

# Language Arts Journal of Michigan

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Volume 23  
Issue 2 *Twenty-First Century Literacy*

Article 15

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2008

## Back Matter

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### Recommended Citation

(2008) "Back Matter," *Language Arts Journal of Michigan*: Vol. 23: Iss. 2, Article 15.  
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.9707/2168-149X.1129>

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*Michigan Council of Teachers of English Welcomes Barry Lane,*

*Robbyn Smith & Gisbert Van Frankenhuyzen*

*“Art as Invitation: Writing in Response to Music, Drama, Literature, and Life”*

**Friday, October 3, 2008 ~ The Lansing Sheraton Hotel**

This year the focus of MCTE’s fall conference is on motivating students (K-12) to engage in the many genres of writing through invitations to the arts and life. Much has been written and much time has been spent preparing for writing on demand, and now we take time to also celebrate the creative forms of writing from experience and the heart.

**THIS YEAR, MCTE IS HAPPY TO PRESENT BARRY LANE**, who has taught writing at the University of New Hampshire, founded a literacy program in Vermont prisons, and worked as a writer in residence in hundreds of elementary and secondary school classrooms throughout the country. Barry is nationally known for his dynamic, hands-on workshops on writing and revision and his popular writing books, *After “The End”* (Heinemann), *Discovering the Writer Within*, *Writing as a Road to Self Discovery* (Writer’s Digest Books), *The Portfolio Sourcebook* (Vermont Portfolio Institute), and Barry’s newest work, *But How Do You Teach Writing? A Simple Guide for Teachers*, an authentic writing instruction, which honors self-expression and thinking. At a time when the writing process is sometimes viewed as a seven-step recipe, with revision one of those steps, author Barry Lane inspires language arts teachers to approach the subject with flexibility and playfulness. He encourages both teachers and students to enjoy a sense of discovery and surprise in their writing, as well as to examine and explore their own distinct revising styles. Barry will present these topics, along with creative ways to approach writing on demand, focusing on sharing test-taking tools that build students’ confidence as well as skills.

**MCTE ALSO WELCOMES Gisbert Van Frankenhuyzen and Robbyn Smith Van Frankenhuyzen**, the luncheon guests. Gisbert (Nick) is most recognized from his seventeen years as art director for the now privatized Michigan Natural Resources magazine. It is also through the state that his five habitat posters of the wetlands, dunes, rivers, Kirtland warbler, beech-maple forests, are well known. Born in the Netherlands, Nick studied at the Royal Academy of Arts in Arnhem and immigrated to the United States in 1976. His highest achievement comes from being selected numerous times into the internationally renowned Leigh Yawkey Woodson *Birds in Art* Exhibition. Robbyn has written several books, including *Kelly of Hazel Ridge* and *Saving Samantha*, inspired by family and the wildlife visitors she and her family adopt and care for before releasing back to the wild. Nick and Robbyn live and work on a farm in Bath, where nature journaling is part of their daily lives and an enjoyable way to document the special animals that have been parts of their lives. The Van Frankenhuyzens will discuss their inspirations, art and writing processes, and will take part in a special roundtable event whose focus will be literature, art, and culture.

FOR REGISTRATION, PROPOSALS AND MORE INFORMATION about the conference, visit MCTE’s Web site (<http://www.mienglishteacher.org/>) and click on *Conferences*.

We sincerely hope you will join us for this conference, which celebrates writing in its varied, finest forms and will serve as an enjoyable place to network, participate in ongoing discussions, and meet the authors. Theirs and many other trade and academic books will be available at special educator discounts in our exhibit area.

See you in October!

**Mary Anna Kruch**, *President-Elect, MCTE*

(and the Autumn Assembly 2008 Steering Committee: Fred Barton, Toby Kahn-Loftus, Reade Dornan, Kia Jane Richmond, Jennifer Swisher, Mary Cox, Lori Yegge, Rita Maddox, Ray Lawson, and Bridgitt Gardener)

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# **LANGUAGE ARTS JOURNAL OF MICHIGAN**

The Scholarly Journal of the  
Michigan Council of Teachers of English

## **CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS FALL 2008: "REVISING"**

The editors of LAJM invite teachers and educators across grade levels to submit articles for the Fall 2008 issue. The theme of the issue, "Revising," provides opportunities to explore issues, practices and research in English language arts around this concept. The editors seek manuscripts that reflect diversity of perspectives, theories, and practices on this general theme, although manuscripts on other topics will be considered.

### **SUBMISSION DATE – JULY 1, 2008**

#### **Dear Colleagues:**

LAJM seeks to explore the theme of "revising" through manuscripts on a range of ways that teachers or students re-see, re-imagine, or re-examine a text for particular purposes. Revising, usually linked with improving or correcting a written text, continues to expand as our views of text(s) and literacy(ies), the concept becomes rich with possibilities.

#### **Examples:**

Revising in Classrooms. How do you guide students to revise written texts, or interpretations of texts they have read or viewed or heard? How do you engage students in re-seeing texts from different perspectives, for selected purposes, audiences, and outcomes?

Revising Curriculum. How have you revised curriculum? For what purposes? How have your revisions changed the way you approach literacy instruction?

Revising Standards and Assessments. How have you (or others) revised standards or assessments? For what purposes? What has been the impact on classrooms and learning, or on policy, research, communication across boundaries?

#### **NEW SECTION: Classroom Ideas, Strategies and Practices**

LAJM is planning a new section that focuses on classroom ideas, particularly ones that have worked for particular purposes. What classroom activities, strategies or practices have guided students to develop their writing, reading, interpreting, and viewing skills and strategies? These manuscripts can be brief (1-4 pages), but should include a rationale that supports the approach.

### **SUBMIT MANUSCRIPTS TO EDITORS**

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or

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