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## A Message from the President of the Michigan Reading Association

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# A Message from the President of the Michigan Reading Association

**W**elcome to a new year! This year's MRJournal promises to be one of the most useful tools for professionals involved in literacy. The Michigan Reading Association is one of the leading literacy associations in the country. Our Journal is one of the many professional publications we offer to our membership. All classroom teachers, parents, librarians, volunteers, and paraprofessionals need to have access to the latest educational research.

The MRJournal provides that access.

Please encourage others to join the Michigan Reading Association. The benefits are tremendous, and give classroom teachers the professional edge in teaching both children and adults. We offer many professional publications, a national level state conference every March, and a wonderful, more relaxed summer conference in Traverse City. We are also co-sponsoring a conference with CIERA on September 22. The



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networking opportunities are endless, as we have local councils all over the state. They also provide excellent professional development opportunities. Call our office at 1-800-MRA-READ if you have any questions about our association.

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**Our MRJournal** this year features the artwork of Rick Brunson, a Grand Rapids Public School high school art teacher. Rick works at Union High School in Grand Rapids and has also taught in both private and public elementary schools. He is an amazing, talented teacher who always works to bring out the best in all of his students. He also teaches at Kendall School of Art, and spends part of his summer teaching at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp. Rick also writes and records his own music. His CD is part of my own music collection. He is the true genius behind the creation of the art for the 2001 conference. His artistry extends to his teaching because he teaches kids to look inside themselves to discover their own creativity and gifts.

Please open your journal. Read ... learn ... enjoy ... and share it with a friend!

## Clarification

The anonymous author of the IN/OUT strategy described in the Summer 2001 journal has been found. A thank you goes to Virginia Glass, a retired educator from Flint Schools. This strategy will be elaborated on further in an upcoming MRA Bookmark and Literacy Connections, Strategies That Work.