Awards and Accolades

Alabama

Sun Belt Writing Project
Susan Shehane, 2001 fellow, won the Teachers’ Literary Award for Creative Nonfiction for her piece “Alabama Cold War” in a contest sponsored by the Alabama School of Fine Arts in Birmingham.

Arizona

Southern Arizona Writing Project
Sharon Miller, a co-director (and a 1985 fellow of the Maryland Writing Project), coauthored “Integrating the Literacies of Reading and Writing” in Integrating Multiple Literacies in K-8 Classrooms: Cases, Commentaries, and Practical Applications, edited by Janet G. Richards (Erbaum, March 2003). Miller also was named the 2003 University of Arizona Exemplary Teacher of the Year.

Arkansas

Central Arkansas Writing Project
Charlotte Rainey Green, 2001 fellow, was named principal of Conway Charter School in Conway.

Patricia Oeste, 2002 fellow, received National Board certification and was named Teacher of the Year by Conway Wal-Mart. Oeste teaches at Conway Charter School in Conway.

Northwest Arkansas Writing Project
Samuel Totten, director, was the Most Outstanding Faculty Member in the College of Education and Health Professions at the University of Arkansas.

California

Bay Area Writing Project

Central California Writing Project

Maria Tabor, 2002 fellow, received the 2003 Gleaton Award for Teaching Excellence at Hartnell College. The award is given to one faculty member each year. Tabor teaches English, composition, and poetry at Hartnell College in Salinas.

Inland Area Writing Project
Jason V. Fowler, 2002 fellow, was named California Continuation Educators Association District VIII Teacher of the Year 2003-04. Mt. San Jacinto High School Teacher of the Year 2003-04, and Palm Springs Unified School District Teacher of the Year 2003-04. Fowler was also nominated for the Inland Empire Council Social Science Outstanding Educator 2003-04. Fowler teaches at Mt. San Jacinto High School in Palm Springs.

Catherine Humphrey, 1999 fellow, had an essay, “Gina,” published in Powerful Teaching and Learning:

Stories from the Classrooms of Accomplished Teachers by Adrienne Mack-Kirschner (Corwin Press, April 2003). Humphrey teaches at Los Osos High School in Alta Loma.

San Joaquin Valley Writing Project
Cathy Cirimele, 2000 fellow, is a finalist for California League of High Schools, Central Valley Region, Teacher of the Year. Cirimele teaches at Bullard High School in Fresno.

U.C. Merced Writing Project
Pauline Sahakian, director, received the Classroom Excellence Award at the California Association of Teachers of English Conference in February 2003. Sahakian coauthored “Reform and Resolve” with James Bushman in the January/February 2003 issue of Leadership (Association of California School Administrators). Sahakian also coauthored a monograph entitled API–What Works: Characteristics of High Performing Schools in the Central Valley, a research project coordinated by the Central Valley Educational Resource Consortium, the Kremen School of Education and Human Development, California State University, Fresno (July 2002).

Colorado

Denver Writing Project
Tina Humphrey, 2001 fellow, published In the First Few Years: Reflections of a Beginning Teacher (International Reading Association, December 2002). Humphrey also presented her workshop, “In the First Few Years: A Workshop for Beginning Teachers,” at the Colorado Language Arts Society Spring Conference in March and the International Reading Association Annual Convention in Orlando in May.


Sidra Smith, 2003 fellow, received a Colorado Teacher Recognition Award from the Anti-Defamation League. Smith teaches at Kent Denver School in Englewood.

Rick VanDeWeghe, director, will become writer and editor of the column, “Research Matters,” for the English Journal starting fall 2003. VanDeWeghe also had “Teaching Writing as Story” published in the Journal of Teaching Writing 19 (1-2).


Connecticut

Connecticut Writing Project—Fairfield
2002 fellow, Kathy Brody’s class of fourth-graders won the nonfiction prize in Scholastic Book Fairs’ National Kids Are Authors Program for their book, Animalogy: A Collection of Animal Analogies, which will be published by Scholastic this fall. The students wrote and illustrated the book last fall with Brody’s guidance. Brody teaches at Six-Six Magnet School in Bridgeport.

District of Columbia

District of Columbia Area Writing Project
Maurice Butler, 1998 fellow, was the featured teacher on the website, “History Matters: Secrets of Great History Teachers,” at http://www.historymatters.gmu.edu/id/7122/.

The following fellows received the Masonic Scottish Rites Public Educator Excellence Awards: Elizabeth Davis, 1995 fellow; Cynthia Johnson, 1998 fellow; and M. Ardell Thompson, 1998 fellow.

Georgia

Kennesaw Mountain Writing Project
Zsa Boykin, 1996 fellow, was named Teacher of the Year at Lindley Middle School in Mableton.


Andy Smith, 1996 fellow, received the Teacher Leadership Award for educational leadership from the writing project site at their celebration in May.

Kentucky

Western Kentucky University Writing Project
Kyllie Doughty, 2003 fellow, received the Excellence in Teaching Award from Campbellsville University. Doughty was nominated for her school district, Butler County Schools, and received the award for the middle school level.

Leititia Hughes, 1996 fellow, won the Kentucky State Business and Professional Women’s Young Careerist contest in Paducah in May.
Maryland
Maryland Writing Project
Dean Balken, 1999 fellow, was chosen to participate in NWP’s Professional Writing Retreat in Kingston, Rhode Island, in August.
Arlene Barte-Lowe, 2000 fellow, was selected as Teacher of the Year in Montgomery County. Barte-Lowe teaches English at Takoma Park Middle School in Silver Spring.
Joe Bellino, 1989 fellow, was instrumental in earning a NWP English Language Learners (ELL) Network grant for the writing project site, and he was chosen to participate in the NWP’s ELL Network Writing Retreat in Leavenworth, Washington, in June.
Kristina Berdan, 1999 fellow, is continuing her work with Youth Dreamers, a community action project, inspired by her work with the NWP Social Action Initiative. The group recently won the Angels in the Classroom Award and a $10,000 grant from the Angelfield Foundation.
Diane Curry, 1999 fellow, was chosen to participate in NWP’s Professional Writing Retreat in Santa Fe, New Mexico, in July.
Dottie Hardin, 1986 fellow, was named Maryland High School Principal of the Year 2003. Hardin is principal at Pikesville High School in Baltimore.
Through 2002 fellow Jen Goulston’s guidance, one of her students won the Words on Wheels Baltimore City Writing Contest. The prize consists of having one’s writing appear on the buses and metros in Baltimore. Goulston teaches at Booker T. Washington Middle School in Baltimore.
Robyn Jackson, 1995 fellow, earned National Board certification.
Pam Morgan, 1988 fellow, was appointed to the Standing Committee on Teacher Preparation and Certification of NCTE.
Linda Wharton, 1991 fellow, was chosen to participate in NWP’s LETSWork Institute in Berkeley, California, in June. LETSWork stands for Learning Essentials from Teacher and Student Work.
Minnesota
Minnesota Writing Project
Mary Cathryn Ricker, 2002 fellow, and her students were videotaped in March by Kentucky Educational Television (KET) as part of “Write in the Middle,” a series of television workshops on teaching writing to middle school students to air nationwide. KET videotaped Ricker’s instructional strategies for teaching her students how to produce multigenre projects. Ricker teaches seventh grade at Cleveland Middle School in Saint Paul.
Mississippi
Live Oak Writing Project
Kathy Murray, 2002 fellow, was named Moss Point Teacher of the Year 2002-2003. Murray teaches at Magnolia Junior High in Moss Point.
Mississippi Writing/Thinking Institute
The Mississippi Writing/Thinking Institute, a state network of writing project sites, received the Education Achievement Award for Higher Education from Governor Ronnie Musgrove. The Mississippi Writing/Thinking Institute, a unit of the Center for Educational Partnerships in the College of Education at Mississippi State University, is a collaborative network of seven National Writing Project sites in Mississippi. The Governor’s Achievement Awards, announced in a ceremony March 21, 2003, were established to recognize the outstanding efforts of Mississippian in education and business.
MSU Writing/Thinking Project
Linda Byrd Killian, 2002 fellow, won the 2001-2002 Literary Arts Fellowship from the Mississippi Arts Commission for her one-act, one-woman play, “Iowane Dawnin’”
Missouri
Prairie Lands Writing Project
The following writing fellows had their teaching units selected as showcase lessons at SuccessLink, a Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education website of teaching resources, at www.successlink.org. Pamela Johnston, 2000 fellow, was chosen for her lesson, “Publishing a Student Newspaper.” Johnston teaches at Trenton Middle School in Trenton. Mary Lee Meyer, 2002 fellow, was selected for her lesson, “Investigating Housing Styles.” Lee Meyer teaches at Jefferson City 123 School in Conception Junction. Heidi Mick, 1997 fellow, was selected for her lessons, “Tell Me a Story. Please!” and “Digging Up a Hero’s Journey.” Mick teaches at Platte County R-III High School in Platte City.
Jan Reeder, 1993 fellow, had “More than One Definition of Exceptional,” published in English Journal 92 (4).
Oregon
Oregon Writing Project at Lewis and Clark College
Franki Dennison, 2003 fellow, received the Celebrate Literacy Award from the Portland Council of the International Reading Association for her outstanding contributions to student literacy. Dennison teaches at Woodlawn Elementary School in Portland.
South Dakota
Dakota Writing Project
Michelle Rogge-Gannon, co-director, received the South Dakota Board of Regents 2003 Excellence in E-Learning Award in the Internet-Only category for her English 101 section. Rogge-Gannon also won in the Best Overall category. Rogge-Gannon teaches at the University of South Dakota and is faculty advisor for the Vermillion Literary Project, which received the South Dakota Board of Regents 2003 Award for Academic Excellence.
Tennessee
West Tennessee Writing Project
Phyllis Brashear, 1994 fellow, was named Teacher of the Year by Greenfield School in Greenfield and by the Weakley County System.
Marcia Coleman, 1994 fellow, was selected for the Ocean Voyagers Summer 2003, an educational outreach initiative designed for middle school teachers developed in part by the Naval Oceanographic Office. Coleman teaches science at West Carroll Junior-Senior High School in Atwood.
Debbie Criswell, 1999 fellow, was named Teacher of the Year by Dyersburg High School in Dyersburg and by the Dyersburg School System.
Jane Ingram, 1999 fellow, was named Teacher of the Year by Dresden Middle School in Dresden.
Laura Taylor Warren, 2001 fellow, was named Teacher of the Year by Obion County Central High School in Troy.
Texas
Greater Houston Area Writing Project
Kristi Piper, 2002 fellow, was named Teacher of the Year by the Danbury Independent School District in Danbury.
South Texas Writing Project
Rosa Maria de Llano, 1997 fellow, was named State of Texas Spanish Teacher of the Year by the Texas Foreign Language Association. De Llano is also featured on Rural Voices Radio III, “Crossing: Border Voices Along the Rio Grande.”
Washington
Puget Sound Writing Project
John Webster, director, received the Internet Shakespeare Editions (ISE) Swan Award for his website, http://www.mtlf.org/html/lib/carnegie/ &webster.html. ISE maintains a carefully selected list of websites dealing with Shakespeare and the Renaissance for scholarly use. Webster also had an article, "Whose Poem Is This Anyway? Teaching Spencer Through the Stanza Workshop," published in the spring 2003 issue of Pedagogy 3 (2): 197-203.