

Community Literacy Journal

Volume 18 | Issue 1

Article 18

Fall 3-21-2024

Front Matter

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Recommended Citation

(2024) "Front Matter," *Community Literacy Journal*: Vol. 18: Iss. 1, Article 18.

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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 refers 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 “Coalition for Community Writing” with *Community Literacy Journal* in the memo line.

Send to:

Veronica House
University Writing Program
Anderson Academic Commons – 282
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Denver, CO, 80210

Donors at the \$40 level or above will receive a courtesy print subscription of the academic year’s issues.

Cover Artist and Art

“Beauteous Chaos” by Michael Lone Wolf Orrell

Michael Lone Wolf Orrell is an Irish, Cherokee, and Jewish hybrid who lived most of his life in Amory, Mississippi. He’s a humanitarian who does not condone violent behavior against the vulnerable. You can find more of his work in *Mississippi Prison Writing* (VOX Press) and *Juke Joint* Issue18. Michael is presently an ABE Language Arts Writing Tutor, Literacy Math Tutor, and an Assistant Tutor in Social Studies at

Unit 30 in Parchman State Penitentiary, Mississippi. Michael had no expectations of the future nor any visions or dreams. He wasn't seeking to find them, but they sought and found him.

Artist's statement: I was sitting at the table on the zone. I began to do an inventory of myself. I saw all these things in my life that appeared to be beautiful to my conscious ego. But my subconscious ego showed me "how" I have been living. My subconscious "who" I am let me see the beautiful chaos in my life. Although there is colorful beauty, there are also sharp edges

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 25-30 manuscript pages, are welcome. If deemed appropriate, we will send the manuscript out to readers for blind review. You can expect a report in approximately 12 weeks.

Community Literacy Journal is committed to inclusive citation practices and encourages authors to cite and acknowledge ideas of BIPOC scholars, activists, and organizers in community literacy.

The *Community Literacy Journal* also welcomes shorter manuscripts (10-15 pages) for three sections reviewed in-house:

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 portilvi@bc.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, Michelle LaFrance with questions at mllafran2@gmu.edu.

Coda: Community Writing and Creative Work welcomes submissions of poetry, creative nonfiction, short stories, and multi-genre work on any topics that have ensued from community writing projects. This may be work about community writing projects, and this may be expressed in ways we have yet to imagine. We ask authors to include a personal reflection about the submission itself--information about your community writing group (if you belong to one); your personal journey as a writer; what inspired you to write your piece; and anything else you'd care to share about your life--as an invitation for the author and Coda's readers to consider writing and activism as intertwined. Contact Coda Editors with questions at Coda.Editors@gmail.com.

Authors interested in reviewing for the CLJ should contact Book and New Media Review Editor Jessica Shumake at jessica.shumake@gmail.com.

Advertising

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

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Format

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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 University Writing Program at the University of Denver. The CLJ is a journal of the Coalition for Community Writing. Current issues and archives are available open access at <https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/communityliteracy/>

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COMMUNITY LITERACY

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COMMUNITY LITERACY *Journal*

Fall 2023

Volume 18, Issue 1

- 1** *Guest Editors' Introduction*
Gabrielle Isabel Kelenyi, Chad Seader, Alison Turner, Ada Vilageliu-Diaz

Articles

- 3** *African Americans in Ghana: Enacting Literate Acts of Healing from Epistemic and Ontological Harm*
Mohammed Sakip Iddrisu
- 24** *Saliendo del Pueblo: Migration, Literacy, and Non-Literacy Practices in a Mixtec Farmworking Community*
Guadalupe Remigio Ortega
- 42** *Finding the Lorde in Me: Using Lordean Counterstory to Thwart Bureaucratic Violence in Community-Based Literacy Projects*
Teigha VanHester

Issues in Community Literacy

- 57** *Radically Imagining Community Programs: Reflection, Collaboration, and Organizer Toolkits*
Erin Green

Book and New Media Reviews

- 72** *From the Book and New Media Review Editor's Desk*
Jessica Shumake, Editor

- 73** *Unsettling Archival Research: Engaging Critical, Communal, and Digital Archives*
Reviewed by Michael Harker
- 80** *Searching for Literacy: The Social and Intellectual Origins of Literacy Studies*
Reviewed by Jamie D. I. Duncan

Coda

- 90** *Editors' Introduction*
- 93** *First Pride Parade in My City*
Saurabh Anand
- 95** *Three Poems*
Mara Lee Grayson
- 102** *Institutional Departure*
Sarah Puett
- 113** *Gratitude*
Tracey Bullington
- 118** "Pros & Cons Panel Presentation 2023, Call for Presenters"
Evan Harris
- 121** *A Meta-Staging of the Initial Investigative Operatics Working Group, With [x number of] Original Cast Members Playing All the Parts.*
Bethany Ides, Fan Wu, Ora Ferdman, and Zoe Tuck
- 136** *Against Forgetting: Quilt Pieces and Reflection*
Susan Naomi Bernstein
-
-