Calls for Manuscripts

Culturally Responsive Teaching within Middle Grades

March 2017. In his 2014 presidential address to the National Council of Teachers of English, Ernest Morrell reminded us that “the diversity in our English classrooms is our greatest strength.” This issue challenges us to consider the ways we engage our middle level students in learning that is culturally and socially relevant and responsive. How do we develop student voices, skills, and understandings in ways that empower all students to speak their truths? What are the texts that help us to come together in understanding our differences and our sameness? Where are our collective and communal struggles? What does classroom teaching that engages middle level students in developing their skills as critical readers and writers look like? How can student readers and writers do work that actually changes their communities? We invite you to guide our readers in seeing the multiple and authentic ways in which we create opportunities for all of our students to tell their stories and engage in social action.

Deadline for submissions is June 1, 2016

What’s Next in Teaching Reading

May 2017. Middle level readers are an exacting bunch, and recent professional texts have helped us to create experiences that offer studies of process and skills alongside time to simply read. We’ve constructed classroom libraries and collaborated with students to create useful anchor charts. But, what’s next? This issue invites us to share our most recent discoveries and lessons when it comes to growing the skills, practices, and identities of middle level readers. What kinds of assessment are most useful in helping students to understand and eventually self-regulate their practices? How are you using digital tools and technologies to support student readers of electronic and print texts? What are the texts that feed your students’ interests, imaginations, and craft as writers? We invite you to share the ways in which you and your students are working together to become even stronger and more thoughtful readers.

Deadline for submissions is August 1, 2016

Voices from the Middle Cover Photos

Have you got an eye for a great photograph? The incoming Voices from the Middle editorial team, Sara Kajder and Shelbie Witte, are looking for compelling digital images to feature on our journal covers during Volume 24. We are looking for photos that highlight our classrooms, our students, and the unique and important work that we do as Middle Level teachers. Images should align with the themes for each issue:

- Culturally Responsive Teaching (Due June 1, 2016)
- What’s Next in Teaching Reading? (Due August 1, 2016)

Photos should be at least 300 DPI in either jpg or tiff formats. Published photos will be full color. Please do not submit previously published photos.

If you choose to include people in your submission, you are responsible for obtaining the necessary releases from all of the individuals depicted (and parent/guardians, where appropriate) and must be able to provide copies of those releases prior to publication. For more information contact voices@ncte.org.

Copyright © 2016 by the National Council of Teachers of English. All rights reserved.