



Paul and Kate Farmer English Journal Writing Award Recipients

2017

Winner: Nicole Boudreau Smith, Adlai E. Stevenson High School, Lincolnshire, Illinois, "A Principled Revolution in the Teaching of Writing," May 2017

Honorable Mention: Jaclyn Burr, Brighton High School, Brighton, Michigan, "Springsteen, Spoken Word, and Social Justice: Engaging Students in Activism through Songs and Poetry," July 2017

2016

- Jennifer Ansbach, New Jersey, "Using Memorials to Build Critical Thinking Skills and Empathy," March 2016
- Kiran Subhani, New Trier High School, Winnetka, Illinois, "Photos as Witness: Teaching Visual Literacy for Research and Social Action," November 2015

2015

- Chris Gilbert, Henderson, North Carolina, "A Call for Subterfuge: Shielding the ELA Classroom from the Restrictive Sway of the Common Core." November 2014
- Jennifer Rossuck, Albertville, Alabama, "My Year of Sports." September 2014

Honorable Mentions:

- Michael Hoffman, Ann Arbor, Michigan, "Peer Response, Remixed: Authentic Peer Response through Audio Technology." March 2015
- Alyssa Niccolini, Brooklyn, New York, "Precocious Knowledge: Using Banned Books to Engage in a Youth Lens." January 2015

2014

- Donna Canan, Kirkwood High School, Missouri, "I Hear America Sing: Promoting Democracy through Literature." November 2013
- David Peter Noskin, New Trier High School, Winnetka, Illinois, for "Toward a Clearer Picture of Assessment: One Teacher's Formative Approach." September 2013

Honorable Mentions:

- Michael Pagliaro, St. Mary's College of Maryland, "Is a Picture Worth a Thousand Words? Determining the Criteria for Graphic Novels with Literary Merit." March 2014
- Jennifer Isgitt and Quentin Donnellan, Fossil ridge High School, Keller, Texas, "Discussion-Based Problem Solving: An English-Calculus Collaboration Emphasizes Cross-Curricular Thinking Skills." January 2014

2013

- Michael Thier, Eugene, Oregon, "Cultural Awareness Logs: A Method for Increasing International-Mindedness among High School and Middle School Students." July 2013
- Chris Gilbert, Henderson, North Carolina, "Changing the Lens: The Necessity of Visual Literacy in the ELA Classroom." March 2013

Honorable Mentions:

- Steffany Comfort Maher, Kalamazoo, Michigan, "Using To Kill a Mockingbird as a Conduit for Teaching about the School-to-Prison Pipeline." March 2013
- Jim Burke, San Francisco, California, "Generating Minds." July 2013

2012

- Fahima Ife, Madison, Wisconsin, "Powerful Writing: Promoting a Political Writing Community of Students." March 2012

- Shannon Falkner, Morristown, New Jersey, "Signs of Life' in the High School Classroom: Analyzing Popular Culture to Provide Student Choice in Analytical Writing." November 2011

Honorable Mention:

- Brent McKown, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, "Decoding Teacher and Student Identity with Jay-Z." November 2011
- Jennifer Ansbach, Lanoka Harbor, New Jersey, "Long-Term Effects of Bullying: Promoting Empathy with Nonfiction." July 2012

2011

- Kyle Vaughn, Richardson, Texas, "Reading the Literature of War: A Global Perspective on Ethnics." July 2011
- Nancy Guillot Pearson, Sidell, Louisiana, "Classrooms That Discourage Plagiarism and Welcome Technology." July 2011

Honorable Mention - John Day, Sugar Land, Texas, "Of Mice and Media." September 2010

2010

- Susan Biondo Hench, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, "Shakespeare Troupe: An Adventure in Words, Fluid Text and Comedy." September 2009
- Mary Kendrick, Charlotte, North Carolina, "Using Student Collaboration to Foster Progressive Discourse." May 2010

2009

- Laura Feffer for "Devising Ensemble Plays: At-Risk Students Become Living, Performing Authors." January 2009
- Jennifer Wells for "It Sounds Like Me: Using Creative Nonfiction to Teach College Admissions." September 2008

2008

- Tim Gillespie, "The List" (November 2007)
- John Golden, "Literature into Film (and Back Again): Another Look at an Old Dog." (September 2007)

Honorable Mention: Suzanne R. Kail, "Vocabulary Instruction Goes "Old School" (March 2008)

2007

- Raquel Cook, "Beyond Tolerance: Teaching English in a Post-9/11 Classroom" (November 2006)
- Kiran Subhani Qureshi, "Beyond Mirrored Worlds: Teaching World Literature to Challenge Students' Perception of 'Other.'" (November 2006)

Honorable Mentions:

- Michael J. Michell, "Teaching for Critical Literacy: An Ongoing Necessity to Look Deeper and Beyond" (November 2006)
- Tom Liam Lynch, "Illuminating Chaucer through Poetry, Manuscript Illuminations, and a Critical Rap Album" (July 2007)

2006

- Lori Cohen and Leyna Peery for "Unveiling Students' Perceptions about Women in Islam (January 2006)
- Jeff Anderson for "Zooming In and Zooming Out: Putting Grammar in Context into Context" (May 2006).

Honorable Mentions:

- Melissa McClain for "Rediscovering the Artist, Reinvigorating the Self, Reinventing the Teacher" (November 2005)

- Deb Teitelbaum for “Why is the Sky Blue? Using Children’s Questions to Motivate Research” (March 2006).

2005

- Ann Frkovich and Annie Thoms for “The Monologue Project for Creating Vital Drama in Secondary Schools” (November 2004)
- Stacy Miller for “Shattering Images of Violence in Young Adult Literature: Strategies for the Classroom” (May 2005)

Honorable Mention:

- Christie Jones for “Talking about The Girl Who Loved Tom Gordon” (May 2005)
- Jessica Whitney for “Five Easy Pieces: Steps toward Integrating AAVE into the Classroom.” (May 2005)

2004

- Nancy Frey and Douglas Fisher, “Using Graphic Novels, Anime, and the Internet in an Urban High School,” January 2004
- Lisa Garrigues, “Porch Talk: Reading Their Eyes Were Watching God,” September 2003

Honorable Mentions:

- Sharon Bishop, “The Power of Place,” July 2004
- Kimberly C. Price, “Teaching as Learning in a Yup’ik Eskimo Village,” November 2003

2003

Senior High: Thomas M. McCann and Joseph M. Flanagan, “A Tempest Project: Shakespeare and Critical Conflicts,” September 2002

Junior High: Jennifer D. Morrison, “Using Student-Generated Film to Create a Culturally Relevant Community,” September 2002

2002

Senior High: Lorraine Cella, Westwood Junior-Senior High School, Washington Township, New Jersey, “Reading the Complex World: Students Approach The Scarlet Letter from Multiple Perspectives,” July 2002

Junior High: Don Pederson, Florin High School, Sacramento, “Question and Answer: Reading Nonfiction to Develop the Persuasive Essay,” March 2002

2001

Senior High:

- Lynda Hamblin, “Voices in the Junior High School Classroom: Lost and Found,” September 2000
- Tamara L.C. Van Wyhe, “A Passion for Poetry: Breaking Rules and Boundaries with Online Relationships,” November 2000

2000

Senior high: Joseph M. Shosh, Freedom High School, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, “Much Ado about Negotiation,” July 2000

Senior high: Honorable mention: Colleen A. Ruggieri, Boardman High School, Boardman, Ohio, “The Value of Voice: Promoting Peace through Teaching and Writing,” May 2000

Middle school:

- Pamela Fracareta and Deborah J. Phillips, Burrillville Middle School, Harrisville, Rhode Island, “Working with a Writer’s Notebook,” July 2000
- Nancy G. Patterson, Portland Middle School, Portland, Michigan, “Making Connections: Hypertext and Research in a Middle School Classroom,” September 1999

1999

Senior high: Beth O. Steffen, Beloit Memorial High School, Wisconsin, "Bad Bays, Bad Girls, Watcha Gonna Do! Teenage Outlaws Create Curriculum," November 1998

Senior high: Honorable mention: Denise L. Croker, Harpeth Hall School, Nashville, Tennessee, "Putting It on the Table: A Mini-Course on Gender Differences," January 1999

1998

Senior high: Mary A. Dilg, Francis W. Parker School, Chicago, Illinois, "Why I am a Multiculturalist: The Power of Stories Told and Untold," October 1997

Middle school: Joan Ruddiman, West Windsor Plainsboro Middle School, Plainsboro, New Jersey, "World War II: A Research/Presentation Project for Eighth Graders," September 1997

Honorable mention: Senior high: Nancy Gorrell, Morristown High School, Morristown, New Jersey, "Teaching the Holocaust: Light from the Yellow Star Leads the Way," December 1997

Simon Chiu, St. Ignatius College Preparatory School, San Francisco, California, "Reorienting the English Classroom," December 1997

Elfie Israel, "What Contemporary Authors Can Teach Us," December 1997

1997

Senior high: Mark Larson, Evanston Township High School, Evanston, Illinois, "Watch Your Language: Teaching Standard Usage to Resistant and Reluctant Learners," November 1996

Middle school: Maura Stetson, The Menlo School, Atherton, California, "Freedom of Voice," October 1996

Honorable mention: Senior high: John A. Ianacone, Indian Hills High School, Oakland, New Jersey, "Passion and Craft in Writing: Finding a Balance," October 1996

Marion McAdoo Goldwasser, Mount Airy Senior High School, Mount Airy, North Carolina, "Censorship: It Happened to Me in Southwest Virginia—It Could Happen to You," February 1997

Honorable mention: Middle school: Michele Keating, Russell Middle School, Colorado Springs, Colorado, "Exploring Charles M. Russell and Others through Biography," December 1996

1996

Senior high: Lisa Schade, Mattawan Middle School, Mattawan, Michigan, "Demystifying the Text: Literary Criticism in the High School Classroom," March 1996

Middle school: Harry R. Noden, Hudson Middle School, Hudson, Ohio, "A Journey through Cyberspace: Reading and Writing in a Virtual School," October 1995

Honorable mention: Senior high: Evelyn McLean Brady, "How to Survive Urban Violence with Hope," September 1995

1995

Senior high: Tim Gillespie, Lake Oswego High School, Lake Oswego, Oregon, "Why Literature Matters," December 1994

Middle school: Shelly D. Smede, Clair E. Gale Junior High School, Idaho Falls, Idaho, "Flyfishing, Portfolios, and Authentic Writing," February 1995

Honorable mention: Senior high: Mary Dilg, Francis W. Parker School, Chicago, Illinois, "The Opening of the American Mind: Challenges in the Cross-Cultural Teaching of Literature," March 1995

Laurie Hoff, David H. Hickman High School, Columbia, Missouri, "From Omnipotent Teacher-in-Charge to Co-Conspirator in the Classroom: Developing Lifelong Readers and Writers," October 1994

Honorable mention: Middle school: Wannetta Hartman, New Vienna Elementary School, New Vienna, Ohio, "A Teacher-Researcher's Reflection," October 1994

1994

Senior high: Carole A. Williams, Mehlville School District, St. Louis, Missouri, "Social Action Begins at School: The Research Paper Revisited," November 1993

Middle school: Ann Warner, Romney Junior High School, Romney, West Virginia, "If the Shoe No Longer Fits, Wear It Anyway?" September 1993

Honorable mention: Senior high: Mary B. Nicolini, Penn High School, Mishawaka, Indiana, "Stories Can Save Us: A Defense of Narrative Writing," February 1994

Honorable mention: Middle school: Bonnie M. Davis, Clayton High School, Missouri, "A Cultural Safari: Dispelling Myths and Creating Connections," February 1994

1993

Senior high: Laura Hutchison, Central High School, Brooksville, Florida, "Homelessness and Reader-Response: Writing with a Social Consciousness," February 1993

Junior high: Leslie Oster, Benjamin Franklin Middle School, Teaneck, New Jersey, "Sub-Saharan Africa: An Interdisciplinary Curriculum Unit," April 1993

Honorable mention: Senior high: Carolyn P. Henly, Webster Groves High School, Missouri, "Reader-Response Theory as an Antidote to Controversy: Teaching The Bluest Eye, March 1993

Honorable mention: Junior high: Jeffrey D. Wilhelm, Beaver Dam Middle School, Wisconsin, "Literary Theorists, Hear My Cry!" November 1992

Elizabeth Egan Close, A.U. Farnsworth Middle School, Guilderland, New York, "Literature Discussion: A Classroom Environment for Thinking and Sharing," September 1992

1992

Senior high: Jay M. Gillen, Harbor City Learning Center, Baltimore, Maryland, "A Lesson from Macbeth," March 1992

Junior high: James Lockhart, North Kirkwood Middle School, Kirkwood, Missouri, "'We Real Cool': Dialect in the Middle-School Classroom," December 1991

Honorable mention: Senior high: Ellen M. Anderson, Andrew High School, Tinley Park, Illinois, and Fred L. Hamel, Bremerton High School, Washington, "Teaching Argument as a Criteria-Driven Process," November 1991

Ronald Barron, Richfield Senior High School, Minnesota, "What I Wish I Had Known about Peer-Response Groups but Didn't," September 1991

Brian W. Ford, Noble and Greenough School, Dedham, Massachusetts, "Essays of the Act of the Mind: Authentic Voices in Student Writing," December 1991

Ralph Maltese, Abington Senior High School, Pennsylvania, "Three Philosophical Pillars That Support Collaborative Learning," September 1991

Honorable mention: Junior high: David Burk, Ross Middle School, Hamilton, Ohio, "Teaching the Terrain of Poetry," March 1992

Mary Mercer Krogness, Shaker Heights Middle School, Ohio, "A Question of Values," October 1991

Mary Moebius, Verona Area Middle School, Wisconsin, "What Do You Believe? Persuasive Speeches in Eighth Grade," November 1991

1991

Senior high: Linda M. Christensen, Jefferson High School, Portland, Oregon, "Poetry: Reinventing the Past, Rehearsing the Future," April 1991

Alan Olds, Arvada West High School, Colorado, "Thinking Eastern: Preparing Students to Read Chinese Literature," December 1990

Junior high: Joanne S. Gillespie, Green Acres School, Rockville, Maryland, "Reliving the Depression: Integrating English and Social Studies," October 1990

Honorable mention: Senior high: Joan Kernan Cone, El Cerrito High School, Richmond, California, "Literature, Geography, and the Untracked English Class," December 1990

Norma A. Greco, The Ellis School, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, "Re-creating the Literary Text: Practice and Theory," November 1990

Honorable mention: Junior high: Marie Dionisio, Louis M. Klein Middle School, Harrison, New York, "Responding to Literary Elements through Mini-lessons and Dialogue Journals," January 1991

Elizabeth G. Mascia, Glenelg Country School, Maryland, "Cyrano de Bergerac: Bringing Classics to Young Adolescents," January 1991

1990

Senior high: Margaret Anne Zeller Carlson, Contoocook Valley High School, Peterborough, New Hampshire, "Guidelines for a Gender-Balanced Curriculum in English, Grades 7-12," October 1989

Junior high: Julie Welch Wentworth, Opelika Middle School, Alabama, "'A Whole Lot' of Learning Going On in an Urban Environment," January 1990

Honorable mention: Senior high: Belinda Shade McGuire, Herndon High School, Virginia, "Where Does the Teacher Intervene with Underachieving Writers?" February 1990

Judy Wenzel, Milan, Michigan, "Going to Jail: Finding Hospitable Space," April 1990

Honorable mention: Junior high: Sandra L. Robertson, Santa Barbara Junior High School, California, "Text Rendering: Beginning Literary Response," January 1990

Elaine Ryan, Northwest Junior High School, Coralville, Iowa, "Operation Name Search," January 1990

1989

Senior high: Jeff Golub, Shorecrest High School, Seattle, Washington, and Louann Reid, Douglas County High School, Castle Rock, Colorado, "Activities for an Interactive Classroom," April 1989

Junior high: Martha Dudley, Roosevelt Junior High School, Selma, California, "The Writing Workshop: Structuring for Success," January 1989

Honorable mention: Senior high: Peter Smagorinsky, Oak Park and River Forest High School, Oak Park, Illinois, "Small Groups: A New Dimension in Learning," February 1989

Honorable mention: Junior high: Marie Dionisio, Louis M. Klein Middle School, Harrison, New York, "Filling Empty Pockets: Remedial Readers Make Meaning," January 1989

1988

Senior high: Susan D. Reed, DeAnza High School, Richmond, California, "Logs: Keeping an Open Mind," February 1988

Junior high: Marian Galbraith-Jones, Cutler Junior High School, Mystic, Connecticut, "The Famous Authors Convention," October 1987

Honorable mention: Senior high: Margie Krest, Thornton High School, Colorado, "Time on My Hands: Handling the Paper Load," December 1987

Jane Carlson, Boulder High School, Colorado, Readers Responding to 'Rappaccini's Daughter,'" January 1988

Mary Jo Schaars, Stevens Point Area Senior High School, Wisconsin, "Teaching My Antonia, with Guidance from Rosenblatt," January 1988;

Honorable mention: Junior high: Mary Mercer Krogness, Shaker Heights Middle School, Ohio, "Fooling with Language," February 1988

Joseph Lazarskil Oswego Middle School, New York, "Memo to Student Teachers," September 1987

Judith B. Rosenfeld, St. Paul's School, Brooklandville, Maryland, "An Elizabethan Interlude: A Course for Middle Schoolers," December 1987

1987

Senior high: Marue E. Walizer, Wilton High School, Connecticut, "Adolescent Experience as Shakespearean Drama," February 1987

Junior high: Mike Cool, James Madison Junior High School, Appleton, Wisconsin, "Classroom Bond," April 1987

Honorable mention: Senior high: Linda Williams Post, Temple High School, Texas, "Frankly, My Dear," January 1987

Honorable mention: Junior high: Linda Green Horton, Jefferson Junior High School, Columbia, Missouri, "A Whole Language Unit for Ninth Graders," December 1986

1986

Senior high: Henry Maloney, Seaholm High School, Birmingham, Michigan, "You Write What You Read," September 1985

Lin McKay, Lake Braddock Secondary School, Virginia, "Gaining Control through Commentary," March 1986

Junior high: Nancie Atwell, Boothbay Region Schools, Maine, "Everyone Sits at a Big Desk: Discovering Topics for Writing," September 1985

Honorable mention: Senior high: Bill Brown, Nichols School, Buffalo, New York, "The Censoring of 'The Lottery,'" February 1986

John Forsyth, Cut Bank High School, Montana, "Images of Love: From Lawyer to English Teacher," April 1986

Ann Lavine, Illinois State University, "Virginia Woolf's 'The Legacy,'" February 1986

Leslie Patterson, Conroe High School, Texas, "Becoming a Teacher/Researcher: Another Avenue to Excellence," November 1985

Honorable mention: Junior high: Marylin J. Nelson, Kalispell Junior High School, Montana, "Sound Collages in Poetry," April 1986

Joel S. Turvey, Cedar Park Intermediate School, Beaverton, Oregon, "Investigate a Culture: Map, Research, Present, and Write," January 1986

1985

Senior high: Joseph I. Tsujimoto, Punahou School, Honolulu, Hawaii, "Re-Visioning the Whole," September 1984

Junior high: Lynn Vanderburg, "St. Ignatius School District, Montana, "Teaching Poetry on the Reservation," February 1985

Honorable mention: Senior high: Rafael C. Castillo, John Marshall High School, San Antonio, Texas, "Recommended: Gabriel Garcia Marquez," October 1984

Willis Bliss Endres, Shady Side Academy, Pittsburgh, "Teaching Vietnam: Reflections beyond the Immediate," December 1984

Robert Olivier, North Attleboro High School, Massachusetts, "A Letter to James Baldwin," October 1984

Rosemary C. Serfilippi, Guilford High School, Connecticut, "Masculine and Feminine Come Together," March 1985

Honorable mention: Junior high:
Daniel Dyer, Harmon Middle School, Aurora, Ohio, "Teacher Excellence: A Contemporary Oxymoron?" February 1985

Joel Goldstein and Harriet Novick, Winthrop Junior High School, Brooklyn, New York, "The YA Option: A Thematic Approach to YA Literature," November 1984

1984

Senior high: Marion S. MacLean, Annandale High School, Virginia, "Voices Within: The Audience Speaks," November 1983

Junior high: Susan Ohanian, Learning Magazine, "Question of the Day," November 1983

Honorable mention: Senior high: Alden S. Blodget, Packer Collegiate Institute, Brooklyn, New York, "My Teacher/My Self," November 1983

Ruth Michaud, Mt. Vernon High School, Iowa, "Them As Can Should Do," February 1984

Ruth Vinz, Boise High School, Idaho, "1984: Intricate Corridors within a Barren World," October 1983

Margaret W. Withey, Canton High School, Connecticut, "The Computer and Writing," November 1983

Honorable mention: Junior high: Michael Moore, Highland Middle School, Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, "Writing to Learn, Writing to Teach," September 1983

1983

Senior high: Jayne R. Smith, Thomas Jefferson High School, Port Author, Texas, "Innocent Abroad: The English Teacher in England," March 1983

Junior high: Andrea Fishman, Wilson Middle School, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, "Moving Up from High School to Middle School," April 1983

Honorable mention: Senior high: Susan Tally, Santa Fe High School, Santa Fe Springs, California, and Kathleen Naylor, Hacienda La Puente Unified School District, California, "Living in the Mailbox, and Other Strategies for Student Writers," December 1982

Nancy Goodwin, Clinton High School, Oklahoma, "Dancing on the Stage in Your Head," February 1983;

Honorable mention: Junior high:

Lida Askew, Westchester Junior High School, Houston, Texas, "The Gothic Route to Reading and Writing," March 1983

Barbara Hull, Princess Anne Junior High School, Virginia Beach, Virginia, "For Love of a Bat," September 1982

1982

Senior high: Kay Jacob, Valley View School District, Illinois, "Brave New English Curriculum," January 1982

Junior high: Christy Hammer, Mickle Junior High School, Lincoln, Nebraska, "Practical Piaget in the Classroom," November 1981

Honorable mention: Senior high: Richard Calisch, Elk Grove High School, Illinois, "Dante and Oedipus Go to Atlanta, Georgia," November 1981

Honorable mention: Junior high: Susan Mansfield Skean, Fords, New Jersey, "The Pamphlet: A Successful Writing Project," February 1982

1981

Senior high: Carmen W. Holsberry, Newton High School, Sandy Hook, Connecticut, "Faulkner, Fitzgerald, and Pynchon: Modernism and Postmodernism in Secondary School," January 1981
Rev. Joseph D. Ayd, Scranton Preparatory School, Pennsylvania, "H.L., Where Are You? A Celebration of Henry Mencken on the Centennial of His Birth," September 1980

Junior high: Jane Christensen, Everitt Junior High School, Wheat Ridge, Colorado, "Burning and Burnout," April 1981

Honorable mention: Junior high: Susan Ohanian, W. Kenneth Doyle Middle School, Troy, New York, "Reading for What," January 1981