

MMC News: Voices

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President's Message

Greetings,
We are off to a busy fall. Those of you that are pre-k-12 teachers and staff can understand when I say it has been a hectic fall this year. With Common Core, the new teacher evaluation system, and in some cases new technology, it has been very busy. Be sure to take care of yourself and take time for yourself.

I want to point out a couple wonderful resources for you to use. Maryland Learning Links www.marylandlearninglinks.org and CAST.org www.cast.org. Maryland Learning Links is celebrating its third anniversary. This site is packed with resources for every grade level, UDL resources, videos, apps and lessons. Take a look at be sure to bookmark it for future

use. CAST.org also contains a wealth of information on UDL, as well as links to other sites, sample lessons, video clips, planning tools and articles to explore. It is easy to get lost in this site as there are many links to explore, so take notes or bookmark pages you like.

We are pleased to announce the winner of our very first scholarship. She is a current student. We will be honoring her at our annual conference this spring. Last year our board created a scholarship fund for high school and college students that live and attend school in Maryland. Read more in the article about our first recipient. The scholarship application is available for the 2014 academic year and is included in this publication and will also be sent out to school



systems across the state.

We are beginning the stages of planning our annual conference and information will come out by December so that you can plan accordingly.

Have a wonderful fall and be sure to take time for yourself.

Sincerely,

Debbie Misiag

President MMC 2013-2015

National Bullying Month: An ounce of prevention

October is National Bullying Prevention Month, an opportunity to take action about a problem that, unfortunately, is becoming ever more pervasive and ever more lethal. Statistics tells us a child somewhere is bullied every seven minutes,

85 percent of the time there is no intervention of any kind, and an estimated 160,000 children miss school each day because of bullying. The recent cases of teens being driven to suicide because they were bullied online by classmates are chilling re-

mindings that much more needs to be done. Where does it all begin? Research we conducted found that teasing and bullying are part of the fabric of daily life for students as early as kindergarten

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“Teachers need to be aware of their own cultures and attitudes and be trained to avoid prejudice.”

MMC's first scholarship recipient

This past year, the Executive Board established a scholarship for Maryland residents in college or in high school that would be attending or are attending a Maryland college or university and who intend in teaching Pre-K through 12 upon graduation. We are pleased to announce that our first recipient is Kelly McKenzie of Nanticoke, Maryland. Kelly attended James M. Bennett High School, and is currently attending Stevenson University. Like her mother, who is a kindergarten teacher, she hopes to be an early childhood teacher. Kelly is on Stevenson's Women's Basketball team, volunteers for the Camp Todd Girl Scout Camp each summer. She maintains an average GPA of 3.815. Kelly feels that teachers today

“should celebrate the diversity in the classroom and utilize it to teach others.” She believes that teachers today should be “a good role model and demonstrate respect by showing it. Teachers need to be aware of their own cultures and attitudes and be trained to avoid prejudice.” Let's all congratulate Kelly on this well-deserved honor of receiving the Maryland Multicultural Coalition Educational Scholarship of \$1,000.00. We hope to honor her at our annual conference.

For more information on the scholarship, please see this publication. The appli-



Image courtesy of Debbie Misiag

cation process is about to start for next year.

Story by Debbie Misiag

Champions of Courage Essay Competition

FOX45 is accepting entries for the 27th annual Champions of Courage Black History Month Essay Competition. The competition commemorates Black History Month by celebrating positive role models who inspire youth and keep Dr. King's Dream alive for the next generations. This is Maryland's most recognized, most-respected and most remembered Black History Month television pro-



Image from cwbalmore.com

gramming.

20 essays will be selected and their student writers will appear on FOX45, CW Baltimore, and My TV Baltimore sharing their essay and good news

about good people. Additionally, winners receive a \$100 cash award at an awards breakfast to be scheduled in late January. At the awards breakfast, the top three essayists will be announced and the students receive additional scholarship awards and their schools receive cash prizes in their honor. We are reaching out to increase awareness of Champions of Courage in Carroll County Public Schools. Students

Continued on page 4

Grant celebrates Korean culture

Jermaine Ellerbe, MMC Board Member and assistant professor at Coppin State University, received a 2013-2014 Korean Culture Festivals at U.S. Universities Grant. This program sponsored by the Korea Foundation (KF) and the Korea International Trade Association (KITA), is meant to promote an understanding of Korean culture and arts at U.S. universities and to foster friendship among university students from diverse cultures and backgrounds. The grant's sponsors seek to encourage student associations to organize "Korean Culture Festival" events that feature Korean film, food, arts, and culture. Also eligible for support are relevant seminars, presentations, and other creative events, designed to help students at U.S. universities as well as the local communities enhance their understanding of Korean history,

culture and arts.

The grant sponsors selected approximately 21 grantees that will each be provided with financial support of \$2,000. Additionally, the Korea Foundation will provide a copy of its arts and culture magazine, *Koreana*, and the Korean Tourism Organization (KTO) will provide the *Kimchi Chronicles* DVD along with various promotional materials including posters and travel and food guidebooks. Grantees are encouraged to

display the resources provided.



Ellerbe's grant, "T.L.C. (Teaching and Learning Culture) Book Project" celebrates Korean culture through children's literature. Preservice teacher candidates in the School of Education will attend workshops to become reading ambassadors at five professional development elemen-



tary and middle schools. The ambassadors will share nine books relating to various aspects of Korean culture through the writings of Korean-American Newbery Award author, Linda Sue Park.

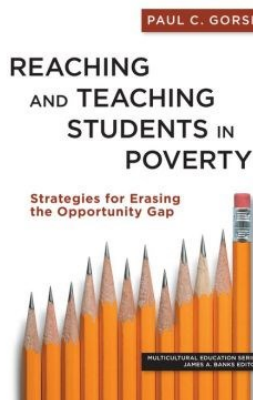
The reading ambassadors will conduct a read aloud/book talk with various grade level classes and/or individual students. During the interactive presentations, a culture chest will be utilized to showcase artifacts related to the story. The book will be donated to the class library collection. In addition, each child will receive a special keepsake bag containing a host of Korean related treats.

Story by Jermaine Ellerbe

"This program...is meant to promote an understanding of Korean culture and arts at U.S. universities."

Book Reviews

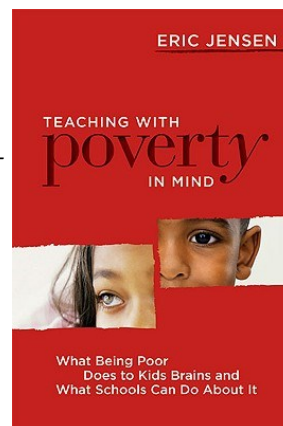
There are several books on poverty and its impact on student learning that have recently been published. Eric Jensen, who has authored several books on learning and the brain, has two recent books out: *Teaching with Poverty in Mind: What being poor does to kid's brains and what school can do about it* (2009) and *Engaging Students with Poverty in Mind: Practical Strategies for Raising Achievement* (2013). In his latest book, *Engaging Students with Poverty in Mind*, Jensen, having identified the impact of poverty on the brain and learning, goes beyond recognizing the impact in the classroom to solutions and strategies. Both books are less than 200 pages but packed with easy to implement strategies for the teacher and school.



Paul Gorski, a NAME member, has also come out with a series of books. His latest is *Reaching and Teaching Students in Poverty: Strategies for Erasing the Opportunity Gap* (2013). This book is filled with strategies to support learners. Available in hard cover, soft cover and Kindle formats, this book of less than 200 pages. Gorski's writing style is easy to read and packed full of information that will help teachers make informed educational decisions that support student learning. This book would make an excellent book study choice for your staff.

Reviews by Debbie Misiag

Images from betterworldbooks.com and barnesandnoble.com



National Bullying Month continued

through grade three. It is during these early years that we must start to address the problem before it takes root and grows into even more pernicious behavior. As the use of cell phones, iPads, and other digital devices become part of the daily lives of young children, elementary school is the time for children to gain understanding of what it means to become a good Internet citizen. Even though young children may physically know how to move a mouse, manipulate an iPad, click on a game icon, or swiftly move though photos on a smart phone, this does not mean that they are prepared to use such devices. This is where parents and teachers come in. Research has shown that parents' attitudes toward digital devices and use of social media play a primary role in influencing how children use these devices and the Internet. A recent position statement of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) states that with guidance, the various new technology tools

can be harnessed for learning and development; without guidance, usage can be inappropriate or interfere with learning and development. Even if children are not yet actively using the Internet, it is important to help them develop life skills and to establish principles that will help them deal with the cyberworld in which they are growing up. The shift to new media and the need for digital literacy that encompasses both technology and media literacy will continue to shape the world of young children. We all know how important it is to teach our children right from wrong, and online behavior is no exception. As we have seen in recent news, all too soon, cyberbullying can become a negative side effect of being able to reach so many with just one phone call, text message, or website posting. We can change the statistics. As they say, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Article by Merie Froschl and Barbara Sprung
<http://degrees.fhi360.org/2013/10/bullying-prevention-month-an-ounce-of-prevention/>

Competition continued

from St. John Catholic School in Westminster have participated. We hope to extend the opportunity and encourage participation from Carroll County Public Schools. Although I will be sending information about Champions of Courage to middle and high schools, I hope you will consider sharing this opportunity with classroom teachers and parents encouraging Carroll County students to participate.

Entries will be accepted through December 7, 2013, and winners will be announced prior to the winter break.

Contact and Additional Information

Deborah Misiag, President of MMC

Patricia Levroney, Editor of *Voices*

NAME's Website:

www.nameorg.org

MMC's Website and Blog:

<http://mdmc.edublogs.org>

**The National Women's History Project Announces
the 2014 National Women's History Month Honorees**

The 2014 Honorees exemplify the theme, *Celebrating Women of Character, Courage, and Commitment* and represent a wide-range of occupations and accomplishments. For a list and brief biographies of the 2014 Honorees, click here <http://www.nwhp.org/whm/honorees2012.php>. Another Maryland woman, Bernice Resnick Sandler, was also just inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in Seneca Falls, New York.

2014 Honorees

Roxcy Bolton

20th Century Women's Rights Pioneer

Anna Julia Cooper

African American Educator and Author

Chipeta

Indian Rights Advocate and Diplomat

Tammy Duckworth

Member of Congress and Iraq War Veteran

Arden Eversmeyer

The Old Lesbian Herstory Project, Founder

Katharine Ryan Gibbs

Women's Employment Pioneer

Agatha Tiegel Hanson

Educator, Author, and Advocate for Deaf Community

Jaida Im

Advocate for Survivors of Human Trafficking

***Frances Oldham Kelsey**

Pharmacologist and Public Health Activist

Ann Lewis

Women's Rights Organizer and Women's History Advocate

Lisa Taylor

Civil Rights Attorney

***Carmen Votaw**

International Women's Rights Activist

***Honorees from Maryland**

**A Gala Reception and Dinner Celebrating
the National Women's History Month 2014 Honorees
"Women of Character, Courage and Commitment"**

March 27, 2014 at 5:30 pm

The Willard Hotel, Washington, D.C.

Save the Date! Order your tickets today:

<http://shop.nwhp.org/national-womens-history-month-2014-c263.aspx>