# Illinois Reading Council Journal



Summer 2021 Volume 49, Number 3

### ISSN #1082-555X

### **Editor**

Roxanne Owens

DePaul University

### **Associate Editors**

Joyce R. Bojko-Jeewek Benedictine University

David Bates

Concordia University Chicago

Marie Ann Donovan DePaul University

Adelfio Garcia

Chicago Public Schools

Sara L. Jozwik
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Mary Yockey
Indian Prairie School District 204

Deborah Augsburger Jung Kim Lewis University

Sophie Degener Kristin Lems Ryan McCarty Ivy Sitkoski National Louis University

Laurie Elish-Piper Northern Illinois University

Kristine M. Schutz Rebecca Woodard University of Illinois-Chicago

Ronda J. Gray University of Illinois–Springfield

## ILLINOIS READING COUNCIL JOURNAL

## Editorial Advisory Board

Rebekah Buchanan Western Illinois University Macomb, IL

Amy Butler Chicago Public Schools Chicago, IL

Valerie Cawley Judson University Elgin, IL

Demetra Disotuar Evanston-Skokie School District 65 Evanston, IL

Darryn Diuguid McKendree University Lebanon, IL

Marygrace Farina Archdiocese of Chicago Chicago, IL

Angela Fortune University of Illinois–Chicago Chicago, IL

Mary Gardner Northern Illinois University DeKalb, IL

Elizabeth Goldsmith-Conley Don Moyer Boys and Girls Club Champaign, IL

Debbie Harrison Eastern Illinois University Charleston, IL

Jerry L. Johns Northern Illinois University DeKalb, IL

Lynn Keck Rock Island School District 41 Rock Island, IL

Steven L. Layne Wheaton College Wheaton, IL Samantha Morley Indian Prairie School District 204 Naperville, IL & Northern Illinois University DeKalb, IL

Kathleen A. Paciga Columbia College Chicago Chicago, IL

Kari Pawl Concordia University Chicago, IL

Margaret Mary Policastro Roosevelt University Chicago, IL

Kristine Schutz University of Illinois at Chicago Chicago, IL

Frances Steward Western Illinois University Macomb, IL

A. Gillian Stewart-Wells Judson University Elgin, IL

Karen Tischhauser Barrington Middle School Barrington, IL

Donna E. Werderich Northern Illinois University DeKalb, IL

Alisha White Western Illinois University Macomb, IL

Chyrese S. Wolf Chicago State University Chicago, IL

Rebecca Woodard University of Illinois at Chicago Chicago, IL

## Illinois Reading Council Journal

Volume 49, Number 3 Summer 2021

## Table of Contents

## **Articles**

- 3 Building an Expressive Vocabulary: The Impact of the Comprehensive Vocabulary Framework Stacey Savage and Rachel Smith
- 15 Leveling the Playing Field: The Influences of Leveling Practices on Reader Identity, Self-Efficacy, and Growth

Cynthia G. Gerwin

## **Columns**

33 Finding Common Ground: Understanding Ourselves and the World Through Literature: Surviving and Thriving

Jung Kim and Deborah Augsburger

39 Family Engagement in Literacy: Education Is About Learning: Let's Learn About Our Students and Their Cultures

Darius Jackson, Guest Author

- 44 Professional Development: Reflecting Within: Pedagogy, Literacy, and Biases Sophie Degener, Adelfio Garcia, Ryan McCarty, and Ivy Sitkoski
- 50 Honoring Young Children's Sense-Making: How Interdisciplinary Inquiry into Environmental Sustainability Can Support Children's Learning and Civic Engagement
  Rebecca Woodard and Kristine M. Schutz
- 58 Parent/Teacher Conference: A Dialogue with Dr. Donna Ogle Erik Parsons
- 71 Check This Out: Panspiration

Marie Ann Donovan and Mary Yockey

- 78 Insights from Illinois Authors: A Conversation with Brandon Marie Miller Ronda J. Gray
- 85 Calls for Contributions for Future Issues of the Illinois Reading Council Journal

The *Illinois Reading Council Journal (IRCJ)* is published quarterly and is distributed as a service to all members of the Illinois Reading Council. Membership in the Illinois Reading Council can be obtained through local and special interest reading councils in Illinois. For information, contact the Illinois Reading Council at 203 Landmark Drive, Suite B, Normal, IL 61761. IRC staff may also be reached by telephone at (309) 454-1341. Libraries and educational institutions can subscribe to *IRCJ* at an annual rate of \$40.00; address inquiries to the Executive Director at the IRC office. Because the *IRCJ* serves as an open forum, its contents do not necessarily reflect or imply endorsement or advocacy by the Illinois Reading Council, its officers, or its members.

**Photocopies:** Individuals may photocopy articles from the journal without written permission for nonprofit educational use, or may make five copies of a single article for library reserve use in an educational institution. Consent to photocopy does not extend to photos or items reprinted by permission from other publishers. Members of the Illinois Reading Council who wish to use copies of an article in a handout or coursepack and for repeated use may do so without a fee. Nonmembers must obtain photocopying permission from the Illinois Reading Council, 203 Landmark Drive, Suite B, Normal, IL 61761.

©2021, Illinois Reading Council

Publication services for the *IRCJ* are provided by Sandra K. Larimer, Copy Editor, and Shanee J. Plate, Layout/Design. Erik Parsons is Roxanne Owens' Graduate Assistant for the journal.

## About the Cover Artist

### **Becky Gehrisch**

Becky Gehrisch grew up drawing dogs and farm scenes after visiting her grandparents' homes in the country. It's no wonder that she went on to create her debut picture book, *Escape to Play*, after earning an Art degree from The Ohio State University. Between picture book projects, she works as a portrait artist and manages her new publishing company, Bookling Media LLC. When she is not creating art, she volunteers as the Illustrator Coordinator for the Central and Southern Ohio chapter of SCBWI. She is living her childhood dream by creating art and picture books as an adult!



www.gehrisch-arts.com • www.booklingmedia.com/books

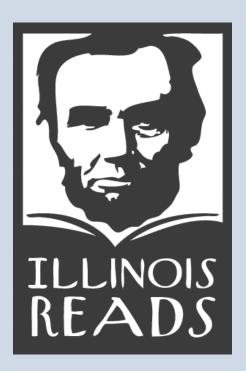
Front Cover: "On Our Way"

Back Cover: "The Library" illustration from Escape to Play picture book

You can find more artwork from Becky on pages 38, 57, 70, 77, 82, and 83.

## ILLINOIS READS

## A READING STATE OF MIND



Join the statewide literacy initiative! Six books in each age band, birth to adult, with fun activities, book clubs, author events, online blogs, Skype visits, and more! Order bookmarks and posters today!

Visit our website for more information www.illinoisreads.org

### Birth-4

Bear's Scare

by Jacob Grant

Beware!

by Bob Raczka and illustrated by Larry Day

Chinese New Year Colors

by Rich Lo

Mermaid Dreams

by Kate Pugsley

Peekity Boo What You Can Do!

by Heidi Bee Roemer

Pick a Pumpkin

by Patricia Toht

#### K-2

Jasper & Ollie

by Alex Willan

Just Read!

by Lori Degman

My Teacher is a Robot

by Jeffrey Brown

Oak Leaf

by John Sandford

Sofia Valdez, Future Prez

by Andrea Beaty

This Is How I Do It: One Day in the Life of You and 59 Real Kids from Around the World

by Matt Lamothe

Cape - The League of Secret Heroes, Book One

by Kate Hannigan Captain Superlative!

by J.S. Puller

The Peculiar Incident on Shady Street

by Lindsay Currie

The Superlative A. Lincoln: Poems About Our

16th President

by Eileen R. Meyer

Time Castaways #1: The Mona Lisa Key

by Liesl Shurtliff Weird Little Robots

by Carolyn Crimi

Fireborne

by Rosaria Munda

Ninja: Get Good: My Ultimate Guide to Gaming

by Tyler Blevins

Powers in Action, Volume 1: The Hero

Squadron!

by Art Baltazar

Robert E. Lee: The Man, the Soldier, the Myth

by Brandon Marie Miller

Strange Birds: A Field Guide to Ruffling Feathers

by Celia C. Pérez

Windy City Magic, Book 1: The Best Kind of Magic

by Crystal Cestari

#### 9-12

All That I Can Fix

by Crystal Chan Sorry for Your Loss

by Jessie Ann Foley

The Waking Forest

by Alyssa Wees

Thirteen Doorways, Wolves Behind Them All

by Laura Ruby

Verify

by Joelle Charbonneau We Speak in Storms

by Natalie Lund

### Adult

An American Summer: Love and Death in

Chicago

by Alex Kotlowitz

The Boat Runner: A Novel

by Devin Murphy

Midwest Made: Big, Bold Baking from the

Heartland

by Shauna Sever

Monument: Poems New and Selected

by Natasha Trethewey

Radio Flyer: 100 Years of America's Little Red

Wagon

by Robert Pasin

The Vanishing Man: A Charles Lenox Mystery

by Charles Finch

# Lake-Cook Distributors Paperbacks Fast!

Class sets our specialty

**Grades 6 through 12** 

In Stock Orders Shipped Same Day

# 30% Discount FREE SHIPPING\*

Illinois Reading Lists Available Monarch, Bluestem, Caudill and Abe Lincoln

Visit us on the web at

## www.lake-cook.com

Lake-Cook Distributors, Inc. 951 N. Old Rand Road, #114

Wauconda, IL 60084

Phone 800-677-6047 847-526-5810 Fax

E-mail sales@lake-cook.com

