

**Jonda C. McNair, Ph. D.**  
**Professor of Literacy Education**  
**Department of Education and Human Development**  
**Eugene T. Moore School of Education**  
**Clemson University**

**Office**

400A Tillman Hall  
Eugene T. Moore School of Education  
Clemson University  
Clemson, SC 29634  
(864) 656-1577

**Home**

141 Wexford Drive  
Unit 201  
Anderson, SC 29621  
E-mail: [jmcnair@clemson.edu](mailto:jmcnair@clemson.edu)  
(864) 314-2312

**EDUCATION**

1999-2003      The Ohio State University      Columbus, Ohio  
Doctor of Philosophy (**Ph.D.**)      August 2003  
Areas of Concentration: Children's Literature, Early Literacy Development, and  
Multicultural Education

Dissertation Title: *"Yes, It'll Be Me": A Comparative Analysis of The Brownies' Book  
and Contemporary African American Children's Literature Written by Patricia C.  
McKissack*

Major Advisor: Dr. Rudine Sims Bishop

1993-1994      University of Florida      Gainesville, Florida  
Master of Education (**M.Ed.**)      April 1994  
Areas of Concentration: Elementary Education, Children's Literature, and  
Spanish

Major Advisor: Dr. Linda Leonard Lamme

1988-1992      University of Florida      Gainesville, Florida  
Bachelor of Arts (**B.A.**)      December 1992  
Area of Concentration: Elementary Education

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2015-Present      Full Professor, Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina

2009-2015      Associate Professor, Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina

2003-2009      Assistant Professor, Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina  
Courses Taught:  
EDLT 4580, Early Literacy: Birth to Kindergarten  
EDLT 4590, Teaching Reading in the Early Grades, K-3  
EDLT 4600, Teaching Reading in the Elementary Grades, 2-6  
EDLT 4620, Reading and Responding to Children's Literature

2002-2003      Graduate Teaching Associate, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.  
Taught EDU T&L 467, Introduction to Children's Literature.

- 2000-2002 Adjunct Instructor. Ohio Dominican College, Columbus, Ohio.  
Taught LIS 120, Literature for Children and Young Adults.
- 1999-2003 Graduate Research Associate for the Literacy Collaborative Program at The Ohio State University  
Completed Reading Recovery training as a doctoral student. Taught four 1<sup>st</sup> graders during 1999-2000 school year.
- 1994-1999 Primary Grade Teacher, Alexander II Magnet School, Bibb County Public Schools, Macon, Georgia  
Kindergarten (1 year), First Grade (3 years), and Second Grade (1 year)

## PUBLICATIONS

### ARTICLES IN REFEREED JOURNALS

McNair, J. C. (in press). A Polar Explorer, a Pilot, and a Pitcher: Black History in African American Children's Literature. *Social Education*.

Axelrod, Y., Hall, A. H., & McNair, J. C. (2015). A Is Burrito and B Is Sloppy Joe: Print-Rich Environments for Children in K-3 Classrooms. *Young Children*, 70(4), 16-25. [Authors' names are in alphabetical order.] \*This article was reprinted as a book chapter.\*

Axelrod, Y., Hall, A. H., & McNair, J. C. (2016). A Is Burrito and B Is Sloppy Joe: Creating Print-Rich Classroom Environments. In H. Bohart, H. B. Collick, & K. Charner (Eds.), *Spotlight on Young Children: Teaching and Learning in the Primary Grades* (pp. 23-31). Washington, DC: National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Brooks, W.M., & McNair, J.C. (2015). "Combing" Through Representations of Black Girls' Hair in African American Children's Literature. *Children's Literature in Education*, 46(3), 296-307. [Authors' names are in alphabetical order.]

Brooks, W. M., & McNair, J. C. (2015). Expanding the Canon: Classic Young Adult African American Literature. *The ALAN Review*, 42(2), 15-23. [Authors' names are in alphabetical order.]

McNair, J. C. (2015). Children's Literature and Dramatic Play. *Teaching Young Children*, 8(3), 12-14.

McNair, J. C. (2014). "I Didn't Know There Were Black Cowboys" Introducing African American Families to African American Children's Literature. *Young Children*, 69(1), 64-69.

McNair, J. C. (2013). "I Never Knew There Were So Many Books About Us": Parents and Children Reading and Responding to African American Children's Literature Together. *Children's Literature in Education*, 44(3), 191-207. [Lead Article]

McNair, J. C. (2012). Poems About Sandwich Cookies, Jelly, and Chocolate: Poetry in K-3 Classrooms. *Young Children*, 67(4), 94-100.

McNair, J.C., & Brooks, W.M. (2012). Transitional Chapter Books: Representations of African American Girlhood. *The Reading Teacher*, 65(8), 567-577. \*This article received a 2013 Virginia Hamilton Essay Award Honor Citation. Established in 1991, the Virginia Hamilton Essay Award recognizes a journal article published in a given year which makes a significant contribution to professional literature concerning multicultural literacy experiences for youth.\*

McNair, J.C. (2011). "It Was Like a Book Buffet!": Parents and Children Selecting African American Children's Literature Together. *Journal of Negro Education*, 80(2), 163-175.

McNair, J.C. (2010). Classic African American Children's Literature. *The Reading Teacher*, 64(2), 96-105.

Brooks, W.M., & McNair, J.C. (2009). "But This Story of Mine Is Not Unique": A Review of Research on African American Children's Literature. *Review of Educational Research*, 79(1), 125-162. [Authors' names are in alphabetical order.]

McNair, J.C. (2008). "I May Be Crackin', But 'Um Fackin'": Racial Humor in *The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963*. *Children's Literature in Education*, 39(3), 201-212.

McNair, J. C. (2008). Innocent Though They May Seem . . . : A Critical Race Theory Analysis of Firefly and Seesaw Scholastic Book Club Order Forms. *Multicultural Review*, 17(1), 24-29.

McNair, J.C. (2008). The Representation of Authors and Illustrators of Color in School-Based Book Clubs. *Language Arts*, 85(3), 193-201.

McNair, J.C. (2007). "Say My Name, Say My Name!": Using Children's Names to Enhance Early Literacy Development. *Young Children*, 62(5), 84-89.

McNair, J.C. (2003). "He May Mean Good, But He Do So Doggone Poor!": A Critical Analysis of Recently Published "Social Conscience" Children's Literature. *Multicultural Review*. 12(1), 26-32.

McNair, J.C. (2003). But *The Five Chinese Brothers* Is One Of My Favorite Books! Conducting Sociopolitical Critiques of Children's Literature with Preservice Teachers. *Journal of Children's Literature*. 29(1), 46-54.

McNair, J.C. (2003). It Really Is the Little Things!: More Thoughts About the Insider/Outsider Debate. *The New Advocate*. 16(2), 129-138.

Bishop, R.S., & McNair, J. C. (2002). A Centennial Salute to Arna Bontemps, Langston Hughes and Lorenz Graham. *The New Advocate*. 15(2), 109-119.

McNair, J. C. (2000). Want Dav Pilkey to Show You How to Draw Dumb Bunnies?: Using the Internet to Acquaint Children with Authors and Illustrators of Children's Literature. *Dragon Lode*. 19(1), 11-14.

## BOOKS

Brooks, W.M. & McNair, J. C. (Eds.). (2008). *Embracing, Evaluating, and Examining African American Children's and Young Adult Literature*. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press. 251 pages. [Editors' names are in alphabetical order.]

This volume contains twelve original essays that present research related to African American children's literature. The foreword is written by Rudine Sims Bishop, an expert in African American children's literature. Scarecrow Press is a co-publishing partner with the Children's Literature Association.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

McNair, J. C. (in press). Telling African American Lives in Literature for Young Readers. In J. K. Moody (Ed.). *A History of African American Autobiography*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.

McNair, J. C. (2015). Creating Classroom Libraries for Grades K-5: In D. Wooten & B. Cullinan (Eds.). *Children's Literature in the Reading Program: Engaging Young Readers in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (pp. 169-180). Newark, DE: International Literacy Association.

McNair, J.C. (2008). A Comparative Analysis of *The Brownies' Book* and Contemporary African American Children's Literature Written by Patricia C. McKissack (pp. 3-29). In W. M. Brooks & J. C. McNair (Eds.) *Embracing, Evaluating, and Examining African American Children's and Young Adult Literature*. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press.

McNair, J.C. (2003). Walk Tall in the World: Reflections From a Scholar of African American Children's Literature (pp. 151-166). In A. Green & L. Scott (Eds.) *Journey to the Ph.D.: How to Navigate the Process as African Americans*. Sterling, VA: Stylus Publishing.

## BOOK REVIEWS IN REFEREED JOURNALS

McNair, J. C. (2005). Review of *Reading and Writing Informational Text in the Primary Grades: Research-Based Practices* by Nell K. Duke and V. Susan Bennett-Armistead. *Literacy Teaching and Learning*, 9(1), 45-51.

McNair, J. C. (2005) Review of *Readers of the Quilt: Essays on Being Black, Female and Literate* edited by Joanne Kilgour Dowdy. *Exploring Adult Literacy*, an online journal of the College Reading Association. [www.literacy.kent.edu/cra/](http://www.literacy.kent.edu/cra/)

## OTHER SCHOLARLY CONTRIBUTIONS

McNair, J.C. (2013). Once Upon an App. *Journal of Children's Literature*, 39(1), 60-61.

McNair, J.C. (2008). Oodles of Talent: A Conversation with Lois Ehlert. *Journal of Children's Literature*, 34(2), 10-14.

McNair, J. C. (2007, September/October). Children's Bookshelf: All in the Family. *Black Issues Book Review*, 18, 20.

McNair, J.C. & Colabucci, L. (2007). "Let's Get Smart about Art!" Developing Visual Literacy with Picture Books. *Journal of Children's Literature*, 33(1), 10-13.

McNair, J. C. with Gambrell, V., Lehr, J., McCloy, J., Monaghan, E., Reid, A., Robins, K., Spann, A. & Stewart, E. (2006). Read Today, Play Tomorrow: Enhancing Dramatic Play Areas with Prop Boxes. *Reading Matters*, 7(1), 39-46. [This article was written with eight students who were enrolled in READ 458.]

McNair, J. C. (Invited, 2006). Reject Rejection. In S. Wepner and L. Gambrell (Eds.). *Beating the Odds: Getting Published in the Field of Literacy*. Newark, DE: International Reading Association. (Author Reflection, p. 153)

McNair, J.C. (Invited, 2005). Wake My Soul: A Conversation with Children's Book Illustrator James E. Ransome. *Reading Matters*, 6(2), 25-31.

### **CHILDREN'S LITERATURE REVIEW COLUMN**

*The following publications are the result of an invitation to write an annual children's literature review column for Reading Matters, the journal of the South Carolina State Council of the International Reading Association (SCIRA). SCIRA has more than 6,800 members.*

McNair, J. C. (in press). The Wonderful World of Books: A Review of Children's Literature for Teachers. *Reading Matters*, 17(1).

McNair, J. C. (2016). The Right Word: A Review of Children's Literature for Teachers. *Reading Matters*, 16(1).

McNair, J. C. (2015). Books About a Dazzling Dancer, a Determined Doctor, the Dark, and More: A Review of Children's Literature for Teachers. *Reading Matters*, 15(1).

McNair, J. C. (2013). Reading is *Always* Good News: A Review of Children's Literature for Teachers. *Reading Matters*, 14(1).

McNair, J.C. (2012). N° 1 Book Spotter: A Review of Children's Literature for Teachers. *Reading Matters*, 13(1).

McNair, J. C. (2011). Books Make Me Happy: A Review of Children's Literature for Teachers. *Reading Matters*, 12(1), 37-41.

McNair, J. C. (2010). What Can You Do with a Book?: A Review of Children's Literature for Teachers. *Reading Matters*, 11(1), 25-31.

McNair, J.C. (2009). Higher! Higher! A Review of Children's Literature for Teachers. *Reading Matters*, 10(1), 52-59.

McNair, J.C. (2008). You'll Be Sorry: A Review of Children's Literature for Teachers. *Reading Matters*, 9(1), 45-52.

McNair, J.C. (2007). Honey, I Love Books: A Review of Children's Literature for Teachers. *Reading Matters*, 8(1), 60-65.

McNair, J.C. (2006) Want a Bright Idea? Read Some De-LIGHT-ful Books! A Review of Children's Literature for Teachers. *Reading Matters*, 7(1), 62-68.

McNair, J.C. (2005). Betcha Can't Read Just One: A Review of Children's Literature for Teachers. *Reading Matters*, 6(2), 50-62.

McNair, J.C. (2005). Windows and Reflections: A Review of Children's Literature for Teachers. *Reading Matters*, 6(1), 48-55.

### **NOTABLE CHILDREN'S BOOKS IN THE LANGUAGE ARTS (NCBLA)**

*Each year book annotations for the NCBLA books are published in the Journal of Children's Literature and Language Arts. The book annotations are written along with members of the NCBLA committee.*

Mathis, J. (Chair), Bedford, A.W., Hahn, M. L., Napoli, M., McNair, J. C., Short, K. G. & White, Q. (2011). 2010 Notable Children's Books in the Language Arts. *Language Arts*, 88(4), 315-325.

Mathis, J. (Chair), Bedford, A.W., Hahn, M. L., Napoli, M., McNair, J. C., Short, K. G. & White, Q. (2010). 2010 Notable Children's Books in the Language Arts. *Journal of Children's Literature*, 36(2), 15-25.

Day, D. (Chair), Hahn, M.L., Napoli, M., Mathis, J., McNair, J.C., Short, K.G., & Sullivan, E.T. (2010). 2009 Notable Children's Books in the Language Arts. *Language Arts*, 87(4), 312-321.

Day, D. (Chair), Hahn, M.L., Napoli, M., Mathis, J., McNair, J.C., Short, K.G., & Sullivan, E.T. (2009). 2009 Notable Children's Books in the Language Arts. *Journal of Children's Literature*, 35 (2), 17-27.

Day, D. (Chair), Austin, P., Levin, S., Mathis, J.B., McNair, J.C., Short, K.G., & Sullivan, E.T. (2009). 2008 Notable Children's Books in the Language Arts. *Language Arts*, 86(4), 316-324.

Day, D. (Chair), Austin, P., Levin, S., Mathis, J.B., McNair, J.C., Short, K.G., & Sullivan, E.T. (2008). 2008 Notable Children's Books in the Language Arts. *Journal of Children's Literature*, 34(2), 15-27.

### **POETRY NOTABLES**

*The following publications are the result of an invitation to write an annual column featuring reviews of outstanding poetry books. The columns are written along with members of the NCTE Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children Selection Committee.*

Ward, B. (Chair), Dotlich, R. K., Magliaro, E., McNair, J. C., Napoli, M. & Young, T. (2010). Poetry for Children at Its Best: 2009 Poetry Notables. *Language Arts*. 87(6), 478-486.

Fletcher, R., (Chair), Armstrong, K., Heard, G., McNair, J.C., Wesson-Spivey, G., Ward, B. & Wong, J. (2009). Poetry Notables for 2008. *Language Arts*, 86(6), 468-472.

Fletcher, R., (Chair), Armstrong, K., Heard, G., McNair, J.C., Wesson-Spivey, G., Ward, B. & Wong, J. (2008). Poetry Notables for 2007. *Language Arts*, 85(6), 469-471.

## EDITORSHIPS

Coeditor of *Language Arts*, 2016-2021

*Language Arts* is the journal of the Elementary Section of the National Council of Teachers of English. It is published six times annually and serves elementary and middle school teachers as well as teacher educators. It has a circulation of approximately 4,000.

Coeditor of the *Journal of Children's Literature*, 2011-2016

This journal is the official publication of the Children's Literature Assembly, a special interest group of the National Council of Teachers of English. Published twice annually in April and November, the journal serves a membership with personal and professional interest in the field of children's literature.

## DEPARTMENT EDITOR (*The Reading Teacher*)

*I was appointed to serve as department editor for the children's literature review column in The Reading Teacher. Two columns appear each year. I am responsible for the column by writing articles myself or inviting others to contribute and editing their work.*

McNair, J.C. (in press). #We Need Mirrors and Windows: Diverse Classroom Libraries for K-6 Students. 70(3).

## DEPARTMENT EDITOR (*Language Arts*)

*I was appointed to serve as department editor for the children's literature review column in Language Arts. Six issues of Language Arts are published annually. As department editor my responsibility is to ensure that there is a column in each issue. Of the six issues, two are set aside for the Orbis Pictus Award and the Notable Children's Books in the Language Arts. The remaining columns listed below are those that I help to write with a team of children's literature experts I have assembled.*

Day, D., Möller, K.J., Zapata, A., & McNair, J. C. (2016). 2015 Notable Poetry Books. *Language Arts*, 93(6), 464-469.

McNair, J.C., Day, D., Möller, K.J., & Zapata, A. (2016). Biliteracy and Children's Literature. *Language Arts*, 93(5), 392-396.

McNair, J.C., Day, D., Möller, K.J., & Zapata, A. (2016). Bigfoot, Bones, and Benjamin Franklin: A Bunch of Books for Sharing in K-8 Classrooms. *Language Arts*, 93(3), 240-245.

McNair, J.C., Day, D., Möller, K.J., & Zapata, A. (2015). From Microbes to Music: Recommended Children's Literature for Grades K-8. *Language Arts*, 93(1), 66-73.

McNair, J.C., Day, D., Möller, K.J., & Zapata, A. (2015). 2014 Notable Poetry Books. *Language Arts*, 92(6), 452-458.

McNair, J.C., Day, D., Möller, K.J., & Zapata, A. (2015). Creativity and Children's Literature. *Language Arts*, 92(5), 370-376.

- McNair, J.C., Day, D., Möller, K.J., & Zapata, A. (2015). Memoirs, Magic, and Mutiny: Marvelous Titles to Share in K-8 Classrooms. *Language Arts*, 92(3), 214-222.
- McNair, J.C., Day, D., Möller, K.J., & Zapata, A. (2014). Move Over Frog and Toad: Transitional Chapter Books. *Language Arts*, 92(1), 64-71.
- McNair, J.C., Day, D., Möller, K.J., & Zapata, A. (2014). 2013 Notable Poetry Books. *Language Arts*, 91(6), 443-448.
- McNair, J.C., Day, D., Möller, K.J., & Zapata, A. (2014). A Splash of Books for Reading and Sharing With Students in Grades K-8. *Language Arts*, 91(5), 377-385.
- McNair, J.C., Bailey, A.R., Bloom, S., Day, D., Foote, D., Horning, K.T., McLinn, C. S., Möller, K.J., & Zapata, A. (2014). A Few of Our Favorites: Celebrating the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Coretta Scott King Book Award. *Language Arts*, 91(3), 190-196.
- McNair, J.C., Bailey, A.R., Day, D., & Möller, K.J. (2013). Quality Children's Literature to Stimulate Discussion During Interactive Read-Alouds. *Language Arts*, 91(1), 53-60.
- McNair, J.C., Bailey, A.R., Day, D., & Möller, K.J. (2013). 2012 Notable Poetry Books. *Language Arts*, 90(6), 457-463.
- McNair, J.C., Bailey, A.R., Day, D., & Möller, K.J. (2013). Our Favorite Picturebook Apps. *Language Arts*, 90(5), 380-384.
- McNair, J.C. & students from READ 868/942. (2013). Picturebooks with Noteworthy Endpapers. *Language Arts*, 90(3), 219-225.
- McNair, J.C., Bailey, A.R., Colabucci, L. & Day, D. (2012). Global Children's Literature. *Language Arts*, 90(1), 60-65.
- McNair, J.C., Bailey, A.R., Colabucci, L. & Day, D. (2012). 2011 Notable Poetry Books *Language Arts*, 89(6). 421-425.
- McNair, J.C., Bailey, A.R., Colabucci, L. & Day, D. (2012). Great Books for Sharing and Reading with Children in Grades K-8. *Language Arts*, 89(5), 342-348.
- McNair, J.C., Bailey, A.R., Colabucci, L. & Day, D. (2012). Writing and Children's Literature. *Language Arts*, 89(3), 200-204.
- McNair, J.C., Bailey, A.R., Colabucci, L. & Day, D. (2011). Play-Themed Children's Literature for Early Childhood Classrooms. *Language Arts*, 89(1), 65-69.

## **INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

McNair, J. C., & Wissman, K. Meet the Editors. [*Language Arts*] To be presented at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English in Atlanta, Georgia. November 19, 2016.

McNair, J. C. Reflections on an African American Children's Literature Family Literacy Program. To be presented as a part of the CAS/MillerComm Lecture Series at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. October 19, 2016.

Cushman, K., DiSarro, L, McNair, J.C., & Roser, N. *The Changing Face of Covers*. Presented at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English in Minneapolis, Minnesota. November 20, 2015.

Davila, D., McNair, J. C., & Wissman, K. Meet the Editors. [*Language Arts*] Presented at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English in Minneapolis, Minnesota. November 21, 2015.

McNair, J. C. What Happens When African American Families Are Exposed to an Abundance of African American Children's Literature? Presented at the Michigan State University Language and Literacy Colloquy in East Lansing, Michigan. November 11, 2015.

2015 ALA Youth Media Awards—Presented at the midwinter conference of the American Library Association in Chicago, Illinois. February 2, 2015.

McNair, J. C., & O'Neal, S. F. Meet the Editors. [*Journal of Children's Literature*] Presented at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English in National Harbor, Maryland. November 22, 2014.

Lewis, J. P., Stemple, H., McNair, J. C., & Yolen, J. *The Stories Animals Tell Us*. To be presented at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English in National Harbor, Maryland. November 22, 2014.

2014 ALA Youth Media Awards—Served as emcee and announced the Coretta Scott King Book Award-winners. Presented at the midwinter conference of the American Library Association in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. January 27, 2014.

Examining Representations of African American Girlhood in Transitional Chapter Books. Presented at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English in Boston, Massachusetts. November 23, 2013.

Meet the Editors. [*Journal of Children's Literature*] Presented with Miriam Martinez and Sharon O'Neal at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English in Boston, Massachusetts. November 23, 2013.

2013 ALA Youth Media Awards—Announcement of the Coretta Scott King Book Award-winners. Presented at the midwinter conference of the American Library Association in Seattle, Washington. January 28, 2013.

Meet the Editors. [*Journal of Children's Literature*] Presented with Miriam Martinez and Sharon O'Neal at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English in Las Vegas, Nevada. November 17, 2012.

Now More Than Ever, Poetry Helps Us Dream, Connect, and Ignite: The NCTE Excellence in Poetry for Children Committee Shares Recent Favorites.

Presented—with members of the NCTE Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children Selection Committee—at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English in Las Vegas, Nevada. November 16, 2012.

Meet the Editors. [*Journal of Children's Literature*] Presented with Miriam Martinez and Sharon O'Neal at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English in Chicago, Illinois. November 19, 2011.

Celebrating 2011 NCTE Poetry Award Recipient J. Patrick Lewis. Presented—with members of the NCTE Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children Selection Committee—at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English in Chicago, Illinois. November 18, 2011.

2010 Notable Children's Books in the Language Arts (NCBLA). Presented—with members of the NCBLA Committee—at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English in Orlando, Florida. November 21, 2010.

2009-2010 Children's Poetry Notables. Presented—with members of the NCTE Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children Selection Committee—at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English in Orlando, Florida. November 19, 2010.

2008-2009 Children's Poetry Notables. Presented—with members of the NCTE Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children Selection Committee—at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. November 21, 2009.

2009 Notable Children's Books in the Language Arts (NCBLA). Presented—with members of the NCBLA Committee—at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. November 20, 2009.

2008 Notable Children's Books in the Language Arts (NCBLA). Presented—with members of the NCBLA Committee—at the annual convention west of the International Reading Association in Phoenix, Arizona. February 24, 2009.

2008 Notable Children's Books in the Language Arts (NCBLA). Presented—with members of the NCBLA Committee—at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English in San Antonio, Texas. November 23, 2008.

Children's Poetry Notables. Presented—with members of the NCTE Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children Selection Committee—at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English in San Antonio, Texas. November 21, 2008.

"I've Been Telling Everybody I Know about These Books": Flooding African American Families with Children's Literature Written by and about African Americans. Presented at the 53<sup>rd</sup> annual convention of the International Reading Association in Atlanta, Georgia. May 5, 2008.

“It Was Like a Book Buffet!” Flooding Families with African American Children’s Literature. Presented at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English in New York City, New York. November 15, 2007.

“I’m Excited to See Little Girls That Look Like My Little Girls on the Cover!” Parents and Children Reading African American Children’s Literature Together. Presented at the American Educational Research Association. Chicago, Illinois. April 12, 2007.

“I Never Knew There Were So Many Books About Us”: Parents and Children Reading African American Children’s Literature Together. Presented at the National Reading Conference in Los Angeles, California. November 29, 2006.

Reading the Word and the World within the Context of Firefly and Seesaw Book Club Order Forms. Presented at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English in Nashville, Tennessee. November 18, 2006.

“Have You Read This Book?” What’s New in African American Children’s and Young Adult Literature? Presented at the 51<sup>st</sup> annual convention of the International Reading Association in Chicago, Illinois. May 4, 2006.

Innocent Though They May Seem . . . : A Critical Race Theory Analysis of Firefly and Seesaw Scholastic Book Club Order Forms. Presented at the National Reading Conference in Miami, Florida. Dec. 2, 2005.

Children Responding to Literature. The National Reading Conference. Presenters included Donna Adomat, Sylvia J. Pantaleo, Heather Sandquist, and Diane J. Schnoor. Miami, Florida. December 1, 2005. (Served as Session Chair)

"It's All Good": Themes and Images in African American Children's Literature About Black Hair. Presented at the International Reading Association’s 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention. San Antonio, Texas. May 2, 2005.

“We Can’t Teach What We DO Know”: Women of Color Reflect on Teaching White Students. Presented with Margarita Machado-Casas, Silvia Bettez, and Michelle Jay. The American Educational Research Association. Montreal, Canada. April 11, 2005. (Panel Discussion)

Which Books Measure Up? A Content Analysis of Mathematically Related Children’s Literature. Presented with Emma M. Owens at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Hawaii International Conference on Education. Honolulu, Hawaii. January 5, 2005.

“I May Be Crackin’, But Um Fackin’”: The Utilization of Humor in *The Watsons Go To Birmingham-1963*. Presented at the National Reading Conference. San Antonio, Texas. December 1, 2004.

I’m Crackin’, But I’m Fackin’: The Utilization of Humor in the Novels of Christopher Paul Curtis. The 29<sup>th</sup> IBBY (International Board on Books for Young People) World Congress. Cape Town, South Africa. September 9, 2004.

Humor in the World of Children's Literature. The 29<sup>th</sup> IBBY (International Board on Books for Young People) World Congress. Presenters included Estelle Kruger, Elaine Ridge, and Matthew Zbaracki. Cape Town, South Africa. September 9, 2004. (Served as Session Chair)

Publishing What Matters to me as an African American Scholar. Presented at the American Educational Research Association's Annual Conference. San Diego, California. April 13, 2004.

"Yes, It'll Be Me": A Comparative Analysis of *The Brownies' Book* and Contemporary African American Children's Literature Written by Patricia McKissack. Presented at the American Educational Research Association's Annual Conference. San Diego, California. April 12, 2004.

Student Development and Retention Panel Discussion: The Journey to the Ph.D: How to Navigate the Process as African Americans. Presented with Tarcha Rentz and Stephen Hancock. The Brothers of the Academy Think Tank/Conference. Kansas City, Missouri. October 2, 2003.

Pass It On: The Legacy of *The Brownies' Book* Within the Context of Contemporary African American Children's Literature Written by Patricia C. McKissack. The American Educational Research Association's Annual Conference. Chicago, Illinois. April 22, 2003.

New Beginnings: Scholars of Color in the Academy. The American Educational Research Association's Annual Conference. Presented with Stephen Hancock and Tarcha Rentz. Chicago, Illinois. April 22, 2003. (Panel Discussion)

"Yes, It'll Be Me": A Comparative Analysis of *The Brownies' Book* and Contemporary African American Children's Literature Written by Patricia McKissack. The Ohio State University's Annual Children's Literature Conference. Columbus, Ohio. January 31, 2003.

"But That's One of My Favorite Books!": Conducting Sociopolitical Critiques of Children's Literature with Preservice Teachers. Presented at the American Educational Research Association's Annual Conference. New Orleans, Louisiana. April 2, 2002.

"Bet'cha Can't Read Just One!": Great Poetry Books for Children. The Ohio State University's Annual Children's Literature Conference. Columbus, Ohio. February 15, 2002.

Multicultural Literature: Picturebooks for Students in K-3. Presented with Lesley Colabucci. The National Reading Recovery Conference. Columbus, Ohio. February 11, 2002.

"You Did That Too?": Sorting Confusions of Reading Recovery Teachers. The National Reading Recovery Conference. Columbus, Ohio. February 12, 2001.

## STATE AND REGIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Bet'cha Can't Read Just One!: Recommended Children's Literature for Pre-K through Kindergarten Classrooms. Presented at the Clemson University Early Childhood Play, Practice, and Policy Conference in Clemson, South Carolina. April 10, 2010.

"Bet'cha Can't Read Just One!: Recommended Children's Literature for Elementary Classroom Libraries. Presented at the Summer Institute sponsored by the Clemson University Reading Recovery Training Center. Clemson, South Carolina. July 31, 2009.

"I Never Knew There Were So Many Books About Us!": Parents and Children Reading African American Children's Literature Together. Presented on April 27, 2007 at the Faculty Research Forum of the College of Health, Education, and Human Development. Clemson, South Carolina.

From *The Brownies' Book* to *Brown Sugar Babies*: The Development of African American Children's Literature. Presented at the South Carolina State Council of the IRA Conference. Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. February 18, 2005.

Honey, I Love Poetry!: Great Poetry Books for Students in Grades K-6. The South Carolina Association of School Librarians. Greenville, South Carolina. March 26, 2004.

Not All of the Children Come Home to Cookies and Cocoa: Confronting Social Issues Within the Context of Children's Literature. The Early Childhood Super Conference at Otterbein College. Westerville, Ohio. March 22, 2003.

Find Out What's New in Children's Literature! The Ohio Integrated Language Arts Conference. Worthington, Ohio. February 28, 2003.

"Bet'cha Can't Read Just One Poem!": Great Poetry Books for Children in Grades K-6. The Dublin Literacy Conference. Dublin, Ohio. February 22, 2003.

Want a Bright Idea? Read Some De-LIGHT-ful Poetry Books! The Ohio Educational Library Media Association's Annual Conference. Columbus, Ohio. October 31, 2002.

Bet'cha Can't Read Just One Poem!: Great Poetry Books for Young Children. The Annual Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children Conference. Columbus, Ohio. April 20, 2002.

Honey, I Love Poetry! The Ohio Council Teachers of English Language Arts Fall Integrated Language Arts Conference 2001. Dublin, Ohio. October 6, 2001.

But I Love That Book!: Conducting Sociopolitical Critiques of Children's Literature with Preservice Teachers. The Ohio State University's College of Education Diversity Conference and Graduate Symposium. Columbus, Ohio. June 1, 2001.

## **EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL FUNDING**

Recipient of a Clemson University HEHD Summer Research Support Program Award in 2008 to write a grant proposal entitled, “Call Me MISTER Participants’ Perceptions of Black Masculinity within the Context of African American Children’s Literature.” \$4,000

Recipient of \$1,000 in 2008 from the Kappa Zeta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. to conduct a family literacy project. This project entailed conducting a workshop on August 16, 2008 in which 14 families from Anderson and surrounding areas were provided with 10 African American children’s books, People Colors crayons, drawing paper, and refreshments.

Recipient of a Clemson University HEHD Summer Research Support Program Award in 2006 to conduct a study entitled, “Examining African American Parent-Child Book Reading Practices within the Context of African American Children’s Literature.” \$3,000

Recipient of a vending machine grant in 2006 from the Clemson University Vending Committee to supplement the family literacy grant project entitled, “I Never Knew There Were So Many Books About Us . . .” \$500

Recipient of a 2005 Grant-in-Aid Award sponsored by the Research Foundation of the National Council of Teachers of English. The title of the grant proposal was “I Never Knew There Were So Many Books about Us”: Parents and Children Reading African American Children’s Literature Together.” \$12,301.41

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE**

Conducting a Clemson University Creative Inquiry Project with undergraduates, 2012-Present

This project entails the creation and dissemination of a newsletter—one per semester—entitled “Mirrors and Windows . . .” that highlights children’s literature written by authors and illustrators across diverse racial groups.

Appointed chair of the Nominating Committee of the Coretta Scott King Book Awards Committee, 2015-2017

The main purpose of this committee is to prepare a slate of officers as well as annual slates for the CSK Book Award Jury and the Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement Jury.

Appointed to serve as Chair of the Coretta Scott King Book Awards Committee, 2012-2015

The main purpose of this committee is to annually grant the Coretta Scott King Book Award to African American authors and illustrators for outstanding contributions to literature for children and young adults. The chair of the CSK Book Awards Committee is responsible for a number of tasks such as presiding over and preparing agendas for membership and executive board meetings, appointing a jury chair and jurors to serve on the CSK Book Award jury, and preparing for anniversary celebrations.

Appointed Chair of the Coretta Scott King Book Award Jury, 2010-2012  
Responsibilities include presiding over meetings, explaining procedures in the Coretta Scott King Book Award jury handbook, sending out excel files of children's books received by all jury members, presenting the award to the winners at the annual Coretta Scott King Book Award Breakfast, etc.

Elected to serve on the Coretta Scott King Book Award Jury of the American Library Association, 2008-2010

This jury recognizes African American authors and illustrators who create outstanding children's books about the African American experience. Jury members read and evaluate books each year.

Served as chair of the Children's Literature Assembly Breakfast that took place on November 23, 2008 during the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English in San Antonio, Texas. Lois Ehlert was the speaker.

Invited by Timothy Shanahan, President of the International Reading Association, to present as a featured speaker on May 15, 2007 at the 52<sup>nd</sup> annual convention in Toronto, Canada. The talk was entitled, "Bet'cha Can't Read Just One: Recommended Children's Literature for Elementary Classroom Libraries."

Appointed to serve on the Notable Children's Books in the Language Arts Committee sponsored by the Children's Literature Assembly of the National Council of Teachers of English, 2007-2009

The charge of this committee is to read approximately 1,000 books per year and select thirty that deal explicitly with language, demonstrate uniqueness in the use of language or style, and invite children's response or participation.

Elected to serve as a board member of Children's Literature and Reading, a special interest group of the International Reading Association, 2007-2010  
Board members attend two meetings annually and oversee the group's affairs.

Appointed to serve on the International Reading Association's (IRA) Subcommittee on IRA Children's and Young Adult Book Awards, 2007-2009

This committee reviews children's books worldwide by newly published authors (first or second book) and recommends up to six candidates in three categories—primary, intermediate, and young adult—in both fiction and nonfiction.

Served as co-chair of the Children's Literature Assembly Breakfast that took place during the NCTE 2007 convention in New York City. Allen Say was the speaker.

Appointed to serve as a member of the NCTE Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children Selection Committee, 2007-2012

This committee recommends to the NCTE Executive Committee a living American poet every two years for this award and explores ways to acquaint children and teachers with poetry through various means such as displays, programs, and publications.

Conducted a Clemson University Creative Inquiry Project with participants in the Call Me MISTER Program and other undergraduates, 2006-2012  
This project entailed the creation and dissemination of a newsletter—one per semester—entitled “I Never Knew . . .” that highlighted African American children’s literature.

Edward Fry Book Award Committee of the National Reading Conference (NRC), 2006-2008

The purpose of this award is to recognize NRC members who author exceptional books on literacy research and practice. Committee members are asked to read, rate, and rank the books that are nominated for this award.

Invited to serve as a member of the 2005 “Original Art Lifetime Achievement Award” committee sponsored by the Society of Illustrators in New York City. This award honors artists for distinguished achievement in children’s book illustration. Attended the committee meeting in Manhattan on Sept. 9, 2005.

Elected to serve as a board member of the Children’s Literature Assembly, a special interest group of the National Council of Teachers of English, 2004-2007. Board members attend two meetings annually and oversee the group’s affairs.

Planned and chaired a daylong workshop for teachers entitled “Let’s Get Smart about Art: Developing Visual Literacy with Picturebooks.” The workshop was sponsored by the Children’s Literature Assembly and took place on Nov. 20, 2006 during the NCTE postconvention in Nashville, Tennessee. Workshop presenters included award-winning illustrators of children’s literature, scholars of picturebook art, and editors from publishing companies.

Guest Reviewer, *Research in the Teaching of English*, 2009

Editorial Review Board, *Handbook of Research on Children’s and Young Adult Literature*, 2008

Editorial Review Board, *Children’s Literature in Education*, 2006-Present

Editorial Review Board, *Language Arts*, 2006-2015

Editorial Review Board, *Journal of Literacy Research*, 2005-Present

Editorial Review Board, *The Reading Teacher*, 2015- Present

Reviewer of Program Proposals for the International Reading Association, 2007-2008, 2010

Reviewer of Program Proposals for the American Educational Research Association, 2005-2007

Reviewer of Program Proposals for the National Reading Conference, 2004-2007

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Library Association (ALA)

International Literacy Association (ILA)

Literacy Research Association (LRA)

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)

National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)

NCTE Children's Literature Assembly (CLA)

South Carolina State Council of the International Reading Association (SCIRA)

## **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

Served as chair of the disciplinary literacy search committee resulting in the hire of Phillip Wilder, 2012-2013

Served as a co-mentor to Ysaaca Axelrod, a recently hired Assistant Professor of Early Childhood Education, 2012-2013

Served as Coordinator for the Literacy Education Area, 2012-2015

Served on the early childhood education search committee resulting in the hires of Ysaaca Axelrod and Anna H. Hall, 2011-2012

Served on the review committee for Mike Padilla, Director of the Eugene T. Moore School of Education, 2008-2009

Served on the Reading Recovery Trainer search committee resulting in the hire of C.C. Bates, 2008-2009

Served on the early childhood education search committee resulting in the hire of Sandra Linder, 2008-2009

Served as a mentor to Delayne Johnson, a recently hired Assistant Professor of Middle Grades Education—Mathematics, 2008-2009

Served on the Curriculum and Instruction Doctoral committee for the Eugene T. Moore School of Education, 2008-2010

Serving as faculty advisor for the Clemson University International Reading Association (IRA) Student Council. Spearheaded the creation of the council. 2007-Present.

Served as a co-mentor to Rachelle Washington, a recently hired Assistant Professor of Elementary Education—Language Arts, 2006-2007

Conducted a presentation entitled “Honey, I Love Books!: Creating Fabulous Classroom Library Collections” the SCAEYC Clemson University Student Group on February 6, 2007.

Conducted a presentation on African American children’s literature for participants in the Call Me MISTER Program on June 7, 2006.  
Served on the elementary education language arts search committee in 2005-2006 resulting in the hire of Rachelle Washington.

Keynote speaker at the first 1<sup>st</sup> annual Black Graduate Student Association Awards Reception on April 29, 2004.

Served on the elementary education search committee in 2004-2005 to fill four tenure track positions resulting in the hires of Chrystal Dean (mathematics education) and Elizabeth Edmondson (science education).

President’s Commission on the Status of Black Faculty and Staff, 2004-2007  
Spearheaded the creation of a resource guide to assist new African American faculty and staff in acclimating to the area.

## **CONSULTING**

Monaview Elementary School, Greenville, South Carolina, 2012-2013  
Presented four professional development sessions related to aspects of literacy such as guided reading and taking, scoring, and analyzing running records.

Scholastic Inc., 2012

Served on a task force to identify “the best” in children’s literature. This task force was comprised of leading academics who specialize in children’s literature, Scholastic executives, teachers, and librarians. The work of this task force resulted in a diverse listing of 3,122 children’s books that will be featured in Scholastic Book Clubs.

Hampton-Brown Company/National Geographic School Publishing, 2009-2011  
Review literature specifications, recommend high-quality fiction and non-fiction selections to include in a new reading program, and participate in conference calls, online meetings, and e-mails to discuss the program design and literature.

Chicago Public Schools

Presented three workshops on August 25, 2008 at a children’s literature institute for Chicago public school teachers.

Anderson School District Five, Anderson South Carolina

Presented professional development workshops related to children’s literature in the summer of 2008.

Reading Is Fundamental, Inc. (RIF), 2008-Present

Invited to serve on the National Literature Advisory Board, 2008-Present  
Reading Is Fundamental is the nation’s oldest and largest nonprofit children’s literacy organization. The purpose of the National Literature Advisory Board is to set literature quality standards for RIF’s literature and operational services.

Los Angeles California Unified School District, July-August of 2004  
Conducted presentations on African American and Latin American children's  
literature for Los Angeles public school teachers.