

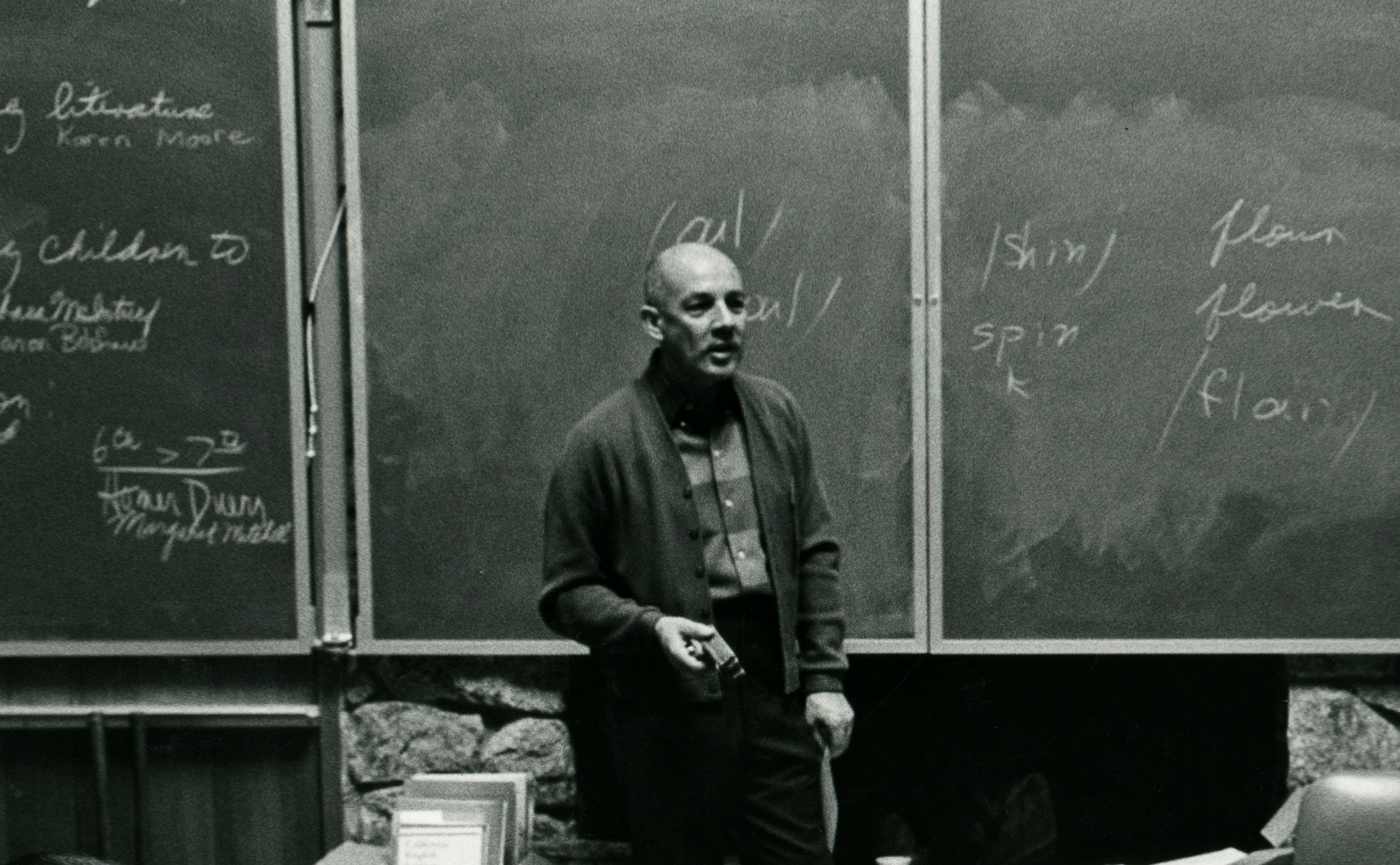


# 60 ASILOMAR

LANGUAGE ARTS CONFERENCE

**STORIES**  
OUT OF SCHOOL  
SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2011





## SIXTY YEARS

The Curriculum Study Commission has planned the Asilomar conference and taken a stand on the important educational issues of the day for sixty years. Members of the commission are elementary, middle and high school teachers, librarians, researchers, college professors and school administrators; actively working or retired. As a group of people we are dedicated to providing teachers with the opportunity to participate in meaningful professional development, while experiencing one of the most beautiful physical settings in central California.

The commission's goal is to support teachers by addressing issues that are relevant to the profession; i.e. – the state of education, current research into best practices, new ways to teach modern and classic literature. Because the conference is set up to foster collaboration, participants have an active voice in each of the session discussions. Fostering a professional learning community, long before it became fashionable, has been the aim of the commission for these 60 years. Therefore those who attend sign up for 1 session and cover the topic in depth. Teacher voice and contribution is a primary factor in making Asilomar unique.

In these days of federal and state mandates, budget cuts and public scrutiny, teachers often feel undervalued, under-appreciated and misunderstood. While

many people in the public arena openly espouse their opinions of education and educators, the voices of the classroom teacher are seldom heard. As we listen to those denouncing public education, it is often unclear whether or not those speaking have actually spent time in a classroom, or even in a school, in the past few years.

It is time for educators to be heard. Therefore we dedicate the 60th anniversary of Asilomar to the teacher. We are determined to give teachers a venue to share their story with others. To tell stories that will comfort other teachers who need to know that they are not alone. To relate stories that will honestly explain the frustrations, successes, failures, and lessons learned by those directly involved in educating the youth of today. "Stories Out of School," while following Asilomar's familiar format, will also strive to capture teachers' stories on video with the goal of publishing those stories on the web. We want everyone to know about the work of the classroom today. We encourage you to come to Asilomar 60, to not only expand and/or refresh your professional interests in the beautiful scenery of Pacific Grove's Asilomar grounds, but also prepared to tell your story. What is your story? It can be a reflection on a particular event or incident, or reminiscence about current classroom conditions. What do you have to say about the state of education today? You will have the opportunity to record your thoughts and reflections. Join us in telling our "Stories Out of School."

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

*"On the days when I wasn't taking calls about elephant wart removal surgery or denying rumors that the cheetahs had been sucked dry by fleas, I wrote freelance articles for the local newspaper's Sunday magazine."*



**MARY ROACH** weaves stories out of facts with the tenacity of a researcher, the curiosity of a scientist, and the humor of a comedian. While having a taste for the bizarre, she explores the world of non-fiction with words that draw us into her world. Amazon Books named *Packing for Mars: The Curious Science of Life in the Void* number 41 on its list of 100 best books for 2010. It is a *New York Times* Editor's Choice and #1 *San Francisco Chronicle* bestseller.

Mary is the author of *The New York Times* bestseller *Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers*; and *Bonk: The Curious Coupling of Science and Sex*. *Stiff* has been translated into 20 languages, and *Bonk* was chosen as a 2008 best book by the *San Francisco Chronicle* and the *Boston Globe*. Mary has written for *National Geographic*, *Wired*, *New Scientist*, *The New York Times Book Review*, the *Journal of Clinical Anatomy*, and *Outside*, among others. She is a member of Mars Institute's Advisory Board, a guest editor of the *Best American Science and Nature Writing*, and a winner of the American Engineering Societies' Engineering Journalism Award, in a category for which, let's be honest, she was the sole entrant. Having spent some time in an office at the San Francisco Zoo, next to Gorilla World, Mary has a keen eye for turning topics that are of limited interest for most of us into intriguing stories that make us want to know more, to explore more, to read more. More at [www.maryroach.net](http://www.maryroach.net)

*"Let me tell you a story you have not heard...."*



**ARTURO MUÑOZ VASQUEZ**, author, teacher, administrator, wrestler... storyteller, was born in Piedras Negras, Coahuila, Mexico. Giving voice to his own stories and helping others discover theirs, he has performed for thousands of people in theaters, national and state conferences, and at schools across California and New Mexico. Although Arturo struggled with speaking

and writing the English language during his high school years in Gilroy, CA, the stories in him spoke loudly as he announced to his friends and family that one day he would write a book. His program Publishing Children's Stories guides teachers and students to write, illustrate, and publish their own stories. The project included his stories: "Matl as a Punk Kid", "Add More Water to the Beans", and "A Christmas Gift." Arturo's books for children demonstrate his love and gift for storytelling as a way to connect and gather the spirit within us: *Papa, Tell Us Another Story*, *a Collection of Bedtime Stories for Children*; *Running Deer Plays Hooky*; and *A Storyteller's Nightmare: A Collection of Scary Stories*. All stories and books are illustrated by artist Sonya Fe.

He has worked as a classroom teacher, school site principal, consultant for the California Department of Education, and a district superintendent in Hoopa, California.



SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2011

## SESSIONS

Select a first, second, and third choice from the group sessions below. Every effort will be made to assign your first choice. Sessions will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. The Asilomar Conference is based on sustained group discussions following the teachers-teaching-teachers, collaborative learning philosophy. Resource and chair persons in each group do not function as lecturers. Rather, participants share information and insights as the discussions evolve. The emphasis is on good conversation and the pursuit of intellectual interests. For the group to maintain integrity, it is necessary that the same people stay together for the weekend. It is also essential that people prepare by reading the suggested books for the section they choose. Expanded descriptions for many of the following sessions are available at: <http://curriculumstudy.org>

### 1. Teachers Make a Difference Project

GENERAL ENRICHMENT TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED

This project seeks to reclaim the national discourse on teaching and learning through stories of how "Teachers Make a Difference." Present your own teaching story for the camera during this session and provide feedback to others. Our focus on video is modeled after traditional process writing, and we encourage participants to experiment, practice, and bring "video drafts" to Asilomar to work on over the weekend. Visit conference website for more information.

**PRE-CONFERENCE READING:** Visit [curriculumstudy.org](http://curriculumstudy.org) for additional information and session assignment.

### 2. Ekphrastika: Artistic Dialogue for Our Classrooms and Ourselves

GENERAL ENRICHMENT USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS ENGLISH LEARNERS  
DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED

Ekphrastic poetry is conversation between pieces of art. A writer interprets a work of visual art, then creates poetry that reflects or "dialogues" with that painting, photograph, sculpture, or other artistic creation. This cross-curricular session can also be done in reverse! Please bring your pen, pencil, camera, and/or paintbrush to share your writing and visual experiences with each other and our students!

**PRE-CONFERENCE READING:** Visit [curriculumstudy.org](http://curriculumstudy.org) for additional information.

### 3. A Literacy Adventure: Storytelling and Storyboarding

GENERAL ENRICHMENT USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS ENGLISH LEARNERS  
DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED

Participants will experience storytelling performances and imagery. The storyteller and artist will describe how to extract a story from life experiences, create supportive images, and embed messages in the stories for the general public. Participants will be guided in the development of their story by having other participants help to refine it for storytelling audiences and classroom settings. Bring drawing pencils and writing pads.

**PRE-CONFERENCE READING:** Visit [artistsonyafe.com](http://artistsonyafe.com) for additional information.

### 4. Bruce Springsteen: Poet of America

GENERAL ENRICHMENT TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED

This session will explore the music, lyrics, and socio-political commentary of one of America's most celebrated poet/musicians. Drawing from 30 years of Springsteen's writing we will come to better understand America and ourselves. You will leave this session with ideas on how to teach Springsteen in most literature or history courses.

**PRE-CONFERENCE READING:** (Optional) Lyrics to "Thunder Road," "Born to Run," "The River," "Matamoros Banks," "The Ghost of Tom Joad," "Youngstown," "Last to Die," "State Trooper," "Growin' Up," and anything from "The Rising" CD.

### 5. Confronting Censored Texts: *Huckleberry Finn* and *To Kill A Mockingbird*

GRADES 9-COLLEGE USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS ENGLISH LEARNERS  
DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED

Developing a protocol for teaching censored literature enables teachers to offer students challenging and controversial content. Raising questions about the current trend to rewrite text, such as *Huckleberry Finn*, participants will have opportunities to review readings that engage students in the censorship discussion. Please arrive having read *Huckleberry Finn* and *To Kill A Mockingbird*.

**PRE-CONFERENCE READING:** Mark Twain's *Huckleberry Finn* and Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*

### 6. Literacy Through Filmmaking

GRADES 6-COLLEGE DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION

Film's pervasiveness in society continues to expand from cinemas to even our mobile phones. With this expansion comes an opportunity to develop literacy through filmmaking. Participants will engage in film "boot-camp" writing, shooting, and editing their own projects with final screenings and critiques on Sunday morning.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** The session will cover everything from resources, equipment, and editing to establishing a workflow that may supplement current ELA and social studies classrooms and standards. The group will discuss lesson plans, potential activities, and usage, with the understanding that participants will make a film during the weekend. Visit [curriculumstudy.org](http://curriculumstudy.org) for additional information.

### 7. Teaching Social Justice in Your Classroom

GRADES K-12 USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS ENGLISH LEARNERS  
TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED

This interactive workshop will explore how to confidently teach socially relevant content. You will peruse films, books, and lessons accumulated by the SF Freedom School in collaboration with elementary, middle and high school teachers. This personalized workshop is designed to enhance your ELA, ELD, and SS curriculum.

### 8. AVID Programs for High Schools and Middle Schools

GRADES 6-12

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is a college-readiness system designed to increase the number of students who enroll in four-year colleges. Although AVID serves all students, it focuses on the least served students in the academic middle. The formula is simple - raise expectations of students and, with the AVID support system in place, they will rise to the challenge. For current AVID teachers and those interested in learning about the program.

### 9. Opera Anyone?

GENERAL ENRICHMENT

The Opera Group will focus this year on two operas that are being presented by the San Francisco Opera Company during the 2011-2012 Opera Season. We will explore characters that live outside of society and who tend to be laws unto themselves. We will select two operas from the following: *Don Giovanni*, *Turandot*, *Carmen*. The group will view, listen, and discuss the two selected operas. A variety of materials will be provided.

### 10. *The Outsiders* and Other Novels for Middle School Students

GRADES 6-12 USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS ENGLISH LEARNERS  
DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED

This interactive session will provide opportunities to share projects, strategies, and lessons for *The Outsiders* and other engaging novels for middle school students. Bring examples and student work to inspire others and leave this session inspired to bring new ideas to teaching classic middle school novels.

### 11. River of Words

GRADES 9-COLLEGE GENERAL ENRICHMENT USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS  
TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED

In this poetry writing session, we will write a lot, focusing on the importance of place. Learn fun and engaging ways to spark your students' and your own imaginations by writing that informs and inspires. River of Words is a place-based K-12 program created to promote watershed awareness, literacy, and the arts.

### 12. Writing on the Road

GRADES K-COLLEGE GENERAL ENRICHMENT USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS

Teachers of writing rarely have time to practice the craft of writing themselves. Participants select a local destination and are given the time to write. Group members respond to one another's drafts. Spend a weekend writing in the beautiful surrounding of Asilomar and brushing up on how to get students to respond to one another's writing.

### 13. Drama in the Classroom

GRADES 6-12 USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED

This workshop provides English teachers with Drama tools they can use to take the "page to the stage" in order to engage students on a physical, emotional and intellectual level. Over the course of our sessions, we will learn how to select a passage from literature, analyze the passage to transform it into an actor's script—create a character profile—and finally, to stage the newly created script.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Wear comfortable clothing, as the session will be physically active. Visit [curriculumstudy.org](http://curriculumstudy.org) for additional information and suggested supply list.

### 14. Learning and Lessons: Have We Found a Good Fit?

GRADES 6-12 USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED  
DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION

Focusing on selected articles, the group will discuss recent research on learning and the brain, and will consider whether this research has had an impact on instructional frameworks, thereby raising questions about how classroom lessons are designed. Articles and an agenda will be emailed to participants before the conference.

### 15. Dystopian Literature

GRADES 6-12

Why has dystopian literature captured the imaginations of today's students? How do we as teachers incorporate the passion for this genre into our classrooms? How does this genre help students make sense of our changing world? We will share booklists as well as ideas for teaching these books in the classroom.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Upon registration, a list of Young Adult and Adult Dystopian Literature titles will be mailed to participants along with selected articles. Participants should bring titles to share with the group.

## SATURDAY NIGHT AROUND THE HEARTH

### 7:15-8:30 First Evening Sessions

• **State of The Profession:** Miles Meyers will lead a discussion of some of the critical issues facing California schools today. Bring your questions and be prepared to enter into the discussion.

• **Open Mic Reading:** Gary Thomas will be the moderator for those wanting to share their writing.

• **Movie: "Race to Nowhere"** - Featuring the heartbreaking stories of young people across the country who have been pushed to the brink, educators who are burned out and worried that students aren't developing the skills they need, and parents who are trying to do what's best for their kids, *Race to Nowhere* points to the

silent epidemic in our schools: cheating has become commonplace, students have become disengaged, stress-related illness, depression and burnout are rampant, and young people arrive at college and the workplace unprepared and uninspired.

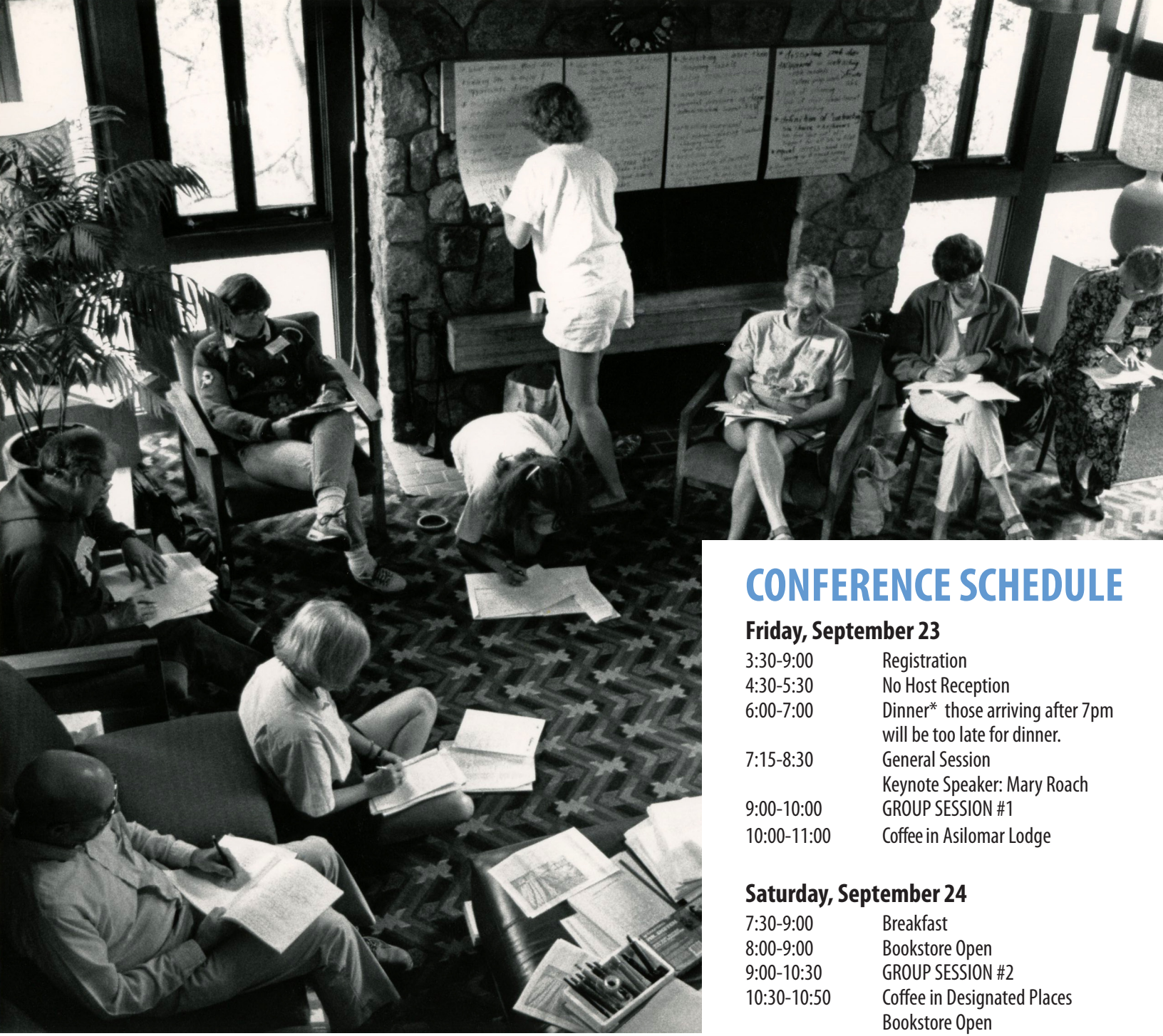
### 8:45-10:00 Second Evening Sessions

• **Discussion of "Race to Nowhere":** Enter into a discussion of the movie. What are the implications for you and your students?

• **Have you Read a Good Book Lately?** Join with others to share your good reads; learn about titles that might interest you as well. Join in an informal conversation about books.

curriculumstudy.org  
for more information





# 60 ASILOMAR

LANGUAGE ARTS CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2011

Register early to assure lodging and priority in sessions!

## CONFERENCE FEES

Because a predetermined number of rooms on the Asilomar grounds have been reserved for this conference, registrations are processed in the order they are received until all spaces are filled. Historically, this occurs by June 15 or earlier. Register by paying all fees at the same time. **No on-site registrations are taken.**

Please complete and clip a separate registration form (photocopies acceptable) for each person attending and mail in the same envelope with your payment (made out to the Curriculum Study Commission) for the full amount to Steven Weinberg, 6129 Buena Vista Ave, Oakland, CA 94618 (telephone 510-420-1553 <steweinberg@gmail.com >).

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

### Friday, September 23

- 3:30-9:00 Registration
- 4:30-5:30 No Host Reception
- 6:00-7:00 Dinner\* those arriving after 7pm will be too late for dinner.
- 7:15-8:30 General Session  
Keynote Speaker: Mary Roach
- 9:00-10:00 GROUP SESSION #1
- 10:00-11:00 Coffee in Asilomar Lodge

### Saturday, September 24

- 7:30-9:00 Breakfast
- 8:00-9:00 Bookstore Open
- 9:00-10:30 GROUP SESSION #2
- 10:30-10:50 Coffee in Designated Places
- 10:50-12:00 Bookstore Open
- 12:00-1:00 GROUP SESSION #3
- 12:00-1:00 Lunch
- 1:30-3:00 Bookstore Open
- 3:00-3:30 GROUP SESSION #4
- 4:00-5:30 No Host Reception and Book Signing
- 6:00-7:00 Dinner
- 7:15-8:30 Around the Hearth Sessions I
- 8:45-10:00 Around the Hearth Sessions II

### Sunday, September 25

- 7:30-9:00 Breakfast
- 8:00-9:00 Bookstore Open
- 9:30-10:15 GROUP SESSION #5
- 10:45-12:00 General Session: Stories out of School and Arturo Muñoz Vasquez

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY** Date \_\_\_\_\_

Number of years teaching \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: M / F  
 Grade level you teach: K-3 4-6 7-8 9-12 College  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evening Phone(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ **Note:** Registration will not be processed without a phone number!  
 Summer Phone(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 School \_\_\_\_\_  
 District \_\_\_\_\_  
 Roommate(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Group #: 1st \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd \_\_\_\_\_ 3rd \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Enter your choice of session numbers 1-15 in each blank)

STUDENT TEACHER \_\_\_\_\_ CATE MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ RETIRED \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTRATION FEES	CATE MEMBER	NON-MEMBER*
Early Registration (postmarked by April 30)	\$110	\$150
Regular Registration (postmarked after April 30)	\$170	\$210
Off-Grounds Early Registration (postmarked by April 30)	\$170	\$210
Off-Grounds Regular Registration (postmarked after April 30)	\$230	\$270

\*Members of CATE pay the reduced registration fee. Those who pay the non-member fee automatically receive a one-year membership in both CATE and CCCTE, entitling them to reduced rates at other conferences, the CATE convention, and a one-year subscription to California English.

## UNIT CREDIT

You can earn 1.5 quarter units of university credit. Check the box if you are interested in Cal State East Bay Extension Credit. Yes!

## ACCOMMODATIONS (LODGING AND MEALS)

The accommodations fee includes two nights' lodging and six (6) meals (Friday dinner, served from 6:00-7:00 pm, through Sunday lunch). **Only a very limited number of single rooms are available. Rooms fill early and all room assignments are on a first-come first-served basis.** Participants lodging off grounds **must pay** the off-grounds registration fee. Off-grounds registration does not include meals; however, a Non-Resident Meal Ticket for six meals is available for \$80. **The following prices include lodging and meals:**

### HISTORIC (smaller and older rooms with private bath)

- Tide Inn, Hilltop, Lodge, Scripps**
- Single \$335
  - Double \$230 per person
- (If selected, you must indicate a second choice. Remit the larger fee.)

### STANDARD (larger and newer rooms with private bath)

- East Woods, North Woods, View Crescent, Long View**
- Single \$420
  - Double \$260 per person

Total Accommodations	\$ _____
Registration Fee	\$ _____
Non-Resident Meal Ticket \$80	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL FEES:</b>	\$ _____

(Registrations received after May 15 will be confirmed after June 15)

Payment Method (Sorry, no school purchase orders can be accepted)

Check or money order made payable to "CSC"  
 Mastercard  VISA  American Express

Card# \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ CCV# \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address  Same as Mailing Address  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

## REFUNDS

For cancellations by July 15, a refund minus a \$25 processing fee will be granted upon request. Due to changes in Asilomar Conference Center policies, we are no longer able to make refunds after July 15, 2011.

Will you attend the Saturday reception? Yes  No

Vegetarian Menu please  
 Wheelchair Access needed  Box Lunch for Sunday noon

(Order now if you plan to eat a box lunch on Sunday!)

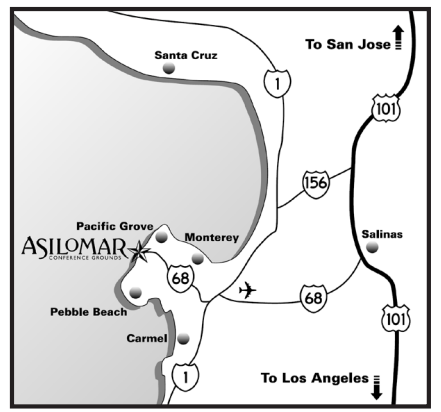
**FOR CONFERENCE UPDATES AND ADDITIONAL INFO, VISIT**  
[curriculumstudy.org](http://curriculumstudy.org)

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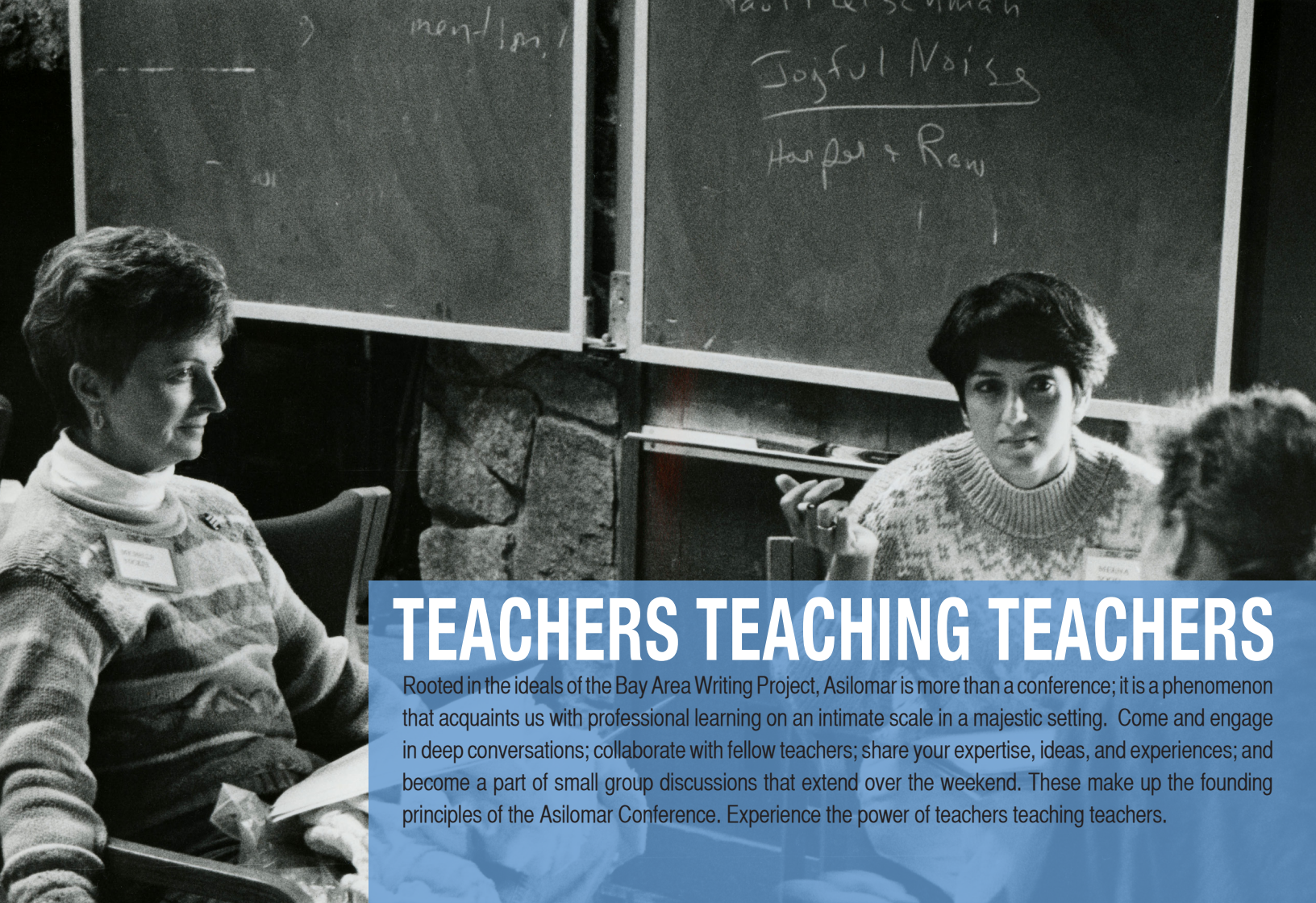
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 ASILOMAR 60 is brought to you by the Curriculum Study Commission





# TEACHERS TEACHING TEACHERS

Rooted in the ideals of the Bay Area Writing Project, Asilomar is more than a conference; it is a phenomenon that acquaints us with professional learning on an intimate scale in a majestic setting. Come and engage in deep conversations; collaborate with fellow teachers; share your expertise, ideas, and experiences; and become a part of small group discussions that extend over the weekend. These make up the founding principles of the Asilomar Conference. Experience the power of teachers teaching teachers.

**60** SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2011  
**ASILOMAR**  
LANGUAGE ARTS CONFERENCE

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Oakland, CA 94618

**1st Class Mail**



The Asilomar Conference is sponsored by the Curriculum Study Commission of the Central California Council of Teachers of English, an affiliate of the California Association of Teachers of English and the National Council of Teachers of English.