

# Virginia Hamilton Conference 2017

## Workshop Descriptions

### **Art of the Picturebook**

*Marianne Martens, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio*

The Reinberger Children's Library Center recently acquired The Guy and Dr. Carol Wolfenbarger Collection, which is a collection of 75 pieces of picturebook art, personally selected and acquired by Dr. Wolfenbarger. This collection presents a new dimension to studying picturebooks in the Reinberger. Please join me for a special tour of the artwork, and a talk about research in picturebooks.

*Marianne Martens:* <https://facebook.com/ksuslisYouthServices/> [www.kent.edu/slis](http://www.kent.edu/slis)

### **Bookmaking 101: Basic bookmaking for the classroom library**

*Jaime Declat, Cleveland Public Library, Cleveland, Ohio*

In this era of technological advances, we need to develop and foster in our children the relevancy and love for books. Every child should have the opportunity of making their own book. In this program, the participants will receive the skills needed for creating a book. The presentations will walk the participants step by step through the process. Participants will leave the workshop with three sample books from simple to moderate difficulty, and handouts that can be used in the classroom or the library.

### **Building a Bridge: Fun Activities To Enhance Any Multicultural Read**

*Leah Henderson, Author, Atheneum BFYR/Simon & Schuster*

All too often multicultural books are seen as “the other” on an island all by themselves. This session will explore engaging activities that can help bridge the divide between comfort zones and the unfamiliar. We will brainstorm creative ways to incorporate multicultural stories in classroom lessons and discussions, as well as look at examples of enriching activities that will help bring added clarity to a young person's reading experience.

*Leah Henderson:* Twitter: @LeahsMark Instagram: Leahs\_Mark Website: leahhendersonbooks.com

### **Critical Encounters with Young Adult Literature: Perspectives from a Teacher Educator and a Future Teacher**

*Michelle Knott and Sydney Turnbull-Green, Hiram College, Hiram, Ohio*

How can teacher educators use multicultural young adult literature to open a dialogue with teacher candidates about issues of equity and social justice within the contexts of schools? And, what happens when they do? A teacher educator will share titles and resources she uses in her classes, and an undergraduate pre-service teacher from her class will describe her experiences and developing beliefs. She will discuss responsibilities as a socio-politically conscious future educator and her plans to challenge the canon, empower students, and foster an environment of equity in her classroom by using multicultural young adult literature.

### **Diversity in K-8 Literature: Beyond Persons of Color**

*Kathy Halsey, Children's Writer, Columbus, Ohio*

There's more to the We Need Diverse Books than race alone. Take a book walk through recent, exemplary literature that explores and illustrates issues such as poverty, incarceration, and immigration.

Attendees will leave with the following information: 1. Background and history of We Need Diverse Books movement, 2. Book talks of exemplary diverse literature K-8 grade, and 3. Online resources for teaching diversity of all types.

*Kathy Halsey:* <https://groggorg.blogspot.com>

### **English Language Learners in the Library**

*L. Kristin Jónsson, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio*

English Language Learners, K-12, are currently one of the fastest growing populations in the United States. They come from diverse cultures, locations, languages, religions, and races. However, they are the population least likely to graduate from high school, and as a result, may get stuck in a cycle of poverty. Many librarians are unprepared to best serve these students. This workshop will give you an opportunity to experience a small taste of what English Language Learners encounter in school, you will then learn about this diverse group of students, understand their unique needs, and discover best practices for serving them.

### **A Fiesta of Diversity in Young Adult Literature**

*John Jarvey, Cleveland Teachers Academy retired, Maria Trivisonno, Cuyahoga County Public Library, & Lisa Krok, Akron-Summit County Public Library*

These book talks will celebrate characters of various cultures and other forms of diversity in recent young adult books. Middle grade and high school books will be featured.

### **No Mirrors in My Nana's House: Celebrating Children's Diversity through Multicultural Literature & Artwork**

*Michelle H. Martin, University of Washington, Information School, Seattle, Washington*

In this workshop we will use multicultural children's literature as a jumping-off point to celebrate diversity and beauty. With hand-on art studio activities, we will build opportunities for dialogue and brainstorm ideas for diversity programming in formal and informal learning spaces for children of all ages. Attendees will learn to connect multicultural literature with innovative programming to infuse diversity celebrations into their own settings.

### **Poets and Illustrator: A Conversation among Friends**

*Pat Mora, Cynthia Smith and Don Tate*

### **Read Around the World and Around the Block: Programs Promoting Diversity**

*Nancy Messmore and Jennifer Grill, Stow-Munroe Falls Library, Stow, Ohio*

How do you convince children to read outside their comfort zones? Discover reading programs that deliver diverse books to readers of many ages. We'll discuss successful programs then brainstorm ways to bring similar multicultural programs to all communities.

### **Reading Diverse Books with an Empathetic Eye**

*Mary Schreiber, Cuyahoga County Public Library, Parma, Ohio*

Books provide the opportunity for students to connect with characters and worlds that are different from their own and to develop empathy towards others. As educators and librarians, we strive to provide kids and teens with these rich resources but sometimes we need a little help finding the best works. Together we'll start this conversation by looking at great representations for all ages along with ones that aren't as

clear cut. And you'll leave with resources to help you continue the conversation back at your school library.

### **Rethinking Black Children's Literature: #BlackLivesMatter**

**Darolyn "Lyn" Jones**, Ball State University, Muncie, IN, and Students attending Ball State University  
Learn and engage with us! Ball State University undergraduate students have partnered with local African American elementary students to read all black authored and illustrated children's picture books and together wrote their own stories about #blacklivesmatter and published those stories in the 4th edition of the digital literary magazine, *Rethinking Children's & YA Literature*. BSU students and partnering elementary students learned how to read for change and write for change and helped shift the under representation of black authors and voices in children's literature. Experience the magazine where you can hear, touch, and read their stories.

Dr. Darolyn "Lyn" Jones: [www.rethinkingkidlit.com](http://www.rethinkingkidlit.com) [www.thelynjones.com](http://www.thelynjones.com) [www.bsu.edu](http://www.bsu.edu)

### **Seeking a Wider Window**

**Tricia Springstubb**, Writer and **Shelley Pearsall**, Cleveland Heights, Ohio

We writers seek to give our readers windows to look through. But what if those windows only show our own backyards? Join us as we discuss writing outside the box of one's own race or ethnic background, consider the challenges and rewards for both writers and readers, and suggest ways to use the experience of "walking" in other "shoes" in classroom or library writing workshops. Come prepared to do a little writing!

Tricia Springstubb: [www.triciaspringstubb.com](http://www.triciaspringstubb.com) [www.facebook.com/tricia.springstubb](https://www.facebook.com/tricia.springstubb)

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### **The Sound of a Voice – Ethnicity, Identity, and Language**

**Jeanne Dutton and Jennifer McCreight**, Hiram College, Hiram, Ohio

Books ideally, should become friends, especially in a child's earliest contact. This program will discuss texts that speak to children and young adults in **familiar voices** (language and dialects), the reason behind creating levels of vocal-intimacy, and how grammar works when it is fluid and reasoned around the ear. This program will also explore how narrative language reveals nuanced truths about diverse perspectives.

### **Time for Tableaux**

**Lindsay Bonilla**, World of Difference Ltd., N. Canton, Ohio

In this interactive workshop, storyteller and actress Lindsay Bonilla will teach participants how to use the dramatic technique of tableau to explore literature with students of all ages. We will make individual and group tableaux and learn how they can be used to help students reflect upon, engage with and bolster understanding of multicultural texts in a kinesthetic way. Come prepared to play as we take stories off the pages!

Lindsay Bonilla: [www.lindsaybonilla.com](http://www.lindsaybonilla.com)

### **Voyage of Discovery: How Immigrants Shape/d America**

**Dr. Nalini Krishnankutty**, State College, PA

Voyage of Discovery: How Immigrants Shape/d America: What would the United States be like without its immigrants? This workshop offers a revealing voyage through children's books, focusing on the post arrival journey of individual immigrants, and highlighting their innovative contributions to the American

Experience – from founding the country to creating enduring ideas, art, and institutions that have stood the test of time.

*Nalini Krishnankutty*: <https://www.facebook.com/nalini.krishnankutty>

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