

THE UCI WRITING PROJECT, THE WRITE CENTER, AND
THE NATIONAL WRITING PROJECT PRESENT

Healing Hearts, Growing Minds: Creating Just and Equitable Classrooms through Next Generation Literacy Instruction

Virtual Program

DECEMBER 7, 2023

8:45 A.M. - 3:45 P.M. PST
9:45 A.M. - 4:45 P.M. MST
10:45 A.M. - 5:45 P.M. CST
11:45 A.M. - 6:45 P.M. EST

Featured Speakers:

ANTERO GARCIA
TRICIA EBARVIA
PATRICK HARRIS
NICOLE MIRRA

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SCHEDULE

8:45 - 10:00 A.M. PST

MORNING KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

Antero Garcia

Shift, Return, Heal: Creating Classrooms as Sites of Healing and Equity

10:00 - 10:15 A.M. PST

BREAK

10:15 - 11:45 A.M. PST

MORNING FEATURED PRESENTATION

Nicole Mirra

Thriving through Troubled Times: Fostering Critical Civic Empathy in Our Classroom Practice, Grades 6-12

11:45 - 12:45 P.M. PST

LUNCH BREAK

12:45 - 2:00 P.M. PST

AFTERNOON KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

Tricia Ebarvia

Let's Get Free: Anti-bias Literacy Instruction for Stronger Readers, Writers and Thinkers (Livestream)

2:00 - 2:15 P.M. PST

BREAK

2:15 - 3:45 P.M. PST

AFTERNOON FEATURED PRESENTATION

Patrick Harris

Teaching in 360 Degrees: Supporting New Teachers in Challenging Times, Grades K-12

Morning Keynote

Shift, Return, Heal: Creating Classrooms as Sites of Healing and Equity



ANTERO GARCIA

FEATURED LIVESTREAM

Ours is a polarized and sometimes scary world. The choices facing young people in the coming years hold nothing less than human freedom and global inter-species life in the balance. Amidst these urgent demands for imaginative action, literacy can be the pathway for transformation. This presentation offers guidance on maintaining classrooms as sites of healing and equity. Through sharing research and classroom strategies, Antero Garcia offers an overview of how literacy instruction can support young people as civic dreamers and social innovators.

Antero Garcia is an Associate Professor at Stanford University School of Education. His research explores the possibilities of speculative imagination and healing in educational research. Based on his research on gaming in various learning environments, he co-designed the Critical Design and Gaming School - a public high school in South Central Los Angeles. He has authored or co-edited more than a dozen books about the possibilities of literacies, play, and civics in transforming schooling in America, including *Tuned-In Teaching*, *Centering Youth Culture for an Active and Just Classroom* with Ernest Morrell (Heinemann), *Everyday Advocacy: Teachers Who Change the Literacy Narrative* with Cathy Fleischer, and *Doing Youth Participatory Action Research: Transforming Inquiry with Researchers, Educators and Students* with Nicole Mirra and Ernest Morrell (Routledge).

Morning Featured Presentation

Thriving through Troubled Times: Fostering Critical Civic Empathy in Our Classroom Practice, Grades 6-12



NICOLE MIRRA

FEATURED LIVESTREAM

Amid the stresses created by the pandemic and a deeply divided country, our students come to class trying to figure out not only who they are, but also how to engage with the troubled world they face. We educators have a responsibility to orient our teaching toward the ultimate goal of preparing young people to face the challenges facing our democracy with consciousness, compassion, and commitment to equity and justice. This workshop offers literacy practices that teachers can integrate into their classrooms to foster a new kind of empathy – one that goes beyond simply “being nice” and instead fosters a shared sense of engaged democratic community. Strategies such as textual analysis, classroom discussion, research, and digital literacy will be re-imagined as the basis for both powerful learning and transformative civic innovation.

Nicole Mirra is an Associate Professor of Urban Teacher Education in the Department of Learning & Teaching at the Rutgers University Graduate School of Education. She previously taught secondary literacy and debate in Brooklyn, New York and Los Angeles, California. Her work utilizes participatory design methods in classroom, community, and digital spaces to collaboratively create civic learning environments with youth and educators that disrupt discourses and structures of racial injustice and creatively compose liberatory social futures. Her books include *Educating for Empathy: Literacy Learning and Civic Engagement* (Teachers College Press), *Doing Youth Participatory Action Research: Transforming Inquiry with Researchers, Educators, and Students* with Antero Garcia and Ernest Morrell (Routledge), and *Civics for the World to Come: Committing to Democracy in Every Classroom* with Antero Garcia (Norton).

Afternoon Keynote

Let's Get Free: Anti-bias Literacy Instruction for Stronger Readers, Writers and Thinkers



TRICIA EBARVIA

FEATURED LIVESTREAM

In today's challenging climate of book bans and anti-CRT backlash, it can be hard to know how to engage in the necessary work we know all of our children need and deserve. Using her own personal story and the story of her classroom over the years, Tricia will discuss the possibilities for freedom and powerful learning when we root our reading and writing practices in anti-bias instruction.

A co-founder of #DisruptTexts and co-founder/director of the Institute for Racial Equity in Literacy (IREL), **Tricia Ebarvia** advocates for literacy instruction rooted in equity and liberation through critical literacy. An educator with more than 20 years of classroom experience, she is currently the Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at a PK-8 independent school in Philadelphia. Previously, Tricia taught and served as English department chairperson at a large public high school where she taught courses in American literature, AP Language, and AP Literature. A National Writing Project Teacher Consultant, Tricia was the recipient of the 2021 Divergent Award for Excellence in Literacy Advocacy, as well as the NCTE High School Teacher of Excellence award. Tricia's work has been featured in various publications and academic journals and the author of a professional book on anti-bias literacy instruction entitled *Get Free: Anti-Bias Literacy Instruction for Stronger Readers, Writers, and Thinkers* (Corwin). Follow her @triciaebarvia and at triciaebarvia.org.

Afternoon Featured Presentation

Teaching in 360 Degrees: Supporting New Teachers in Challenging Times, Grades K-12



PATRICK HARRIS

FEATURED LIVESTREAM

If a new teacher answers the call to teach in these challenging times, schools should do all within their power to support them. In this webinar, Patrick Harris, author of *The First Five: A Love Letter to Teachers* (Heinemann), uses stories, not just strategies, to help new teachers and those who support them to see teaching as human work. Specifically, he'll bring to life two crucial secrets to teaching for the long haul: (1) teaching in 360 degrees and (2) how to find a school to call home. Teachers and their supporters should prepare for storytelling and practical tips to ensure teachers feel a sense of connection.

Patrick Harris is a Black queer writer, storyteller, and middle school humanities teacher. He has won multiple national teaching awards for his leadership and innovation in the classroom, including recognitions from NCTE, ASCD, and ILA. Teaching and creating is only part of who Patrick is. He is a big brother, a cat dad, lover of all things horror, a WWE fanatic, and is obsessed with scenic hikes. Find Patrick on Twitter & Instagram @PresidentPat.



Join us for:

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WHEN: December 7, 2023
8:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m. PST

WHERE: Virtual Livestream

COST: \$150

Discounts available for 5+ registrations

REGISTRATION: Opens August 15, 2023

Co-sponsored by

