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"Breaking Into Print: LAJM"

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“Breaking Into Print: *LAJM*”

With its premier issue of the *Language Arts Journal of Michigan*, the Michigan Council of Teachers of English now joins other state affiliates of the National Council of Teachers of English publishing professional journals for its members. While MCTE has published books, monographs, and pamphlets for its members at a reduced cost, and will continue to do so, *LAJM* (in addition to the newsletter, the *Michigan English Teacher*) is offered to MCTE members as part of their annual membership fee of ten dollars.

Unlike other MCTE publications focusing on “specific themes,” *LAJM* will contain a variety of articles for English and Language Arts educators in K-College. Appearing once in the fall and once in the spring, it will complement the *MET*. The proposal for an MCTE journal, in part, grew out of the need to publish a number of outstanding articles too long for the *MET*. Other reasons for publishing an MCTE journal included the desire to print articles by Michigan educators involved in English and the Language Arts and the need to have a state journal, unlike national journals, that would strengthen the relationship between different levels of English and Language Arts instruction: elementary, middle school, junior high, secondary, and college.

At MCTE’s June (1984) board meeting unanimous approval for an MCTE journal was given by Dr. Ronald Kar, Dr. Sheila Fitzgerald, Mr. Ray Lawson, Dr. John Beard, Dr. Lois Rosen, and Mrs. Eileen Nordstorm. The board, then, agreed upon a “title” for the journal, an editor, and editorial board. The first issue of *Language Arts Journal of Michigan* was scheduled for the spring of 1985.

The editor of *LAJM* is Dr. John Beard, past editor of the *MET* from 1982-84, a teacher in Michigan public schools, community colleges, and universities since 1974. The editorial board consists of Dr. Robert Root, Jr., a past president of MCTE (1982) and author of several articles; Ms. Linda Dinan, formerly on the editorial review board of NCTE’s *Language Arts* journal; and Ms. Jill Rae Van Antwerp, an active member of both MCTE and NCTE.

Through the *Language Arts Journal of Michigan*, MCTE hopes to strengthen its relationship and articulation with other professional organizations in Michigan: the Michigan College English Association, the Michigan Reading Association, the Michigan Association of Speech Communications, and members of the Coalition for Michigan Subject Matter. In this issue papers delivered at the 1984 MCEA conference (Clinton Burhans, Jr., Frederic Svoboda, Douglas Salerno, and the 1984 NCTE conference (Joel Nydahl) were revised for *LAJM*.

Each issue of *LAJM* will contain an annotated bibliography on any topic related to the Language Arts (see **Editorial Policy**). For anyone interested in writing an annotated bibliography, please send a prospectus to the editor. “Comments and Responses” to the articles appearing in *LAJM* are requested by September 1, 1985; they will appear in the fall issue.

Cover Design requested for *LAJM*. A cash prize will be awarded for a cover design; entries must be received by September 1, 1985.