

Community Literacy Journal

Volume 15
Issue 1 *Special Issue: Community-Engaged
Writing and Literacy Centers*

Article 1

Spring 2021

Front Matter

Erin Daugherty

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Recommended Citation

Daugherty, Erin (2021) "Front Matter," *Community Literacy Journal*: Vol. 15 : Iss. 1 , Article 1.
DOI: 10.25148/CLJ.15.1.009360
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community literacy journal

15.1

fall 2020

special issue: community-engaged writing and literacy centers



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:

Paul Feigenbaum
Department of English
Florida International University
DM462D
11200 SW 8th St.
Miami, FL 33199

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 is by artist and community activist Nyesha Clark-Young of Saginaw, Michigan. Part of a larger exhibit called “Blood, Sweat, and Gears,” the image was taken at an abandoned auto parts factory and recognizes Saginaw’s ties to the Rust-

belt. Other works in Clark-Young's 2019 series merged historical and modern photographs; still others involved manipulating images of industrial sites into geometric designs. "Blood, Sweat, and Gears" was one of a series of community art events held in Saginaw in Fall 2019. These events celebrated a performance of *Sweat*, the Pulitzer Prize-winning play by Lynn Nottage. The performance was staged by the Mobile Unit of the Public Theater of New York as part of their efforts to bring theater to communities in the Midwest.

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

Community Literacy Journal welcomes advertising. The journal is published twice annually, in the Fall and Spring (November and May). Deadlines for advertising are two months prior to publication (September and March).

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Half page (trim size 5.5X4.25): \$200

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Format

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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ISSN 1555-9734

Community Literacy Journal is a member of the Council of Editors of Learned Journals.



Production and distribution managed by Parlor Press.

Publication of the *Community Literacy Journal* is made possible through the generous support of the English Department and the Writing and Rhetoric Program at Florida International University. The *CLJ* is a journal of the Coalition for Community Writing.

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