I hope that the conclusion of your spring semester has brought you satisfaction in the accomplishments of your students and joy in anticipation of summer. I would like to offer here a bit of context for the recent “Statement on ChLA Dedication to Academic Freedom and Intellectual Dialogue” issued by the Board of Directors. You are probably aware of the difficulties many of our members face when they study, discuss, and write about subjects that disrupt the status quo, especially those critics who question the cultural weight of canonical texts, and who engage race, gender, and sexuality. Many of our members have endured harassment and threats, both online and in person, to their bodily and financial safety. Others have faced forms of provocation and persecution that have been deeply unsettling. Our Board issued the public statement as a first effort towards demonstrating our support for the work of all of our members. The statement is only a first step. Our conference organizers have permitted the Board to organize a “Roundtable Discussion of Empathy, Harassment, and Privacy” that will take place during the lunch hour on the Friday of our conference. We hope to come together as a community in order to generate ideas that will help support any member who experiences harassment. We welcome all to this roundtable and hope ultimately that we can create a document of resources for scholars who face harassment for their work.

I am deeply grateful to those of you who volunteered to run for leadership positions in our organization. Welcome to Thomas Crisp, incoming Vice President/President Elect, and Board members Ebony Elizabeth Thomas, Lara Saguisag, Althea Tait, and Naomi Hamer. New members will also join the generous, diligent, insightful committees that execute the invaluable work of our organization. Thank you to those rotating off of the Board and committees, with particular gratitude to Teya Rosenberg, whose time as Past President is drawing to a close. Teya has taught me so much about how to lead with sensitivity, warmth, and true grace. I also want to offer hearty thanks to all of the committees who decided on our grants and award winners. This is difficult work, but it has its pleasures in terms of learning about all of the brilliant efforts of our members. Thank you, committees. Congratulations to all of the winners of our awards. We will celebrate you at the conference!

This June also marks the editorial transition of the Children’s Literature Association Quarterly, as Sara K. Day, Balaka Basu, Joseph Michael Sommers, and Sonya Sawyer Fritz officially begin their term. Mark West, Book Review Editor extraordinaire, will generously continue in his post. I wish to extend the deep gratitude of the Board for the work of Claudia Nelson, Anne Morey, and Sara K. Day in shepherding the journal with such expertise and rigor. Our organization would not survive, financially or intellectually, without the journals. As a former Quarterly Editor, I can attest to the countless hours of scholarly labor (all volunteer) that sustain the journal. Thank you, Claudia, for your devotion to our organization.

In this newsletter you will read about the annual conference in Indianapolis! It promises to be an especially generative meeting, particularly given its emphasis on activism and empathy. Have you seen the abstracts online? The program is downright thrilling – I can’t wait to see you there.

Sincerely yours,
Katharine Capshaw
IUPUI and IU East are excited to welcome you to Indianapolis for our 46th Children’s Literature Association conference in June. Our conference theme, Activism and Empathy, has inspired an unprecedented range of diverse, thoughtful, and challenging papers sure to generate a series of conversations that will enhance our community’s deep engagement with children’s literature, scholarship, and social justice in new and powerful ways.

We have a number of special events planned this year, beginning on Thursday evening with one of Indiana’s award-winning rising stars, author Francesca Zappia. Focusing on issues of neurodiversity, Zappia’s young adult novels *Made You Up* (2015) and *Eliza and Her Monsters* (2017) have received starred reviews from *Kirkus, Publishers Weekly, Booklist,* and *School Library Journal.* Notably, *Made You Up* beat out that other Indiana YA author to be selected as Indiana’s book for the 2018 National Book Festival in Washington, D.C. Whether you read her books ahead or purchase them on site, be sure to come hear Zappia speak about her work to promote understanding of neurodiversity and mental health concerns… and stick around afterward to meet the author and have her sign your books! Zappia’s presentation will be followed immediately on Thursday evening with our free Membership Reception, featuring heavy appetizers, a cash bar, and a brief performance by a local children’s choir.

On Friday afternoon, the audience for our Phoenix Roundtable will include children visiting from the Boys and Girls Club of Indianapolis, who will come to hear Phoenix Picture Book Award winner Christopher Myers read from *Black Cat* and picture book honoree Floyd Cooper discuss his illustrations for *Tree of Hope.* This visit will be followed by scholarly presentations on these books in addition to Louise Erdrich’s Phoenix Award-winning *The Birchbark House.* Our guest authors and illustrators will be available for book signing at the end of the event.

On Saturday morning we will be honored to host our Francelia Butler Lecturer Dr. Michelle H. Martin, Beverly Cleary Professor for Children and Youth Services at the University of Washington. Dr. Martin is a dedicated member of ChLA whose work on social justice as a librarian, educator, and scholar is changing our perceptions of the role of children’s literature in our field and in the world.

We will wrap up the festivities on Saturday evening with the ChLA Awards Banquet, offered free this year to everyone attending the conference. Phoenix Award-winning author and illustrator Christopher Myers will again honor us by speaking briefly at the banquet. Myers is the acclaimed illustrator of *Love: Selected Poems* by E. E. Cummings; *Harlem: A Poem,* a Caldecott Honor Book; and *Jazz,* a Coretta Scott King Honor Book. He is also the author-illustrator of *Black Cat* and *H.O.R.S.E.: A Game of Basketball and Imagination,* both Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor Books. While he is widely acclaimed for his work with literature for young people, he is also an accomplished fine artist who has lectured and exhibited internationally.

All of this will still leave you with plenty of time to enjoy our beautiful city of Indianapolis; to stroll along the nearby Cultural Trail and Canal Walk; to discover the restaurant and theatre scene downtown and just a few blocks uptown on Massachusetts Ave; and to explore the world-renowned Indianapolis Children’s Museum, the Indianapolis Zoo, and the many museums in White River State Park, just a five-minute walk from our hotel. We can’t wait to see you in Indianapolis in June!

**GOT NEWS OR UPDATES?**

Send them to ChLA Newsletter co-editors at:

Cathie Mercier
cathryn.mercier@simmons.edu

Amy Pattee
amy.pattee@simmons.edu
Critical issues related to ecological justice figure prominently in today’s literature for children and young adults, from picture book biographies of Wangari Maathai and the Green Belt Movement, to Jaden Anthony’s graphic novel series Kid Brooklyn, to middle readers like Katherine Applegate’s The One and Only Ivan, to young adult novels like Cherie Dimaline’s The Marrow Thieves. Real-life child activists such as nine-year-old Ridhima Pandey in India and thousands of schoolchildren across the UK are fighting back and going on strike to save their planet. These real and fictional children promote eco-justice as they transform the politics of climate change and the results of settler colonialism by creating new green movements throughout the world.

Washington State, also known as the Evergreen state, is home to twenty-nine federally-recognized Native American tribes. The University of Washington, which sits on the land of the Coast Salish peoples, land that touches the shared waters of all tribes and bands within the Suquamish, Tulalip, and Muckleshoot nations, invites ChLA conference attendees to the Emerald City (Seattle & Bellevue) — an area known for its commitment to eco-activism — to consider how the environment has been portrayed in children’s literature. We open this Call for Papers to an expansive array of interdisciplinary topics on the cultural and political impact of children’s literature — past and present, including works from the visual and performing arts as potential subjects of critique. While topics of interest related to children’s literature, children’s culture, childhood studies, and related fields are always welcome, we invite scholars to give particular consideration to the following topics:

- Young people and ecological justice activism in children’s literature
- Young people’s reactions to climate change
- Ecocriticism and children’s literature
- Ecocriticism, Indigenous Studies, and childhood
- Indigenous futurisms
- Discussions of the connections between racial violence and the outdoors (as in A Wreath for Emmett Till, Strange Fruit, How High the Moon)
- Animals and non-human species in children’s literature
- Representations of the environment in nonfiction, creative nonfiction, speculative fiction/fantasy
- Biographies for young people about environmental activists
- Authors and/or illustrators whose work focuses on children and/or animals in the outdoors
- Decentering anthropocentrism
- Space and place in graphic narratives, such as picture books & comics
- Analyses of genders, sexualities, and environments, including LGBTQIA+
- Representations of environmentalist movements in texts for young people
- Postcolonial critiques of space and place in children’s literature; postcolonial ecocriticism
- Representations of children’s experience of the environment in urban spaces
- Decolonizing representations of land in children’s literature
- Posthumanism and its relationship to the environment
- Fake or fantastical science in texts for young people

**CHLA 2019 ELECTION RESULTS**

**VICE PRESIDENT/ PRESIDENT ELECT:** Thomas Crisp

**EXECUTIVE BOARD:**
- Ebony Elizabeth Thomas
- Lara Saguisag
- Althea Tait
- Naomi Hamer

**ANNE DEVEREAUX JORDAN AWARD COMMITTEE:**
- Jane Gangi
- Jocelyn Van Tuyl

**ARTICLE AWARD COMMITTEE:**
- Anuja Maden
- Elizabeth Massa Hoiem

**BOOK AWARD COMMITTEE:**
- Clare Bradford
- Giselle Anatol

**DIVERSITY COMMITTEE:**
- Christina Rhodes
- Hyun-Joo Yoo

**EDITED BOOK AWARD COMMITTEE:**
- Bridgitte Fielder

**INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE:**
- Nithya Sivashankar
- Ada Bieber

**GRANTS COMMITTEE:**
- Sara Schwebel
- Jackie Horne

**JUDITH PLOTZ EMERGING SCHOLAR AWARD:**
- Jennifer Greer
- Sara Austin

**PHOENIX AWARD COMMITTEE:**
- Renee’ Lyons
- Leah Phillips
- Susan Strayer

**PHOENIX PICTURE BOOK AWARD COMMITTEE:**
- Cathie Mercier
2019 CHLA AWARD WINNERS AND GRANT RECIPIENTS

The Children's Literature Association would like to congratulate the 2019 award and grant winners! Choosing one winner is never easy, especially when selecting from such a talented group. We would like to acknowledge the hard work of our selection committees. They devote substantial intellectual labor to this process and we are grateful to them. Congratulations to all.

AWARDS

CAROL GAY AWARD:
Winner: Savannah Winkler for “Anchor, Compass, and Sail: The Black Panther Party in African-American Children’s/Adolescent Fiction,” sponsored by Anne Phillips (Kansas State University)
Honor: Nathalie Gedeon for “Let’s Rebuild Our Home!: Children’s Literature and Contemporary Haitian Trauma,” sponsored by Carl F. Miller (Palm Beach Atlantic University)

GRADUATE STUDENT ESSAY AWARD:
PhD Winner: Adam Szetela for “An (Anti)Neoliberal Christmas,” sponsored by Angela E. Hubler (Kansas State University)
Corinne Matthews for “Contraception, Consent, and Community in Kristin Cashore’s Graceling Trilogy,” sponsored by Kenneth B. Kidd (University of Florida)
MA Winner: Gema Ludisaca for “Bumps in the Night and The Dark: How Fear can Promote Agency in Children’s Picture Books,” sponsored by Jackie Stallcup (California State University)
MA Honor: Molly Burt for “The Perfectly Normal, Thank You Very Much”: An Examination of Dichotomous Hybridity as a Tool in Harry Potter,” sponsored by Karin Westman (Kansas State University)
Kathryn Hampshire for “The Spaces Between Us: Magic, Myth, and Memory in Laura Ruby’s Bone Gap,” sponsored by Megan Musgrave (IUPUI)

ARTICLE AWARD:

EDITED BOOK AWARD:
Winner: Katharine Capshaw and Anna Mae Duane for Who Writes for Black Children?: African American Children’s Literature before 1900, University of Minnesota Press, 2017

BOOK AWARD:
Winner: Victoria Ford Smith for Between Generations: Collaborative Authorship in the Golden Age of Children’s Literature, University Press of Mississippi, 2017
Honor: Philip Nel for Was the Cat in the Hat Black?: The Hidden Racism of Children’s Books and the Need for Diverse Books, Oxford University Press, 2017

MENTORING AWARD:
Not awarded this year

JUDITH PLOTZ EMERGING SCHOLAR AWARD:

ANNE DEVEREAUX JORDAN AWARD:
Riitta Olltinen

PHOENIX AWARD:
Winner: Louise Erdrich for The Birchbark House, Hyperion, 1999
Honor: Connie Porter for Imani All Mine, Houghton Mifflin/ Harcourt, 1999

PHOENIX PICTURE BOOK AWARD:
Winner: Christopher Myers for Black Cat, Scholastic, 1999
Honor: Amy Littlesugar and Floyd Cooper for Tree of Hope, Philomel, 1999

GRANTS

BEITER GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH GRANT:
James Joshua Coleman, University of Pennsylvania

DIVERSITY RESEARCH GRANT:
Suzanne Manizza Roszak, California State University, San Bernardino
Sohyun Meacham, University of Northern Iowa

FACULTY RESEARCH GRANT:
Patrick C. Fleming, Fisk University
Sarah P. Dahlen, St. Catherine University
Carrie L. Sickmann Han, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis

INTERNATIONAL DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR:
Patrice Lawrence

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL GRANT:
Aishwarya Subramanian
Melanie Ramdarshan Bold
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.

NEW AND FORTHCOMING TITLES:
• The Perils of Protection: Shipwrecks, Orphans, and Children’s Rights by Susan Honeyman (January 2019)
• Reconsidering Laura Ingalls Wilder: Little House and Beyond edited by Miranda Green-Barteet and Anne Phillips (June 2019)

AND NOW AVAILABLE IN PAPERBACK:
• Oz behind the Iron Curtain: Aleksandr Volkov and His Magic Land Series by Erika Haber (June 2019)
• Twenty-First Century Feminisms in Children’s and Adolescent Literature by Roberta Seelinger Trites (May 2019)
• Growing Up Asian American in Young Adult Fiction, edited by Ymitri Mathison (December 2019)

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:
• Dr. Doolittle (1920)
• Just William (1922)
• The Velveteen Rabbit (1922)
• Emily of New Moon (1923)
• Bambi (1923)
• The Boxcar Children (1924)

For questions, queries and/or proposals, please contact ChLA series editor Roxanne Harde at submitaproposal@childlitassn.org.

2019 ANNE DEVEREAUX JORDAN AWARD WINNER
Dr. Riitta Oittinen

During the course of her distinguished career, Dr. Riitta Oittinen has championed the work and art of translation. She has composed, co-edited, and collaborated on more than 200 publications including monographs, edited books, special issues, articles, and book chapters. She has translated myriad picture books. And she has directly contributed to the art of the illustrated book and of animation with her own creative work.

Dr. Oittinen’s contributions to Finnish children’s literature and media are significant; her contributions to the art and theory of translation have made her an international figure. In non-English-speaking countries, translation constitutes a significant share in the production of children’s literature, so translation is a significant area of study. Worthy of note are Oittinen’s critical contributions to conversations about the distinctive challenges facing translators of children’s texts. Oittinen was the first to identify the key role "child images" play in translation; the ideological definition of the child implicitly or explicitly expressed. Oittinen’s monograph Translating for Children (2000) is widely recognized for its contribution to the fields of translation studies and children’s literature criticism and theory. Oittinen’s research has demonstrated that the translation of children’s literature is not an innocent act of intercultural communication, but is guided by the norms and values prevailing in the target society. Examining translations from the perspective of the target audience shows the influence of the translator’s child image on the end product. In Translating Picturebooks: Revoicing the Verbal, the Visual, and the Aural for a Child Audience (2017), Oittinen employs case studies and meta-analysis of her own translation work to study the decision making process as it takes place. Oittinen’s major contribution uncovers the multi-modal aspects of translation: that it is not simply a verbal process but also requires attention to aural and visual elements of the text. Internationally, scholars in both English-speaking and many non-English-speaking countries have found her work a critical reference point.

As a teacher and mentor, Dr. Oittinen has inspired a generation of multinational graduate students to devote their scholarly attention to the theory and practice of translating children’s literature. Her students testify to her inspirational example and support. It is with great pleasure we award this year’s Anne Devereaux Jordan Award to this productive and influential scholar.

Dr. Riitta Oittinen

For questions, queries and/or proposals, please contact ChLA series editor Roxanne Harde at submitaproposal@childlitassn.org.
2021 MLA CONVENTION—CHLA SPONSORED SESSION
CALL FOR PAPERS
January 7–10, 2021
Toronto, Ontario

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 13, 2019, please send the ChLA/MLA Liaison (Kate Slater: slaterk@rowan.edu):

(1) a short description (300-500 words) 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 2021 MLA Convention, held in Toronto, January 7-10.

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

**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 (https://www.mla.org/Convention/Planning-a-Convention-Session) for further details.
#ELIMINATINGBOOKDESERTS PROJECT

According to current research, there is one age-appropriate book for every 300 children in some low-income, urban schools (Neuman, 2016). Therefore, the purpose of this project is to set up, manage, and build a long-term book drive in the neediest schools surrounding Georgia State University Perimeter College in order to alleviate this problem. The #EliminatingBookDeserts Project is a long-term, collaborative, service-learning project between the students in Dr. Flowers’ online EDUC 2110 and EDUC 2120 education courses; the Clarkston campus library; Alpharetta campus library; and local schools in Clarkston and Alpharetta areas who are in need of books.

If you would like to donate books to support the #EliminatingBookDeserts project at Georgia State University Perimeter College, please email Dr. Flowers at: tflowers@gsu.edu. And, if you would like to participate in the project at GSUPC or organize a supporting project at your institution, please email Dr. Flowers for more information.

BIOGRAPHY:

Tiffany A. Flowers is a native of Chicago, Illinois. Dr. Flowers is a children’s author, literacy advocate, and professor. Her research agenda is divided into four distinct and interrelated areas of research which includes, African American literacy development, children’s literature, diversity issues in education, and emergent literacy. You can contact Dr. Flowers at tflowers@gsu.edu.

FACULTY BLOG:

http://sites.gsu.edu/tflowers/#W6losHtKjIU