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Back Matter

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CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS

Tearing Down the Walls:

Connecting Students with the World Beyond the Classroom

More and more teachers are working at giving their students opportunities for extending learning beyond the classroom walls. What kinds of experiences are you giving your students?

Do you: bring speakers or mentors into the class? take students on field trips to such places as cemeteries as part of a research or writing project? find ways for students to get writing published in the broader community? invite parents to an evening which showcases student projects? invite the whole school to view your students' works? help students gain access to information through computer networks? encourage parents to work in the classroom? help students communicate electronically with students in other schools?

Do you have students: get involved with senior citizens? exchange letters with other classes or schools? present skits of such things as their book talks to other classes? put together panel presentations for other classes within the school? share videos they have created with other classes? interest others in books they are reading by having them do book talks over the public address system? set up displays in the library? read stories they have written to students in earlier grades?

(Deadline August 15, 1994)

Poetry: Tough to Teach or a Treat for Students?

Poetry can perk up a classroom or be a deadly experience for students. Do you have any sure-fire methods of teaching or using poetry that turns students on to poetry? What do you do with poetry that works successfully? How much terminology is necessary for understanding poetry and how do you teach it? What do you want students to come away with from the study or use of poetry?

What about poetry writing? What strategies or activities do you use that triggers good poetry writing? Do you have success with certain poetic forms? How do you deal with rhyme in students' poetry when it distorts meaning? How do you encourage students to use strong images in their poetry? Are poetry exercises and formula poems successful?

How do you use poetry with literature? With non-fiction? What integrated approaches work for you? How do you involve students in classical poetry? Who or what inspires you to teach poetry?

What collections or single poems work with your students? Any good new poetry or poetry anthologies to recommend especially from different cultures?

(Deadline January 15, 1995)

Length: Four to twelve pages in MLA format (please include three copies)

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Language Arts Journal of Michigan
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The Writing Center
131 Brody Hall
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824



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