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Back Matter

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MCTE Fall Conference

Friday, September 19, 1997
at the Lansing Sheraton

“Teaching with Passion, Learning with Passion”

keynote speaker:

Tom Romano

teacher and author of

Clearing the Way: Working with Teenage Writers

and

Writing with Passion

luncheon speaker:

Chris Crutcher

award-winning author of

*Running Loose, The Crazy Horse Electric Game, Stotan,
Chinese Handcuffs, Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes, and Ironman*

This one-day super conference will be packed with lively, interactive sessions which will focus on how best practices allow us all to teach with passion and our students to learn with passion.

For program information contact: Diana Mitchell
264 Ruby Way
Williamston, MI 48895
(517) 655-3749

For registration information contact: Rita Paye
8251 Hillpoint Dr.
Brighton, MI 48116
(810) 231-2259

MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF TEACHERS OF ENGLISH

MCTE is composed of teaching professionals, like yourself, who work in classrooms just like yours. Whether you face a lively group of kindergartners, or a room full of preservice teachers, you have colleagues in the Council who understand the challenges you face and share your concerns about your students' futures.

This is a time of unprecedented change in education as Michigan schools enter the 21st century. From classroom practice to teacher training to statewide curriculum mandates, MCTE can provide you with a window on your profession and a community of committed professionals with whom you can share ideas and concerns.

As a member of MCTE you receive the ***Michigan English Teacher***, a newsletter published five times a year. Through the MET you will learn about upcoming conferences and special events, pending legislation, and other news about teachers successfully meeting the challenges of today's classrooms.

You will also receive the ***Language Arts Journal of Michigan***, a twice yearly collection of articles on current practices and concerns in the teaching of the English language arts. Each issue has articles written by and for elementary, middle school, high school, and college teachers.

Each fall MCTE sponsors a statewide convention that brings educational leaders from around the state and nation to Lansing to talk about professional concerns. This annual conference is a chance for you to gain new insight on classroom strategies and find out what other teachers around the state are doing to meet the ever-changing demands on language arts teachers.

MCTE also co-sponsors conferences around the state throughout the year. Western Michigan, Michigan State University, and Saginaw Valley State University are the sites of such conferences.

**Get
Involved
Join
MCTE**

The Michigan Council of Teachers of English Membership Application

Date: _____ Are you an NCTE Member? Yes ___ No ___

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____ Telephone: _____

County: _____

Name of School: _____ Telephone: _____

Elementary ___ Middle/Jr.H.S. ___ High School ___ College/University ___

Position: Teacher ___ Instructor/Professor ___ Student ___ Other ___

Membership Dues: yearly \$25.00, student \$15.00

Send form and check payable to MCTE to: Ray Lawson, Secretary-Treasurer, MCTE,
P.O. Box 1152, Rochester, Michigan 48307

LANGUAGE ARTS JOURNAL OF MICHIGAN CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS

Literature Alive!

Most of us in the field of language arts can remember the special teachers who fostered our love for literature. These teachers were not only responsible for making us lifelong readers, but also were a force in guiding us toward teaching as a career. In these classrooms we learned that our lives and the experiences we brought to the text were as important as the text itself. Unfortunately, too many students in our state find themselves in classrooms where literature classes are reduced to covering sections of a text book or basal.

What activities do you use to engage your students? How have you been able to deal with curriculum requirements of your school and still bring the students' lives and interests into the classroom? Have you had success with literature circles, book clubs, collaborative groups, or other types of student-led discussion groups? What activities do you use to take students beyond the text? Do you use reader's theater or other performance-based extensions? Do you have activities for a particular piece of literature you could share?

For this issue we are interested in article-length manuscripts that describe the teaching of literature in your classroom, as well as shorter pieces about successful strategies or activities.

Deadline: May 15, 1997

Whole Language: Dead or Alive?

Many of us who consider ourselves whole language teachers can remember the events which led us from our more traditional beginnings to the whole language philosophy. Others of us have always been whole language teachers, espousing the principles long before they had a name. There was a time when teachers were not afraid of the whole language label. Now, many of us feel compelled to mask the fact to wary administrators or an ill-informed public. As the political climate has changed, and *Hooked on Phonics* has replaced *Hooked on Books*, what can responsible whole language teachers do?

For this issue we welcome manuscripts about many topics and in many forms. What do we mean when we say whole language? What questions do you have about whole language? Is whole language alive in your district? What does your whole language classroom look like? What makes the whole language approach different from other approaches? How does the whole language theory translate into classroom practices? What are the advantages or the disadvantages of whole language? Can you tell a classroom story that describes the power of whole language or problems with it? How can it help individual students?

In what ways have you communicated to parents or administrators about the power of whole language?

Deadline: November 15, 1997

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

Submit to: **Language Arts Journal of Michigan**, Diana Mitchell/Mary Dekker,
Editors, The Writing Center, 300 Bessey Hall, Michigan State University,
East Lansing, MI 48824

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