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HOME ADDRESS

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EDUCATION

Bowling Green State University, 1983, Ph.D.
University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, 1980, M.E.A.S.
Franconia College, 1975, B.A.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of North Carolina at Charlotte, 1984-present
Interim Chair of the Department of Theatre, 2026-present
Bonnie Cone Professorship in Civic Engagement, 2019-2022
Chair of the Department of English, 2014-2019
Interim Chair of the Department of English, 2012-13
Interim Associate Dean for Student Services, 2010-11
Director of M.A. Program in Liberal Studies, 2008-13
Interim Chair of the Department of Art and Art History, 2007
Associate Dean for General Education, 2002-07
American Studies Director, 1992-2002
Director of Graduate Studies in English, 1990-92
Full Professor of English, 1996-present
Associate Professor of English, 1990-96
Assistant Professor of English, 1984-90

Washburn University of Topeka, 1983-84
Adjunct Assistant Professor of English, 1983-84

Menninger Foundation, 1982-84
Archivist, 1983-84
Editorial Assistant, *Bulletin of the Menninger Clinic*, 1982

AWARDS (selected)

Advocate Award for Supporting, Uplifting, and Advocating for Writers and the Literary Arts, Charlotte Writers Club, 2025.

Finalist for Bank of America Award for Teaching Excellence, UNC Charlotte, 2024.

Distinguished Faculty Award, UNC Charlotte Alumni Association, 2021.

Governor James E. Holshouser, Jr. Award for Excellence in Public Service, 2019.

Bonnie E. Cone Professorship in Civic Engagement Award, UNC Charlotte, 2019-2022.

Anne Devereaux Jordan Award for Outstanding Achievement in Children's Literature, Children's Literature Association, 2016.

Finalist for Bank of America Award for Teaching Excellence, UNC Charlotte, 2013.

PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH

Books:

The Portrayal of Animals in Disney Culture. Co-edited with Kathy Merlock Jackson and Kathy Stolley. Bloomsbury Academic, forthcoming.

Once Upon a Toy: Essays on the Interplay Between Stories and Playthings. Co-edited with Kathy Merlock Jackson. McFarland, 2025.

The Literary Legacy of Jimmy Carter: Essays on the President's Books. Co-edited with Frye Gaillard. Rowman & Littlefield, 2025.

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz: Broadview Edition. Co-edited with Dina Schiff Massachi. Broadview Press, 2024.

Liminal Spaces in Children's and Young Adult Literature: Stories from the In Between. Edited. Lexington Books, 2024.

Forgotten Disney: Essays on the Lesser-Known Productions. Co-edited with Kathy Merlock Jackson and Carl H. Sederholm. McFarland, 2023.

Theodore Roosevelt on Books and Reading. Edited. Rowman & Littlefield, 2023.

Theodore Roosevelt and His Library at Sagamore Hill. Rowman & Littlefield, 2022.

Storybook Worlds Made Real: Essays on the Places Inspired by Children's Narratives. Co-edited with Kathy Merlock Jackson. McFarland, 2022.

The Peeve and the Grudge and Other Preposterous Poems (picture book). Warren Publishing, 2022.

Shapers of American Childhood: Essays on Visionaries from L. Frank Baum to Dr. Spock to J. K. Rowling. Co-edited with Kathy Merlock Jackson. McFarland, 2018.

Walt Disney, from Reader to Storyteller: Essays on the Literary Inspirations. Co-edited with Kathy Merlock Jackson. McFarland, 2015.

Disneyland and Culture: Essays on the Parks and Their Influence. Co-edited with Kathy Merlock Jackson. McFarland, 2011.

The Japanification of Children's Popular Culture: From Godzilla to Miyazaki. Edited. Scarecrow Press, 2009.

A Children's Literature Tour of Great Britain. Scarecrow Press, 2003.

Helen Hunt Jackson: Selected Colorado Writings. Edited. Filter Press, 2002.

Bits of Colorado: Helen Hunt Jackson's Writings for Young Readers. Edited. Filter Press, 2000.

Psychoanalytic Responses to Children's Literature. Co-authored with Lucy Rollin. McFarland, 1999. Paperback edition published in 2008.

Everyone's Guide to Children's Literature. Highsmith Press, 1997.

Westward to a High Mountain: The Colorado Writings of Helen Hunt Jackson. Edited. Colorado Historical Society, 1994.

A Wondrous Menagerie: Animal Fantasy Stories from American Children's Literature. Edited. Archon Books, 1994.

Wellsprings of Imagination: The Homes of Children's Authors. Neal-Schuman, 1992.

Roald Dahl. Twayne Publishers, 1992.

Before Oz: Juvenile Fantasy Stories from Nineteenth-Century America. Edited. Archon Books, 1989.

Trust Your Children: Voices Against Censorship in Children's Literature.
Neal-Schuman, 1988. Expanded second edition published in 1997.

Children, Culture, and Controversy. Archon Books, 1988.

Chapters in Books (selected):

“The Winnie-the-Pooh Toys and Their Immigration to America,” in *Once Upon a Toy: Essays on the Interplay Between Stories and Playthings*. Edited by Kathy Merlock Jackson and Mark I. West. McFarland, 2025: 3-8.

“Theodore Roosevelt’s Childhood Response to *Our Young Folks*,” in *What the Presidents Read: Childhood Stories and Family Favorites*. Edited by Elizabeth Goodenough and Marilynn Olson. Rowman & Littlefield, 2025: 357-359.

“The Influence of Mayne Reid’s Adventure Books on Theodore Roosevelt’s Life,” in *What the Presidents Read: Childhood Stories and Family Favorites*. Edited by Elizabeth Goodenough and Marilynn Olson. Rowman & Littlefield, 2025: 461-464.

“President Carter’s Books from His First Presidential Campaign: *Why Not the Best?* and *A Government as Good as Its People*,” in *The Literary Legacy of Jimmy Carter*. Edited by Mark I. West and Frye Gaillard. Rowman & Littlefield, 2025: 5-14.

“The Healing Power of Liminal Spaces in African American Children’s Literature,” in *Liminal Spaces in Children’s and Young Adult Literature*. Edited by Mark I. West. Lexington Books, 2024: 51-56.

“Dorothy and the Heroine’s Quest,” in *The Characters of Oz: Essays on Their Adaptation and Transformation*. Edited by Dina Schiff Massachi. McFarland, 2023: 7-15.

“Roald Dahl, Walt Disney, and *The Gremlins*: The Story of an Unfinished Film,” in *Forgotten Disney: Essays on the Lesser-Known Productions*. Edited by Kathy Merlock Jackson, Carl H. Sederholm and Mark I. West. McFarland, 2023: 40-45.

“Tivoli Gardens and Hans Christian Andersen: A Tale of Confluence,” in *Storybook Worlds Made Real: Essays on the Places Inspired by Children’s Narratives*. Edited by Kathy Merlock Jackson and Mark I. West. McFarland, 2022: 5-10.

“Playing in Astrid Lindgren’s World: Developing Empathy Through Dramatic Play,” in *Storybook Worlds Made Real: Essays on the Places Inspired by Children’s Narratives*. Edited by Kathy Merlock Jackson and Mark I. West. McFarland, 2022: 119-124.

“Lawrence J. Friedman’s Art of Fusing History and Psychology,” in *The Many Roads of the Builders of Psychohistory*. Edited by Paul H. Elovitz. ORI Academic Press, 2021: 43-46.

“Animal/Human Relations in Two Prairie Tales by L. Frank Baum,” in *Animals and Ourselves: Essays on Connections and Blurred Boundaries*. Edited by Kathy Merlock Jackson, Kathy Shepherd Stolley and Lisa Lyon Payne. McFarland, 2020: 7-11.

“LeVar Burton: Promoting Children’s Literature and Literacy,” in *Shapers of American Childhood*. Edited by Kathy Merlock Jackson and Mark I. West. McFarland, 2018: 225-232.

“Fred Rogers and the Early Use of Puppetry on American Children’s Television,” in *Revisiting Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood: Essays on Lessons About Self and Community*. Edited by Kathy Merlock Jackson and Steven M. Emmanuel. McFarland, 2016: 146-152.

“Walt Disney’s Boyhood Response to Stories: The Origin of His Narrative Playfulness,” in *Walt Disney, from Reader to Storyteller: Essays on the Literary Inspirations*. Edited by Kathy Merlock Jackson and Mark I. West. McFarland, 2015: 3-8.

“Animator as Architect: Disney’s Role in the Creation of Children’s Architecture,” in *Disneyland and Culture: Essays on the Parks and Their Influence*. Edited by Kathy Merlock Jackson and Mark I. West. McFarland, 2011: 29-33.

“Tom Sawyer Island,” in *Disneyland and Culture: Essays on the Parks and Their Influence*. Edited by Kathy Merlock Jackson and Mark I. West. McFarland, 2011: 101-106.

“Teaching Banned Children’s Books,” in *Crosscurrents of Children’s Literature: An Anthology of Texts and Criticism*. Edited by J. D. Stahl, Tina Hanlon, and Elizabeth Keyser. Oxford University Press, 2007: 857-862.

“Stories My Father Told Me,” in *Rituals and Patterns in Children’s Lives*. Edited by Kathy Merlock Jackson. University of Wisconsin Press, 2005: 34-38.

"Magic at the Edges: An Appreciation of *The Night Watchmen*," in *The Phoenix Award of the Children's Literature Association, 1985-1989*. Edited by Alethea Helbig and Agnes Perkins. Scarecrow Press, 1993: 131-133.

"The Dorothys of Oz: A Heroine's Unmaking," in *Stories and Society: Children's Literature in Its Social Context*. Edited by Dennis Butts. Macmillan, 1992: 125-131. Reprinted in *The Antic Art*. Edited by Lucy Rollin. Highsmith Press, 1993.

"Edward Lear's *A Book of Nonsense*: A Scroobious Classic," in *Touchstones: Reflections on the Best in Children's Literature*, Vol. 2. Edited by Perry Nodelman. Children's Literature Association, 1987: 150-156. Reprinted in *Children's Literature Review*, Vol. 75. Edited by Rebecca Blanchard. Gale Research, 2002.

"Fleming's Flying Flivver Flops on Film," in *Classic Children's Novels and the Movies*. Edited by Douglas Street. Frederick Ungar, 1983: 197-204.

Articles in Refereed Journals (selected):

"The Negative Representations of Mothers in Beatrix Potter's Picture Books." *Clio's Psyche* 32.2 (2025): 212-222.

"Theodore Roosevelt's Life-Long Interest in Children's Literature." *Theodore Roosevelt Association Journal* 45.4 (2024): 24-29.

"Dealing with Childhood Anxieties through Play." *Clio's Psyche* 30.2 (2024): 247-249.

"Recuperative Spaces in African American Children's Literature." *Clio's Psyche* 28.2 (2022): 176-181.

"Gaudí's Park Güell at 100. Celebrating a Creative Visionary's Failure." Co-authored with Gavin N. West. *The Riverside Quarterly: A Review of the Art and Practice of Creativity*, June 2021: Online.

"Cultivating Empathy through the Reading of Literature." *Clio's Psyche* 27.3 (2021): 312-315.

"A Place to Play in Astrid Lindgren's Stories." *Bookbird: A Journal of International Children's Literature* 58.4 (2020): 74-78.

“Teaching Guide to Jacob Glatstein’s Anti-Fascist Poem ‘Goblin Nogood Has Run Out of Clout’ (trans. Shandler).” *In geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies*, June 2019: Online.

“Infant Depravity in Children’s Literature in Puritan America.” *Clio’s Psyche* 24.3 (2018): 339-345.

“Playing Pirates with Tom Sawyer: The Intersection of Reader-Response Theory and Play Theory.” *The Looking Glass: New Perspectives on Children’s Literature* 20.1 (2017): Online.

“Childhood in the New South as Reflected in Children’s Literature.” *The Southern Quarterly* 54.3/4 (2017): 126-150.

“John S. C. Abbott’s Views on Female Education in Antebellum America: Schooling as Pseudo-Training.” *The Journal of American Culture* 39.2 (2016): 228-232.

“Preserving a Presidential Persona: A Bibliophile President Created a Well-Traveled Library.” *New York Archives* 15.4 (2016): 36-37.

“Dr. Seuss’s Responses to Nazism.” *The Looking Glass: New Perspectives on Children’s Literature* 19.1 (2016): Online.

“Dr. Seuss’s Anti-Nazi Parables.” *Red Feather Journal* 6.2 (2015): 1-7.

“The Globalism of Dr. Seuss.” *The Dragon Lode* 32.2 (2014): 53-55.

“Playing in the Worlds of Beatrix Potter and Charles Dickens.” *The Dragon Lode* 31.2 (2013): 54-58.

“The Intersection of Fantasy and Social Commentary in Roald Dahl’s *Fantastic Mr. Fox*.” *Moon City Review* (2012): 87-93.

“From Trickster to Social Rebel: The Evolution of the Trickster Fox Archetype in Roald Dahl’s *Fantastic Mr. Fox*.” *The Dragon Lode* 30.2 (2012): 3-7.

“Mark Twain, Walt Disney, and the Playful Response to Pirate Stories.” *American Journal of Play* 2.4 (2010): 429-435.

“Theodore Roosevelt and the Golden Age of Children’s Literature.” *The Journal of American Culture* 33.2 (2010): 121-125.

“Harry Potter and the Culmination of a World-Class Series.” *The Dragon Lode* 27.1 (2008): 68-69.

"Reflections on Rereading *The Wind in the Willows*." *The Dragon Lode* 25.1 (2006): 24-25.

"Making Hogwartian Dreams Come True: Reflections on Running a Harry Potter Summer Camp." *The Dragon Lode* 23.1 (2004): 49-51.

"Godzilla and His Progeny: Why American Children Like Japanese Monsters." *South Carolina Review* 36.2 (2004): 154-158.

"Helen Hunt Jackson's *Nelly's Silver Mine*: A Lost Treasure Reclaimed." *The Lion and the Unicorn* 28.1 (2004): 70-76.

"The Home of Beatrix Potter and the Potential of Geographical Criticism." *South Carolina Review* 35.2 (2003): 157-163.

"Martin Gardner: North Carolina's Annotator of Alice and Historian of Oz." *North Carolina Literary Review* 10 (2001): 92-96.

"Fantasy Literature for Children: Past, Present, and Future Tensions." *Journal of Children's Literature* 26.2 (2000): 35-39.

"The Dakota Fairy Tales of L. Frank Baum." *South Dakota History* 30.1 (2000): 134-154. Reprinted in *Baum's Road to Oz: The Dakota Years*. Edited by Nancy Tystad Koupal. South Dakota State Historical Society Press, 2000.

"The Role of Sexual Repression in Anthony Comstock's Campaign to Censor Children's Dime Novels." *Journal of American Culture* 22.4 (1999): 27-31. Reprinted in *Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism*, Vol. 154. Edited by Linda Pavlovski. Thomson Gale, 2005.

"Roald Dahl's *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*: A Classic That Slipped by the Gatekeepers." *Journal of Children's Literature* 25.2 (1999): 18-23.

"Harlem Connections: Teaching Walter Dean Myers's *Scorpions* in Conjunction with Paul Laurence Dunbar's *The Sport of the Gods*." *ALAN Review* 26.2 (1999): 58-60.

"Rediscovering Thomas Bailey Aldrich's *The Story of a Bad Boy*." *Teaching and Learning Literature* 7.5 (1998): 39-46. Reprinted in *Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism*, Vol. 351. Edited by Lawrence J. Trudeau. Thomson Gale, 2018.

"Toward a Reappraisal of the Views of Early American Children's Authors Concerning Fantasy Literature." *The Lion and the Unicorn* 22.2 (1998): 141-146.

"Speaking of Censorship: An Interview with Phyllis Reynolds Naylor." *Journal of Youth Services in Libraries* 10.2 (1997): 177-182.

"Some Thoughts on Censorship and the Teaching of *Huckleberry Finn*: An Interview with David Bradley." *Multicultural Review* 5.4 (1996): 42-44.

"Some Thoughts on Censorship, Religion, and Multiculturalism: An Interview with Gail E. Haley." *Journal of Children's Literature* 22.1 (1996): 20-21.

"Roald Dahl's Surprise Ending." *Journal of Children's Literature* 20.1 (1994): 43-44.

"Narcissism in *The Wind in the Willows*." *South Carolina Review* 4.1 (1991): 181-186. Reprinted in *Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism*, Vol. 136. Edited by Janet Witalec. Gale Research, 2003. Reprinted in *Children's Literature Review*, Vol. 135. Edited by Tom Burns. Thompson Gale, 2008.

"The Grotesque and the Taboo in Roald Dahl's Humorous Writings for Children." *Children's Literature Association Quarterly* 15.3 (1990): 181-186. Reprinted in *Children's Literature Review*, Vol. 41. Edited by Diane Telgen. Gale Research, 1997.

"Interview with Roald Dahl." *Children's Literature in Education* 21.2 (1990): 61-66. Reprinted in *Children's Literature Review*, Vol. 41. Edited by Diane Telgen. Gale Research, 1997. Reprinted in *Roald Dahl: Bloom's Modern Critical Views*. Edited by Harold Bloom. Chelsea House, 2015.

"Children's Radio Programs and Their Impact on the Economics of Children's Popular Culture." *The Lion and the Unicorn* 11.2 (1987): 61-66. Reprinted in *Dimensions of Language*. Edited by Boyd H. Davis. Macmillan, 1993.

"Guilt and Shame in Early American Children's Literature: A Comparison of John S. C. Abbott's *The Child at Home* and Jacob Abbott's Rollo Books." *University of Hartford Studies in Literature* 18.1 (1986): 1-7.

"Regression and Fragmentation of the Self in *James and the Giant Peach*." *Children's Literature in Education* 16.4 (1985): 219-225. Reprinted in

Children's Literature Review, Vol. 111. Edited by Tom Burns. Thompson Gale, 2006.

"Not to Be Circulated: The Response of Children's Librarians to Dime Novels and Series Books." *Children's Literature Association Quarterly* 10.3 (1985): 137-139.

"Nineteenth-Century Toys and Their Role in the Socialization of Imagination." *Journal of Popular Culture* 7.4 (1984): 107-115.

"Meaning in the Making: The Toys of Young Folk." *Tennessee Folklore Society Bulletin* 48.4 (1982): 105-110.

"A Spectrum of Spectators: Circus Audiences in Nineteenth-Century America." *Journal of Social History* 15.2 (1981): 265-270.

"Folk Toys." *Children's Literature Association Quarterly* 6.2 (1981): 22-23. Reprinted in *The First Steps: Best of the Early Children's Literature Association Quarterly*. Edited by Patricia Dooley. Children's Literature Association, 1984.

Other Articles Published (selected):

"Bridging My Family's Religious Differences with *A Christmas Carol*." *Early Children's Literature and Culture Chronicle*, Winter 2025. (Online)

"E. B. White on Compassion and Globalism." *Children's Literature Association Global Blog*, 14 December 2025. (Online)

"*Tar Beach*: Faith Ringgold's Journey from Story Quilts to Picture Books." *Daily Art Magazine*, 27 November 2025. (Online)

"Visiting Robert Louis Stevenson's Childhood Home in Edinburgh." *Early Children's Literature and Culture Chronicle*, Autumn 2025. (Online)

"A Fitting Tribute to the Conservation President." *The Arena: Newsletter of the Theodore Roosevelt Association*, September-October 2025. (Online)

"On the Go with Dr. Seuss: The Role of Travelling in the Development of Dr. Seuss's World View." *Early Children's Literature and Culture Chronicle*, Summer 2025. (Online)

“Father’s Day Brings to Mind Grilling and Rebellion.’ *The Charlotte Observer*, 15 June 2025: 24A.

“Antoni Gaudí’s Park Güell as a Prototype for the Theme Park.” *Daily Art Magazine*, 19 May 2025. (Online)

“The Asian American Immigrant Experience as Reflected in Children’s Literature.” *Children’s Literature Association Global Blog*, 16 May 2025. (Online)

“Introducing Children to the Wonders of the Universe” (review essay). *North Carolina Literary Review*, Spring 2025: 70-71.

“A Place to Play with Pippi.” *Early Children’s Literature and Culture Chronicle*, Spring 2025. (Online)

“Theodore Roosevelt as an Activist Reader.” *The Arena: Newsletter of the Theodore Roosevelt Association*, March-April 2025. (Online)

“Recognizing Dorothea Lange’s Contribution to *The Family of Man* Exhibition on Its 70th Anniversary.” *Daily Art Magazine*, 20 January 2025. (Online)

“The Rich Legacy of Jimmy Carter, the Author.” *Charlotte Observer*, 29 December 2024: 8A.

“L. Frank Baum’s Animal Rights Stories.” *Early Children’s Literature and Culture Chronicle*, Winter 2024. (Online)

“Going Back to School with Tom Brown.” *Early Children’s Literature and Culture Chronicle*, Autumn 2024. (Online)

“The Connection Between Matilda Joslyn Gage’s *Woman, Church and State* and L. Frank Baum’s *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz.*” *Feminism and Religion Blog*, 22 August 2024. (Online)

“Letters from Grandpapa: Discovering Jacob’s Abbott’s Correspondence with His Grandsons While Conducting Research at Bowdoin College’s Hawthorne-Longfellow Library.” *Early Children’s Literature and Culture Chronicle*, Spring 2024. (Online)

“Introducing My Students to St. Nicholas.” *Early Children’s Literature and Culture Chronicle*, Winter 2024. (Online)

“Going Over the River and Through the Wood with Lydia Maria Child.” *Early Children’s Literature and Culture Chronicle*, Autumn 2023. (Online)

“On Summer Holiday in the Lake District with Arthur Ransome.” *Early Children’s Literature and Culture Chronicle*, Summer 2023. (Online)

“Playing in The World of Beatrix Potter.” *Early Children’s Literature and Culture Chronicle*, Spring 2023. (Online)

“The Joy of Rereading *The Wind in the Willows*.” *Early Children’s Literature and Culture Chronicle*, Winter 2023. (Online)

“North Carolina’s Next Great Author Could Be among Those Flocking Here.” *Charlotte Observer*, 9 January 2023: 7A.

“Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of *Zits* as an Educator.” *EdNC*, 28 November 2022. (Online)

“Why Winnie-the-Pooh Is at Home in America.” *Early Children’s Literature and Culture Chronicle*, Autumn 2022. (Online)

“Perusing Thomas Bailey Aldrich’s *Young Folks’ Library*.” *Early Children’s Literature and Culture Chronicle*, August 2022. (Online)

“Remembering David McCullough, *The Wright Brothers*, and the American Spirit.” *Charlotte Observer*, 13 August 2022: 8A.

“What Young Theodore Roosevelt Read.” *Early Children’s Literature and Culture Chronicle*, June 2022. (Online)

“Why Liz Cheney Is a True ‘Profile in Courage.’” *Charlotte Observer*, 27 June 2022: 7A.

“Claiming New York in Faith Ringgold’s *Tar Beach*.” *Voices in Contemporary Art Blog*, 13 April 2022. (Online)

“Seuss Political Cartoons Are Worth Revisiting.” *Charlotte Observer*, 2 March 2022: 8A.

“The Other Theodore Roosevelt Statue at the American Museum of Natural History: A More Fitting Tribute to the Conservation President.” *Gotham Gazette*, 16 February 2022. (Online)

“Stories about Growing Up Black and Female in America” (review essay). *North Carolina Literary Review*, Winter 2022: 54-55.

“How Theodore Roosevelt’s Reading Contributed to His Support for Immigrants.” *The Academic Minute*, 23 December 2021. (Online and Aired on NPR)

“We Should Stop Using the Term ‘Conspiracy Theory.’” *Charlotte Observer*, 28 November 2021: 22A.

“Support Programs Providing North Carolina’s Children’s with Summer Books.” *EdNC*, 8 June 2021. (Online)

“How Champagne Selman Brought Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library to Charlotte.” *Queen City Nerve*, 8 June 2021. (Online)

“Eric Carle and His Caterpillar Were a Feast for Our Senses.” *Charlotte Observer*, 31 May 2021: 9A.

“The Joy of Participating in a Mass Vaccination Event.” *Charlotte Observer*, 4 March 2021: 9A.

“The Link Between Literature and Empathetic Presidents.” *Charlotte Observer*, 8 February 2021: 11A.

“Don’t Let the Coronavirus Grinch Steal Your Holiday Joy.” *Charlotte Observer*, 21 December 2020: 9A.

“More Than Ever in This Pandemic, Read Aloud to Children.” *Charlotte Observer*, 3 August 2020: 5B

“What Mr. Rogers Would Say about the Coronavirus.” *Charlotte Observer*, 23 March 2020: 8A.

“A President, His North Carolina Confidant, and the Civil Rights Movement.” *Charlotte Observer*, 17 February 2020: 7A.

“What to Do with the Professor’s Books.” *Charlotte Observer*, 13 January 2020: 8A.

“Getting Y’all Right.” *Queen City Nerve*, 12 August 2019. (Online)

“I’ll Take Two Apostrophes with My Chicken ‘n’ Biscuits.” *Charlotte Observer*, 3 February 2019: 26A.

“The Humanities and the STEM Disciplines as Overlapping Circles.” *The Academic Minute*, 10 December 2018. (Online and Aired on NPR)

“Talkin’ ‘Bout My Generation’s Music.” *Charlotte Observer*, 18 February 2018: 24A.

“On Father’s Day, Pull out the Comics.” *Charlotte Observer*, 9 June 2017: 15A.

“Why I’ll Miss the Greatest Show on Earth.” *Charlotte Observer*, 9 February 2017: 15A.

“The Power of Stories to Bring Us Together.” *Charlotte Observer*, 30 March 2016: 22A.

“Life-Altering Changes Via the Local Librarian. *Charlotte Viewpoint*, 8 January 2016. (Online)

“Playing at School Equals Learning at School.” *Charlotte Observer*, 26 May 2015: 10A.

“Learning the Yin and Yang of American History.” *Charlotte Observer*, 3 October 2014: 18A.

“Why Does North Carolina Need a Poet Laureate?” *Charlotte Observer*, 30 July 2014: 14A.

“Martin Gardner and His Contributions to the History of Oz.” *The Baum Bugle: A Journal of Oz* 56.2 (2012): 20-21.

“Pirates Invade Tom Sawyer Island.” *Charlotte Observer*, 20 May 2007: 1I & 7I.

“*Wind in the Willows* Brings Back Sound of Father’s Voice.” *Charlotte Observer*, 6 November 2005: 5P.

“Sampling the Big Apple: Children’s Books Set in New York City.” *The Five Owls*, January 2001: 48-51.

“The Strange Case of Tom Sawyer and the Disappearing Chapter Headings.” *Mark Twain Circular*, October 2000: 4-6.

“Judy Blume: A Leader in the Anticensorship Movement.” *The Five Owls*, January 2000: 72-73.

“Children and Their Villages: Depictions of Community in Recent Picture Books.” *The Five Owls*, January 1999: 52-53.

“Of Gavin, Animals, and Animorphs.” *The Five Owls*, November 1998: 29. Reprinted in *Children’s Literature Review*, Vol. 90. Edited by Diane Telgen. Detroit: Gale Research, 2004.

“When Dad Read to Us.” *Charlotte Observer*, 8 October 1998: 3E.

“Bateman’s: Rudyard Kipling’s English Haven.” *British Heritage*, April 1994: 50-55.

“A Hannibal Boyhood.” *Americana*, October 1992: 34-41

“Fredric Wertham and the Comic Book Controversy.” *Comics Journal*, December 1989: 78-80.

“Censorship in Children’s Books.” *Publishers Weekly*, 24 July 1987: 108-111.

“What Is Fit for Children? An Interview with Norma Klein.” *New York Times Book Review*, 24 August 1986: 20.

Entries in Reference Works (selected):

“Foreword,” in *Historical Dictionary of Children’s Literature*, 2nd edition. Edited by Emer O’Sullivan. Rowman & Littlefield, 2023. ix.

“Karl and William Menninger,” in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the History of American Science, Medicine, and Technology*. Edited by Hugh Slotten. Oxford University Press, 2014. Vol. 2. 79-80.

“Censorship,” in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Children’s Literature*. Edited by Jack Zipes. Oxford University Press, 2006. Vol. 1. 271-273.

“Helen Hunt Jackson,” in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Children’s Literature*. Edited by Jack Zipes. Oxford University Press, 2006. Vol. 3. 297.

“Propaganda,” in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Children’s Literature*. Edited by Jack Zipes. Oxford University Press, 2006. Vol. 2. 312.

“Children’s Literature to 1900,” in *The Encyclopedia of New England*. Edited by Burt Feintuch and David Watters. Yale University Press, 2005. 973-974.

“Censorship,” in *International Companion Encyclopedia of Children’s Literature*, 2nd edition. Edited by Peter Hunt. Routledge, 2004. 680-690.

"Censorship of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*," in *Censorship: A World Encyclopedia*. Edited by Derek Jones. Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers, 2001. 2482-2483.

"Censorship of *Catcher in the Rye*," in *Censorship: A World Encyclopedia*. Edited by Derek Jones. Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers, 2001. 2131-2132.

"Karl and William Menninger," in *The Oxford Companion to United States History*. Edited by Paul Boyer. Oxford University Press, 2001. 494.

"Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," in *Beacham's Guide to Literature for Young Adults*. Edited by Kirk H. Beetz. Beacham Publishing, 1991. 2154-2158.

"Norma Klein," in *Beacham's Popular Fiction in America*. Edited by Walton Beacham. Beacham Publishing, 1986. 767-774.

"Horace E. Scudder," in *Dictionary of Literary Biography: American Writers for Children Before 1900*. Edited by Glenn E. Estes. Brucoli Clark, 1985. 318-321.

"Hezekiah Butterworth," in *Dictionary of Literary Biography: American Writers for Children Before 1900*. Edited by Glenn E. Estes. Brucoli Clark, 1985. 118-122.

"The Little Corporal," in *Children's Periodicals of the United States*. Edited by R. Gordon Kelly. Greenwood Press, 1984. 277-282.

Papers Presented (selected):

"Learning How to Braid Children's Popular Culture, Children's Literature, and the History of Childhood." Presented at the Popular Culture Association Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, April 19, 2025.

"The Children's Literature Association and Me: Reflections on My Early Years as a Member." Presented at 50th Children's Literature Association Conference, Madison, Wisconsin, June 1, 2024.

"The Winnie-the-Pooh Toys and Their Immigration to America." Presented at the 9th International Toy Research Association World Conference, Rochester, New York, August 11, 2023.

"The Power of the Read-Aloud" (Keynote Address). Presented (via Zoom) at the Virginia Association of Independent Schools' Children's Literature Symposium, April 26, 2023.

“The Healing Power of Liminal Spaces in African American Children’s Literature.” Presented at the Children’s Literature Association Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, June 3, 2022.

“Theodore Roosevelt and the Makings of an Activist Reader.” Presented (via Zoom) as part of the Rites of Reading Lecture Series, University of Michigan, September 24, 2020.

“Astrid Lindgren’s Stories, Junibacken, and the Playful Approach to Literacy Education” (Keynote Address). Presented at the Oxford Education Research Symposium, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom, December 6, 2019.

“The Future of the Humanities in Post-Secondary Education.” Presented at the Oxford Education Research Symposium, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom, December 5, 2018.

“LeVar Burton and the Evolution of Language Arts and Literacy Education in the Digital Age.” Presented at the Oxford Education Research Symposium, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom, December 7, 2017.

“Dr. Seuss’s Response to Charles Lindbergh: The Birth of a Public Intellectual.” Presented at the Public Intellectuals Conference. Charlotte, North Carolina, March 18, 2017.

“The Tensions Between the Old South and the New South as Reflected in Doug Marlette’s *Kudzu* Comic Strip.” Presented at Pulitzer NC: Old South/New South through Media Symposium, Charlotte, North Carolina, September 27, 2016.

“The Concept of Infant Depravity and Its Role in the Birth of Didactic Children’s Literature in Puritan America.” Presented at the Oxford Education Research Symposium, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom, August 3, 2016.

“Playing Pirates with Tom Sawyer: The Intersection of Reader-Response Theory and Play Theory.” Presented at the 2016 China-U.S. Symposium for Children’s Literature, Ocean University of China, Qingdao, China, June 4, 2016.

“Theodore Roosevelt as an Activist Reader: His Responses to Books by Jacob Riis and John Muir.” Presented at the Public Intellectuals Conference, Somerville, Massachusetts, April 2, 2016.

“Dr. Seuss’s Responses to Nazism: Historical Allegories or Political Parables?” Presented at the Children’s Literature Association Conference, Richmond, Virginia, June 19, 2015.

“Reading the Narrative Elements in Antoni Gaudí’s Park Güell.” Presented at the Public Intellectuals Conference, Charlotte, North Carolina, April 11, 2015.

“What Children Shouldn’t Read? A Global Controversy.” Invited panelist at International Symposium, Yale-National University of Singapore, Singapore, March 3, 2015.

“The Relevance of David Riesman’s *Lonely Crowd* in Our Digital Age: Growing Up in Today’s Other-Directed America.” Presented at the Conference on Public Intellectuals, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, April 12, 2014.

“On the Go with Dr. Seuss: The Role of Travelling in the Development of Dr. Seuss’s World View.” Presented at the European Conference on Public Intellectuals, Lisbon, Portugal, October 25, 2013.

“Great Britain’s Literary Playgrounds: Visiting The World of Beatrix Potter and Dickens World.” Presented at the Children’s Literature Association Conference, Biloxi, Mississippi, June 15, 2013.

“The Evolution of Dr. Seuss’s Thoughts on War.” Presented at the Conference on Public Intellectuals, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, April 26, 2013.

“Walt Disney’s Boyhood Responses to Stories: The Origins of Disney’s Narrative Playfulness.” Presented at the Children’s Literature Association Conference, Boston, Massachusetts, June 14, 2012.

“Telford Taylor’s Roles in *Judgment at Nuremberg*.” Presented at the Conference on Public Intellectuals, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, April 14, 2012.

“The Playful Response to Stories: Reflections from a Charlotte Teachers Institute Seminar.” Presented at the Child and Family Development Conference, Charlotte, NC, March 22, 2012.

“Roald Dahl, *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, and the Games Outsiders Play.” Presented at the Conference on Public Intellectuals, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, April 23, 2010.

“A Heroine’s Unmaking: The Diminishing Role of Dorothy in Four Tales of Oz” (Keynote Address). Presented at Kansas State University’s Recreating Oz Conference, Manhattan, Kansas, October 3, 2009.

“Theodore Roosevelt as a Reader and Promoter of Children’s Literature.” Presented at Harvard University’s Conference on Ideas, History, and Political Action, Cambridge, Massachusetts, April 24, 2009.

“Theodore Roosevelt and the Golden Age of Children’s Literature.” Presented at the Children’s Literature Association Conference, Normal, Illinois, June 16, 2008.

“From Jackson’s Island to Tom Sawyer Island: Mark Twain, Walt Disney, and the Literary Playground.” Presented at the Children’s Literature Association Conference, Newport News, Virginia, June 16, 2007.

“Making Hogwartian Dreams Come True: Reflections on Running a Harry Potter Summer Camp.” Presented at the Children’s Literature Association Conference, Fresno, California, June 11, 2004.

“Invasion of the Japanese Monsters: A Home-Front Report.” Presented at the Children’s Literature Association Conference, El Paso, Texas, June 7, 2003.

“Reconciling the True Woman and the Literary Lady: John S. C. Abbott’s Writings on Female Education.” Presented at the Children’s Literature Association Conference, Kingston, Pennsylvania, June 14, 2002.

"The Depiction of Work Roles in Children's Literature" (Key Note Address). Presented at Motheread's HomeWork Curricular Development Conference, Durham, North Carolina, October 22, 2000.

"Helen Hunt Jackson: Colorado Springs' First Lady of Letters." Presented as part of Colorado College's Southwestern Studies Lecture Series, Colorado Springs, Colorado, September 13, 2000.

"Baum's America and the Promise of Geographical Criticism." Presented at the Oz Centennial Conference, Bloomington, Indiana, July 20, 2000.

"The Intertwined Tales of Beatrix Potter, Peter Rabbit, and Tom Kitten." Presented at the Children's Literature Association Conference, Roanoke, Virginia, June 25, 2000.

"Magic Maligned: The Suppression of Fantasy Literature for Children in Twentieth-Century America." Presented at the Children's Literature Association Conference, Calgary, Canada, July 9, 1999.

"L. Frank Baum and the Dakota Prairie" (Keynote Address). Presented at the Second Annual Dakota Heritage L. Frank Baum Oz Festival, Aberdeen, South Dakota, August 8, 1998.

"Mark Twain's Hannibal" (Plenary Paper). Presented at the Children's Literature Association Conference, Springfield, Missouri, June 4, 1994.

"Mark Twain's Hartford Home." Presented at the Children's Literature Association Conference, Hartford, Connecticut, June 6, 1992.

Infant Depravity Revisited: The Portrayal of Children in John S. C. Abbott's *The Child at Home*. Presented at the Children's Literature Association Conference, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, May 31, 1991.

"Film Censorship, Sexuality, and Kansas Youth." Presented at Florida State University's Conference on Literature and Film, Tallahassee, Florida, January 31, 1987.

"Toying with Imaginative Play: A Cross-Cultural Analysis of Japanese and American Folk Toys." Presented at the Popular Culture Association in the South Convention, Chattanooga, Tennessee, October 3, 1986.

"From the Pleasure Principle to the Reality Principle: Pinocchio's Psychological Journey." Presented at the Children's Literature Association Conference, Kansas City, Missouri, May 16, 1986.

"Parental Responses to Children's Radio Programs of the 1930s." Presented at the Modern Language Association Convention, Chicago, Illinois, December 29, 1985.

"Imagination Defended: Nineteenth-Century Criticism of Fanciful Children's Literature." Presented at the Children's Literature Association Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota, March 27, 1981.

TEACHING

English Courses (selected):

Children's Literature
Literature for Adolescents
Literature for Young Children
Classics in American Children's Literature
Classics in British Children's Literature
Children's Literature and Literacy in the Community
Immigration in Children's and Young Adult Literature
Fantasy Literature

Tolkien
Composition
Juvenile Literature (Graduate)
Major Figures in Children's Literature (Graduate)
Urban Children's Literature (Graduate)
Southern Children's Literature (Graduate)
Fairy Tales, Fantasy, and Gender (Graduate)
Children's Literature Award Winners (Graduate)

Charlotte Teachers Institute Seminars:

Playful Responses to Stories
Using Southern Children's Literature in the Classroom

Honors Courses:

Coming of Age in Today's Diverse World
Censorship

American Studies Courses Taught:

Children's Popular Culture and American Capitalism
Childhood in America
Censorship in America
The 1950s

M.A. Theses Directed:

“Religious Questioning in Katherine Paterson’s and Judy Blume’s Fiction,” by Trina Marie Rumfelt, 2023.

“The Education of Dicey Tillerman,” by Julia Barrier, 2023.

“Becoming Virtuous: Overcoming the Monstrous in Charlotte Brontë’s *Jane Eyre*,” by C.J. Atsavinh, 2022.

“Using Narrative Advising Theory in Interpreting the Roles of Advisors and Guides in African American Young Adult Literature,” by Gina JoAnne Kelley, 2021.

“Two” by Nathan Nicolau, 2021 (creative thesis--young adult novel).

“The Progression of Agency of the Female Role in Nineteenth-Century American Children’s Literature,” by Stephanie Prysiazniuk, 2019.

“Explorations of Childhood Gender Fluidity and the Subversion of Masculinity in *Peter Pan*,” by Ryan Weber, 2018.

“Identity Formation in Sherman Alexie’s *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven*, *Flight*, and *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*,” by Joye Palmer, 2017.

“The Playful Elements in Emily Gravett’s and David Wiesner’s Postmodern Picture Books,” by Abbey Warnsing, 2016.

“Coming of Age: The Narrative of Adolescence in David Almond’s *Kit’s Wilderness* and Nick Lake’s *In Darkness*,” by Brook Blaylock, 2015.

“That Southern Spirit: A Novel for Middle-Grade Readers,” by Susan Diamond Riley, 2015 (creative thesis--middle-grade novel).

“Mara’s Inferno,” by Dina Schiff Massachi, 2015 (creative thesis--young adult novel).

“The Magic of the Harry Potter Series for Student Athletes,” by Julia Morris, 2015.

“Reversal” by Eric Linne, 2013 (creative thesis--young adult novel).

“The Hero’s Journey in Contemporary Post-Apocalyptic Fiction for Young Adults,” by Jessica Camargo, 2012.

“The Appeal of *The Hunger Games* to Reluctant Readers in an Alternative Education Environment,” by Anna Lisa Huffman, 2012.

“Magical Rings in British Children’s Literature,” by Valerie Bright, 2012.

“Gender Bending in L. Frank Baum’s Oz Series,” by Mary Catherine Russell, 2012.

“The Social Outcast in Bette Greene’s Young Adult Literature,” by Patty Peacock Wright, 2011.

“The Urban/Suburban Dichotomy in Judy Blume’s Fiction,” by Katie Ann Croxton, 2010.

“Strategies for Incorporating Memoir in the Secondary English Classroom,” by Jennifer Gerow, 2010.

“Distorted Reflections: Fantasy as Refracted Reality in Contemporary Literature for Children,” by Joli Nicol Barham, 2009.

“The Role of Literature in the Nineteenth-Century American Common School,” by Jean Church Myers, 2007.

“Windows and Eyes in Maurice Sendak’s Picture Books: Portals between the Internal and External Worlds,” by Niki Jean Wilson, 2007.

“The Quest of the Boy: Exploration of Self in Subterranean Realms in Adolescent Literature,” by Shannon Bauerle, 2005.

“Shoeless Joe,” by Don I. Waldo, 2004 (creative thesis--young adult novel).

“The Changing Nature of Adolescent Baseball Fiction: An Analysis of Three Innovative Novels,” by Jason Alan Hill, 2002.

“Student-Teacher Relationships in British School Stories,” by Preeyaporn Chareonbutra, 2001.

“The Role of Animals in the Maturation of Boys as Reflected in Selected Animal Stories,” by Kristina Schuster, 2001.

“Death on a Southern Breeze,” by Mark Donald de Castrique, 2000 (creative thesis--young adult novel).

“Male Friendship in *The Wind in the Willows* and *The Hobbit*,” by Thomas Gould, 1995.

“Annie Dillard’s Childhood Reading and Its Influence on Her Writing Career,” by Nancy Jones, 1994.

“The Influence of Lewis Carroll on Two American Writers of Nonsense Literature,” by Adrienne Hausser, 1994.

“The Relationship Between Nature and Civilization in Three American Children’s Novels,” by S. Margaret Belk, 1994.

“The Role of Collaboration in the Writing of Harry Golden’s *Carl Sandburg*,” by Mark E. Lockwood, 1991.

“E.T.A. Hoffmann’s *Nutcracker* and Its Transformations,” by Heidi Schultz, 1989.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (selected)

Children’s Literature Association Quarterly, Book Review Editor, 2000-present

RISE: A Children's Literacy Journal, Editor, 2014-2025

The Five Owls, Editor, 1999-2006

Children's Literature Association, President, 2000-2001

Children's Literature Association, Chair of Annual Conference, 1996 & 2009