

East Central - EIU Reading Council Newsletter



October 2007

FALL MEETING - November 12, 2007 (Monday)

Featuring: Candace Fleming

Recipient of the 2006 Prairie State Award

for Excellence in Writing for Children and

Author of the 2008 Monarch Award Nominee: Boxes for Katje

7:00 p.m. Buzzard Auditorium (EIU)

"I remember the day I discovered the music of words. It was the day my second grade teacher, Miss Johnson, held up a horn-shaped basket filled with papier-mache pumpkins and asked the class to repeat the word "cornucopia." The word sounded so good, I said it again, and again, and again. I tasted it on my tongue. I tested it on my ears. I skipped home from school that day chanting, "Cornucopia! Cornucopia!" From then on, I really began listening to words--to the sounds they made, and the way they were used, and how they made me feel.

Another of my favorite pastimes was telling stories. And I told them constantly. As a preschooler, I entertained my neighbors with stories about my three-legged cat named Spot. As a kindergartner, I regaled my classmates with tales of the ghost who lived in my attic. And in the first grade I told my teacher all about my family's vacation to Paris, France. None of these stories were true, of course, but that didn't stop me. Telling stories was fun. Luckily, my parents encouraged this fun. Instead of calling my stories "fibs" they called them "imaginative." They encouraged me to put them down on paper, and I did. I filled notebook after notebook, year after year.

Still, I never shared these stories with anyone else. I never considered becoming a writer. Instead, I went to college where I discovered yet another passion---history. I didn't realize it then, but studying history is really just an extension of my love of stories. After all, some of the best stories are true ones — tales of heroism and villainy made more incredible by the fact that they happened."

Source: Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing Flier

EAST CENTRAL - EIU READING COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP

An annual scholarship of \$300 is awarded to an Eastern Illinois University student who meets the following criteria. The recipient shall be a junior or senior majoring in early childhood, elementary or middle level education with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. He/She shall be a person of outstanding character whose actions and conduct reflect the East Central - EIU Reading Council's sincere dedication to education as a career and a profession. The individual selected must be a member in good standing of the East Central - EIU Reading Council. Financial need shall be a consideration. Students may apply for the scholarship by completing the application form provided by the Department of EC/ELE/MLE (Buzzard 2220) at the beginning of the spring semester (i.e., January 2008).

AUTHOR BOOK SIGNING

Candace Fleming will be available to sign her books following the presentation on Monday, November 12th. The East Central - EIU Reading Council has made arrangements through Walden Books in Mattoon to make hard-cover copies of six of her titles available on the evening of the presentation. These books can be purchased using either cash or personal checks, but credit/debit cards will not be accepted. Checks should be made payable to EIU. (The prices listed include applicable tax.)

- Boxes for Katje (\$14.00)
- Muncha! Muncha! Muncha! (\$15.00)
- Ben Franklin's Almanac (\$17.00)
- The Fabled Fourth Graders of Aesop Elementary School (\$14.00)
- Tippy-Tippy-Tippy Hide (\$15.00)
- Our Eleanor (\$19.00)

NOTE: Special thanks to Lucia Schroeder for working with Carol Speakman from Walden Books at the Cross County Mall in Mattoon in order to make these books available to our members!

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EAST CENTRAL – EIU READING COUNCIL CALENDAR (2007 – 2008)

COUNCIL MEETING

November 12, 2007 – Monday 7:00 p.m.
Buzzard Auditorium (EIU)
Candace Fleming
Author of the 2008 Monarch Award Nominee:
Boxes for Katje

COUNCIL MEETING

April 9, 2008 – Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Charleston/Mattoon Room
Martin Luther King, Jr. University Union (EIU)
“Picture Storybooks: A Hidden Treasure”
Gail Huizinga & Sue Johnson
Homewood, IL

COUNCIL MEETING

February 6, 2008 – Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Charleston/Mattoon Room
Martin Luther King, Jr. University Union (EIU)
“Life (and books) after Harry Potter”
Judy Looby, Director of Youth Services
Charleston Carnegie Public Library

SPRING LITERACY EVENT

April 19, 2008 – Saturday
“Leaders As Readers”
Cross County Mall (Mattoon, IL)

ILLINOIS READING COUNCIL CONFERENCE

March 13-15, 2008 (Springfield, IL)
“Literacy: Unleash the Power”
<http://www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org/conference.html>

INTERNATIONAL READING ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONVENTION

May 4-8, 2008 (Atlanta, GA)
“Engaging Learners in Literacy”
www.reading.org

EIU STUDENT READING COUNCIL OFFICERS - FALL 2007

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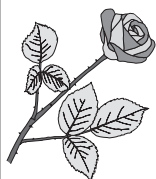
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East Central-EIU Reading Council

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Bring a friend to a Council Meeting!



IN MEMORY of DiAnn Hill (1954 – 2007)

The East Central - EIU Reading Council lost a valued member and officer on July 23, 2007. In recognition of DiAnn's love of children's literature, the Council will be placing three books by Candace Fleming in the St. John's Lutheran School library in her memory.

COUNCIL BY-LAW REVISIONS

At the Leadership Retreat in June, each local council in the state was asked to revise its council by-laws during the 2007-2008 academic year. On July 18, 2007 a committee consisting of April Flood, Tina Golchert and Linda Reven was charged with this task.

According to guidelines in the current by-laws, "Amendments may be adopted by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present at a regular meeting of the Council provided a quorum has been declared (See Article VI, Section 3). The amendment must have first been presented at the previous meeting, and/or the proposed amendment must have been circulated to each member at least two (2) weeks in advance of the meeting of the Council at which the voting is to take place." (East Central – EIU Reading Council By-Laws, Article XII, Section 2)

In an effort to eliminate the costs (duplication and postage) associated with mailing copies of the proposed changes to each council member, the Executive Board plans to have the proposed by-law revisions posted on the EIU Student Reading Council website (<http://www.eiu.edu/~reading/>) by December 1, 2007 for review by council members. Voting on the proposed by-law changes will take place at the February 6, 2008 council meeting.

If any current members would prefer to receive a hard copy of this document, please notify Linda Reven at (217) 581-7883.

Websites

EC-EIU STUDENT READING COUNCIL: <http://www.eiu.edu/~reading>

ILLINOIS READING COUNCIL: <http://www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org>

INTERNATIONAL READING ASSOCIATION: <http://www.reading.org>

