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Field Notes

Vol. 13, No. 2

West Tennessee Writing Project

January 2005

No Teacher Left Behind: Standards-Based Reading Writing Workshops from WTWP

"This inservice was an eye-opener."



"Great ideas to use in the classroom."

"I liked the [presenter's] flexible attitude and the way she focused discussion around our interests and questions."

These are some of the responses from teachers attending the fall No Teacher Left Behind Standards-Based Reading Writing Workshops from the West Tennessee Writing Project. Two more Saturday workshops will be offered this spring:

Feb. 12, 2005, University Center, UT Martin

April 2, 2005, Northview Middle School, Newbern

These standards-based workshops are facilitated by Teacher Consultants of WTWP. All demonstrations are appropriate for grades K-12. Participating teachers may earn points toward Highly Qualified status, and CEUs are available.

The **Feb. 12 workshop** includes Trish Guy's *Bridging the Reading Gap*, a demonstration that shows realistic and useful ways to incorporate adolescent literature across the curriculum, and Darla Crackel, whose topic is *The "Write" Group: Developing a Writers' Club with Students*, a demonstration that includes not only activities for student writers' clubs, but also approaches for the classroom.

At the April 2 workshop, Diane Shaw leads a session, *Art Through Writing: Students Discover Art Through Writing Experiences*. Beth Halbert will facilitate a demonstration on *Interview: First Day of School and Beyond* that prepares students for the TCAP writing assessment beginning the first day of school.

Registration for each workshop is \$20.

Details and registration are on the web: www.utm.edu/wtwp

Or teachers may register by contacting the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (identify the workshop[s] to attend): phone: 731.881.7082 or write: Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education, 110 Gooch Hall, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238 or e-mail: ecce@utm.edu

For more information about this series or other professional development programs from WTWP, contact Betty Hicks, WTWP Inservice Coordinator: blhickswtwp@yahoo.com

Beyond Scrapbooking: Writing Family Stories

Beyond Scrapbooking—Writing Family Stories, a writing workshop, will be held Saturday, March 5, 2005, on the second floor of the Bob Carroll Football Building at UT Martin.

Sponsored by the Tennessee Writers Alliance and the University of Tennessee at Martin, the workshop will help participants write their family stories, discover how family stories can be stories for children and for adults, and learn about alternate approaches to publishing family stories.

The workshop will be led by three writers: Kay Smith, a Teacher Consultant of the West Tennessee Writing Project, retired fifth grade teacher for Union City Schools, and author of two children's books, *Pickin' Petunias* and *Gran the Great, Gran the Grouch*, both based on family stories; Mary McConnell of Martin who has written and printed for her children and grandchildren a collection of family stories; and Margrethe Ahlschwede, director of the West Tennessee Writing Project.

Morning coffee will be available at 9:00 AM. The workshop actually begins at 9:30 and will end by 2:00 PM. Lunch is included.

The Writing Workshop is a collaborative effort of the Tennessee Writers Alliance, the Department of English, and the West Tennessee Writing Project of the University of Tennessee at Martin. Pre-registration is requested prior to February 25. Registration (including morning coffee and lunch) is \$30; TWA members, \$25; Students \$15. To register, send name, address, and fee to Writing Workshop, 131H Humanities, University of Tennessee at Martin, Martin, TN 38238.

CEUs are available upon request.

For more information, contact Bill Ahlschwede, 131H Humanities, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238; e-mail billahls@utm.edu; or phone 731-881-7300.

WTWP Welcomes Applications

The West Tennessee Writing Project invites K-12 teachers from all subject-matter areas to apply for participation in its thirteenth invitational reading writing institute to be held May 21 and June 6-30, 2005 on the UT Martin campus.

Teachers receive six hours of graduate credit for English 700-701. Grants from the National Writing Project cover cost of tuition while teachers cover cost of incidental expenses associated with participation.

The six hours of graduate credit may be used as points toward Highly Qualified status, as part of the master's program in education at UT Martin, for re-certification, or for "hours above."

To obtain application materials, contact the West Tennessee Writing Project: wtwp@utm.edu or through WTWP on the web: www.utm.edu/wtwp

Application materials are due February 25, 2005.

About WTWP

The West Tennessee Writing Project is a program of professional development for teachers, K-12, from all subject-matter areas. It seeks to improve writing and writing instruction in our schools.

Headquartered in the Department of English at the University of Tennessee at Martin, WTWP is one of 160 sites of the National Writing Project and one of two NWP sites in Tennessee.

The heart of WTWP is its annual invitational summer writing-reading institute for selected West Tennessee teachers, all subject-matter areas, all grades K-12 and held on the UT Martin campus. For information and application for the Summer 2005 institute, contact WTWP, or find brochure of information and application materials on WTWP on the web: www.utm.edu/wtwp

Why a writing project? To increase the frequency of writing in the classroom, expand the variety of writing, develop a love of reading and writing among students; publish student writing; combine writing with reading to increase reading fluency and comprehension; to be able to demonstrate excellence in reading and writing in testing climates.

WTWP is supported by grants from the National Writing Project of the University of California, Berkeley with matching funds from the University of Tennessee at Martin. Additional gift contributions and collaborations with area school systems support particular workshops and programs.

The director of WTWP is Margrethe Ahlschwede, professor of English at UT Martin. Associate director is Paula Cox, 5th grade teacher at Camden's Briarwood School. Co-directors are

Molly Coffman, chair of the English Department at Madison Academic Magnet High School, Jackson; and Beth Halbert, Mt. Juliet High School, English. Technology liaisons for WTWP are Shannon Tolene, McEwen High drama and English teacher, and Sandi Walden, Hollow Rock-Bruceton, 5th grade. Inservice coordinator is Betty Hicks, 6th grade reading, Northview Middle, Newbern. The WTWP Advocacy Council also includes Renee Cooper, special education, Camden Elementary; Doug Cook, chair, Visual and Theater Arts, UT Martin; Helen New, 7th reading, Tigrett Middle, Jackson; Deanna Chappell, Exemplary Educator, State Department of Education, Troy; Nancy Warden 7th grade, Harris Middle, Shelbyville; Brittan Wright, physical education, Martin Elementary; Jenna Wright, Department of English, UT Martin.

UT Martin administrators: Chancellor Nick Dunagan; Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Tom Rakes; College of Humanities and Fine Arts Dean Jerald Ogg; Department of English Chair Lynn Alexander.

For further information about inservice programs, the annual summer institute, and additional programs of professional development, contact the West Tennessee Writing project, Department of English, UT Martin, 38238; 731.881.7290, 731.881.7300; FAX 731.881.7276; or e-mail: wtwp@utm.edu

Or see WTWP on the web: www.utm.edu/wtwp

National Writing Project site:
www.writingproject.org

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News of Teacher Consultants of WTWP

Betty Hicks, 6th grade reading, Northview Middle School, Newbern, and **Sandi Walden**, 5th grade Hollow Rock-Bruceton School, have been selected for the Writing Assessment Scoring Committee meeting in Nashville this spring. This is Betty's fourth year on the Scoring Committee.

WTWP Calendar

Feb. 12 *No Teacher Left Behind Workshop*, University Center, UT Martin, registration, open to all

Feb. 25 Applications for 2005 Invitational Summer Institute due at WTWP

Feb. 26 Summer 2004 Institute Follow-up, Union City Library

March 5 *Beyond Scrapbooking: Writing Family Stories*, workshop featuring Kay Smith, WTWP TC and author of children's books, Bob Carroll Football Building, UT Martin, registration, open to all

April 2 *No Teacher Left Behind Workshop*, Northview Middle, Newbern, registration, open to all

April 16 Summer 2004 Institute Follow-up, Martin, WTWP Advocacy Council

May 21 *WTWP 2005 Invitational Summer Institute Immersion*, UT Martin

June 6-30, Mon.-Thurs., *WTWP 2005 Invitational Summer Institute*, UT Martin



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