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Field Notes

Vol. 15, No. 3

West Tennessee Writing Project

February 2007

1 Invitational Summer Institute 2007

The annual invitational summer institute is the heart of the West Tennessee Writing Project.

To be held Saturday May 19, 2007, and Mondays through Thursdays, June 4-28, 2007, on the UT Martin campus, the institute welcomes applications from already excellent teachers, K-12, all subjects—new teachers as well as long-time educators interested in energizing and refreshing their practice.

"Our Summer Institute participants enjoy the immediate benefits of new approaches to teaching and learning that they can use in their classrooms as well as the longer term rewards of growing as writers, teachers, and researchers," said David Carithers, assistant professor of English and associate director of WTWP.

The summer institute offers six hours of graduate credit in English with tuition covered by the National Writing Project. The hours may be applied toward graduate work in education at UT Martin, may count as hours above the master's, or may be used to document highly qualified status.

For further information about the institute or to request an application, contact David Carithers, WTWP associate director, Department of English, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238, 731.881.7289, dcarithers@utm.edu. Or apply online: www.utm.edu/wtwp.

2 Young Writers' Clubhouse for Third Through Eighth Graders



The Young Writers' Clubhouse of the West Tennessee Writing Project gears up for its third Saturday of writing Feb. 10 in Gooch Hall on the UT Martin campus.

The Clubhouse is open to all 3rd-8th grade students. It runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Participants are asked to bring a sack lunch and drink. Pizza will be available for \$1 a slice. Full program and registration is on the website: www.utm.edu/wtwp.

February's Clubhouse will explore different types of poetry.

The December 9 Young Writers' Clubhouse was a day filled with music, laughter, and

lots of writing. The middle school group listened to a variety of music, created music journals, and collages. The elementary group started off with an activity that had them writing and moving. Later, they listened to different types of music and wrote about the scenes they imagined taking place.

Parents may register their children online: <http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/youth/writing/writingreg.php> or by contacting the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education at (731) 881-7082. Register by Feb. 3.

3 Writing Food with author John Egerton

Nashville author John Egerton will be the key facilitator for the Saturday March 24 workshop of the Tennessee Writers Alliance to be held in the Bob Carroll Football Building on the UT Martin campus.

Egerton is the author or editor of numerous books on food including *Cornbread Nation*, *Hungry for Home: Stories of Food from Across the Carolinas With More Than 200 Favorite Recipes*, and *Southern Food: At Home, on the Road, in History*. In addition, he authored the acclaimed *Speak Now Against the Day: The Generation Before the Civil Rights Movement in the South*, published by the University of North Carolina Press in 1995.

The workshop will start with the appetizer, a warm-up writing invitation, followed by the main course, John Egerton. The sides are served after lunch, which is included in the cost of registration.

The workshop runs from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Registration is \$25 for TWA members; \$30 for non-members; and \$15 for students. Checks should be made payable to TWA Writing Workshop and mailed to workshop director, Bill Ahlschwede, Department of English, 131 Humanities, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238. For more information, email billahls@utm.edu. Register by March 17. After that date, check with the workshop director for space availability.

The workshop is a collaboration among the Tennessee Writers Alliance, the West Tennessee Writing Project, and the Department of English at UT Martin.



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About WTWP

Teachers of the West Tennessee Writing Project—Writing Teachers/Writing People—believe everyone can write; create classrooms as safe places for students to read, write, and learn; respect standards as inherent in pedagogy; value assessment in many forms; honor students, colleagues, parents and administrators as partners in school success.

WTWP is located in the Department of English in the College of Humanities and Fine Arts, UT Martin. It is funded by the National Writing Project and the University of Tennessee at Martin with additional support for particular programs from area schools and systems.

Teacher leaders of WTWP include: Co-directors Brittan Sutherland, Martin Elementary; Angela Redden, Dickson Middle School; and Beth Halbert, Mt. Juliet High School. Technology Liaison for WTWP is Sandi Walden, Hollow Rock-Bruceton. Outreach Liaison is Diane Shaw, assistant professor of art, UT Martin. The Project Director is Margrethe Ahlschwede, UT Martin English Department, and Associate Director, David Carithers, UT Martin English Department.

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WTWP Calendar 2007

Feb. 5 7:30 p.m. *Write, Anyway*, Margrethe Ahlschwede, Academic Speaker Series, Watkins Auditorium, UT Martin, with chapbook signing and reception following the talk. No registration. Open to all.

Feb. 10 *Young Writers' Clubhouse*, for 3rd-8th graders, UT Martin*

Feb. 17 *Summer 2006 Institute Follow-up*, Martin Public Library

Feb. 23 *Applications for 2007 Invitational Summer Institute due*, WTWP, Department of English, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238; apply online: www.utm.edu/wtwp

March 1 7:30 p.m. *Civil Rights: Now and Then*, Julian Bond, chair of the Board of the NAACP, Academic Speaker Series, Elam Center, UT Martin. No registration. Open to all.

March 3 *WTWP Teacher Representatives Follow-up*, UT Martin

March 24 *Writing Food*, with Nashville author John Egerton, Annual Workshop of the Tennessee Writers Alliance in collaboration with the West Tennessee Writing Project and the UT Martin Department of English; Bob Carroll Football Building, UT

Martin; registration \$25 for TWA members, \$30 for non-members, \$15 for students. Checks made out to TWA Writing Workshop and mailed to Bill Ahlschwede, 131 Humanities, Department of English, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238

April 14 *Summer 2006 Institute Follow-up*, Obion County Library

April 21 *Young Writers' Clubhouse*, for 3rd-8th graders, UT Martin*

May 19 *Immersion and orientation for 2007 WTWP Summer Institute Teachers*, UT Martin

June 4-28 *WTWP Invitational Summer Institute*, Monday-Thursday, UT Martin

Aug. 18 *Writing workshop for all K-12 teachers, Every Child Has a Song (and Every Teacher, Too): Music in the Writing Classroom*, University Center, UT Martin. To pre-register e-mail the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education: ecce@utm.edu

Oct. 5-6 *Vignettes: Personal Narratives, Writing about Teaching, Writing on Water* writing retreat for WTWP Teacher Consultants, Paris Landing State Park.

* to register online for the Young Writers' Clubhouse, go to:
<http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/youthwriting/writingreg.php>