

January 2016

From the Editors

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Recommended Citation

Edwards, Patricia A. and Wright, Tanya S. (2016) "From the Editors," *Michigan Reading Journal*: Vol. 48: Iss. 2, Article 2.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/mrj/vol48/iss2/2>

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From the Editors...

by Patricia A. Edwards and Tanya S. Wright

It is hard to believe that this is our fifth issue of *MRJ*. We deeply appreciate all of the wonderful comments we have received about the teacher-friendly articles included in the journal. We hear your voices and continue to include articles that impact teacher learning. We also want to reiterate that it is a privilege and honor for us to edit *MRJ*, a journal rich with history and mission.

Winter is upon us, and we hope to find you sitting beside a fire, wrapped in a cozy blanket, enjoying our fifth issue of *MRJ*. As you are reading and enjoying this issue, we encourage you to share some of the great ideas and strategies with your school administrator, your colleagues at the district and school levels, and your friends.

In this issue, we have included two *Bridging Research and Practice* articles which address utilizing dialogic reading to develop academic vocabulary and academic vocabulary instruction for English Language Learners. For the popular *Critical Issues* section, we have an article by renowned scholar, Dr. Gloria Ladson-Billings, University of Wisconsin-Madison's Kellner Family Professor of Urban Education in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction. Dr. Ladson-Billings discusses re-stating the case for culturally relevant teaching. Additionally, co-editor Dr. Patricia A. Edwards provides an insightful discussion of the importance of teachers establishing clear rules, goals, and expectations. *Voices from Around the State* continues to be well-received by our readers. In the current issue we have teacher tips from Stacie Bittikofer of Brighton and Kalyn Willis of Farmington Hills about enhancing your classroom library, as well as from Anna Nagelhout of Plymouth about a book drive she and her mother established to bring free books to families in their community. We provide reviews of professional texts for teachers in a column titled *Must Read Texts*, which is edited by Dr. Kathy Highfield and Dr. Laura Pardo. Also included is a column edited by Dr. Laura Apol and four doctoral students (i.e., Lisa Domke, Ashley Johnson, Jeanne Loh, and Tracy Weippert) entitled *For the Love of Literature*.

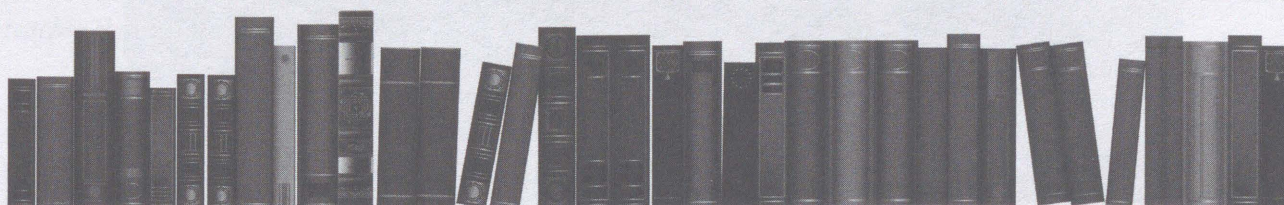
We encourage our readers to read updates and information about the journal by liking the Michigan Reading Association page on Facebook, following @michiganreading on Twitter, and searching and following Michigan Reading Association on Pinterest. Also, we hope to see you at the 60th Annual **Michigan Reading Conference at Cobo Center in Detroit**, March 18-21, 2016. The conference theme is *Reading All Stars. Diamond Jubilee*.



Patricia A. Edwards



Tanya S. Wright



Our journal email address is mrj@msu.edu. We invite you to join the conversation by contributing to *MRJ*. Please email article submissions that are appropriate for any of the sections in our journal to our email address. We look forward to hearing from you.

Finally, we would like to again thank our fantastic editorial team of Laura Hopkins and Kristen White. These wonderful MSU doctoral students have been indispensable in supporting our work on this journal. We would also like to thank Laura Guzman, Jessie Hughey Montoya, and Lisa Rivard, as well as the MRA Board for supporting our efforts.

We hope that you enjoy our fifth issue of *MRJ* and that you will continue to tell your friends and colleagues about us. Happy reading!

Warmest Regards,

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Co-Editors, *Michigan Reading Journal*

