Jonda C. McNair, Ph.D.

Charlotte S. Huck Endowed Professor of Children's Literature
Department of Teaching and Learning, College of Education and Human Ecology
The Ohio State University
257 Arps Hall, 1945 N. High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43210
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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: "'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
Master's Thesis: "'¡Aprendamos Español!': Is Learning a Foreign Language Kids' Stuff?"
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

2020–Present Charlotte S. Huck Endowed Professor of Children's Literature, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio
Courses Taught at The Ohio State University:
TLED 2368, Introduction to Children's Literature
EDUTL 6892, Special Topics (Children's and Young Adult Literature Awards)
EDUTL 6892, Special Topics (The Picturebook as an Art Object)
EDUTL 6892, Special Topics (The History and Development of African American Children's Literature)
EDUTL 7322, Literature Across the Curriculum
EDUTL 7361, Literature in Early Childhood Education
EDUTL 7451, Understanding Children's and Young Adult Literature
EDUTL 7464, Charlotte S. Huck Children's Literature Seminar

2015–2020 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 at Clemson University:
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 in the Elementary Classroom
EDLT 8110, Advanced Children's and Young Adult Literature
EDLT 9310, Literacy, Language, and Culture Selected Topics

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, Columbus, Ohio: Completed Reading Recovery training as a doctoral student. Taught four first graders during the 1999–2000 school year.

1994–1999 Primary-Grade Teacher, Alexander II Magnet School, Bibb County Public Schools, Macon, Georgia: Taught Kindergarten (1 year), Grade 1 (3 years), and Grade 2 (1 year)

AWARDS

2021 NCTE Advancement of People of Color Leadership Award: This award was established in 2007 and is given to a NCTE member of color who has made a significant contribution to NCTE and the development of its professional community.

PUBLICATIONS

Articles in Peer-Reviewed Journals (*Invited Publications)

McNair, J. C. (in press). Orin LeRoy Bracey: A little person of the month in *The Brownies' Book*. *Journal of African American Studies*.

McNair, J. C., & Li, Y. (2026). "The show is about to begin": Title pages in Caldecott medal winners. *Children and Libraries: The Journal of the Association for Library Service to Children*, *23*(4), 8-12.

*McNair, J. C. (2022). The Heartdrum imprint and Native children's literature: A conversation with Rosemary Brosnan and Cynthia Leitich Smith. *The Reading Teacher*, *75*(5), 641–647. https://doi.org/10.1002/trtr.2090

*McNair, J. C. (2021). Surprise, surprise! Exploring dust jackets, case covers, and endpapers in picture books to support comprehension. *The Reading Teacher*, *74*(4), 363–373. https://doi.org/10.1002/trtr.1985 [Lead article in the journal issue]

*McNair, J. C., Alexander, L. D., Boyle, C. E., Brown, J., Cornelissen, A., Crossley, J. S., McNamara, E. K., & Thomas, C. A. (2021). The end is only the beginning: Exploring endpapers in picturebook biographies. *The Reading Teacher*, *75*(2), 207–218. https://doi.org/10.1002/trtr.2054

*McNair, J. C., & Edwards, P. A. (2021). The lasting legacy of Rudine Sims Bishop: Mirrors, windows, sliding glass doors, and more. *Literacy Research: Theory, Method, and Practice*, *70*(1), 202–212. https://doi.org/10.1177/23813377211028256

McNair, J. C., & Hoover, H. J. (2021). Design elements in picture books: What they are and why they are important. *Young Children*, *76*(3), 14–22. https://www.jstor.org/stable/27095185

*McNair, J. C., & Hoover, H. J. (2021). The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art: An invited dialogue with Alexandra Kennedy. *Language Arts*, *98*(5), 273–281.

McNair, J. C., & Aker, L. D. (2020). Professional learning with preservice teachers: The IRA Student Council at Clemson University. *The Reading Teacher*, *73*(6), 800–804. https://doi.org/10.1002/trtr.1902

*McNair, J. C. (2017). A polar explorer, a pilot, and a pitcher: Black history in African American children's literature. *Social Education*, *81*(1), 46–49. https://www.ingentaconnect.com/contentone/ncss/se/2017/00000081/00000001/art00012

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. https://www.jstor.org/stable/ycyoungchildren.70.4.16 [The authors' names are alphabetized.]

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. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10583-014-9235-x [The authors' names are alphabetized.]

Brooks, W. M., & McNair, J. C. (2015). Expanding the canon: Classic African American young adult literature. *The ALAN Review*, *42*(2), 15–23. https://doi.org/10.21061/alan.v42i2.a.2 [The authors' names are alphabetized.]

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. https://www.jstor.org/stable/ycyoungchildren.69.1.64

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. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10583-012-9191-2 [Lead article in the journal issue]

McNair, J. C. (2012). Poems about sandwich cookies, jelly, and chocolate: Poetry in K–3 classrooms. *Young Children*, *67*(4), 94–100. https://www.jstor.org/stable/42731232

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. The Virginia Hamilton Essay Award recognizes a journal article that 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. *The Journal of Negro Education*, *80*(2), 163–175. https://www.jstor.org/stable/41341118

McNair, J. C. (2010). Classic African American children's literature. *The Reading Teacher*, *64*(2), 96–105. https://doi.org/10.1598/RT.64.2.2

Brooks, W., & 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. https://doi.org/10.3102/0034654308324653 [The authors' names are alphabetized.]

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. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10583-007-9049-1

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. https://www.jstor.org/stable/41962267

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). "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). "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). It really is the little things: More thoughts about the insider/outsider debate. *New Advocate*, *16*(2), 129–137.

Bishop, R. S., & McNair, J. C. (2002). A centennial salute to Arna Bontemps, Langston Hughes, and Lorenz Graham. *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. *The Dragon Lode*, *19*(1), 11–14.

Columns in Journals as a Department Editor

McNair, J. C. (2017). An unsung fashion designer, Congo Square, pinktoe tarantulas, and dead people: Expecting the unexpected in children's literature. *The Reading Teacher*, *71*(3), 379–386. https://doi.org/10.1002/trtr.1638

Day, D., Möller, K. J., Zapata, A., & McNair, J. C. (2016). 2015 notable poetry books. *Language Arts*, *93*(6), 464–469.

McNair, J. C. (2016). #WeNeedMirrorsAndWindows: Diverse classroom libraries for K–6 students. *The Reading Teacher*, *70*(3), 375–381. https://doi.org/10.1002/trtr.1516

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 45th 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 EDLT 8680/9420. (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.

Books

Johnson-Feelings, D., & McNair, J. C. (Eds.). (2022). *A centennial celebration of* The Brownies' Book. University Press of Mississippi. [This volume

features essays about *The Brownies' Book* (1920–1921), one of the first periodicals created primarily for African American children. The editors' names are alphabetized.]

Brooks, W. M., & McNair, J. C. (Eds.). (2008). *Embracing, evaluating, and examining African American children's and young adult literature*. Scarecrow Press. [This volume contains 12 original essays that present research related to African American children's literature. Rudine Sims Bishop wrote the foreword. The editors' names are alphabetized.]

Book Chapters

McNair, J. C. (in press). Academic, activist, author, and more: The life and work of acclaimed children's librarian Charlemae Hill Rollins. In J. Simuel & M. Fenton (Eds.), *Black women in librarianship: Voices from the African Diaspora*. Rowman & Littlefield.

McNair, J. C., Campbell, C., Harris, V. J., & Santos, S. (in press). The significance of African American children's literature. In J. Jacina (Ed). *Children's literature to read our world: Text selection and strategies for critical reflection*. Routledge/Taylor and Francis.

McNair, J. C. with Li, Y., & Thomas, B. R. (in press). Critical race theory and the Black Arts Movement as theoretical underpinnings for a course on African American children's literature. In J. M. Graff, L. A. Liang, & M. Martinez (Eds.), *Literary praxis: Teaching children's literature in contemporary society*. Rowman and Littlefield.

Edwards, P. A., Smith, P., & McNair, J. C. (2022). Toward culturally relevant literacies with children and families of color. In R. Tierney, F. Rizvi, & K. Ercikan (Eds.), *International encyclopedia of education: Vol. 10. Literacies and languages* (4th ed., pp. 180–197). Elsevier.

McNair, J. C., & Crossley, J. S. (2022). The Newbery in a changing world: The recognition of racially diverse literature. In L. Schulte-Cooper (Ed.), *The Newbery practitioner's guide: Making the most of the award in your work* (pp. 7–19). American Library Association.

McNair, J. C. (2021). Black life writing for young readers. In J. K. Moody (Ed.), *A history of African American autobiography* (pp. 365–376). Cambridge University Press.

Bailey, A. R., & McNair, J. C. (2018). Racially diverse children's literature and arts education. In D. A. Wooten, L. A. Liang, & B. E. Cullinan (Eds.), *Children's literature in the reading program: Engaging young readers in the 21st century* (5th ed., pp. 59–72). Guilford Press; International Literacy Association. [The authors' names are alphabetized.]

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). National Association for the Education of Young Children.

McNair, J. C. (2015). Creating classroom libraries for grades K–5. In D. A. Wooten & B. E. Cullinan (Eds.), *Children's literature in the reading*

program: Engaging young readers in the 21st century (4th ed., pp. 169–180). 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. In W. M. Brooks & J. C. McNair (Eds.), *Embracing, evaluating, and examining African American children's and young adult literature* (pp. 3–29). Scarecrow Press.

McNair, J. (2003). "Walk tall in the world": Reflections from a scholar of African American children's literature. In A. L. Green & L. V. Scott (Eds.), *Journey to the Ph.D.: How to navigate the process as African Americans* (pp. 150–165). Stylus Publishing.

Book Reviews in Peer-Reviewed Journals

McNair, J. C. (2005). [Review of the book *Readers of the quilt: Essays on being Black, female, and literate*, edited by J. K. Dowdy]. *Exploring Adult Literacy*, *7*. [This is an online journal.]

McNair, J. C. (2005). [Review of the book *Reading and writing informational text in the primary grades: Research-based practices*, by N. K. Duke & V. S. Bennett-Armistead]. *Literacy Teaching and Learning*, *9*(1/2), 45–51. https://readingrecovery.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/LTL_9.1-2-Book_Review.pdf

Other Scholarly Contributions (*Invited Publications)

*Johnson-Feelings, D., & McNair, J.C. (2025). 100 years old and still relevant: A conversation about *The Brownies' Book. The Horn Book Magazine*, *101*(1), 44-49.

*McNair, J.C. (2023). James E. Ransome. *The Horn Book Magazine*, *99*(4), 22-25.

*McNair, J. C. (2022). A fascinating term as 2021 Newbery chair. *The Horn Book Magazine*, *98*(3), 44–48.

*McNair, J. C. (2018, July 23). Reflections on Black children's literature: A historical perspective. *The Horn Book*. https://www.hbook.com/story/reflections-black-childrens-literature-historical-perspective

*McNair, J., & Bishop, R. S. (2018). To be great, heroic or beautiful: The enduring relevance of *The Brownies' Book*. *The Horn Book Magazine*, *94*(3), 28–34.

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*, pp. 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. (2006). Reject rejection. In S. B. Wepner & L. B. Gambrell (Eds.), *Beating the odds: Getting published in the field of literacy* (p. 153). International Reading Association.

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 cowritten with eight students enrolled in EDLT 4580.]

*McNair, J. C. (2005). Wake my soul: A conversation with children's book illustrator James E. Ransome. *Reading Matters*, *6*(2), 25–31.

ALSC Blog and ALSC Matters!

The following publications are the result of my work as Vice President/President-Elect (2022-2023) and President (2023-2024) of the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association. I wrote posts for the ALSC Blog and ALA's *ALSC Matters!, a quarterly newsletter for ALSC members.*

McNair, J.C. (November 28, 2025). My visit to the American Library in Paris—and other delightful places! *ALSC Blog*, My Visit to the American Library in Paris—and Other Delightful Places! - ALSC Blog

McNair, J.C. (June 4, 2024). Thanks for allowing me to serve as your president! *ALSC Blog, Thanks for Allowing Me to Serve as Your President! - ALSC Blog (ala.org)*

McNair, J.C. (2024, May 8). Magnificent memories of the 2024 ALSC Children's Literature Lecture. *ALSC Matters!*.

McNair, J.C. (April 8, 2024). Thank you, Mrs. McCullough! *ALSC Blog, https://alsc.ala.org/blog/2024/04/thank-you-mrs-mccullough/*

McNair, J.C. (2024, February 14). Officially Speaking: LibLearnX 2024: Announcing the ALSC awards. *ALSC Matters!*.

McNair, J. C. (2024, February 6). What a BIG day! The 2024 ALA Youth Media Awards. *ALSC Blog, https://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/2024/02/what-a-big-day-the-2024-ala-youth-media-awards/*

McNair, J. C. (2023, November 23). 2024 slate of ALSC candidates. *ALSC Blog, https://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/2023/11/2024-slate-of-alsc-candidates/*

McNair, J. C. (2023, October 28). Officially speaking: 2024 ALSC Charlemae Hill Rollins president's program. *ALSC Matters!*.

McNair, J. C. (2023, October 6). 2025 ALSC award committee appointments. *ALSC Blog, https://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/2023/10/2025-alsc-award-committee-appointments/*

McNair, J. C. (2023, August 20). Officially speaking: Thank you for your service. *ALSC Matters!*.

McNair, J. C. (2023, August 1). Thank you, Amy! *ALSC Blog, https://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/2023/08/thank-you-amy/*

McNair, J. C. (2023, April 21). Officially speaking: 'Sign up, show up, and cheer up!' The value of ALSC Service. *ALSC Matters!*.

McNair, J. C. (2022, October 27). Officially speaking: Gratitude. *ALSC Matters!*.

Children's Literature Review Column

The following publications were the result of an invitation to write an annual children's literature review column for Literacy Matters *(formerly known as* Reading Matters*), the journal of the Palmetto State Literacy Association in South Carolina. The columns were coauthored with Clemson University undergraduates.*

McNair, J. C. (2020). New favorites! A children's literature review column for teachers. *Literacy Matters*, *20*(1), 51–55. https://user-23310503727.cld.bz/Literacy-Matters-Winter-2020

McNair, J. C. (2019). Predators, party gowns, and photographers: A children's literature review column for teachers. *Reading Matters*, *19*(1), 44-48.

McNair, J. C. (2017). The Borden murders, braille, and bullies: A children's literature review column for teachers. *Reading Matters*, *17*(2), 34-37.

McNair, J. C. (2017). The wonderful world of books: A review of children's literature for teachers. *Reading Matters*, *17*(1), 69-72.

McNair, J. C. (2016). The right book: A review of children's literature for teachers. *Reading Matters*, *16*(1), 70-73.

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), 48-50.

McNair, J. C. (2014). Reading is *always* good news: A review of children's literature for teachers. *Reading Matters*, *14*(1), 54-57.

McNair, J. C. (2013). Nº 1 book spotter: A review of children's literature for teachers. *Reading Matters*, *13*(1), 42-46.

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 annotations are cowritten 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 cowritten 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: This 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. *Language Arts* has a circulation of approximately 3,000.

Integrating Children's Literature Department Editor in *The Reading Teacher*, 2016–2018: My column appeared in the journal twice each year. I was responsible for writing the column articles myself, or inviting others to contribute and editing their work. I wrote one column per volume year.

Coeditor of the *Journal of Children's Literature*, 2011–2016: The 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, the journal serves a membership with personal and professional interest in the field of children's literature.

Children's Literature Review Department Editor in *Language Arts*, 2011–2016: The journal publishes six issues per volume year. As department editor, my responsibility was to ensure that there was a column in issues 1, 3, 5, and 6. Across the issues, one is set aside for the Orbis Pictus Award and one for the Notable Children's Books in the Language Arts.

GUEST EDITORSHIPS

Guest edited *Black History Bulletin* (volume 89, issue number 1, spring 2026), a journal of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History. The themed issue was focused on *The Brownies' Book* (1920-1921), one of the first magazines created primarily for Black children.

PRESENTATIONS (*Keynote Speech or Invited Talk)

International

McNair, J. C. (2026, February 26). Picturebook endpapers: An important and often overlooked design element. 20th International Conference on Design Principles and Practices. Sapienza University of Rome, Rome, Italy.

McNair, J. C. (2025, September 12). "All art is propaganda": The "little people of the month" section of *The Brownies' Book*. 16th International Conference on the Image. Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris, France.

McNair, J. C. (2024, November 7). *Examining endpapers in African American picturebooks to support reading comprehension* [Conference Session]. International Conference on Urban Education, Cancun, Mexico.

McNair, J.C. (2023, August 23). *African American children's books as mirrors in a family literacy program* [Conference Session]. 13th Pan-African Literacy for All Conference, Nairobi, Kenya.

*McNair, J. C. (2022, November 3). *"We now have knowledge that we didn't have before!": Introducing African American families to African American children's literature* [Conference Session]. International Conference on Urban Education, Cancun, Mexico.

*McNair, J. C. (2007, May 15). *"Bet'cha can't read just one: Recommended children's literature for elementary classroom libraries"* [Keynote]. 52nd annual convention of the International Reading Association (IRA), Toronto, ON, Canada.

McNair, J. C. (2004, September 9). *I'm crackin', but I'm fackin': The utilization of humor in the novels of Christopher Paul Curtis* [Conference Session]. 29th IBBY World Congress, Cape Town, South Africa.

McNair, J. C. (Chair), Kruger, E., Ridge, E., & Zbaracki, M. (2004, September 9). *Humor in the world of children's literature* [Conference session]. 29th IBBY World Congress, Cape Town, South Africa.

National

McNair, J. C. (2026, March 6). *"Keep a poem in your pocket: Recommended poetry books and activities for K-5 classrooms.* [Conference session]. Charlotte S. Huck Children's Literature Festival, Redlands, CA.

*McNair, J. C. (February 20, 2026). *"The show is about to begin": Title pages in Caldecott medal winners*. Children's Literature Assembly Online Research Conference. [Keynote]

McNair, J. C. (January 8, 2026). *The Brownies' Book magazine: An analysis of photographs in the "little people of the month" column*. 24th Hawaii International Conference on Education, Honolulu, HI.

*McNair, J. C. (2025, May 28). *Embracing justice and joy with picturebooks* [Keynote]. Texas Christian University Summer Literacy Institute, Fort Worth, TX.

*McNair, J. C. (2025, May 28). *Exploring endpapers in picturebooks* [Breakout session]. Texas Christian University Summer Literacy Institute, Fort Worth, TX.

McNair, J. C. (2025, March 7). *Bet'cha can't read just one! A few of my favorite nonfiction picturebooks* [Conference session]. Charlotte S. Huck Children's Literature Festival, Redlands, CA.

McNair, J. C. (2024, March 2). *The end is only the beginning: Exploring endpapers in picturebooks.* [Conference session]. Charlotte S. Huck Children's Literature Festival, Redlands, CA.

*McNair, J. C. (2024, February 28). *Exploring the form and function of endpapers in picturebooks* [Keynote]. Redlands Forum, Redlands, CA.

McNair, J. C. (2024, January 22). *2024 ALA Youth Media Awards* [Announcement of ALSC award winners as ALSC President]. American Library Association Annual LibLearnX Conference, Baltimore, MD.

*McNair, J. C. (2023, April 22). *The end is just the beginning: Examining endpapers in picturebooks* [Barbara Elleman Research Library Lecture]. Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, Northampton, MA.

*McNair, J. C. (2023, March 4). *I'm excited to see little girls who look like my little girls on the cover! Introducing African American families to African American children's literature.* [Conference session]. Charlotte S. Huck Children's Literature Festival, Redlands, CA.

*McNair, J. C. (2022, March 11). *Tapping into your superpower to promote the reading habit: Recommended children's literature for grades K–5* [Paper presentation]. Charlotte S. Huck Children's Literature Festival, Redlands, CA.

McNair, J. C., & Wissman, K. (2020, November 21). *Meet the* Language Arts *editors* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

McNair, J. C. (2020, November 20). *Your mirror may be my mirror: Exploring race and culture in classroom literature* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

McNair, J. C., & Wissman, K. (2019, November 23). *Meet the* Language Arts *editors* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD.

McNair, J. C., Fletcher, R., Heard, G., & Laminack, L. (2019, November 22). *Seeing the world with poets' eyes* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD.

*McNair, J. C. (2019, July 9). *Culturally diverse children's literature: Providing windows and mirrors in classroom libraries* [Keynote]. A one-day literacy workshop for elementary teachers, Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, AR.

*McNair, J. C. (2019, June 3). *50 and fabulous: The Coretta Scott King Book Award* [Webinar]. Student Committee of the Children's Literature Assembly.

McNair, J. C., & Wissman, K. (2018, November 17). *Meet the* Language Arts *editors* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, Houston, TX.

McNair, J. C., Bean-Folkes, J., Ehrlich, H., Fleming, J., & Jacobs, J. (2018, July 22). *Classroom libraries as windows and mirrors: Ensuring diverse, representative books for our students* [Conference session]. International Literacy Association Annual Meeting, Austin, TX.

McNair, J. C., Bailey, A. R., Jamison, A., & Watson, J. (2018, June 25). *Using Coretta Scott King Award–winning books to enrich programs and instruction in public, school, and academic libraries* [Conference session]. American Library Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.

McNair, J. C., & Wissman, K. (2017, November 18). *Meet the* Language Arts *editors* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, St. Louis, MO.

*McNair, J. C. (2017, February 22). *African American families reading and responding to African American children's literature* [Keynote]. Loyola Literacy Leadership Awards 10th Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD.

McNair, J. C., & Wissman, K. (2016, November 19). *Meet the* Language Arts *editors* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.

*McNair, J. C. (2016, October 19). *Reflections on an African American children's literature family literacy program* [Keynote]. CAS/MillerComm Lecture Series, University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign, Urbana, IL.

McNair, J. C., Davila, D., & Wissman, K. (2015, November 21). *Meet the* Language Arts *editors* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN.

McNair, J. C., Cushman, K., DiSarro, L., & Roser, N. (2015, November 20). *The changing face of covers* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN.

*McNair, J. C. (2015, November 11). *What happens when African American families are exposed to an abundance of African American children's literature?* [Keynote]. Language and Literacy Colloquy, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI.

McNair, J. C. (2015, February 2). *2015 ALA Youth Media Awards* [Conference session]. American Library Association Annual Midwinter Meeting, Chicago, IL.

Lewis, J. P., Stemple, H., McNair, J. C., & Yolen, J. (2014, November 22). *The stories animals tell us* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, National Harbor, MD.

McNair, J. C., & O'Neal, S. (2014, November 22). *Meet the* Journal of children's literature *editors* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, National Harbor, MD.

McNair, J. C. (2014, January 27). *2014 ALA Youth Media Awards* [Conference session emcee & announcement of the Coretta Scott King Book Award winners]. American Library Association Annual Midwinter Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

McNair, J. C. (2013, November 23). *Examining representations of African American girlhood in transitional chapter books* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.

McNair, J. C., Martinez, M., & O'Neal, S. (2013, November 23). *Meet the* Journal of children's literature *editors* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.

McNair, J. C. (2013, January 28). *2013 ALA Youth Media Awards* [Conference session announcement of the Coretta Scott King Book Award winners]. American Library Association Annual Midwinter Meeting, Seattle, WA.

McNair, J. C., Martinez, M., & O'Neal, S. (2012, November 17). *Meet the* Journal of Children's Literature *editors* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, NV.

McNair, J. C., & members of the NCTE Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children Selection Committee. (2012, November 16). *Now more than ever, poetry helps us dream, connect, and ignite: The NCTE Excellence in Poetry for Children Committee shares recent favorites* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, NV.

McNair, J. C., Martinez, M., & O'Neal, S. (2011, November 19). *Meet the* Journal of children's literature *editors* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

McNair, J. C., & members of the NCTE Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children Selection Committee. (2011, November 18). *Celebrating 2011 NCTE Poetry Award recipient J. Patrick Lewis* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

McNair, J. C., & NCBLA Committee. (2010, November 21). *2010 Notable Children's Books in the Language Arts (NCBLA)* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL.

McNair, J. C., & members of the NCTE Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children Selection Committee. (2010, November 19). *2009–2010 children's poetry notables* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL.

McNair, J. C., & members of the NCTE Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children Selection Committee. (2009, November 21). *2008–2009 children's poetry notables* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

McNair, J. C., & NCBLA Committee. (2009, November 20). *2009 Notable Children's Books in the Language Arts (NCBLA)* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

McNair, J. C., & NCBLA Committee. (2009, February 24). *2008 Notable Children's Books in the Language Arts (NCBLA)* [Conference session]. International Reading Association Annual Meeting West, Phoenix, AZ.

McNair, J. C., & NCBLA Committee. (2008, November 23). *2008 Notable Children's Books in the Language Arts (NCBLA)* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.

McNair, J. C., & members of the NCTE Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children Selection Committee. (2008, November 21). *Children's poetry notables* [Conference session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.

McNair, J. C. (2008, May 5). *"I've been telling everybody I know about these books": Flooding African American families with children's literature written by and about African Americans* [Conference session]. International Reading Association 53rd Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.

McNair, J. C. (2007, November 15). "It was like a book buffet!": *Flooding families with African American children's literature* [Conference Session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, New York City, NY.

McNair, J. C. (2007, April 12). *"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* [Conference Session]. American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

McNair, J. C. (2006, November 29). *"I never knew there were so many books about us": Parents and children reading African American children's literature together* [Conference Session]. National Reading Conference Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA.

McNair, J. C. (2006, November 18). *Reading the word and the world within the context of Firefly and Seesaw Book Club order forms* [Conference Session]. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN.

McNair, J. C. (2006, May 4). *"Have you read this book?": What's new in African American children's and young adult literature?* [Conference Session]. International Reading Association 51st Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

McNair, J. C. (2005, December 2). *Innocent though they may seem...: A critical race theory analysis of Firefly and Seesaw Scholastic Book Club order forms* [Conference Session]. National Reading Conference Annual Meeting, Miami, FL.

McNair, J. C. (Chair), Adomat, D., Pantaleo, S. J., Sandquist, H., & Schnoor, D. J. (2005, December 1). *Children responding to literature* [Conference session]. National Reading Conference Annual Meeting, Miami, FL.

McNair, J. C. (2005, May 2). *"It's all good": Themes and images in African American children's literature about black hair* [Conference Session]. International Reading Association 50th Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.

McNair, J. C., & Owens, E. M. (2005, January 5). *Which books measure up? A content analysis of mathematically related children's literature* [Conference

Session]. 3rd Annual Hawaii International Conference on Education, Honolulu, HI.

McNair, J. C. (2004, December 1). *"I may be crackin', but um fackin'": The utilization of humor in* The Watsons go to Birmingham—1963 [Conference Session]. National Reading Conference Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.

McNair, J. C. (2004, April 13). *Publishing what matters to me as an African American scholar* [Conference Session]. American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.

McNair, J. C. (2004, April 12). *"Yes, it'll be me": A comparative analysis of* The Brownies' Book *and contemporary African American children's literature written by Patricia McKissack* [Conference Session]. American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.

McNair, J. C., Rentz, T., & Hancock, S. (2003, October 2). *Student development and retention panel discussion: The journey to the Ph.D.: How to navigate the process as African Americans* [Conference session]. The Brothers of the Academy Think Tank/Conference, Kansas City, MO.

McNair, J. C., Hancock, S., & Rentz, T. (2003, April 22). *New beginnings: Scholars of color in the academy* [Conference session]. American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

McNair, J. C. (2003, April 22). *Pass it on: The legacy of* The Brownies' book *within the context of contemporary African American children's literature written by Patricia C. McKissack* [Conference Session]. American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

McNair, J. C. (2003, January 31). *"Yes, it'll be me": A comparative analysis of* The Brownies' Book *and contemporary African American children's literature written by Patricia McKissack* [Conference Session]. Annual Children's Literature Conference, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.

McNair, J. C. (2002, April 2). *"But that's one of my favorite books!": Conducting sociopolitical critiques of children's literature with preservice teachers* [Conference Session]. American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.

McNair, J. C. (2002, February 15). *"Bet'cha can't read just one!": Great poetry books for children* [Conference Session]. Annual Children's Literature Conference, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.

McNair, J. C., & Colabucci, L. (2002, February 11). *Multicultural literature: Picturebooks for students in K–3* [Conference Session]. National Reading Recovery Council of North America Annual Meeting, Columbus, OH.

McNair, J. C. (2001, February 12). *"You did that too?": Sorting confusions of Reading Recovery teachers* [Conference Session]. National Reading Recovery Council of North America Annual Meeting, Columbus, OH.

State and Regional

McNair, J. C., & Bailey, A. R. (2019, March 29). *The Coretta Scott King Book Awards Committee: 50 years strong* [Conference Session]. Georgia Children's Book Awards & Conference on Children's Literature, University of Georgia, Athens, GA.

McNair, J. C. (2010, April 10). *Bet'cha can't read just one! Recommended children's literature for pre-K through kindergarten classrooms* [Conference Session]. Early Childhood Play, Practice, and Policy Conference, Clemson University, Clemson, SC.

McNair, J. C. (2009, July 31). *Bet'cha can't read just one! Recommended children's literature for elementary classroom libraries* [Conference Session]. Summer Institute, Reading Recovery Training Center, Clemson University, Clemson, SC.

McNair, J. C. (2007, April 27). *"I never knew there were so many books about us!": Parents and children reading African American children's literature Together* [Conference Session]. Faculty Research Forum, College of Health, Education, and Human Development, Clemson University, Clemson, SC.

McNair, J. C. (2005, February 18). *From* The Brownies' Book *to* Brown sugar babies*: The development of African American children's literature* [Conference Session]. South Carolina State Council of the International Reading Association Annual Meeting, Myrtle Beach, SC.

McNair, J. C. (2004, March 26). *Honey, I love poetry! Great poetry books for students in grades K–6* [Conference Session]. South Carolina Association of School Librarians Annual Meeting, Greenville, SC.

McNair, J. C. (2003, March 22). *Not all of the children come home to cookies and cocoa: Confronting social issues within the context of children's literature* [Conference Session]. Early Childhood Super Conference, Otterbein College, Westerville, OH.

McNair, J. C. (2003, February 28). *Find out what's new in children's literature!* [Conference Session]. Integrated Language Arts, Ohio Council of Teachers of English Language Arts Biannual Meeting, Worthington, OH.

McNair, J. C. (2003, February 22). *"Bet'cha can't read just one poem!": Great poetry books for children in grades K–6* [Conference Session]. Dublin Literacy Conference, Dublin City Schools, Dublin, OH.

McNair, J. C. (2002, October 31). *Want a bright idea? Read some de-LIGHT-ful poetry books!* [Conference Session]. Ohio Educational Library Media Association Annual Meeting, Columbus, OH.

McNair, J. C. (2002, April 20). *Bet'cha can't read just one poem! Great poetry books for young children* [Conference Session]. Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Meeting, Columbus, OH.

McNair, J. C. (2001, October 6). *Honey, I love poetry!* [Conference Session]. Integrated Language Arts, Ohio Council of Teachers of English Language Arts Biannual Meeting, Dublin, OH.

McNair, J. C. (2001, June 1). *But I love that book! Conducting sociopolitical critiques of children's literature with preservice teachers* [Conference Session]. College of Education Diversity Conference and Graduate Symposium, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.

EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL FUNDING

$10,000 Gladys Foster Anderson Early Literacy Grant—Department of Teaching and Learning, College of Education and Human Ecology

Requested funds in 2022 to provide 50 Columbus City Schools PreK-2 teachers with 12 African American children's books and other educational materials such as scented bookmarks, drawing paper, People Colors crayons, and writing notepads. [**Not Funded**]

$9000 Barbara and Sheldon Pinchuk Arts-Community Outreach Grant—The Ohio State University College of Arts and Sciences
Requested funds in 2021 to purchase materials (e.g., children's books, paint, drawing paper, etc.) for children who will attend the 2024 Newbery Symposium featuring award-winning African American authors. [**Not Funded**]

$4,000 Clemson University Health, Education and Human Development 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" [**Funded**]

$13,000 ($1,000 annually for 2007–2019) from the Kappa Zeta Omega Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority to conduct a family literacy project by conducting a workshop in which 10–12 families from Anderson, SC, and surrounding areas were provided with 10 African American children's books, People Colors crayons, and refreshments [**Funded**]

$3,000 Clemson University Health, Education and Human Development 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" [**Funded**]

$500 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': Parents and Children Reading African American Children's Literature Together" [**Funded**]

$12,301 Grant-in-Aid Award in 2005 from the Research Foundation of the National Council of Teachers of English for the family literacy grant proposal entitled "'I Never Knew There Were So Many Books About Us': Parents and Children Reading African American Children's Literature Together" [**Funded**]

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE

Elected as vice president/president-elect of the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), 2022–2023: ALSC is the world's largest organization—with approximately 3,000 members—dedicated to the support and enhancement of service to children in all types of libraries.

Editorial Review Board member, *Research in the Teaching of English*, 2019–2022

Planned and moderated a tribute/panel discussion in honor of Dr. Rudine Sims Bishop (in place of the 2021 ALSC Children's Literature Lecture). The panel included Violet J. Harris, Dianne Johnson-Feelings, and Alexandra Kennedy, December 2, 2021.

Appointed as chair of the 2021 John Newbery Selection Award Committee, 2019–2021: The John Newbery Medal is administered by the ALSC and is awarded annually "to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children." The chair is responsible for tasks such as creating agendas and compiling lists of all children's books received from publishers.

Elected to serve on the 2019 Randolph Caldecott Award Selection Committee, 2017–2019: The Caldecott Medal is administered by ALSC and is awarded annually "to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children." Committee members read and evaluate books.

Editorial Review Board member, *Journal of Children's Literature*, 2016–Present

Appointed as chair of the Nominating Committee of the Coretta Scott King Book Awards Committee, 2015–2017: The committee's main purpose is to prepare a slate of officers and annual slates for the Coretta Scott King Book Award Jury and the Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement Jury.

Created and disseminated "Mirrors and Windows...," a biannual children's literature newsletter, 2012–2025: This newsletter (fall and spring semesters) highlighted children's literature written by authors and illustrators across diverse cultural groups.

Appointed as chair of the Coretta Scott King Book Awards Committee, 2012–2015: The committee's main purpose is to grant the annual award to African American authors and illustrators for outstanding contributions to literature for children and young adults. The chair is responsible for tasks such as presiding over and preparing agendas for membership and executive board meetings, appointing a jury chair and jurors to serve on the Coretta Scott King Book Award Jury, and preparing for anniversary celebrations.

Appointed as chair of the Coretta Scott King Book Award Jury, 2010–2012: The chair's responsibilities include presiding over meetings, explaining procedures in the Coretta Scott King Book Award Jury handbook, distributing Excel files of children's books received by all jury members, and presenting the award to the winners at the annual Coretta Scott King Book Award Breakfast.

Elected to serve on the Coretta Scott King Book Award Jury of ALA, 2008–2010: The 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 (CLA) Breakfast, November 23, 2008, during the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) in San Antonio, TX: Lois Ehlert was the speaker.

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

Appointed 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 means such as displays, programs, and publications.

Elected as a board member of Children's Literature and Reading, a special interest group of IRA, 2007–2010: Board members attend two meetings annually and oversee the group's affairs.

Reviewer of program proposals for IRA, 2007–2008, 2010

Appointed as a member of IRA's Subcommittee for the IRA Children's and Young Adult Book Awards, 2007–2009: The committee reviews children's books by newly published authors worldwide and recommends up to six candidates in three categories—primary, intermediate, and young adult—in both fiction and nonfiction.

Appointed as a member of the Notable Children's Books in the Language Arts Committee sponsored by the CLA of NCTE, 2007–2009: The committee reads approximately 1,000 books per year and selects 30 that deal explicitly with language, demonstrate uniqueness in the use of language or style, and invite children's response or participation.

Served as cochair of the CLA Breakfast during the 2007 NCTE convention in New York City, NY: Allen Say was the speaker.

Conducted a Clemson University Creative Inquiry Project with Call Me MISTER Program participants and other undergraduates, 2006–2012: The project entailed the creation and dissemination of a biannual newsletter, one per semester, entitled "I Never Knew..." that highlighted African American children's literature.

Served as a member of the Edward Fry Book Award Committee of the National Reading Conference (NRC), 2006–2008: The award's purpose is to recognize NRC members who author exceptional books on literacy research and practice. Committee members are asked to read, rate, and rank the nominated books.

Planned and chaired a daylong workshop, "Let's Get Smart About Art: Developing Visual Literacy With Picturebooks," sponsored by the CLA for teachers: The workshop took place on November 20, 2006, during the NCTE postconvention in Nashville, TN. Workshop presenters included award-winning illustrators of children's literature, scholars of picturebook art, and editors from publishing companies.

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. I attended the committee meeting in Manhattan on September 9, 2005.

Elected as a board member of the CLA, a special interest group of NCTE, 2004–2007: Board members attend two meetings annually and oversee the group's affairs.

Editorial Review Board member, *Language Arts*, 2006–2015

Editorial Review Board member, *Children's Literature in Education*, 2006–Present

Editorial Review Board member, *The Reading Teacher*, 2015–Present
Editorial Review Board member, *Journal of Literacy Research*, 2005–2016
Reviewer of program proposals for the American Educational Research Association, 2005–2007
Reviewer of program proposals for NRC, 2004–2007

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Educational Research Association
American Library Association
Association for Library Service to Children of the American Library Association
Association for the Study of African American Life and History
Coretta Scott King Book Awards Committee of the American Library Association
International Research Society for Children's Literature
National Association for the Education of Young Children
National Council of Teachers of English
Children's Literature Assembly of the National Council of Teachers of English

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Hosted and organized a screening of *Story & Pictures By*, a documentary about picturebooks. Moderated a Q&A session afterwards with Hallee Adelman (executive producer) and Joanna Rudnick (producer and director). The event took place on December 1, 2025, at WOSU Headquarters, Columbus OH.
Organized a cake and ice cream social for Literacies, Literature, and Learning graduate students in which Arthur A. Levine, editor of the Harry Potter Books and president of Levine Querido Books, was the guest speaker. The social took place on October 9, 2025.
Chairing the Promotion and Tenure Committee, Department of Teaching and Learning, 2025-Present.
Planned a symposium that highlighted the work of Newbery Award-winning African American authors of children's literature including Kwame Alexander, Derrick Barnes, Amina Luqman-Dawson, Jason Reynolds, and Carole Boston Weatherford. It was titled "Excellence in Children's Literature: The Ohio State University Newbery Award Symposium" and took place on November 15, 2024, at the Ohio Union.
Chaired the search committee for the Pinnell Endowed Professorship in Literacy with Emphasis on Reading, 2022–2023
Served on the search committee for the Tanner Endowed Professorship in Curriculum Studies on Adolescence and Democracy, 2022–2023
Served on the Department of Teaching and Learning's Ph.D. Redesign Committee, 2021–2023
Served on the Promotion and Tenure Committee, Department of Teaching and Learning, 2022-2025
Through The Jo Osborne Fund for Humor in Children's Literature, curated 50 sets of humorous and culturally diverse titles across various genres (along with items such as "people color" crayons, scented bookmarks, and "I love

reading" backpacks) and raffled and distributed them to Ohio teachers and librarians who serve children in grades K-5. October of 2021.

Convener for the Literature for Children and Young Adult Area of Study, spring 2021

Served on the five-year review committee for Matthew Mayhew, Flesher Endowed Professor in Educational Administration, 2021

Served on the five-year review committee for Kui Xie, Cyphert Distinguished Professor in Learning Technology, 2021

Served on the search committee resulting in the hire of Dinorah Sánchez Loza as an assistant professor, 2021

Served on the three-year review committee for Debi Switzer, chair of the Education and Human Development Department, 2019

Served on the Tenure, Promotion, and Reappointment Committee, Department of Education and Human Development, 2017–2020

Served as coordinator of the Ph.D. in Literacy, Language and Culture program, 2017–2020

Served as coordinator of the Literacy Education Area, 2012–2015

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 in the Early Childhood Education Program, 2012–2013

Served on the Early Childhood Education program's search committee resulting in the hires of Ysaaca Axelrod and Anna H. Hall, 2011–2012

Served on the Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction program's committee for the Eugene T. Moore School of Education, 2008–2010

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 program's 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 in mathematics, 2008–2009

Served as faculty advisor for the Clemson University International Reading Association Student Council, 2007–2020: I spearheaded the creation of the council.

Conducted a presentation entitled "Honey, I Love Books! Creating Fabulous Classroom Library Collections" for the Clemson University Student Group of the South Carolina Association for the Education of Young Children, February 6, 2007

Served as a co-mentor to Rachelle Washington, a recently hired assistant professor of elementary education in language arts, 2006–2007

Conducted a presentation on African American children's literature for the Call Me MISTER Program participants, June 7, 2006

Served on the Elementary Education in Language Arts search committee resulting in the hire of Rachelle Washington, 2005–2006

Served on the President's Commission on the Status of Black Faculty and Staff, 2004–2007: I spearheaded the creation of a resource guide to assist new African American faculty and staff in acclimating to the area.

Served on the Elementary Education search committee to fill four tenure track positions resulting in the hires of Chrystal Dean (mathematics education) and Elizabeth Edmondson (science education), 2004–2005

Keynote speaker at the first annual Black Graduate Student Association Awards Reception, April 29, 2004

CONSULTING

Westerville City Schools, Westerville, OH, August 9, 2021: I presented two workshops about culturally diverse children's literature and ways to integrate it into the K–5 elementary school curriculum.

Monaview Elementary School, Greenville, SC, 2012–2013: I presented four professional development sessions related to aspects of literacy such as guided reading and taking, scoring, and analyzing running records.

Scholastic, 2012: I served on a task force, composed of leading academics who specialize in children's literature, Scholastic executives, teachers, and librarians, to identify the best in children's literature. The task force's work resulted in a diverse listing of 3,122 children's books to be featured in Scholastic Book Clubs.

Hampton-Brown Company/National Geographic School Publishing, 2009–2011: I reviewed literature specifications, recommended high-quality fiction and nonfiction selections to include in a new reading program, and participated through various channels to discuss the program design and literature.

Reading Is Fundamental (RIF), 2008–Present: I was invited to serve as a member of the National Literature Advisory Board, 2008. RIF is the nation's oldest and largest nonprofit children's literacy organization. The advisory board's purpose is to set literature quality standards for RIF's literature and operational services.

Anderson School District Five, Anderson, SC, summer 2008: I presented professional development workshops related to children's literature.

Chicago Public Schools, August 25, 2008: I presented three workshops at a children's literature institute for Chicago Public School teachers.

Los Angeles California Unified School District, July–August 2004: I conducted presentations to Los Angeles Public School teachers on African American and Latin American children's literature.