



Children's Literature Association NEWSLETTER

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2015 ChLA Nominations & Elections

Please nominate yourself or another ChLA member to serve on the ChLA Executive Board or on one of our standing committees. Send nominations to Annette Wannamaker at awannamak@emich.edu or submit nominations via the link on the Member Center page of the ChLA website by Monday, November 17.

ChLA elections will be held over a six-week period beginning in mid-February and ending in March. All current dues-paying members will be sent an invitation to vote via the organization's website.

Members must be in good standing (with dues paid) in order to run for office and in order to vote in the election.

President's Message

by Kara Keeling

A few weeks ago, as I was preparing for the annual "back to school" party that Scott and I host, I couldn't help thinking of Claudia Mills's wonderful Presidential Address in June on parties in children's literature—and ChLA as a party. A colleague caught up with me on campus before our party and mentioned that she could not attend this fall. "But please don't take me off the invitation list! I want to come next year!" she exclaimed. I simply laughed and told her that no one ever gets taken off that list; it merely grows and grows. This was what made me think of ChLA: our invitation list grows yearly too, as new members join at each conference. We hope that they will all keep coming, year after year, to attend as presenters and audience members at the conferences, to participate on committees, to apply for our research grants, to enrich our association with their energy and enthusiasm for our mutual scholarly interests.

We are inaugurating a new method of invitation this year. Our redesigned website, hosted by our management company, Meeting Expectations (ME), will enable us to start rolling renewal dates for our memberships. In the past, we all renewed our memberships at the end of December for the upcoming calendar year, but now our renewal dates will be a year from whenever we join. For current members, that means we will receive nudges to renew in December, as we always have. But new members, who join in April, for instance, to attend the conference in June, will thereafter always receive their reminder to renew in April.

Our new website offers a number of other advantages, including a members' section that I hope you have checked out. If you have not, take a few minutes to explore! When you log in, you can renew your membership, register for our conferences, and access all previous issues of both *Children's Literature* and the *Quarterly*. Right now, you can submit nominations for committees there and vote on ChLA's endorsement of the 1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure. Keep in mind that we need committee nominations by November 17. Also, as we work our way through fall semester grading, remember that we have undergraduate and graduate student paper award nominations due February 1. They are a wonderful way to invite our students to the ChLA party. And let's not forget that we have grants for both faculty and graduate students, outlined on the Grants page of the website.

We owe many thanks to our manager of the past two years, Carly Reisner, who is largely responsible for creating our new website and has already tweaked it in response to member suggestions. Carly is moving to another account in ME, and I ask you to join me in welcoming Kristi Olson, who took over as our manager at the beginning of September.

We had a wonderfully diverse party this summer in Columbia, thanks to our wonderful hosts Michelle Martin, Sara Schwebel, and their organizational team. Please join us at the Richmond conference next June: Jennie Miskec and her team will see to it we all have a revolutionary experience!

2015 ChLA Conference

“Give Me Liberty, or Give Me Death!”: The High Stakes and Dark Sides of Children’s Literature”

June 18-20, 2015 – Longwood University



Longwood University is thrilled to host the 42nd annual Children’s Literature Association Conference, June 18-20, 2015, at the Omni Richmond Hotel in the historic Shockoe Slip district of Richmond, Virginia. The conference theme of “Give Me Liberty, or Give Me Death!” asks participants to explore both sides of Patrick Henry’s 1775 ultimatum, liberty and death, in children’s and young adult literature.

Dr. Adrienne Kertzer, Professor of English at the University of Calgary and past president of the ChLA, will deliver the Francelia Butler Lecture. Her book *My Mother’s Voice: Children, Literature, and the Holocaust* won the Canadian Jewish Book Award and the ChLA Honor Book Award. In addition to further work on Holocaust representation, she is currently engaged in a study of memory and trauma in young adult literature.

Kyoko Mori will receive the Phoenix Award for *One Bird* (1995), the story of fifteen-year-old Megumi’s self-discovery after her mother leaves her with her philandering and mostly absent father and cranky grandmother. In addition to *One Bird*, Mori is the author of novels, essays, short stories, and a memoir, *Yarn: Remembering the Way Home*. Mori is a Professor of Creative Writing at George Mason University.

Conference participants will enjoy the various attractions within walking distance of the conference hotel, including dozens of restaurants, an active nightlife, and the lovely Canal Walk on the James River, “America’s Founding River.” Also close: Museum of Edgar Allan Poe (less than a mile), Black History Museum and Cultural Center (1 mile), Children’s Museum of Richmond (2 miles), Maymont Park (3.5 miles), Hollywood Cemetery (resting place of presidents and other historic figures, 1.5 miles), Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (3 miles), and the Science Museum of Richmond (2 miles).

And if you’re craving adventure: King’s Dominion Amusement Park is a short drive away (23.5 miles), and whitewater rafting trips—the only Class III and Class IV rapids in an urban setting—can be accessed just down the road (3 miles). A little over a mile from the hotel is St. John’s Church, the site of Patrick Henry’s famous “Give me liberty, or give me death” speech that, in 1775, worked to unite the colonies. His call to arms against British oppression was about dignity and how living without it was as bad as dying.

2015 ChLA International Focus: ITALY



The International Committee of the Children’s Literature Association is planning a special country focus panel on Italy to be presented at the 42nd Children’s Literature Association Conference, held in Richmond, Virginia, and hosted by Longwood University from June 18 through 20, 2015. The committee invites paper proposals that focus on any aspect of Italian children’s literature. The authors of two papers selected for the panel to accompany a presentation by the Italian Distinguished Scholar will be awarded a \$500 travel grant each. Send 500-word abstracts accompanied by up to 250-word bios to the International Committee, Children’s Literature Association, at mbalina@iwu.edu with the subject line “International Committee Paper Submission.” **The deadline for submissions is November 21, 2014.**

**For those authors interested in presenting proposals on picture books by Italian authors, pay attention to the Phoenix Award Session CFP, which includes the works of Italian illustrators Sara Faneli and Stefano Vitali.*

Authors of proposals selected for the panel will be notified by December 30, 2014. If not selected for the panel, the authors may elect to submit their papers to the general conference. The call deadline for the 2015 ChLA conference is January 15, 2015.

Submit to the conference via a link on the ChLA 2015 Conference webpage. The link will be live between October 15, 2014, and January 15, 2015.

2014 ChLA Conference Wrap-Up: “Diverging Diversities”

The 2014 Children’s Literature Association Conference, held in Columbia, South Carolina, June 18-21, explored the theme of “Diverging Diversities.” Attendees chose from 107 sessions, focusing on a wide range of topics, such as gender identity, race, (dis)ability, literary translations, prizing, colonial/postcolonial literary depictions, family diversity, and religious diversity. The conference attracted 372 (314 full and 58 daily) participants.

The special features of the conference began with ChLA members joining a Cocky’s Reading Express™ literacy outreach program at a local library, complete with USC’s mascot and free books for the children who attended. “A Night at the Nick” on Wednesday evening offered a screening of short films from USC’s Moving Images Research Collection, curated by Lydia Pappas and doctoral student Katherine Upton. Unique sessions included an author panel with Joyce Hansen, Elizabeth Hall (wife of Scott O’Dell), and Christopher Armstrong (son of author William H. Armstrong); a publishers’ plenary with Lee Byrd (Cinco Puntos), Andrea Davis Pinkney (Disney Hyperion & Scholastic), Jonathan Haupt (Young Palmetto Books/USC Press), and Jason Low (Lee & Low).

The New Member Reception at the Hollings Special Collections Library drew a standing-room-only crowd and included a welcome from USC’s First Lady, Patricia Moore-Pastides. It marked the donation of the Greta D. Little and Joel Myerson Collection of Multicultural Children’s Literature and honored Dr. Jill Gilbert, who recently gifted the Graham-Kennett Collection of Children’s Literature to USC’s Ernest F. Hollings Library. Elizabeth Sudduth curated an extensive exhibition of children’s literature holdings at USC; she also announced the Karen Alane Robinson Children’s Literature Fellowship and encouraged ChLA members to apply.

“An Evening with Anita Lobel” was made possible by a wonderful town-gown partnership between USC, Richland Library, and the Columbia Museum of Art, as well as by a grant from The Humanities Council^{SC}. Lobel’s exhibit “All the World’s a Stage,” from the National Center for Children’s Illustrated Literature, was on display at both the library and the museum during the conference. Conference attendees also enjoyed the all-local Soda City Market adjacent to the conference hotel on Saturday morning. Kate Capshaw offered a thought-provoking and visually compelling Francelia Butler Lecture on the contemporary state of diversity in children’s literature and publishing that brought members to their feet. The conference concluded with Anne Isaacs’ rousing Phoenix Award speech, made much more meaningful because Isaacs attended the entire conference and got to know members of this organization whose passion for children’s books runs deep.

A special thanks goes to all volunteers and the planning committee: Adam Griffey, Clayton Copeland, Elizabeth Bemiss, Jonathan Haupt, Dianne Johnson-Feelings, Katherine Upton, Ramona La Roche, Greta Little, Michelle Martin, Lydia Pappas, Lois Rauch Gibson, Joel Myerson, Margaret Godbey, Rachel Manuszak, Rachelle Washington, Elizabeth Sudduth, Sara Schwebel, Toni Williams, and Karen Heid, who brought *thousands* of colorful, diverse paper owl pieces to the conference and staffed a craft table that gave delight to everyone who made an owl in celebration of Augusta Baker’s legacy.



New ChLA Mentoring Award

The Children’s Literature Association has recently begun presenting an annual Mentoring Award. The award recognizes excellence in mentoring taking place within the ChLA and extending beyond the boundaries of the mentor’s own university. Awardees will have contributed in significant ways to enhancing others’ scholarship and/or professional careers within the field of children’s literature over a substantial period of time. Such mentorship may take place in a variety of contexts, including but not limited to organizational committee work, journal or other professional editing work, ChLA discussions of teaching and/or career-building, and informal contacts.

Nomination packets will be assembled by a nominator who has decided to spearhead this task and to solicit additional material from others who may be interested in furthering the nomination; packets should contain 3-5 letters and a cover sheet with the name and contact information of the nominee and the nominator. Packets should total no more than 10 pages in length, excluding cover sheet. At least two letters must come from people who have never been students or departmental colleagues of the nominee, and all nomination letters must come from current ChLA members. The award will be adjudicated by the ChLA Board and will consist of a framed certificate presented at the annual ChLA conference. Winners will also be presented with a folder containing the letters written on their behalf.

Please submit your packet to info@childlitassn.org with the subject line “Mentoring Award Nomination” by February 1, 2015.

2015 ChLA Research Grant Applications

Faculty Research Grants

These grants are awarded for proposals dealing with criticism or original scholarship in children's literature with the expectation that the undertaking will lead to publication and make a significant contribution to the field. Applications will be evaluated based upon the quality of the proposal and the potential of the project to enhance or advance Children's Literature studies. Funds may be used for but are not restricted to research-related expenses, such as travel to special collections or purchasing materials and supplies. The awards may not be used for obtaining advanced degrees, for researching or writing a thesis or dissertation, for textbook writing, or for pedagogical projects.

*Grant Application Deadline:
February 1, 2015.
Submit to info@childlitassn.org.*

Hannah Beiter Graduate Student Research Grants

These grants are intended as support for research that may be related to the dissertation or master's thesis and are not to be used for tuition. The funding may be used to purchase supplies and materials (e.g., books, videos, photocopies, equipment) or to underwrite travel to special collections or libraries.

Individual awards in each category typically range from \$500 to \$1,500 based on the number and needs of the winning applicants. Up to \$5,000 per category is available to be awarded this year. Applications will be accepted from January 1, 2015, through February 1, 2015. Proposals must be sent by email and dated within the stated time frame. Application guidelines are posted online at www.childlitassn.org (under Grants); if clarification is needed, you may contact the ChLA office at info@childlitassn.org or Chris McGee, chair of the 2015 Grants Committee, at mcgeecw@longwood.edu. Winners must either be members of the ChLA or join the association before they receive any funds.

2015 Diversity Research Grant Award Applications

The Diversity Committee of the Children's Literature Association is pleased to announce the Diversity Research Grant, supporting research related to artifacts (including media, culture, and texts) about populations that have been underrepresented or marginalized culturally and/or historically. The grant will range from \$500 to \$1000 and will be awarded based on the quality of the proposal and the expectation that the proposed undertaking will lead to a publication that makes a significant contribution to the field of children's/adolescent literature scholarship or criticism. Within two years of receiving the grant, the recipient will be asked to submit a paper proposal based upon the project for presentation at a ChLA annual conference.

Funds may be used for—but are not restricted to—research-related expenses such as travel, subvention funds, materials, and supplies. Awards may not be used for obtaining advanced degrees, researching or writing a thesis or dissertation, textbook writing, or pedagogical projects. Winners must be members of the Children's Literature Association and

must acknowledge ChLA in any publication or presentation resulting from the grant. Winners will be notified in April and are encouraged to attend the ChLA annual conference, where the awards will be announced.

Proposals should be a single Word document written or translated into English, consisting of (1) a cover page including name, telephone number, mailing address, e-mail address, and status/rank at institution applicant is affiliated with (academic, library, publisher, etc.), if any; (2) a detailed description (not to exceed 1500 words), indicating the nature and significance of the project, a rough budget, the expected date of completion, and whether also applying for a general ChLA Research Grant; (3) a vitae.

Email completed proposal as an attachment to info@childlitassn.org using subject line: "ChLA Diversity Research Grant Application." Only complete applications received by midnight February 1 will be considered.

Grant Application Deadline: February 1, 2015. Submit proposals to info@childlitassn.org.

2015 Awards Nominations

2015 GRADUATE STUDENT ESSAY AWARDS

Graduate Student Essay Awards nominations are now being accepted. Submissions should demonstrate familiarity with previous scholarship, contain original, distinctive ideas, and conform to MLA style. They should be at least 10 pages in length and should not exceed 25 pages, including notes and works cited. The awards are comprised of both a Ph.D. level award and a separate Master's level award. Award winners receive a \$200 prize, a certificate, and a complimentary year's membership to the Association. Recipients are also offered the opportunity to present their winning essays during a session at the annual ChLA conference and to receive their awards during the awards banquet. If the winner attends the conference, a complimentary banquet ticket is also awarded, and conference registration is waived.

Nominations should be submitted by a faculty member on behalf of the graduate student author. Graduate students may not nominate themselves or other graduate students. A cover letter must accompany the submission and provide an endorsement of the paper and explain the faculty member's familiarity with the student's work. Please include both the member's and the student's e-mail and street addresses and indicate if the student is a Ph.D. or Master's level student in the cover letter only. Submissions will be forwarded from the ChLA office to the members of the ChLA Graduate Student Essay Awards Committee and read blind (without cover letter). Only two, whether MA or Ph.D. student, submissions per ChLA member will be accepted. Students are eligible to win only once at each level (M.A., Ph.D).

2015 CAROL GAY AWARD

ChLA is now accepting submissions for the Carol Gay Award for outstanding undergraduate essays on children's literature. Faculty members should submit nominations and papers electronically on behalf of the undergraduate student author. In order to enable blind review, please submit papers to info@childlitassn.org as two PDF files or Word documents: one a cover letter providing the paper's title, contact information (street and email addresses) for faculty member and student, an endorsement of the paper, and an explanation of the faculty member's familiarity with the student's work, the other the paper with title but without identifying information as to its author or nominator. Submissions will be forwarded to the members of the Carol Gay Award Committee for blind review.

Papers must be original, show evidence of scholarly research, and include a bibliography listing more than the primary works cited. Written in MLA documentation style, essays should be no fewer than 8 pages and no more than 15 pages, including notes and works cited. Senior theses are not eligible. Award winners will receive a \$200 prize, a certificate, and a complimentary year's membership to the Association. With the author's permission, the award winning essay may also be posted on the ChLA web site. The recipient will have the opportunity to present the winning essay during a session at the annual ChLA conference and to receive his/her award during the awards banquet. If the winner attends the conference, a complimentary banquet ticket is also awarded, and conference registration is waived. Only two submissions per ChLA faculty member will be accepted, and previous winners of the award may not reapply.

Nominations Deadline: February 1, 2015. Submit nominations to info@childlitassn.org.

2016 MLA: Call for Papers

“The Afterlife of Popular Children’s Culture Icons”

Guaranteed ChLA sponsored session

Throughout the 20th century, the role of the author has played a crucial role in Western culture’s understanding of children’s media. Children learn from a very early age to associate well-loved fictional characters with individual author-figures, and names like Dr. Seuss and Walt Disney accordingly become inextricably linked with iconic characters like The Grinch and Mickey Mouse. What happens, however, when those characters continue to appear in new stories after their creators die? How does the absence of that signature author-figure impact the audience’s relationship with those characters? Papers in this panel are invited to address these questions. The panel focuses on key instances in which heirs, estates, or other parties have attempted to continue developing material for iconic children’s characters after their signature authors have passed away. Presentations may cover a wide range of media, including prose fiction, film, television, comic strips, and other popular avenues for children’s culture. Ideal submissions, however, will demonstrate potential new means of understanding the larger culture’s fundamental relationship with these authors and their iconic characters.

*Please submit 250 word
abstracts by
March 1, 2015,
to Paul Cote
(pcote@umd.edu).*

“Keep Children’s Literature Weird”

Proposed ChLA sponsored session

The word “weird” usually refers to something that is outside of a contextual norm—an outlying image, description, situation, or character that disrupts our expectations and causes cognitive dissonance. In a literature where talking toasters go on interstellar voyages, fish wear hats, and pigeons fantasize about driving buses, what constitutes the weird? How do we know it when we see it? What are its effects on developing minds? To what degree has weirdness become a hipster cultural value in terms of the aesthetics of children’s and YA literature? What happens to our critical judgment when weirdness is what we’re looking for? For this nonguaranteed session in the city that has actively sought to commodify the weird, we seek papers that explore and theorize the weird, bizarre, or inexplicable moments in children’s and YA texts.

*Please submit 350 word
abstracts by
March 15, 2015,
to Karen Coats
(kscoat2@ilstu.edu).*

“Global Judaism: Race, Ethnicity, and Culture in Jewish Children’s Literature”

*Proposed ChLA sponsored session that is
seeking co-sponsorship*

Jewish children’s literature offers radically diverse portrayals of Jewish cultures and experiences. From picture books depicting Spanish, Ethiopian, and Asian-Jewish histories; to young adult novels addressing Israeli-Palestinian conflicts and Arab-Jewish identities; to works exploring untapped reservoirs of Mideast-Jewish fantastic, mystical, and folklore texts, children’s and young adult literature offers a diverse array of approaches to questions of Jewish identities and experiences. Such thematics subvert an often Caucasian and Ashkenzi-dominated discourse regarding Jewish literature. This panel seeks to examine how global Jewish depictions and perspectives in children’s literature inform discussions of race, ethnicity, immigration/emigration, and multi-layered identity politics within both children’s literature and Jewish literature scholarship. We welcome papers addressing all facets of this topic in a wide range of texts, including graphic novels, picture books, young adult novels, and poetry; comparative literary and linguistic papers are also welcome. We are seeking co-sponsorship with either the Sephardic Studies Discussion Group or the Jewish Cultural Studies Group.

*Please submit 300 word
abstracts and bios by
March 1, 2015, to
Meira Levinson
(mlevinson1@gc.cuny.edu).*

ChLA Website Update

As we continue to improve the functionality of the new Children's Literature Association website, www.childlitassn.org, there are several updates and additions. We are excited to continue to enhance the ChLA website and hope that you find it a valuable and user-friendly resource! We encourage you to log in and check out the Member Center for several improvements:

- You can now access every issue of *Children's Literature* and *Children's Literature Association Quarterly*.
- You may submit your nominations for Board and Committee members via the Call for Nominations form link. Nominations must be received by November 17.
- Members are now able to vote from the website. There is currently a pending item needing your vote. During the 2014 meeting, the Board voted to recommend the endorsement of the 1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure. The Board is seeking member ratification of this recommendation for endorsement. Click the link to submit your vote today!



Also, there are a few additions to the Conferences area:

- On October 15, the Call for Papers for the 2015 Conference will go live. Access the form to submit your proposal on the 2015 conference page, which will be up from October 15, 2014, to January 15, 2015.
- Are you interested in the possibility of hosting a future ChLA Conference? If so, you may now submit an expression of interest via the Conference Host Interest link on the Conference page.

Interested in Publishing with ChLA?

In conjunction with the University Press of Mississippi, the Children's Literature Association is proud to publish innovative, insightful literary criticism of books and media for children and young adults.

Interested in publishing with ChLA? We welcome proposals for original 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. For more information, please see the "Submit a Book Proposal" page on the ChLA web site: <http://www.childlitassn.org/submit-a-proposal>.

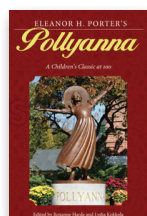
Books from ChLA/University Press of Mississippi

Little Red Readings: Historical Materialist Perspectives on Children's Literature, edited by Angela E. Huber.

Crockett Johnson and Ruth Krauss: How an Unlikely Couple Found Love, Dodged the FBI, and Transformed Children's Literature, by Philip Nel.

Reading Like a Girl: Narrative Intimacy in Contemporary American Young Adult Literature, by Sara K. Day.

And coming in November: *Eleanor H. Porter's Pollyanna: A Children's Classic at 100*, edited by Roxanne Harde and Lydia Korkola.



Visit <http://www.upress.state.ms.us/search/series/47> for more details.

2015 ChLA Diversity Committee CFP

“The periphery of the periphery’: Invisibility and Diversity in Children’s Literature”

The Diversity Committee requests submissions for a panel dedicated to children's literature and the problems of invisibility; that is, how children's literature responds to or is generated by those groups or individuals who are unseen or unnoticed by society at large, by authority, by dominance, power, or the status quo. Arturo Arias calls this position “the periphery of the periphery,” a place that even minority groups overlook or rarely see, and refers specifically to those communities and individuals who tend to be the least among us. Such a category can include many subgroups: under-represented strains in ethnic children's literature, problems of migration/diaspora/immigration, issues surrounding the homeless, mentally/physically challenged, abused, victimized, or economically disadvantaged, invisible professions like janitors, secretaries, truck drivers, and translators, religious minorities, and non-conformists of all kinds. Fundamentally, we are interested in how children's literature (from any country or in any language) deals with the topic of difference, whether real or perceived. Papers or presentations should last no more than twenty minutes.

Contact Ann Gonzalez (abgonzal@uncc.edu) or Claudia Pearson (pearsoncrz@earthlink.net) with any questions; email your 500 word abstract and two-page C.V. to them by December 1, 2014.

2015 MLA Children's Literature Sessions

Vancouver, British Columbia

January 8-11, 2015

"Sites of Memory in Children's Literature"

Sponsored by the MLA Division on Children's Literature

Karin E. Westman, Kansas State Univ. (Chair)

"'I Forgot You Were Away': The Importance of Children's Voices and Memories in World War II Evacuation Literature,"

Lee A. Talley, Rowan Univ.

"The Kozak as a Site of Memory in Post-Independence-Era Ukrainian Children's Literature,"

Anastasia Ulanowicz, Univ. of Florida

"Participating in Future Histories: Young-Adult Dystopian Fiction, Agency, and Temporality," Jasmine Lee, Univ. of California, Irvine

"Why Does Lia Hate History? Laurie Halse Anderson's Construction of Trauma," Adrienne E. Kertzer, Univ. of Calgary

"Writing the Future: Children's Literature in East Asia"

Sponsored by the MLA Division on East Asian Languages and Literatures to 1900 and the

MLA Division on East Asian Languages and Literatures after 1900

Charlotte Eubanks, Penn State Univ., University Park (Chair)

"Angelic Rebels of Colonial Korea: The Proletarian Child Fights Back," Dafna Zur, Stanford Univ.

"Satirizing Colonialism and Diaspora in Singapore: Lao She's Children's Novella *Little Po's Birthday*,"

Brian Bernards, Univ. of Southern California

"Beyond Realism: The Social Significance of Children's Literature in Republican China,"

Christopher Tong, Washington Univ. in St. Louis

"Futurism and the Machine Age: Miyazawa Kenji's *Electric Poles in the Moonlit Night*," Maria Elena Tisi, Università di Bologna

"Not an Exit but a Shift: Changing Children's Literature"

Sponsored by the Children's Literature Association

Abbie Ventura, Univ. of Tennessee, Chattanooga, and Ramona Caponegro, Eastern Michigan Univ. (Chairs)

"Changing Childhood, Changing Children's Literature," Ramona Caponegro; Abbie Ventura

"Not an Exit but a Bang: Posthumanism and Polyphony in the Young-Adult Novel," Amanda Hollander, Univ. of California, Los Angeles

"Both an Overhaul and an Augmentation: Toward a 'Child-Centered' Critical Metaframe for Children's Literature,"

Michelle Superle, Univ. of the Fraser Valley

"Literature for Beginners," Kenneth Kidd, Univ. of Florida

"The Endurance of Alice: Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* at 150"

A Special Session

Jan Christopher Susina, Illinois State Univ. (Chair)

"'Off with Their Heads!': *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and the Antigallows Movement,"

Michelle Ann Abate, Ohio State Univ., Columbus

"The Education of Alice," Kelly Hager, Simmons Coll.

"'You've Brought Us the Wrong Alice': Tim Burton's Dystopic *Alice in Wonderland*," Jan Christopher Susina

“Geography, Memory, and Childhood”

Sponsored by the MLA Division on Children’s Literature

Katharine Slater, Rowan Univ., and Gwen Tarbox, Western Michigan Univ. (Chairs)

“Arresting Images: Childhood, Apocalypse, Miyazaki,” John Grayson Nichols, Christopher Newport Univ.

“Fording the Platte, Shooting a Buffalo, Dying of Cholera: Negotiating Sites of Imagination and Sites of History in *The Oregon Trail* Video Game,” Jennifer Kraemer, Univ. of Texas, Dallas

“Children’s Mapping as Projective Place,” Laura D’Aveta, Penn State Univ., University Park

“Book, Screen, and Space in the Spaces of the Sylvie Cycle,” Keith Dorwick, Univ. of Louisiana, Lafayette

“Visual Cultures and Young People’s Texts in Canada”

Sponsored by the MLA Discussion Group on Canadian Literature in English and the MLA Division on Children’s Literature

Jennifer Blair, Univ. of Ottawa, and Catherine Tosenberger, Univ. of Winnipeg (Chairs)

“Everybody Calls Me Roch: *Harvey*, *The Hockey Sweater*, and the Invisible Québécois Child,” Cheryl Cowdy, York Univ., Keele

“Daughters of a Single Parent: ‘Lives of Girls and Women’ in Quebec Cinema Today,” Miléna Santoro, Georgetown Univ.

“Marie-Louise Gay’s *Stella and Sam*: A Canadian Case Study of Transmedia Storytelling with Picture Book Narratives,”

Naomi Hamer, Univ. of Winnipeg

“Writing Home: Memories of Battlefield and Home Front in Children’s Literature of the First World War”

Sponsored by the MLA Division on Children’s Literature

Lissa Paul, Brock Univ. (Chair)

“‘Stop Talking and Go Home’: Endless War in Kate Seredy’s *The Singing Tree*,” A. Robin Hoffman, Yale Univ.

“Here and Over There: L. M. Montgomery’s War Geographies,” Katharine Slater, Rowan Univ.

“The Orphans of Poetry: War and Childhood in the Poetry of Robert Graves,” Michael Joseph, Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick

“‘I’m Goin’ ‘Ome’: The Linguistics of Loyalty in Robert W. Service’s *Rhymes of a Red Cross Man*,”

Jacquilyn Weeks, Indiana Univ.–Purdue Univ., Indianapolis

“A Creative Conversation with the Canadian Poet JonArno Lawson”

Craig Svonkin, Metropolitan State Univ., and Joseph Terry Thomas, San Diego State Univ. (Chairs)

A creative conversation about avant-garde children’s poetry, Canadian poetry, and Canadian children’s poetry with the award-winning poet JonArno Lawson. Lawson is a three-time winner of *The Lion and the Unicorn* Award for Excellence in North American Poetry.

“Why Dystopian Young-Adult Literature? Why Now?”

Sponsored by the Children’s Literature Association

June S. Cummins, San Diego State Univ. (Chair)

“Reclaiming Adolescent Power in Young-Adult Dystopia,” Jessica Seymour, Southern Cross Univ.

“The Dystopian Present: Recolonizing America in Paolo Bacigalupi’s *Shipbreaker* and *The Drowned Cities*,”

John David Schwetman, Univ. of Minnesota, Duluth

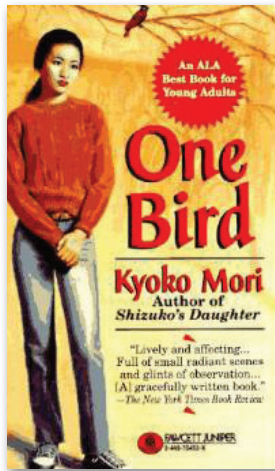
“Power Play: The Seduction of Games in Young-Adult Dystopian Fiction,” Jonathan Hollister, Florida State Univ.;

Don Latham, Florida State Univ.

“The Emancipatory Power of Hopelessness: Discourses of Political Failure in Recent Young-Adult Literature,”

Oona Eisenstadt, Pomona Coll.

2015 Phoenix Award Winner

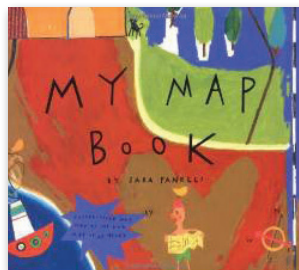


This carefully plotted, nuanced coming-of-age story transcribes a cultural history of old and new Japan. Its lean title forecasts the stark account of Megumi's four months in 1975 after her mother leaves her with an emotionally distant father. Kyoko Mori's *One Bird* allows the protagonist—and the reader—to grow in understanding of the powerful gender expectations that can rob individuals of agency. At first, 15-year-old narrator Megumi feels rejected and resents her mother. However, rather than clinging to the narcissistic perception that her mother is selfish, Megumi grows in empathy. She comes to understand the abject position of women caged within traditional roles that are often reinforced by religious ideology. Only by recognizing how the cage works can Megumi free herself and her mother. Veterinarian Dr. Mizutani teaches Megumi to nurture wounded birds that eventually must continue on their own. With symbolic resonance, Megumi realizes: “My mother is a bird whose mouth has become a big sea of tears. She had to leave me to keep from drowning.”

2015 Phoenix Picture Book Award Winner and Honor Books

The 2015 Phoenix Picture Book Award winner and Honor Books invite consideration of child's play, place, and imagination; of symbolism, design, and what picture books make possible. These works and illustrators will reward your scholarly attention—submit your Phoenix Panel proposal this November 15th!

Sara Fanelli's *My Map Book* playfully embraces maps as an art form of demarcations, celebrations, and ownership, yet challenges reading principles, the finality of mapmaking and the idea of “mapping.” Her combinations of words and pictures explore how we record and communicate aspects of our daily lives and their spaces/places. Wedging open the categories of fiction and non-fiction, Fanelli encourages the making of art, the discovery of self, and the appreciation and value of artistic representation as means for understanding ourselves and our world.

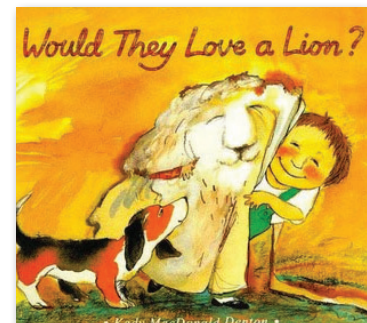


in the complementarity of facing pages and the value of space in design, Vitale's style balances simplified features of characters and landscape with rich color and mood, and the organic vitality of shapes. The subtle, thoughtful, and haunting illustrative choices in this book match the evocative philosophical exploration of beginnings and endings.



Stefano Vitale's 1995 illustration of Charlotte Zolotow's *Where the Wind Stops* creates a wonderful tension between stillness and movement, flatness and depth, weight and lightness, consistency and change. A brilliant study

Kady MacDonald Denton's expressive use of watercolor and mixed media, eloquent use of white space, simple paratactic narration, exquisite paper, and excellent design combine to convey the spirit of young Anna's imaginative and associative play in *Would They Love a Lion?* The pages are both spare and rich, inviting their beholders to linger in the detail or the space around it, despite the action and movement represented. Evocative postures, facial expressions, and gazes are key to the quiet and joyous humor furthered by poetic pacing and page turns.



2015 ChLA Phoenix Award Session CFP

The Phoenix Award Committee and the Phoenix Picture Book Award Committee of the Children's Literature Association are planning a joint session at the 42nd Children's Literature Association Conference, held in Richmond, Virginia, from June 18 to 20, 2015, and hosted by Longwood University. The Phoenix Awards recognize exceptional books published twenty years previously that did not win a major award at the time, but that the committees have determined to be of lasting value.

The 1995/2015 Phoenix Award goes to Kyoko Mori for *One Bird* (Henry Holt & Company).

The Phoenix Picture Book Award goes to Sara Fanelli for *My Map Book* (HarperCollins Children's Books). Two Honor books were chosen: *When the Wind Stops* by Charlotte Zolotow with illustrations by Stefano Vitale (HarperCollins), and *Would They Love a Lion?* written and illustrated by Kady MacDonald Denton (Kingfisher). All three illustrators have websites.

Foremost, the panel organizers seek paper proposals that focus scholarly attention on the winning and Honor books. Papers on other books by the awarded authors and illustrators are also welcome. For those with a particular interest in Fanelli and Vitale, please note that Italian children's literature is the focus of the International Panel for 2015.

Proposals are due by November 30, 2014 to one of the two chairs: Phoenix Committee Chair Lisa Rowe Fraustino (FraustinoL@easternct.edu) or Phoenix Picture Book Committee Chair Andrea Schwenke Wylie (andrea.schwenke.wylie@acadiu.ca).

Authors will be notified by January 5, 2015, if their papers have been selected as part of the panel. If not selected for the panel, the authors may elect to submit their papers to the general conference. The call deadline for the 2015 ChLA conference is January 15, 2015.

ChLAQ Special Issue CFP: Genre and Black Literature

Although critical attention to black American literature has until recently focused on social realism and vernacular expression, writers such as Victor LaValle and Charles Johnson have called for creative writers to experiment with a greater variety of genres. Scholars have also sought to explore the fuller range of black expression. In the field of children's literature, however, study of a range of genres and expressive modes in black children's literature is not a new endeavor. Since the *African American Review's* special issue on black children's literature in its spring 1998 issue, interest in racial identity and children's and young adult literature has continued to grow. The versatility of a writer such as Virginia Hamilton, while stunning in its breadth, can be seen as signaling the creative diversity of black literature for young readers. This special issue of *ChLAQ* seeks to foster scholarly and critical study of such texts. We are interested in scholarship on different genres of black children's literature, the reception of such texts, the historical processes of distributing and marketing them, and related concerns including (but not limited to):

- Speculative and other genre fiction
- Regional and diasporic writing
- Prizing and prize winners
- Adaptations and re-imaginings
- Picture books, film, cartoons, comics, and graphic novels
- Representations of history
- Children's poetry
- Banned books and controversy
- Alternative presses and the development of African American literature
- Historical conceptions of African American children as readers

Papers should conform to the MLA style and be between 5,000-7,000 words in length. Queries and completed essays should be sent to Karen Chandler (karen.chandler@louisville.edu) and Sara Austin (sara.austin@uconn.edu) by November 1, 2015. The selected articles will appear in *ChLAQ* vol. 41.

ChLA Membership Committee: New Initiatives

In addition to the "Building a Career in Children's Literature" panel and the Syllabus Exchange, the Membership Committee has worked to attract and retain members through a variety of efforts, including an increased social media presence. The committee is developing new initiatives, including:

- **Conference and Lapsed Membership initiative**, which will work to make our annual conference as inclusive as possible, with a focus on member retention between conferences.
- **New Member Engagement initiative**, which will provide new members with year-long options for association involvement.

- **Member Section/Benefits initiative**, which will work to maximize our use of the newly updated ChLA website.
- **Mentorship initiative**, which will offer opportunities for established members of the ChLA to work closely with new members, particularly graduate students and early career scholars

If you have any ideas you'd like to share regarding these initiatives or any of the work done by the Membership Committee, please feel free to contact chair Sara K. Day (skday@saumag.edu).



Children's Literature Association
1301 W. 22nd Street | Suite 202
Oak Brook, IL 60523

www.childlitassn.org

Welcome, Kristi!

The Children's Literature Association is pleased to announce that a new ChLA Association Manager joined the organization at the beginning of September. Kristi Olson comes to ChLA with an extensive background in association management, including experience in communications, marketing, membership development, conference and event planning, and governance. Her previous employment includes roles at the American Nuclear Society, the Academy of General Dentistry, and the Builders Association of Greater Chicago. Kristi has also participated as a volunteer for many community and school organizations in roles such as president, vice president, event planning chair, fundraising chair, and newsletter editor.

Kristi received her Bachelor's degree in Journalism with a focus on Advertising/Public Relations from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. She has three children, the oldest of whom is a sophomore at Indiana University-Bloomington. Children's literature holds a special place in Kristi's heart with some of her most cherished memories of her children. She is excited to work with a group that has so much passion and enthusiasm.

Communicating with ChLA!

ChLA Administration:

Kristi Olson (kristi@childlitassn.org)
ChLA | 1301 W. 22nd Street | Suite 202
Oak Brook, IL 60523 USA
Phone: 630-571-4520 fax: 708-876-5598

On the Internet: www.childlitassn.org

In Print:

ChLA Quarterly Editor:

Claudia Nelson (chlaquarterly@tamu.edu)
Children's Literature Association Quarterly
Dept. of English | TAMU 4227
Texas A&M University | College Station, TX 77843

Children's Literature Editor:

Amanda Cockrell
(child.lit@hollins.edu)
English Department | Hollins University
P.O. Box 9677 | Roanoke, VA 24020

ChLA Newsletter Co-Editors:

Ramona Caponegro (rcaponeg@emich.edu)
Cathlena Martin (cmartin16@montevallo.edu)