Mission

The Community Literacy Journal is an interdisciplinary journal that publishes both scholarly work that contributes to theories, methodologies, and research agendas and work by literacy workers, practitioners, and community literacy program staff. We are especially committed to presenting work done in collaboration between academics and community members, organizers, activists, teachers, and artists.

We understand “community literacy” as including multiple domains for literacy work extending beyond mainstream educational and work institutions. It can be found in programs devoted to adult education, early childhood education, reading initiatives, or work with marginalized populations. It can also be found in more informal, ad hoc projects, including creative writing, graffiti art, protest songwriting, and social media campaigns.

For us, literacy is defined as the realm where attention is paid not just to content or to knowledge but to the symbolic means by which it is represented and used. Thus, literacy makes reference not just to letters and to text but to other multimodal, technological, and embodied representations, as well. Community literacy is interdisciplinary and intersectional in nature, drawing from rhetoric and composition, communication, literacy studies, English studies, gender studies, race and ethnic studies, environmental studies, critical theory, linguistics, cultural studies, education, and more.

Subscriptions

Donations to the CLJ in any amount can be made with a check made out to “FIU English Department,” with Community Literacy Journal in the memo line.

Send to:

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Donors at the $40 level or above will receive a courtesy subscription of the academic year’s issues. Donors will also be given electronic access to the CLJ’s present and past issues, upon request to Paul Feigenbaum at the mailing address above or at pfeigenb@fiu.edu.

Cover Art

The cover image by renowned public artist, community arts educator, and activist, Michelle Angela Ortiz, is an 88’-long vinyl installation on the Capitol steps of Harrisburg, PA.
Submissions

Submissions for the articles section of the journal should clearly demonstrate engagement with community literacy scholarship, particularly scholarship previously published in the Community Literacy Journal. The editors seek work that pushes the field forward in exciting and perhaps unexpected ways. Case studies, qualitative and/or quantitative research, conceptual articles, etc., ranging from 20-25 manuscript pages, are welcome. If deemed appropriate, we will send the manuscript out to readers for blind review. You can expect a report in 8-10 weeks.

The CLJ also welcomes shorter manuscripts (8-12 pages) for two in-house sections:

Community Literacy Project and Program Profiles will discuss innovative and impactful community-based projects and programs that are grounded in best practices. We encourage community-based practitioners and non-profit staff to submit for this section. Profiles should draw on community literacy scholarship, but they are not expected to have the extended lit reviews that are customary in the articles section of the journal. If you are a community member wanting to submit, and it is your first time writing for an academic journal, we are happy to offer mentorship and answer questions. Pieces co-authored by multiple stakeholders in a project are also welcome.

Please submit using our online submission system. Contact the Project and Program Profiles Editor, Vincent Portillo, with questions at vportill@syr.edu.

Issues in Community Literacy will offer targeted analysis, reflection, and/or complication of ongoing challenges associated with the work of community literacy. Potential subjects for this section include (but are not limited to): building/sustaining infrastructure, navigating institutional constraints, pursuing community literacy in graduate school, working with vulnerable populations, building ethical relationships, realizing reciprocity, and negotiating conflicts among partners. We imagine this as a space for practitioners to raise critical issues or offer a response to an issue raised in a previous volume of the CLJ.

We encourage community-based practitioners and non-profit staff to submit for this section. If you are a community member wanting to submit, and it is your first time writing for an academic journal, we are happy to offer mentorship and answer questions. Pieces co-authored by multiple stakeholders in a project are also welcome. Please submit using our online submission system. Contact the Issues in Community Literacy Editor, Cayce Wicks, with questions at cwick003@fiu.edu.
Advertising

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We accept .PDF, .JPG, .TIF or .EPS. All advertising images should be camera-ready and have a resolution of 300 dpi. For more information, please contact Veronica House (housev@colorado.edu) and Paul Feigenbaum (pfeigenb@fiu.edu).

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Editors’ Introduction
Paul Feigenbaum and Veronica House, with Cayce Wicks and Vincent Portillo

Keynote Addresses

“All I Need Is One Mic”: A Black Feminist Community Meditation on the Work, the Job, and the Hustle (& Why So Many of Yall Confuse This Stuff)
Carmen Kynard

Amplifying Community Voices through Public Art
Michelle Angela Ortiz

The Contemplative Concerns of Community Engagement: What I Wish I Knew about the Work of Community Writing Twenty Years Ago
Paula Mathieu

Articles

Maria Varela’s Flickering Light: Literacy, Filmstrips, and the Work of Adult Literacy Education in the Civil Rights Movement
Michael Dimmick

“What Is It That’s Going on Here?”: Community Partner Frames for Engagement
Rachael W. Shah

Listening with šəqačib: Writing Support and Community Listening
Joe Concannon with Boo Balkan Foster

Allies in Progress: The Public-School Institutions We’ve Ignored
Lance Langdon
Issues in Community Literacy
Community Literacy: Where We Stand Now

130  Pedagogy of and for the Public: Imagining the Intersection of Public Humanities and Community Literacy
Jacob Burg

138  When Tactical Hope Doesn’t Feel Like Enough: A Graduate Student’s Reflection on Precarity and Community-Engaged Research
Megan McCool

144  “We Move Together:” Reckoning with Disability Justice in Community Literacy Studies
Adam Hubrig

Project and Program Profiles

154  The 1967 Project
Thomas Trimble, Patricia Baldwin, Christine Lawson, and Mansoor Mubeen

162  Food for Thought: Constructing Multimodal Identities through Recipe-Creation with Homeless Youth
Amanda Hill

Book Reviews

171  From the Book and New Media Review Editor’s Desk
Jessica Shumake, Editor

173  Third Space: A Keyword Essay
Sherita V. Roundtree and Michael Shirzadian

185  Rewriting Partnerships: Community Perspectives on Community-Based Learning by Rachael W. Shah
Reviewed by Charisse S. Iglesias

189  Surrender: Feminist Rhetoric and Ethics in Love and Illness by Jessica Restaino
Reviewed by Rosanne Carlo

193  Changing the Subject: A Theory of Rhetorical Empathy by Lisa Blankenship
Reviewed by Anita Voorhees