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Infrastructure*

Article 1

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Front Matter

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Mission

We understand “community literacy” as the domain for literacy work that exists outside of mainstream educational and work institutions. It can be found in programs devoted to adult education, early childhood education, reading initiatives, lifelong learning, workplace literacy, or work with marginalized populations, but it can also be found in more informal, ad hoc projects.

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 and technological representations as well. We publish work that contributes to the field’s emerging methodologies and research agendas.

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As of January 1st, 2016, *CLJ* will no longer offer subscriptions to individuals. It will now accept donations to support continuing publication.

Donations to *CLJ* in any amount can be made with a credit card at <http://www.uafoundation.org/give/fund/CommunityLiteracy> or with a check made out to “UA Foundation,” with *Community Literacy Journal* in the memo line.

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Cover Art

Photograph: Simpatico: *vitae actus est compensationem*, by Allison S. Walker

Artist’s Statement: Cairns are man-made stacks of stones, and throughout early human history they were used for ceremonial purposes, trail markings, and burial monuments. Cairns today often function as navigational guides on trails throughout the world, sometimes indicating a path, a potential danger ahead, or an important junction. Cairns are maintained through a cooperative effort, with hikers adding a rock to the top of the

cairn as they pass by to mark their presence and counteract the effects of time and erosion. Cairns can also be a form of artistic expression, as in the rock stack photographed here on Boulder Creek. The forces of gravity and counterbalance achieve a remarkable creative feat, situated midstream, and left behind by the unknown artist. This balancing act mirrors the one we all achieve through patient daily practice, navigating the treacherous and beautiful boundary between community and academy. We mark the path forward, each of us playing a role in the precarious balance of our collective efforts. We have reached this moment of mutualism, a partnership simpatico, and in order to sustain that relationship, we must apply a creative building technique that is both emplaced and ephemeral, guiding others to see the possibility in the impossible, pushing the boundaries of existing structures to perform feats of innovation and inspiration.

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Manuscripts should be submitted according to the standards of the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7th ed. (New York: MLA).

Shorter and longer pieces are acceptable (8–25 manuscript pages) depending on authors' approaches. Case studies, reflective pieces, scholarly articles, etc., are all welcome.

To submit manuscripts, visit our site—communityliteracy.org—and register as an author. Send queries to Michael Moore: mmoore46@depaul.edu.

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COMMUNITY LITERACY

Journal

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Guest Edited by Veronica House, Seth Myers, and Shannon Carter

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