2004 Ohio Kentucky Indiana
Children's Literature Conference

Imagining Russia
And The World
Through Children's Literature

Saturday, November 6, 2004
8:15 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.
Harry T. Wilks Conference Center
Miami University Hamilton

This Conference is funded in part by a grant from the Havighurst Center For Russian and Post-Soviet Studies at Miami University and by donations from Book Wholesalers, Inc. and The Blue Marble Book Store.
2004 OKI Children's Literature Conference Executive Committee

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Cincinnati State Technical and Community College, Johnnie Mae Berry Library
Jennifer Smith
Northern Kentucky University, Steely Library
Linda Leopold Strauss
Author

The OKI Conference is a collaborative effort of a large group of professionals and organizations. Without the dedicated efforts of all, we would not have the quality conference we are enjoying today.

Conference Schedule

8:15 – 8:45 Entrance Atrium
Registration, Book Sales, Continental Breakfast
Vendor Fair, Craft Demonstrations

8:45 – 9:00 Auditorium
Introductions

Welcome:
Dr. James Shiveslev
Chair, Department of Education
Miami University

Greetings from the Havinghurst Center
For Russian and Post-Soviet Studies:
Dr. Margaret Ziolek
Miami University

9:00 – 10:00 Auditorium
Opening Address:
Patricia Gauch
Voice and Story – Those Extraordinary Partners
Inspired by the wisdom of historian and writer Walter Havighurst, Ms. Gauch will focus on trusting your voice and telling your own unique story.

10:00 – 10:15 Entrance Atrium
Session Change

10:15 – 11:00 Seminar Rooms
Workshop I

11:00 – 11:15 Session Change

11:15 – 12:00 Seminar Rooms
Workshop II

12:00 – 1:00 Conference Room
Lunch

1:00 – 1:45 Seminar Rooms
Workshop III

1:45 – 2:00 Session Change

2:00 – 2:15 Auditorium
Awards Presentation:
Silver Gertie
Havinghurst Outstanding Teacher of Russian Studies

2:15 – 3:15 Auditorium
Patricia Polacco
Tales and Talk
Ms. Polacco will discuss family history, ethnic diversity, and personal history, providing the pattern needed to stitch together children and books.

3:15 – 4:00 Auditorium
Autographing
Workshop I

Meet the Author and Her Editor: A Working Relationship
Patricia Polacco and Patricia Gauch

Presenting the Coretta Scott King Award
Darwin Henderson
This presentation will briefly describe the selection process of the Coretta Scott King Award and offer insights into its richness and diversity of the African American culture as portrayed in the award winning books.

You Want Me To Do What? Tips for Turning ‘Tweens On To Reading
Paula Brehm-Heeger
An exploration of what themes interest teens, ideas for motivating teens to read, the importance of booktalks and what makes a booktalk interesting to teens, and how to get through to a teen audience.

Reading the Pictures
Gratia Banta
Beginning with Randolph Caldecott, participants will view picture book illustration with a critical eye after first enjoying them as a child would.

Picture Books – Reflections of Life
Barbara Seuling
Picture books are playing a remarkable role in children's lives since the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

Quilt Me a Story
Karen Farmer Wananemaker
With the vast array of children's books about quilts, participants will come to appreciate the potential waiting right under the covers!

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Grandparents Around the World
Floyd C. Dickman
Grandparents come in all sizes, shapes, and colors. This workshop will introduce participants to a variety of books featuring grandparents and some activities for children to learn about their heritage. It will focus primarily on books published within the last six years.

Imagining the World and Changing It Too
Sally Derby and Robert Rayevsky
The real world. Imagining it, giving it form and substance, living in it, and changing it.

Leap Into Learning Through Dance and Literature
Lana Kay Rosenberg
This session will involve the participants intellectually and physically working with a piece of literature in small groups and then manipulating the material using the basic elements of dance: space, time, force, and body movement.

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Presenters

Gratia Banta served as a children’s librarian for more than twenty years. She currently devotes herself to painting and teaching visual literacy in nationally recognized workshops. She served on the 1988 Caldecott Committee and has just been elected 2006 Caldecott Chair. Born in Ohio, she now lives in Portland, Maine. Further information is available at www.gratiarts.com.

Paula Brehm-Heeger has been involved in public library service to young people for more than a decade, specializing in booktalks for teen readers. Currently she is the Teen Coordinator for the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County and is responsible for developing, planning, and coordinating system-wide teen services in all 42 of the library’s locations. She has established and supervises an active Teen Advisory Board at the Main Library.

Sally Derby has written numerous award-winning books for children, including Two Fools and a Horse, illustrated by Robert Rayevsky, and two forthcoming books, The Wacky Substitute and Whooosh! A lifelong resident of Ohio, Ms. Derby and her husband, Karl Miller, are the parents of five grown children, two foster children, and grandparents of thirteen children. Sally is a former teacher and enjoys speaking to groups of children, teachers, librarians, and parents.

Floyd C. Dickman is a free lance Specialist in Children’s Literature. Prior to his current position, Mr. Dickman worked at the State Library of Ohio as an Education Consultant, Head of Library Development, Coordinator of Library Programs and Development, and Coordinator of the Ohio Center for the Book. He has also lectured in children’s literature at Kent State University, Otterbein College, and Ohio Dominican College and has made numerous state-wide presentations, often centering on the Caldecott Award books. He was instrumental in the establishment of the Center for the Study of the Picture Book at the Columbus College of Art and Design. In addition, Mr. Dickman is a proud grandparent himself.

Patricia Gauch grew up in Michigan and has used the natural surroundings of her childhood on Lake Huron and Lake Michigan as a setting for several of her novels. After graduating from Miami University Ms. Gauch worked as a reporter for the Louisville Courier-Journal and the Detroit Free Press before launching her career as an author, teacher, and reviewer of children’s books. Ms. Gauch became Editor-in-Chief of Philomel Books in 1985 and has edited numerous prize-winning novels and picture books. She is now Vice President and Publisher of Philomel Books.
Presenters

Darwin Henderson, Associate Professor of Education at the University of Cincinnati, is a member of the Coretta Scott King Award jury of the American Library Association. The recipient of a 1997 University of Cincinnati Faculty Achievement Award, his research interests lie in 20th and 21st century African American writers and illustrators of literature for children and youth. He is the co-author of *Culturally Diverse Literature for Children and Adolescents: Learning to Listen in New Ways* (August, 2004, Allyn & Bacon/Longman).

Nancy Henderson, a native of the Ukraine, has been demonstrating, exhibiting, and teaching the art of egg decorating for 21 years.

Patricia Polacco is a prize-winning author and illustrator who is primarily a natural storyteller. She is lauded for transforming childhood memories, favorite episodes from family history, and elements from her Russian, Ukrainian, Jewish, and Irish heritage into works that are noted for their freshness, originality, warmth, panache, and universality. Many of her books feature characters of different races, religions, and age groups, and celebrate both diversity and commonality. Her stories are noted for clear, fluid language that makes them suitable for reading aloud. Whether writing about inter-generational relationships, cross-cultural friendships, Russian witches, or Jewish quilts, Polacco is happily at home in her created worlds and makes such worlds accessible to her readers.

Robert Rayevsky was born in Moscow in 1955. He began art school at the age of nine. After extensive travel in the former Soviet Union, Robert moved to New York City. He holds a BFA in Graphic Arts from the Moscow Polygraphic Institute and a BFA in Illustration from Parsons School of Design. His first children’s book was published in 1985, and since then he has illustrated 19 additional titles, many of them award-winners. Rayevsky’s work for adults has received awards for *Print’s Regional Design Annual*, *The Visual Club*, and *Applied Arts Magazine*. His work was profiled in *Step-By-Step Graphics Magazine* (vol.13, No.1).

Lana Kay Rosenberg is director of Dance Theatre and the Dance Repertory Group, an improvisation company that performs in underserved elementary schools. She is also a professor at Miami University and is the presentation “coach” for the Varsity Synchronized Skating Team. As the recipient of many cultural grants, Lana Kay has been involved in research, teaching, and choreographing in Brazil at the Federal Universities of Minas Gerais, Bahia, Paraíba, and Vicos. She is the founder of the National Dance Association’s Choreography Evaluation Project.

Barbara Seuling is the author and illustrator of fiction, nonfiction, and picture books for young readers. She is perhaps best known as the creator of the “Freaky Facts” books which provide middle graders with little-known facts, myths, and legends on a wide variety of topics. She began writing and drawing at an early age and after college began her work in the publishing field at Dell and soon became a children’s book editor and published author/illustrator. In addition to working as an author, illustrator, and editor, Seuling has been a teacher at the Bank Street College, the Manuscript Workshop, and the Institute for Children’s Literature. Her advice to new writers is to be persistent. “A writer is a growing thing; we grow with each page we write, and therefore the more we write the more we learn and the better we become.”

Valerie Ubbes is the Project Director of the Children’s Picture Book Database at Miami University. As an Associate Professor of Health Education, Valerie promotes the relationship between health, literacy, and education. She is developing a Youth Database for Health Literacy, a cooperative between Miami University Libraries and the Lane Libraries.

Karen Farmer Wanamaker has twenty-five years experience as an award winning elementary school library media specialist and teacher that uniquely qualify her to bring the very best to children and adults alike. Imagination and creativity are hallmarks of Karen’s presentations and materials. She combines her enthusiasm and love of children into all her work. Karen has a master’s degree in Story-telling and Reading from East Tennessee State University and has been honored as a National Endowment for the Humanities Scholar in Children’s Fantasy Literature, Outstanding Young Educator, and Cable Television Teacher of the Year.
Thanks for coming!

Please plan to attend the 2005 OKI Children’s Literature Conference that will be held:

Saturday, November 12, 2005

The Conference will be hosted by:

Cincinnati State Technical and Community College

The Theme for the 2005 Conference will be:

Literacy for Life

A World of Thanks to:

Friends of the Oxford Lane Library for sponsoring the Friday evening reception

School of Education and Allied Professions at Miami University for supplying Door Prizes

Floyd Dickman for supplying Door Prizes

The Lane Libraries for Conference Bags

Will Hillenbrand for designing the new mouse logo

Sue and Rick Riggs for their design of the conference brochure and signage

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The Greater Cincinnati Library Consortium Sponsors the OKI Children's Literature Conference in Cooperation With:

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University of Cincinnati Central Campus
University of Cincinnati Clermont College
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