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Table of Contents

Articles

3 Digital Literacy with Spanish-English Books: Examining the Ecology of Reading in Bilingual Households
   Samina Hadi-Tabassum and Marlene Galvez

22 Using Emotions to Generate Ideas for Personal Narrative Writing in Primary Grades
   Sarah Dumler

Columns

37 Finding Common Ground: Understanding Ourselves and the World Through Literature: What We’re Reading
   Jung Kim and Deborah Augsburger

43 Family Engagement in Literacy: Is It Worth the Effort?
   Laurie Elish-Piper

48 Professional Development: Teaching for the True Values of Democracy
   Sophie Degener, Adelfio Garcia, Ivy Sitkoski, and Martin Mireles

54 Climate Justice Now: Lessons from a Middle School Teacher Who Is Cultivating Sustainable Futures
   Kristine M. Schutz and Rebecca Woodard with William Peek

58 Check this Out!: Banning the Bans
   Marie Ann Donovan and Mary Yockey

69 Authors, Books, and Beyond: A Conversation with Ami Polonsky About Her New Novel, World Made of Glass
   Amina Chaudhri

77 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 1100 Beech Street, Building 8, Suite 2, 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 $50.00; 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.

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About the Artists in This Issue

Misericordia

Misericordia is a national leader in serving children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Located on the Northside of Chicago, it provides a full continuum of care to more than 600 residents, as well as offering employment opportunities, therapy programs, and recreational activities. They strive to provide the highest quality of care, ensuring that their residents live the most independent lives possible.

The Misericordia Heart Studios provide exceptional opportunities for participants to express their individuality through a variety of mediums. Choosing which program to participate in is the hardest part! Misericordia artists work alongside our dedicated staff and volunteers to create beautiful pieces of art from paintings to ceramics to photography and more! The Heart Studios are comprised of several different art studios. Each studio focuses on a different skill, medium, or challenge. Participants also have the opportunity to have their work exhibited at art auctions and art exhibitions, and they are frequently highlighted at Misericordia’s fundraising events.

www.misericordia.com

Front Cover: “Bluebird,” acrylic on canvas, by Shawn H.
Back Cover: “Moonlight Lake,” acrylic on canvas, by Kevin Z.

Other artwork by artists from the Misericordia Heart Studios can be found on pages 47, 53, 57, 68, and 74.

Additional Art Provided by Vivian Caniglia

Vivian Caniglia (they/them) is an artist originating from Omaha, Nebraska, and currently residing in Chicago, Illinois, where they are studying to be an art educator. They are currently completing a yearlong residency in the Chicago Public Schools. They create work predominantly using oil paint or mixed media. Their work seeks to explore topics that include nostalgia, place, and interpersonal relationships.

Their artwork can be found on page 20.
Join the statewide literacy initiative! Six books in each age band, birth to adult, with fun activities, book clubs, author events, and more! Order bookmarks and posters today!

Visit our website for more information
www.illinoisreads.org

 Birth-4
 My Hair Is Like the Sun by St. Clair Detrick-Jules and illustrated by Tabitha Brown
 Mine! by Candace Fleming and illustrated by Eric Rohmann
 No Fair! by Jacob Grant
 You Are New by Lucy Krisley
 A Book About You and All the World Too by Jean Reidy
 Ethan and the Strays by John Sullivan

 K-2
 Lila Greer, Teacher of the Year by Andrea Beaty
 3x4: TOON Level 1
 by Ivan Brunetti
 The New Bicycle by Darcy Day Zoells
 Not a Monster
 by Claudia Guadalupe Martinez
 You Are A Story by Bob Raczka
 How to Explain Coding to a Grown-Up by Ruth Spiro

 3-5
 Cornbread & Poppy at the Museum by Matthew Cordell
 The Enchanted Bridge by Zetta Elliott
 Etta Invincible by Reese Schmamp
 Josephine and Her Dishwashing Machine by Kate Hanning
 Mayor Good Boy Turns Bad by Dave Scheidt and Miranda Harmon
 The Stupendous Switcheroo: New Powers Every 24 Hours by Mary Winn Heider and Chad Sell

 6-8
 The Bravest Warrior in Nefaria by Adi Alsaid
 It Found Us by Lindsay Currie
 Restoring Prairie, Woods, and Pond: How a Small Trail Can Make a Big Difference by Laurie Lawlor
 Lo & Behold by Wendy Mass and illustrated by Gabi Mendez
 World Made of Glass by Ami Polonsky
 The Lost Ryū by Emi Watanabe Cohen

 9-12
 Messenger: The Legend of Muhammad Ali by Marc Bernardin
 Wolfpack: A Novel by Amelia Brunskill
 Saint Juniper’s Folly by Alex Crespo
 Whalefall: A Novel by Daniel Kraus
 Graceland Cemetery: Chicago Stories, Symbols, and Secrets by Adam Selzer
 If I Have To Be Haunted by Miranda Sun

 Adult
 Good Night, Irene: A Novel by Luis Alberto Urrea
 A Taste for Poison: Eleven Deadly Molecules and the Killers Who Used Them by Neil Bradbury, Ph.D.
 King: A Life by Jonathan Eig
 I Have Some Questions for You: A Novel by Rebecca Makkai
 Ghostly: A Collection of Ghost Stories by Audrey Niffenegger
 On Rotation: A Novel by Shirlene Obuobi
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IRC Awards & Grants

Are you interested in learning how to nominate individuals from your area for IRC awards or how to benefit from grant money that is available each year for various educational activities? To find out more about these IRC Awards and Grants, please visit the IRC website at www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org.

**Barack Obama Library Award.** This award is a classroom library, valued at over $1000, which was created in 2006 through a generous gift to the IRC from (then) Senator Obama. This collection is comprised of carefully selected literature that is “culturally relevant” for African-American readers and targets students in the middle-school (5th-8th) grade range. The award will go to a teacher in a predetermined IRC Region. Each year, the region will be announced on the IRC Website. Nominations are due by November 1st.

**Family Literacy Award.** This award recognizes an IRC member who promotes and supports parent involvement in children’s reading. Proposals should be postmarked by November 1st.

**Gene Cramer ICARE for Reading Award.** The Illinois Council for Affective Reading Education recognizes an educator who has performed in an outstanding manner to show concern for the affective domain and who has performed lifelong reading habits among students. The Nomination Form is due by November 1st.

**Hall of Fame Award.** The IRC has designed the Hall of Fame to recognize significant contributions to reading or reading education. The award will be given at the annual conference. The immediate Past President shall receive the nomination forms and final determination will be made by the Executive Committee no later than 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting. Deadline: All Nomination Forms must be received by November 1st.

**International Grant.** The International Committee of the Illinois Reading Council has created a grant to promote literacy projects internationally. The maximum amount per grant is $1,000. The application deadline is May 1st.

**IPC Service Award.** The IRC will present the IRC Service Award (formerly known as the Certificate of Recognition) at the annual statewide conference. Certificates are awarded to the most deserving individuals who meet the criteria listed. Deadline: All Nomination Forms must be received by November 1st.

**Jerry Johns Reading Educator of the Year Award.** This award recognizes outstanding teachers who make contributions in promoting literacy among students, colleagues, and school communities. Application Form, letters of recommendation, and your philosophy statement are due by November 1st.

**Literacy Support Grant.** The Illinois Reading Council will award financial grants to local and special interest councils and individual council members for the purpose of promoting literacy development in the school and community, and/or providing professional development opportunities related to the improvement of reading and writing instruction. Application deadline will be May 1st.

**Prairie State Award for Excellence in Writing for Children.** This award recognizes an Illinois Children's Young Adult Author whose body of work demonstrates excellence, engenders a love of literature, and embraces an important part of the mission of the Illinois Reading Council—to promote lifelong literacy. All Nomination Packets must be postmarked by June 15th.

**Static Stick Decal Design Contest.** Students in grades 4, 5, or 6 are encouraged to create an original design promoting reading. The winning design is printed on static stick decals. Entries must be postmarked no later than January 15th.
Some ABC’s for Raising a Reader  \textit{(In English)}

\begin{tabular}{|cc|}
\hline
\textbf{QUANTITY} & \textbf{PRICE} \\
\hline
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\end{tabular}

Un abecedario Para Criar A Un Lector \textit{(In Spanish)}

Parents are their child’s first teachers, and it’s never too soon to introduce your child to books. By reading aloud to your child, you provide the sounds of written language, demonstrate book handling skills, develop your child’s expectation that the print and pictures carry a message and build positive attitudes toward reading. Use this ABC listing of ways that you can encourage a love of reading and make reading fun for your child. \textit{Also available in Spanish.}

Attempting Unknown Words: Suggestions for Parents

As the parent of a young child, you are a very important person for your child’s reading and language development. You are your child’s first teacher! This tri-fold brochure will provide strategies to aid your child as they attempt unknown words.

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\textbf{QUANTITY} & \textbf{PRICE} \\
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\textbf{BOOKLETS:}

Help Me Grow To Be A Reader

This little 16-page booklet helps parents understand how children grow to be readers, as told from the child’s point of view. Strategies for helping young readers develop their reading skills are outlined in a fun format.

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\textbf{QUANTITY} & \textbf{PRICE} \\
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\textbf{TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLODED:} $\underline{\phantom{0000}}$

\textbf{SHIP TO:}  \\
Address:  \\
City, State, Zip:  \\
Phone:  \\
Email:  \\

\textbf{Method of Payment:}  \\
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\textbf{Mastercard}  \\
\textbf{Discover}  \\
\textbf{American Express} \\
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\textbf{Cardholder’s Name:}  \\
\textbf{Cardholder’s Address:}  \\
\textbf{Credit Card Expiration Date:}  \\
\textbf{CVV Code:}  \\

\textbf{Make checks payable to IRC and return this form and payment to:}  \\
Illinois Reading Council  \\
1100 Beech Street, Building 8, Suite 2  \\
Normal, IL 61761  \\
Paying by credit card? A $2 service charge is added.  \\
Order by Fax: 309-454-3512  \\
Or order online at \texttt{www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org}
Calls for Contributions for Future Issues of the Illinois Reading Council Journal

The Illinois Reading Council Journal seeks manuscripts dealing with topics, issues, and events of interest to educators involved in literacy programs at all levels of education.

About The Review Process

The complete review process takes approximately 10 to 16 weeks. Upon receipt of a manuscript, an initial review will be conducted and feedback sent to the author. Manuscripts accepted for peer review will be evaluated by at least two reviewers who are uninformed as to the identity of the author. The editor will compile notes from the reviewers and send feedback to the author, including whether the article has been accepted for publication and any requests for revision. Manuscripts are evaluated in terms of interest, quality of writing, appropriate documentation of ideas, uniqueness, and needs of the journal. Research articles should include a clear description of the methodology and should be written in a style that will be readable by classroom teachers. The final decision for acceptance of manuscripts resides with the editor. Please review articles in the journal before submitting manuscripts for consideration. Any questions about the submission process should be directed to Roxanne Owens, IRCJ Editor, by e-mail at ircjournal@illinoisreadingcouncil.org.

Short Submissions

For each issue, short items such as original poems, cartoons, artwork, or personal anecdotes may appear throughout the journal. Such submissions should be one-half page to one page in length, double-spaced, and word-processed. Front and back cover art is also accepted. The editor selects these items.

If you have questions about the submission process, please e-mail Roxanne Owens, IRCJ Editor, at IRCJournal@illinoisreadingcouncil.org.

IRCJ Submission Guidelines

Article submissions should be eight to 25 double-spaced pages, including references. Please prepare and submit your manuscript consistent with the following guidelines.

Manuscript Submission Guidelines

NEW! You can now submit your article online at http://illinoisreadingcouncil.org/ircjournalsubmission.html:

• Anonymize the Manuscript Text: Remove any names or references to the author(s) and affiliated institutions (clearly marked placeholders may be employed, e.g., [Author Name]; [Name of Institution]).

• Text Formatting: In general, apply APA style guidelines (7th ed.) to your text (e.g., Times New Roman 12 point or a similar serif font, double spaced, 1-inch margins, etc.).

• File Type: Save the manuscript as a MS Word document .doc or .docx. (MS Word is used to provide in-text comments and revisions, so please do not submit pdf., .pages or .rtf.)

• File Name: This should conform to the following format: article v1_[title of article]_mm-dd-yy

Example: article v1_Reading is essential_5-10-20

• Download the cover letter template from the submission webpage and fill it out.

• Rename the cover letter file name as follows: cover_[title of article]_mm-dd-yy

Example: cover_Reading is essential_5-10-20

Additional questions can be sent to

IRCJournal@illinoisreadingcouncil.org
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Address ____________________________________________ E-mail ____________________________________________

City ___________________________ State ____________ Zip ___________________________ County ___________________________

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or

Business/Institution ____________________________________________ City ___________________________

Are you a Preservice Teacher? _____ yes _____ no

College/University ____________________________________________

List the council(s) you wish to join.

When you join, you receive membership in the IRC, as well as membership in a local or special interest council. You must select at least one of the councils listed on the back.

1. ____________________________________________________________________________________________

2. ____________________________________________________________________________________________

3. ____________________________________________________________________________________________

4. ____________________________________________________________________________________________

List the dues amount of each council you are joining.

$50 - 1 year membership for IRC and one council. If you join more than one council, each additional council is $15.

$30 - Preservice Teacher membership and $5 for each additional council.

Option to Purchase Print Journals.

IRC Membership comes with online access to the IRC Journal. Current issues will also be sent by email quarterly to you. If you wish to purchase a print journal, it is an additional $20 per year.

Return this form with payment to:
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ATTN: Membership Dept.
1100 Beech St, Building 8, Suite 2
Normal, IL 61761

Paying by credit card? A $2 service charge is added.

Join Online or Fax: 309-454-3512

Are you a member of the International Literacy Association (ILA)?

a. ___ yes    membership # __________________ expiration date _________________

b. ___ no

Method of Payment:

(Sorry, no P.O.'s accepted.)

- [ ] Check to IRC
- [ ] Visa
- [ ] Mastercard
- [ ] Discover
- [ ] American Express

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Add $20 Fee for Print Journal __________________

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE __________________

Professional Areas of Interest (Check 3)

a. ___ administration
b. ___ adult literacy
c. ___ affective reading
d. ___ assessment
e. ___ children’s literature
f. ___ comprehension
g. ___ content area reading
h. ___ family literacy
i. ___ holistic reading
j. ___ multilingual/multicultural
k. ___ newspapers in education
l. ___ parents and reading
m. ___ reading for gifted students
n. ___ research
o. ___ study skills
p. ___ teacher education
q. ___ technology in reading
r. ___ Title I/remedial reading
s. ___ young adult literature
t. ___ young authors/writing
Illinois Reading Council Membership
Locations of IRC Local & Special Interest Council Regions by Counties

The annual membership of $50 includes membership in the Illinois Reading Council and a local or special interest council. The annual preservice teacher membership is $30 for one who has not been certified in the teaching profession and is working toward an initial teaching certificate. Please select the council(s) you wish to join from the list below. Residence in any of the designated council counties you join is not required. If you join more than one local or special interest council at this time, each additional council is $15. Preservice teachers pay $5 for each additional council. IRC Membership comes with online access to the webinars, book clubs, IRC Journal, and more. The IRC Journal and other membership benefits will also be sent by email to you. If you wish to purchase a print journal, it is an additional $20 per year. Follow the steps on the front of this form.

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<td>Black Hawk Reading Council - (Rock Island, Mercer, Western Henry &amp; Whiteside)</td>
<td>East Central-EIU Reading Council - (Moultrie, Shelby, Cumberland, Coles, Clark, Edgar, Douglas)</td>
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<td>Vermilion Valley Reading Council - (Vermilion)</td>
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<td>Starved Rock Reading Council - (LaSalle, Grundy, Kendall, Livingston, Eastern Bureau)</td>
<td>Western Illinois Reading Council - (Henderson, Warren, Knox, McDonough, Hancock, Schuyler, Western Fulton)</td>
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<td>South Suburban Reading Council - (Those parts of Cook Co. bounded on west by Will-Cook Rd., north by 115th St., and/or Chicago City limits)</td>
<td>Lewis and Clark Reading Council - (Macoupin, Jersey, Madison, St. Clair, Monroe, Washington, Clinton)</td>
<td>South Eastern Reading Council - (Lawrence, Richland, Crawford, Jasper, Edwards, Clay, Wabash, Wayne, White)</td>
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<td>Southern Illinois Reading Council - (Jefferson, Randolph, Perry, Franklin, Williamson, Saline, Gallatin, Union, Johnson, Pope, Alexander, Hardin, Pulaski, Massac, Jackson, Hamilton)</td>
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<td>Central Illinois Reading Council - (Logan, Menard, Cass, Morgan, Sangamon, Christian, Montgomery)</td>
<td>CIRP - (College Instructors of Reading Professionals)</td>
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<td>Macon County Reading Council - (Macon)</td>
<td>ICARE - (Illinois Council for Affective Reading Education)</td>
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<td>MID-State Reading Council - (Mclean, DeWitt)</td>
<td>IILC - (Illinois Language and Literacy Council)</td>
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<td>SRL - (Secondary Reading League)</td>
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