalism in general; civil rights; awards and/or award-winning texts.

Let's plan for refreshment and renewal next summer; meet you at the Refreshing Waters!

*Submit to the conference via a link on the [ChLA 2018 webpage](#). Please note the new window for submissions: the link will be live from July 1, 2017, to October 15, 2017. Notifications about paper acceptance or rejection will be sent out in January 2018.*

# ChLA Statement on Intellectual Freedom, Diversity, and Global Citizenship

The Children's Literature Association promotes the development and dissemination of research on children's literature and culture. Our purpose is to support scholars committed to research, critical thinking, and public dialogue in a global context. Our scholarship is often interdisciplinary and international, and our organization depends upon its diverse membership, including its international students and scholars, who often travel to North America to study or work. Recently, the U.S. president has signed an executive order banning refugees and citizens of seven majority-Muslim countries from entry into the United States, an order that originated in the president's unconstitutional campaign promise to shut down Muslim immigration. In light of this action, and in the broader context of resurgent nationalist rhetoric around the world, the ChLA rejects the malignancy of nativism and affirms in unqualified and uncompromising terms a commitment to the free flow of persons and ideas across borders. It is critical that the U.S., and our modest scholarly organization, welcome scholars of all backgrounds and nationalities, as this diversity is essential to our intellectual health. International scholars must be able to travel without restriction, and international graduate students studying in the U.S. must be supported and protected. We also affirm the basic principles of intellectual freedom and the right to dissent in a climate increasingly hostile to alternative views (however fond of alternative facts).

Joining with scholarly organizations such as the Modernist Studies Association and the Society for Cinema and Media Studies, we endorse the Modern Language Association's Statement on the 2016 Presidential Election, which reads thus:

*Throughout the campaign and in the aftermath of the presidential election in the United States, sharp political lines have been drawn that pit groups and individuals against one another on the basis of national origin, race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, migration status, ability, class, and other forms of identity. The Modern Language Association reaffirms in the strongest terms possible its commitment to free inquiry and academic freedom for all, unimpeded by acts of prejudice and hate. We note especially the need to offer support to those who are the most vulnerable and condemn the unjust rhetoric that targets them. We recognize that the humanities and humanistic knowledge are now more essential than ever to help guide us in these difficult times, and we pledge to maintain the MLA as an organization open to all individuals who share our commitments.*

The ChLA Statement can be found on the ChLA [website](#).

## Results of the 2017 ChLA Election of Officers, Board and Committee Members

### Vice President/ President-Elect:

Katharine Capshaw

### Executive Board:

Jackie E. Stallcup

Kate Slater

Tammy Mielke

### Anne Devereaux Jordan

#### Award Committee:

Annette Wannamaker

Karin E. Westman

### Article Award Committee:

Carrie Hintz

Dawn Sardella-Ayres

Laura Jimenez

### Book Award Committee:

Joseph Michael Sommers

Monica Flegel

### Diversity Committee:

Domino Perez

Ngozi Onuora

### Edited Book Award

#### Committee:

Suzan Alteri

Pete Kunze

### Grants Committee:

Laura Wasowicz

Scott Pollard

### International Committee:

Bettina Kuemmerling-Meibauer

Karen Sands-O'Connor

Lucy Pearson

### Judith Plotz Emerging Scholar

#### Award Committee:

Andrew O'Malley

Mary Jeanette Moran

Patrick Flemming

### Phoenix Award Committee:

Gabrielle Halko

### Phoenix Picture Book

#### Award Committee:

Alisa Clapp-Intyre

# 2017 ChLA Award Recipients



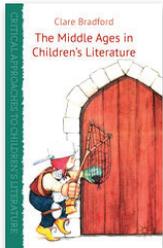
## Anne Devereaux Jordan Award

**Winner:** **Margaret Mackey**, University of Alberta

## Article Award

**Winner:** **Joe Sutliff Sanders** for "Almost Astronauts and the Pursuit of Reliability in Children's Nonfiction," *Children's Literature in Education* 46.4 (2015): 378-393

**Honor winner:** **Victoria Ford** for "Art Critics in the Cradle: Fin de Siècle Painting Books and the Move to Modernism," *Children's Literature* 43 (2015): 161-181



## Book Award

**Winner:** **Clare Bradford** for *The Middle Ages in Children's Literature*, Palgrave, 2015

**Honor book:** **Paul Ringel** for *Commercializing Childhood*, U Mass, 2015

## Carol Gay Award

**Winner:** **Mia Utterback** for "The Other Identities: David Levithan and Queer Representation in Young Adult Literature," sponsored by Kara Keeling (Christopher Newport University)

**Honor essay:** **Emily Allen** for "A dem fine woman': Visual Representation of Beautiful Evil in Narnia," sponsored by Anne Phillips (Kansas State University)



## Edited Book Award

**Winner:** **Elna Druker** and **Bettina Kümmerling-Meibauer** for *Children's Literature and the Avant-Garde*, John Benjamins Publishing Company, 2015

**Honor book:** **Clare Bradford** and **Mavis Reimer** for *Girls, Texts, Cultures*, Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 2015



## Phoenix Award

**Winner:** **James Heneghan** for *Wish Me Luck*, Farrar Straus Giroux, 1997

**Honor:** **Paul Fleischman** for *Seedfolks*, HarperCollins, 1997

**Honor:** **Naomi Shihab Nye** for *Habibi*, Simon & Schuster, 1997

## Mentoring Award

**Winner:** **June Cummins**

## Graduate Student Essay Awards

**Ph.D. level winner:** **Amanda Greenwell** for "Jessie Willcox Smith's Critique of Teleological Girlhood in *The Seven Ages of Childhood*," sponsored by Victoria Ford Smith (University of Connecticut)

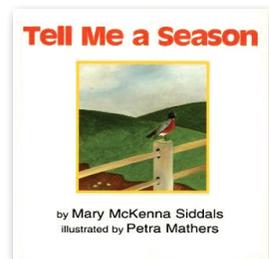
**Ph.D. level honor award:** **James Joshua Coleman** for "From Penguin Parents to Sissy Ducklings: Challenging the Homonormative Future of 21st Century LGBT-themed Picture Books," sponsored by Ebony Elizabeth Thomas (University of Pennsylvania)

**Master's level winner:** **Jessica Followell** for "Miracle Cures and Moral Lessons: Victorian Legacies in *Contemporary Representations of Children with Disabilities*," sponsored by Elizabeth Hoiem (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

## Phoenix Picture Book Award

**Winner:** **Mary McKenna Siddals** and **Petra Mathers** for *Tell Me A Season*, Clarion Books, 1997

**Honor book:** **Demi** for *One Grain of Rice: A Mathematical Tale*, Scholastic, 1997



## Judith Plotz Emerging Scholar Award

**Winner:** **Megan L. Musgrave** for "Gaming as Civic Engagement in Salman Rushdie's *Luka and the Fire of Life*," *Children's Literature Association Quarterly* 40.3 (Fall 2015): 238-256

**Honor winner:** **Arielle C. McKee** for "The Kind of Tale Everybody Thneeds?: Ecocriticism, Class, and the Filmic Lorax," *Children's Literature Association Quarterly* 40.1 (Spring 2015): 39-57

# 2017 Anne Devereaux Jordan Award Recipient: MARGARET MACKEY

During the course of a distinguished career, Professor Margaret Mackey has contributed groundbreaking scholarship and vital service to the field of children's literature. Professor Mackey's internationally known and acclaimed work bridges disciplines and creatively challenges boundaries of all kinds, including those that too often divide pedagogy and literary criticism, print and technology, child and adult readers. Professor Mackey's monographs, *The Case of Peter Rabbit* (1998), *Literacies Across Media* (2002), *Mapping Recreational Literacies* (2007), and *Narrative Pleasures in Young Adult Novels, Films, and Video Games* (2011), demonstrate the value of attending to readers as well as to text and have inspired new attention to the productive interplay between them. Her cutting-edge scholarship occupies a central place in our discipline's engagement with the epistemological and aesthetic repercussions of new media upon literacy. Professor Mackey has also written approximately thirty book chapters or essays, has contributed to the top journals in our field, and co-edited *Children's Literature in Education* for some years. Professor Mackey's "auto-bibliography" *One Child Reading* (2016) crowns a distinguished career of making aesthetic and intellectual sense of literacy development as embodied, contextual, and multi-faceted. In the words of one of her nominators, Professor Mackey's work "forges new trails on which other scholars follow and thrive. She is an intellectual leader of inestimable proportions."



Professor Mackey has served the Children's Literature Association on multiple committees, such as the Publications Committee (2007-2012) and the Executive Board (2012-2015), where her measured and well-reasoned opinions were particularly valued. She has been an active participant in the organization for many years as a panelist, a peer reviewer of submissions to our journals, and as a liaison between our association and those in library and information sciences. In 2010, she gave the Francelia Butler Lecture at the annual conference.

In classroom settings, in conference lecture halls, and in print, Professor Mackey demonstrates what it means to be intellectually alive, to be motivated by passion, and driven by a thirst for knowledge. Moreover, Professor Mackey's intellectual ardor leads her to great generosity of spirit with scholars and students outside of her institution and discipline. Always willing to read a manuscript or help someone revise a paper, Professor Mackey consistently demonstrates an academic generosity that is the hallmark of the most inspiring academics. In terms of quality, quantity, and impact, Professor Mackey's scholarship demonstrates her intellectual power, but in her consistent support of others, Professor Mackey seems extraordinarily qualified for this honor. Countless people have been inspired by this brilliant and generous academic, so we acknowledge her achievements and her contributions with the Anne Devereaux Jordan Award.

## ANNE DEVEREAUX JORDAN AWARD: *Call for Nominations*

The Anne Devereaux Jordan Award is intended to honor the lifetime achievement of an individual whose scholarship and/or service have had a significant impact on the field of children's literature scholarship. The award is not restricted to ChLA members or to those whose work has benefited the Association specifically. The award may be given posthumously. To nominate someone for the Anne Devereaux Jordan Award, send a letter that explains the person's accomplishments and contributions to children's literature scholarship to [info@childlitassn.org](mailto:info@childlitassn.org). If possible, include the nominee's current vita with the nomination letter. Nominations must be received no later than October 1, 2017.

Although nominees are considered annually, there may be years in which no award is given.

## ChLA Five-Year Strategic Plan, 2016-2021

At the Annual Membership Business Meeting at the 2016 ChLA annual conference, Adrienne Kertzer, the Chair of the Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee, reported on the draft strategic plan, outlined the process for submitting feedback, and indicated

that the committee hoped to submit a final draft for formal approval by the Board at their fall teleconference. Following the approval of the final draft, Professor Kertzer wrote, "I want to thank all ChLA members who provided feedback on the draft plan. As the committee worked on the final draft, we greatly benefited from your thoughtful responses. I also want to thank my fellow committee members: Ramona Caponegro, Kenneth Kidd, Eric Tribunella, Roberta Seelinger Trites, and Karin Westman. [The plan](#) that the Board has approved and that is now posted on the ChLA website would not be possible without their insight, energy, and dedication to ChLA."



## Introducing Our Meeting Expectations! Management Team



### Ashley Uhl

Ashley Uhl comes to ChLA with strong professional experience in association management, strategic consulting, volunteer management, client relationships, and research.

Since taking a position with Meeting Expectations in 2014, Ashley has served as the Director of Operations for The M&A Source and as the Education & Certification Manager for the International Business Brokers Association and The M&A Source. In her capacity as Director of Operations, Ashley has supported all committees and the Board of Directors, directed marketing initiatives, and launched successful social media campaigns to increase awareness of The M&A Source. This position, plus her background in strategic consulting, has provided Ashley the opportunity to become well versed in association board and committee activities, sponsorship sales and management, education, and marketing.

Ashley excels at project management, building relationships, collaborating with clients to work as a team for the greater good of the organization, immersing herself in an association's culture, and interfacing with executive leadership.

### Jamie Reed

Jamie Reed has a solid work ethic and an eagerness to learn and is very focused on membership and client relationships. Her bachelor's degree in Elementary Education with a minor in English will serve ChLA well.



Jamie began her career with Meeting Expectations in 2015. She has served as the Senior Membership Coordinator for both Meeting Professionals International Chicago Area Chapter (MPI-CAC) and The Users Group (TUG). While working with TUG, Jamie has helped to increase membership and to maintain a member retention rate of 90%.

In her spare time, Jamie enjoys spending time on Lake Michigan, camping with her husband, 4 year old daughter, and many siblings.



## 2017 ChLA Grant Recipients

### Faculty Research Grants

Courtney Weikle-Mills, University of Pittsburgh  
Amy Cummins, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

### Diversity Research Grants

Erin Spring, University of Lethbridge  
Sarah Park Dahlen, St. Catherine University

### Hannah Beiter Graduate Student Research Grants

Sara Austin, University of Connecticut  
Sreemoyee Dasgupta, University of Pittsburgh

### International Sponsorship Grants

#### Distinguished Scholar:

Luis Cabrera Delgado,  
children's writer, Havana, Cuba

#### International Travel Grant:

Niall Nance-Carroll, Illinois State University  
Zeila Frade, Belen Jesuit Preparatory



## Spread the Word About ChLA

Do you have a web site? A Facebook page? A Jacketflap.com page? If so, the ChLA Publicity Committee asks that you help us get the word out to scholars, librarians, teachers, and writers about our organization by adding a link to ChLA on your page.

**Our web site can be found at:**

<http://www.childlitassn.org/>

# ChLA NEWSLETTER TRANSITION



Ramona Caponegro



Cathlena Martin



Cathryn Mercier



Amy Pattee

After six years, Ramona Caponegro (Eastern Michigan University) and Cathlena Martin (University of Montevallo) are stepping down as the editors of the *Children's Literature Association Newsletter*. They'd like to thank all of the contributors to the newsletter, especially the past and current ChLA Presidents, staff members at Meeting Expectations!, and Kathy Kiessling, for all of their help over the years.

They're also delighted to welcome the new editors of the newsletter, Cathryn Mercier and Amy Pattee (Simmons College), whose editorship will begin with the Fall 2017 issue of the newsletter. It has been a pleasure to serve ChLA.

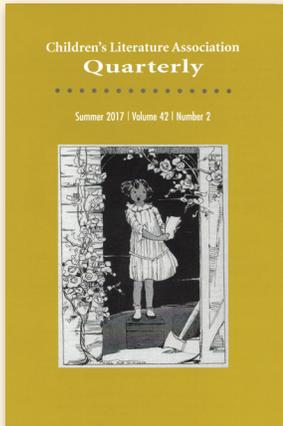
## 2017 ChLA Mentoring Award Recipient: June Cummins



ChLA is delighted to present the 2017 Mentoring Award to Professor June Cummins of San Diego State University. An expert on a wide range of subjects, and the author of groundbreaking work on Laura Ingalls Wilder, Willa Cather, and Sydney Taylor, June beautifully integrates scholarship with her teaching and mentoring. A long-time member of ChLA, she has played a vital role in its growth and diversification, not only serving on nearly all of our committees (including the Executive Board, twice) but helping to launch the Diversity Committee. Her nominators for the Award wrote glowingly about June's deep and selfless engagement with ChLA colleagues, graduate students and younger scholars in particular. Kate Slater, for instance, shared that June contacted her when she was in graduate school nearby and invited her to audit her graduate seminar on children's literature at SDSU. The relationship grew from there. "She took the time to reach out to someone who lacked a mentor in her field of interest," writes Kate, "in the process opening a door into a community of scholars and educators. It's an act of generosity that still overwhelms me, and one that informs my own commitment to pay it forward." Another younger scholar based in New York, Meira Levinson, told much the same story, noting that June helped her develop a conference panel on Jewish children's literature. She was "warm and encouraging," modeling "an unimaginable level of welcome, inclusion, and community." June showed it was possible to honor religious observances alongside professional development. Like Kate, Meira stresses that June had "no obligation to me" but "treated me as a colleague and a friend."

Such testimonials were standard across the other letters of nomination and indeed in follow-up conversations. Joe Sutliff Sanders notes further that June helped to develop a working group of children's literature scholars across several institutions in southern California, to provide support for research and career building. Writing for June entails the usual "pleasure" we express in such nomination letters, Joe observes, but he found himself "filled with other emotions: admiration for a woman who has long been a leader in our field, gratitude for a senior colleague who took the lead in building a regional network," and "affection for a world-class scholar who reached out to me personally over and over again." Our congratulations, and our warmest thanks, to the fabulous June Cummins.

## ChLA Quarterly Editor Search



The term of the current editor of the *Children's Literature Association Quarterly* is nearing its end; thus, applications for a new editor for the *Quarterly* are now being solicited. The new editor will begin to take on responsibilities by serving as Acquisitions Editor beginning in June 2018, working with the current Editor. Full editorial responsibilities will commence June 2019.

The duties of the editor of the *Children's Literature Association Quarterly* include:

- Appointing associate editors to help with the editorial work
- Reviewing manuscripts; soliciting referees; working with authors as they revise; editing; proofreading; and corresponding with authors and referees
- Coordinating with special editors, such as the Book Review Editor, and appointing guest editors for special issues
- Working with Johns Hopkins University Press, the current publisher, regarding production of the print and electronic (Project Muse) versions of each issue
- Reporting to the Association and its Board, as required

Time commitment for the editor is considerable, and university support in terms of release time and clerical help is highly desirable.

Formal letters of interest should be received by the ChLA Business Office by September 1, 2017; full proposals, including a statement of support from the candidate's institution, will be due by October 15, 2017, for Executive Board review. Those sending formal letters by the 1st will receive instructions for the full proposal. Candidates will be interviewed by the Board at the Fall 2017 teleconference, and the new Editor will be announced in November.



Candidates are welcome to discuss this opportunity with the current Editor, Claudia Nelson, at the annual conference in Tampa.

For further information about applying for the editorship, contact Jamie Reed, ChLA Administrator, by email at [jamie@childlitassn.org](mailto:jamie@childlitassn.org) or by phone at 630-571-4520.

## ChLAQ Call for Papers

### “Migration, Refugees, and Diaspora in Children’s Literature”

#### A *Children’s Literature Association Quarterly* Special Issue

Edited by Philip Nel  
Deadline: November 1, 2017

In September 2015, photos of three-year-old Alan Kurdi—his corpse washed ashore on a Turkish beach—came to symbolize the urgency of the Syrian refugee crisis. World leaders promised to do more, people debated whether printing the pictures was appropriate, and charities experienced a surge in donations. In children’s literature, the figure of the child as refugee, migrant, or displaced citizen has long been a powerful trope, disrupting the assumed connection between personal identity and national identity, exposing virulent xenophobia, but also awakening compassion and kindness. As Europe faces its largest refugee crisis since World War II (and demagogues stoke nativist/racist anger in Europe and North America), this special issue will examine children’s literature’s response—both contemporary and historical—to refugees, migrants, and members of diasporic communities.

Subjects papers might consider include (but are not limited to) how texts for children represent: the ways in which the term “migrant” can dehumanize people, whether persecuted minorities qualify for refugee status in their own countries, the many reasons for displacement (such as race, religion, nationality, ethnicity, sexuality, war, and economics), questions concerning human rights, and how the vulnerable figure of the child brings these questions into sharper focus.

Papers should conform to the usual style of *ChLAQ* and be between 6,000 and 9,000 words in length. Please send queries and completed essays to Philip Nel ([philnel@ksu.edu](mailto:philnel@ksu.edu), with “*ChLAQ* Essay” in the subject line) by November 1, 2017. The essays chosen will appear in the *Children’s Literature Association Quarterly* 43.4 (Winter 2018) issue.

*In addition to submissions for special issues, the Quarterly always welcomes submissions for general issues. Please send essays of approximately 25 pages to Claudia Nelson at [chlaquarterly@tamu.edu](mailto:chlaquarterly@tamu.edu).*

## Guaranteed Children's Literature Sessions at the 2018 MLA Conference

### "THE RISE OF LATINX LITERATURE FOR YOUTH"

Chair: Marilisa Jiménez García, Lehigh University

- Cristina Rhodes, Texas A&M University, Commerce, "Navigating the Borderlands: Childhood and the Power of the Mestiza Consciousness in Gloria Anzaldúa's Bilingual Picture Books"
- Ashley Hope Pérez, The Ohio State University, "Learning Unbounded: Emancipatory Education in Latinx Young Adult Fiction"
- Sonia Rodriguez, Laguardia Community College, City University of New York, "Conocimiento Narratives: (Re)Imagining the Künstlerroman for Latina Girls"

### "HISTORY, HAMILTON, & HIP HOP IN SCHOOL"

Chair: Jan Christopher Susina, Illinois State University

- Jennifer Low, New York University, "History in Three Minutes: Uses of Billy Joel's List Song"
- Joshua Adams, DePaul University, "21: The Story of Roberto Clemente: Teaching History through Graphic Biography"
- Bethany Jacobs, Georgia Institute of Technology, "'Freedom' in History: Teaching Beyoncé and Kendrick Lamar's BET Performance"
- Sandra K. Stanley, California State University, Northridge, "Re-Signifying the Body of History: *Hamilton* and Hybrid, Subaltern Forms"

### "CALLING DUMBLEDORE'S ARMY: ACTIVIST CHILDREN'S LITERATURE"

Chair: Philip Nel, Kansas State University

- Charlotte Appel and Nina Christensen, Aarhus University, Denmark, "Agents of Change: Pupils, Parents, and Publishers Moving Towards Enlightenment in Denmark 1780-1850"
- Brigitte Fielder, University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA, "Guiding White Tears: Looking to Abolitionist Children's Literature"
- Angel Daniel Matos, San Diego State University, USA, "*Brujas*, Revolutionaries, and Warriors: The Emergence of Radical Queerness in Contemporary Youth Literature"
- Ika Willis, University of Wollongong, Australia, "*Harry Potter* and the Nazis: Myth, Text, Social Change"



## MLA Session Call January 3-6, 2019 Chicago, Illinois



Each year, the Children's Literature Association is guaranteed one session at the MLA Convention and can submit proposals for up to two more.\*

If you would like to propose a session topic, by June 18, 2017, please send the ChLA/MLA Liaison (Kate Slater: [slaterk@rowan.edu](mailto:slaterk@rowan.edu)): (1) a short description of your proposal idea, and, if relevant, (2) the name of another MLA-affiliated entity (forum or allied organization) you plan to seek as a co-sponsor. The ChLA Board will examine the proposals and select the top three (one guaranteed, plus two additional\*\*) for submission to the 2019 MLA Convention.

\*If ChLA chooses to submit two additional sessions, one of those sessions must be a collaborative session with another entity (forum, allied organization, etc.).

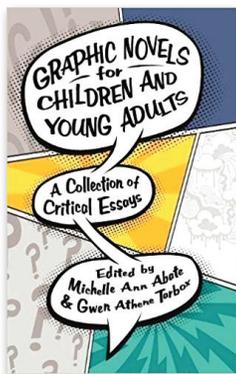
- MLA forums: <https://www.mla.org/Membership/Forums>
- MLA allied organizations: [https://apps.mla.org/orginfo\\_directory](https://apps.mla.org/orginfo_directory)

\*\*The proposals for the two additional sessions are not guaranteed and will be reviewed by the MLA Program Committee. Please see the "Planning a Convention Session" page of the [MLA web site](#) for further details.

# New & Forthcoming Books from ChLA / University Press of Mississippi



*Graphic Novels for Children and Young Adults: A Collection of Essays* edited by Michelle Ann Abate and Gwen Athene Tarbox (April 2017)



*Between Generations: The Collaborative Child and Nineteenth-Century Authorship* by Victoria Ford Smith (September 2017)

*Oz Behind the Iron Curtain: Aleksander Volkov and his Magic Land series* by Erika Haber (December 2017)

*Growing Up Asian American in Young Adult Fiction* edited by Ymitri Mathison (December 2017)

*Twenty-First Century Feminisms in Children's and Adolescent Literature* by Roberta Seelinger Trites (December 2017)



Children's Literature Association  
1301 W. 22nd Street | Suite 202  
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[www.childlitassn.org](http://www.childlitassn.org)

## Interested in Publishing with ChLA?

### ChLA GENERAL STUDIES BOOKS

We welcome proposals for original book-length critical studies in the field of children's literature and media, including single-author monographs, edited essay collections, and critical editions of classic children's book texts. ChLA does not publish fiction for children, curriculum development materials, or instructional manuals.

### ChLA CENTENNIAL STUDIES

ChLA's Centennial Studies series celebrates classic children's texts, books that have stood the test of time and played a significant role in the development of the field. Devoted to a single work of literature or a series of related titles, the series features original scholarly essays commissioned by each volume's editor.

Interested in editing a new volume in our series? Proposals should be submitted at least two years before the 100th anniversary of the text they wish to feature.

#### Children's books with a 100th anniversary in the near future:

- *Raggedy Ann Stories* (1918)
- *The Velveteen Rabbit* (1922)
- *The Brownies' Book* (1919-21)
- *The Boxcar Children* (1924)
- *Dr. Doolittle* (1920)
- *Winnie-the-Pooh* (1926)
- *Just William* (1922)

Communicating with ChLA!

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