Embracing Diversity PCTELA 2015 Conference

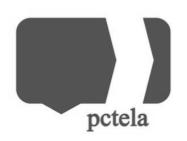
"History, despite its wrenching pain, Cannot be unlived, and if faced With courage, need not be lived again."

Maya Angelou On the Pulse of the Morning

The composition of classrooms has been changing in recent decades to include a more diverse student population. Diversity takes many forms that may include language, race, sexual orientation, ethnicity, and more. Opportunities for embracing diversity are often, unfortunately, shadowed by bullying and misunderstandings. However, we know two things. First, the curriculum has largely stayed the same in recent decades. Second, we've adopted the Common Core, and there is a "push" for standardization. This push for standards can stifle the building of community and creativity within the classroom, or can intimidate early career teachers into not taking risks in their pedagogy. We have all heard the quote, "those who do not know their history are doomed to repeat it." When it comes to inequality in our world, how do we AS TEACHERS make sure that our students are not stifled and limited to traditional texts. antiquated teaching methods, and test prep that perpetuate the status quo?

The PCTELA conference will seek to explore and question the following:

- How do we broaden curriculum to include ALL students, and what do students gain from this inclusion?
- How can we promote acceptance so that we can lesson the epidemic of bullying in our schools?
- How do we shape writing assignments to include diverse perspectives?
- What writing strategies lend themselves to building community?
- How do we prepare students to enter into, function within, and embrace the world in which we live?



October 16 & 17 The Harrisburg Hilton Harrisburg, PA

YOU ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL FOR THE ANNUAL PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF TEACHERS OF ENGLISH AND LANGUAGE ARTS (PCTELA) STATE CONFERENCE.

PCTELA invites educators of all types—public, private, elementary through university—to submit session proposals to collegially share:

- 1) successful and trusted approaches for the teaching of literacy that have evolved from or been improved by collaboration among colleagues;
- 2) examples of literacy instruction meant to develop students' abilities to read, write, and think critically while still meeting the demands of Common Core standards;
- 3) ways teachers can reach out to and include leaders in our communities (public librarians, local historians, business people, etc.) in order to enrich our students' literacy education; or 4) any related presentations in the teaching of reading, writing, speaking, listening, research, and literature.

BASIC CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Several hundred Pennsylvania educators gather at the annual PCTELA conference to benefit from professional programs, panels, discussions, exhibits of books and materials, idea exchanges, guest speakers, and shared classroom experiences. Many opportunities exist for educators to participate as: speakers,

 How can we use the Common Core to infuse the curriculum with diverse material and teaching methods? chairpersons, recorders, and assistance with conference preparation.

Educators at any level and at any phase of their career, including pre-service teachers, are encouraged to attend and/or present.

The conference is an affordable professional development opportunity with a fee of \$100 for each day, Friday and Saturday, with a \$5 total discount for those attending both days.

Daily fees include continental breakfast, lunch, and a two-year PCTELA membership.

Discounts are available for school districts interested in sending groups of teachers and for early career educators.

ALL PARTICIPANTS AT THE CONFERENCE, INCLUDING PRESENTERS, MUST REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE AND PAY ALL APPLICABLE FEES.

<u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> In accordance with the policy of the National Council of Teachers of English, and as a non-profit educational organization, PCTELA is unable to reimburse participants for travel or lodging.

Find more information about PCTELA:



www.pctela.org



@pctelanews



www.facebook.com/pctelanews

Audio -Visual Resources

PCTELA can provide LED/LCD projectors with accompanying screens. *No other media equipment will be provided.* Special accommodations can be granted on a case-by-case basis.

PROPOSALS ARE DUE March 27, 2015

Please submit them online at

http://tinyurl.com/pctela15

OR via email to

Laura Renzi lrenzi@wcupa.edu

or Pauline Schmidt pschmidt@wcupa.edu

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS
CONCERNING THE CONFERENCE OR ANY
OF THE DETAILS OR ARRANGEMENTS,
PLEASE CONTACT:

Laura Renzi Conference Chair lrenzi@wcupa.edu

OR

Dr. Pauline Schmidt Assistant Professor, English Education Main Hall 312 West Chester University West Chester, PA 19383 pschmidt@wcupa.edu

Join PCTELA in November at the





Proposals must be submitted by 27 March 2015.

Please submit online http://tinyurl.com/pctela15 or via email to lrenzi@wcupa.edu or pschmidt@wcupa.edu

Name	
Home Address	School Name and Address
Phone (work)	Phone (home/cell)
Email	
Additional Presenter information: Name Address Email School Affiliation	
Title/Topic of Presentation	
Please write a brief description of the present (Length of conference session is FIFTY minut presentation.)	ation. Use reverse or an extra sheet as necessary. tes. Please allow time for questions at end of
PCTELA will provide LED/LCD projectors with a provided. Special accommodations can be gran	accompanying screens. No other media equipment will be ated on a case-by-case basis.
Please indicate your preferred day of presentation	n:FridaySaturdayeither

Please indicate your au	idience level or group).		
Elementary (K-6)	Middle (4-7)	Secondary (7-12)	College	General