

Asilomar 44

Asilomar Conference Grounds
Pacific Grove, California

September 23-25, 1994

Unexpected Gifts— Welcome Legacies



Curriculum Study Commission
Central California Council of Teachers of English

Asilomar 44 Unexpected Gifts— Welcome Legacies

The Forty-Fourth Annual Gathering of Teachers of English, Preschool through University

Unexpected gifts come sudden, wiping out distances between us. Legacies are more measured, seeking only to endure in what the eye and ear record and the heart knows. As we look to this weekend by the sea and to the year ahead in the classroom, may the gifts of reading and listening — our shared legacy— renew our spirit of excitement in discovering unexpected gifts both for and from our students.

Program

Friday, September 23

- 3:30 – 9:00 Registration
4:30 – 6:00 CCCTE Reception
6:00 – 7:00 Dinner
7:15 – 8:30 General Session
Peggy O'Brien & Michael Tolaydo,
Folger Shakespeare Library,

Enduring Legacy

Introduced by Dan Wolter

- 9:00 – 10:00 Group Session 1

Saturday, September 24

- 7:30 – 8:30 Breakfast
9:00 – 10:30 Group Session 2
10:45–11:45 Group Session 3
12:00 – 1:00 Lunch
1:30 – 2:30 Group Session 4
3:00 – 4:00 General Session
Janet Emig & John Mayher,
Gifts and Legacies for a 21st Century
Introduced by

Dale Oscarson and Ernie Karsten

- 4:30 – 6:00 Celebrating Asilomar: Reception
6:00 – 7:00 Dinner
7:30 – 9:00 Around the Hearth of your choice:
A. Classical Piano with *John Cotter*
B. Poetry Reading with *William Dickey and Gail Marie Pahmeier*
C. Story Telling with *Clara Yen*
D. "Shakespeare Set Free": Ruby Bernstein moderates a discussion with *Peggy O'Brien and Michael Tolaydo*



UNEXPECTED GIFT, a special event: On Saturday evening, Haydn Reiss presents his perceptive and photographically engaging tribute to William Stafford, the 1994 documentary, *William Stafford and Robert Bly: A Literary Friendship*, providing a glimpse into the lives and persons of William Stafford and Robert Bly as they read and discuss their poetry amid the dramatic contrasts and colors of the Northwest. Filmmaker Reiss will be present to discuss the production of the film and to answer questions.

- E. Whose Standards? *Claire Pelton moderates a discussion with Janet Emig and John Mayher*
F. California Young Reader Medal with *Judy Toll*
G. Viewing Verdi's Opera "Macbeth" with *Robert Palazzi*
H. Voices in Literature with *Ed Farrell and Tom Gage*
I. San Francisco Sleuths with *mystery novelist John Lescroart*

9:15 – 10:30 **Unexpected Gift**

Screening: **William Stafford and Robert Bly: A Literary Friendship**
Directed by Haydn Reiss, 1994

Sunday, September 25

- 7:30 – 8:30 Breakfast
9:00 – 10:00 Group Session 5
10:45–11:45 General Session
Al Young,
One Legacy from Many Gifts
Introduced by Carrie Jefferson

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

Friday Evening With ...

■ Peggy O'Brien

Folger Shakespeare Library remains the world's foremost center for the preservation and study of Shakespearean and Elizabethan masterpieces. Nationally known as a vibrant teacher of Shakespeare, Peggy O'Brien serves as Head of Education at the Folger, creating and teaching a wide range of Shakespeare education programs for students and teachers of all ages in both the Washington, D. C. area and across the country. Washington Square Press publishes her three volume series on teaching Shakespeare, *Shakespeare Set Free*. She received an honorary degree from Georgetown University, the 1993 Public Humanities Award from the District of Columbia's Humanities Council, and she served as an American faculty member at the Prince of Wales Shakespeare School at the Royal Shakespeare Company. Those who observe Peggy O'Brien in action come away with a lifetime memorable experience.

■ Michael Tolaydo

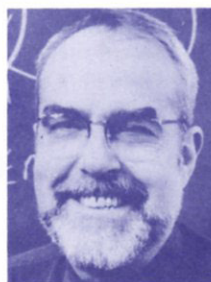
Another memorable delight is seeing Shakespeare played at the beautiful Folger Library Theatre. Michael Tolaydo, artistic director of The Travelling Shakespeare Company, has directed among others such plays as *Hamlet*, *Twelfth Night*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Beggar's Opera*, and *The Crucible*, and recently *Macbeth* for the Folger Shakespeare Theatre. His acting credits include many roles at the Folger Shakespeare Theatre, and on Broadway he has appeared in *Edward II*, and *A Moon for the Misbegotten*, among others. As a filmmaker, Michael Tolaydo directed the NEH-funded film *The Romance of the Rose*, having appeared in the American stage premiere of that play. Each August he travels to England to teach members of the Royal Shakespeare Company.



Michael Tolaydo and Peggy O'Brien



Janet Emig



John Mayher

Saturday Afternoon With ...

■ Janet Emig

Last November at NCTE's convention in Pittsburgh, Janet Emig received the prestigious Rewey Belle Inglis Award as Outstanding Woman in English Education. This award and her 1989 presidency of NCTE came as no surprise to anyone familiar with her long devotion to excellence in the teaching of English. With the publication of *The Composing Processes of Twelfth Graders*, English teachers everywhere recognized the support and insight they needed to foster their own understanding of writing and how it can be approached in the classroom. Her subsequent publications, honors, and professorship of English Education at Rutgers University have revealed her as mentor to teachers of English nationwide. Currently, Janet Emig chairs the National board of the Standards Project for English Language Arts.

■ John Mayher

John Mayher, writer of the much admired 1992 award-winning book, *Uncommon Sense: Theoretical Practice in Language Education*, and professor of English education at New York University, comes to us in part from the Bay Area as teacher of English at Homestead and Cubberley High Schools. His colleagues remember him as a young thinker wanting to get on with the business of teaching English without jargon, but with imagination and passion. As did Janet Emig, Mayher received his doctorate from Harvard's Graduate School of Education. More recently, he has chaired NCTE's Executive Committee of the Conference on English Education. His many titles include the NCTE selection as the year's best: *Uncommon Sense: Theoretical Practice in Language Education* which is presently making itself known to English education departments around the country.

Around-the-Hearth With ...

• John Cotter (A)

Curriculum Study Commission registrar for Asilomar, part-time instructor at Chabot College, emeritus English teacher at Encinal High, and accomplished pianist, John Cotter invites conferees to join him for a bit of after-dinner piano.

• William Dickey (B)

Nationally acclaimed poet William Dickey once again honors Asilomar with his reading. His most recent book of poetry, *In the Dreaming*, surfaced for publication last fall.

• Gail Marie Pahmeier (B)

A poet and faculty member at the University of Nevada, Reno, Gail Marie Pahmeier joins William Dickey for an evening of poetry reading.

• Clara Yen (C)

A collector and sharer of family, folk, and fairy tales, Clara Yen has been featured at schools, libraries, and storytelling festivals throughout the Bay Area and California.

• Judy Toll (F)

An expert in literature for youth, Curriculum Study Commission member Judy Toll discusses California Young Reader Medal winners. A high school librarian, she also serves as CATE's representative on the Young Reader's Medal Committee.

• Bob Palazzi (G)

Lover of opera and the literature which frequently has prompted its composition, former CATE president Bob Palazzi brings to hearthside the Glyndebourne production of Verdi's *Macbeth* with Josephine Barstow, Kostas Paskalis, and James Morris. The new production of Verdi's *Macbeth* with Gwyneth Jones and James Morris is scheduled to open San Francisco's opera season on September 9.

• Ed Farrell - Tom Gage (H)

Long time observers and contributors to improving the teaching of English, active in NCTE and on the Curriculum Study Commission, both search the pathways toward the future of English teaching to find its meaning for our classroom endeavor. Around-the-hearth Ed Farrell and Tom Gage will engage *Voices in Literature*.

• John Lescroart (I)

Author of seven novels including *Dead Irish*, which was nominated for the Shamus Award for Best Novel by the Private Eye Writers of America, John Lescroart brings San Francisco sleuths to mystery fans around-the-hearth. In August this year Donald I. Fine will release his latest book in his Dismas Hardy series, *The 13th Juror*.

Asilomar 44 Unexpected

Group Discussion Sessions

The Asilomar conference is based on sustained group discussions following the teachers-teaching-teachers, collaborative learning philosophy. The chair and one or more resource 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.

Please select a first, second and third choice from the group sessions below. Every effort will be made to assign your first choice, but groups are limited to twenty-five since more would tend to limit discussion. Group sessions will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.

Session discussions will include ideas and methods for meeting the needs of all students, including the special needs of those students at risk, those who are educationally disadvantaged, those whose first language is not English, and those at both ends and in the middle of various ranges of ability and achievement.

The following letters after each title indicate the approximate grade level focus:

(E) Elementary (M) Middle (S) Secondary
(C) College (G) General Interest



1. Shakespeare Set Free

EMSC

Shakespeare Set Free is all about teaching Shakespeare's plays actively. For purposes of focus, we'll pay most attention to *Macbeth* and *Romeo and Juliet*, but we'll also include other plays in our explorations by means of direct interaction with Shakespeare's language. The weekend will feature close reading, voice work, character work, scene work, examination of various texts, and perhaps examination of various video versions.

2. Publishing in the Classroom

EMSC

Learn how to create professional-quality publications (anthologies, newspapers, newsletters, posters, etc.) in the classroom, using technology that is currently available to the average teacher in California. Bring ideas, resources, and products to share in a "hands-on" workshop setting. You may also want to bring a laptop or portable computer to the session.

3. New Dimensions in Portfolio Assessment

MS

Participants will receive information about the new portfolio assessment component of the CLAS and discuss the implications for their classrooms in terms of instruction and assessment as well as ways of working with portfolios in classrooms.

4. Macbeth and Othello in Drama and Opera

EMSC

This group will hear and analyze Rossini's opera "Otello" and Verdi's "Macbeth". Sources of the opera — both Shakespeare and others — will be discussed. Libretti will be provided as the group views, hears, and discusses sections of the operas.

5. Practicum on Poetry

EMSC

The Poetry Practicum will discuss and demonstrate successful techniques for presenting poetry, developing an appreciation for it, and motivating students to create their own. Please bring 25 copies of a specific poem that has been successful in your classes.

6. Restructuring

MS

Our presentation will include our work with outcomes and assessment, daily schedule changes, decision making, inter-disciplinary collaborations, and student work.

16. San Francisco Sleuths

SC

We will follow San Francisco sleuths in pursuit of suspects across bridges, over hills, by bay and beach. Read at least one mystery novel each by John Lescroart, Marcia Muller, and Sister Carol Anne O'Marie and be ready to discuss the different sleuthing styles of their detectives who stomp the same city streets.

17. Putting CLAS in your Classroom

EMS

Join teacher-members of the English-Language Arts CLAS team to explore strategies for engaging your students in active reading and writing. We will study pictures, poems, and prose pieces; write journals, logs, and a range of discourse types; sketch, draw, and make metaphorical graphics. Group leaders will also provide the most current sample test items and related documents.

18. Breaking New Ground: Insights Into Teaching Language Minority Students

MS

How are second languages learned? How do different cultures use language to socialize their children? What impact do our classroom practices have on second language students? We'll examine current research, looking for practical applications to guide us in our teaching.

19. Elizabeth Bishop: Intellectual Passions

SC

We will explore the development of Bishop's poetic voice by involving ourselves with her passion for precise observation. We will read and discuss her poems as her means of achieving self-revelation. Attention will be given to classroom use of the materials.

20. Getting Off to a Solid Start: Teaching Non-Readers to Write

E

Discussion of the relationships between phonemic awareness, writing and reading, and the importance of invented spelling. Examples will analyze student samples for developmental stages of very early writing and develop a rubric for their own use.

21. Oral Language: Can We Talk?

MS

Effective instruction in English integrates not only reading and writing, but speaking and listening as well. Explore a variety of oral language strategies and plan for using drama structures, collaborative discussions, and listening activities to engage students in literary texts and provide the basis for writing.

Gifts — Welcome Legacies

Please Post

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27. "Meeting at the Crossroads:

Gender Issues in our Classrooms"

EMSC

We will look at the AAUW Executive Summary of its report *How Schools Shortchange Girls* (1992) which reveals gender inequities in schools (K-College). Read *Meeting at the Crossroads: Women's Psychology and Girls' Development*, Brown and Gilligan, (1992) Harvard University Press. We will explore, through writing, talking, and dramatics, our constructs about curriculum and school structure in relation to the education of girls — in light of how girls construct knowledge.

28. The Power to Choose: A Taste of Foxfire

MS

Does giving students power require choosing students over curriculum? Through their own experiences as students and as teachers, workshop participants will explore notions of how teacher, student, and curriculum interact, and using those findings, will design a community project that will begin during the weekend. Additional information will be sent to participants.

29. The "Write Way" into Math and Science

EM

We have moved to hands-on materials in math and science and begun writing in these content areas. The need appears to move students to synthesize understandings through a clarification of ideas. Participants are to share ideas.

30. Sports Literature

SC

Like all literature, sports lit. raises questions about the nature of humankind: Who are we? What is good? What meaning can we give our lives? In this workshop, we'll read, discuss and analyze fiction, drama and poetry which have sports themes..



31. Extending the Classroom Walls:

Family Writing

EM

Create a classroom community which includes parents. All parents are able to participate by writing about events they have experienced, such as the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, the Tiananmen uprising, and the bombing of Hiroshima. We will share ways to involve parents on a regular basis through such writings.

32. The Comic Genius of Charlie Chaplin

G

Join us for a weekend of Charlie Chaplin—whose humor, pathos and

humanism could make an audience laugh and cry within a single scene. His pantomime and poetry reveals our humanity and our struggle. The mythic tramp awaits our watchful eye.

33. The Multicultural Cinderella

EMSC

The Multicultural Cinderella is a literature-based curriculum developed and used with inner-city junior high students. It studies more than a dozen Cinderella stories from cultures around the world (no Disney versions used) and provides materials supporting student-centered learning. Display of 15–20 books included.

34. Cyberspace: Your New Reality

SC

William Gibson's acclaimed science-fiction novel *Neuromancer* projects a violent, fascinating society: corporate warfare, computer cowboys navigating virtual reality, artificial intelligences seeking independence. Read *Neuromancer*; we'll discuss how much of Gibson's world is here today — for us, for our students.

35. Teaching Toni Morrison

in English and Social Science

MSC

Much of the wide-spread appeal of Toni Morrison is the interdisciplinary teaching possibilities. The group will focus on specific works and their historical and literary values in English and Social Science classes.

36. Practical Portfolios

EMSC

Why all the fuss about portfolios? What are they? How does one start a portfolio program? Participants will learn the answer to these and other questions about portfolios in the classroom. Discover how to use the portfolio as a teaching tool.

37. Writing on the Road

G

Freeing students from the classroom can encourage experimentation with different points of view and genres. Workshop participants will select a local destination to explore and write about. Group members will respond to one another's drafts during the weekend with a view toward producing a classroom publication.

Around the Hearth

A. Music with John Cotter.

B. Poetry with William Dickey and Gail Marie Pahmeier.

C. Storytelling with Clara Yen

D. "Shakespeare Set Free" with Peggy O'Brien and Michael Tolaydo

E. *Whose Standards?* with Janet Emig and John Mayher

F. *California Young Reader Medal*

G. Verdi's Opera "Macbeth"

H. *Voices in Literature* with Ed Farrell and Tom Gage

I. *San Francisco Sleuths* with novelist John Lescroart

7. Exploring Technology

EMSC

Most of us have nibbled at the edges of the vast new world of electronic technology and are eager to take a bigger bite, but how! Teachers, practitioners, and technicians will join together to help explore the electronic superhighway, desktop publishing, a new software program for journal writing and more! Equipment provided.

8. Storytelling — the Way to a Multicultural Curriculum

EMSC

Through stories we can weave the many cultures and languages of our classroom into one community. We will learn storytelling strategies, share resources, discover curriculum correlations, and present stories. Meet an inspiring storyteller and be rejuvenated.

9. The Pity of War

MSC

This workshop will focus on the literature of war as it affects individuals—both combatants and non-combatants. We will discuss war literature that is appropriate for classroom use; additionally, we will focus on interdisciplinary strategies for use with social studies programs.

10. Multi-Graded Classroom

EM

Why must we divide kids by grades, or by age, or by ability? When all ages work together on a common, real world problem, each is challenged to contribute to its solution and a community of scholars develops. Seven enthusiastic teachers now working with mixed classrooms will share their joys and problems.

11. The Mythic Journey: Awakening the Hero in Your Students

S

The pattern of the Hero's journey is the core of the human experience. Using lecture, discussion, writing and film, we will examine how to present the Journey cycle and use it as a basis for writing, literary analysis, and self-discovery. Participants should view the *Star Wars Trilogy*, *Field of Dreams*, *Hook*, and read *Bless Me, Ultima* by Rudolfo Anaya.

12. California Literature, A Regional Approach

SC

Explanation of active 10th grade course which uses *Many Californias* (Edited by Gerald Haslam) as its text with a variety of supplemental short pieces and six major novels. Participants will receive course outline along with discussion of regional approach and its classroom implementation, with opportunity for collaboration by participants on possible inclusion of new or neglected California authors.

13. Magical Realism

SC

The human landscape of Latin America is rich soil for the growth of Magical Realism. This workshop will look intensely at short stories by Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Julio Cortazar, Isabel Allende, Jorge Borges and others.

14. Further Explorations Into the Frightened Heart

G

Reading aloud the whispers, cries, and shouts of mendacity and truth from their copies of *The Children's Hour*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, and *Tea and Sympathy*, participants will explore the implications of alleged homosexuality and question the relevance of these plays for audiences of the 90s.

15. The Moral Steinbeck

MSC

Exploration of legend to parable in Steinbeck's *The Pearl*, and the controversial "fearful symmetry" in the lesser known play-novelle, *Burning Bright*.

22. Outing the Canon—The Lesbian and Gay Texts We're Already Teaching

S

This session will explore texts and writers that we are already sharing with our students, including work by Cather, Baldwin, Walker, Williams, and Dickinson. Together, we will review biographical material and relevant gay history, learning to teach the texts in ways that place them in their genuine contexts and extend their connections with our students' lives.

23. "Raise the Self by the Self... for Verily the Self is the Friend of Self"

SC

Toni Morrison in *Song of Solomon*, E.M. Foster in *A Passage to India*, and Joseph Conrad in *Heart of Darkness* illustrate within various traditions the theme of self-discovery. We will venture into an aesthetic and philosophical appreciation of Western and Eastern cultures which yield such rich expressions of the archetypal quest for individuation.

24. Family Folklore

EMS

Family folklore helps to humanize history and connect generations. Using a variety of writing, including personal memories, poetry, informal essay, oral history, and historical fiction, students learn about themselves and their families in a comprehensive project that celebrates the multicultural richness of our classrooms.

25. The Virtual Poem: A Poetry Writing Workshop

G

"What the stalled or not-yet-started writer needs is some magic for getting in touch with himself, some key," John Gardner writes. In what has come to be an annual poetry writing opportunity, stalled or not-yet-started poets will have a chance to write, to share, to critique their work. Join two poets (one stalled) for a weekend of transcending the



shopping lists and lesson plans of our everyday reality and creating the virtual poem.

26. Through the Book, Out of the Class, Into the World

MS

Participants will learn how to develop integrated projects involving various modes of discourse that take the students out of the class and into the world. Participants will learn how to incorporate telecommunications and audio-visuals related to core works. This workshop will provide materials for students at all levels and will require participants to develop projects for their classrooms. We will also discuss the philosophy behind such project-based or experiential learning.

Registration Information

On-Site Bookstore

The bookstore will be located in Scripps Living Room during the conference weekend. Every attempt will be made to have the books listed by the session. If you would like to pre-order, telephone or write:

BOOKWORKS

667 Lighthouse Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA 93950
(408) 372-2242

Conference Fees

Registration

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. Register by paying all fees at the same time. **No on-site registrations are taken.**

Early registration (by May 31)

Regular Registration (June 1-15)

Late registration (After June 15)

Participants interested in registering **after June 15** must call the Conference Registrar, John Cotter, (510) 357-5425, to determine whether rooms are still available.

Accommodations (Lodging and Meals)

The accommodations fee includes two nights' lodging and six (6) meals (Friday dinner, served from 6:00 to 7:00 P.M., 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 may register for the conference on a nonresidential basis by paying the off-grounds fee of \$25. Meals are not included; individual meal tickets, however, may be purchased at the Asilomar office. **By state law, smoking is forbidden in all rooms.**

Refunds

For cancellations by **September 15**, a refund minus a \$15 processing fee will be granted if requested. No refunds can be made after September 15, 1994.

Membership Fee

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

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS...

About registration or accommodations, or if you need extra copies of this brochure, write or telephone the Conference Registrar:

John Cotter (510) 357-5425
2882 Marineview Drive, San Leandro, CA 94577

For additional program information, please write to:

Conference Chair Dale Oscarson
230 Durazno Way, Portola Valley, CA 94028

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Asilomar 44

Registration Form

Please complete and clip a separate registration form (photocopies acceptable) for each person attending and mail in the same envelope with your check (made out to Curriculum Study Commission) for the full amount to John Cotter, 2882 Marineview Drive, San Leandro, CA 94577.

Date _____

Name _____ M / F

Address _____

City _____ P.M. ZIP _____ Phone (____) _____

School/District _____

City _____ A.M. ZIP _____ Phone (____) _____

Roommate(s) _____

Preferred Group #: 1st _____ 2nd _____ 3rd _____

Registration Fee	CATE member	non-member	
Early registration (All fees paid by May 31)	\$45	\$80	Please circle appropriate category and fill in the amount below
Regular registration (June 1 to 15)	\$60	\$95	
Late registration (after June 15)	\$75	\$110	
			\$ _____

Accommodations (lodging and meals; prices per person)

(Please check desired accommodation)

HISTORIC (some with shared bath)

Guest Inn
 2 to a room \$120 each

HISTORIC (private bath)
Tide Inn, Hilltop, Lodge, Scripps
 Single \$165
 2 to a room \$125 each

DELUXE (private bath)
Sea Galaxy, Surf and Sand
 3/4 to a room \$120 each

East Woods, North Woods, View Crescent, Long View
 2 to a room \$135 each

Vegetarian menu please Wheelchair access needed

Total Accommodations \$ _____

Off-grounds Fee \$ 25 \$ _____

Saturday Reception: (\$5.00) \$ _____

Total fees enclosed (payable by check only): \$ _____

Sorry, no school purchase orders can be accepted

First Asilomar Conference? Yes No

Interest in CSU Hayward Extension Credit? Yes No

My *Around the Hearth* preference is: _____

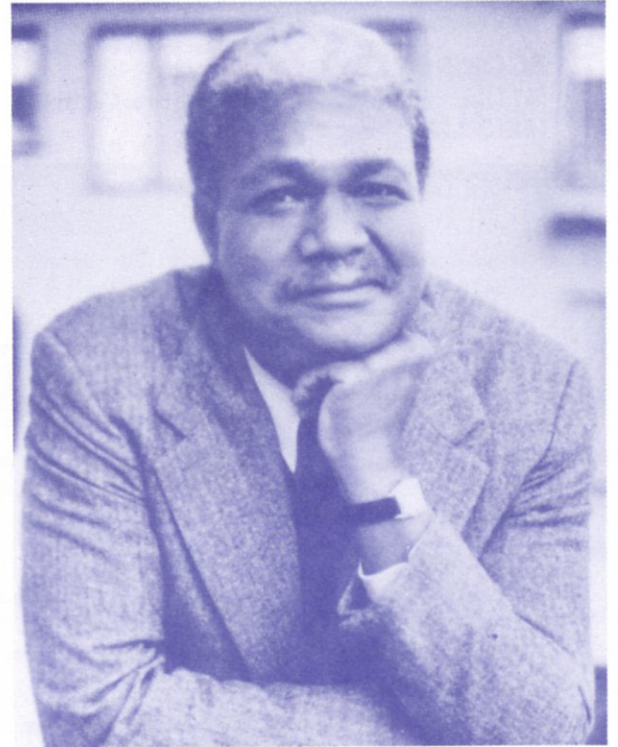
Sunday Morning with Al Young

☞ "He has a remarkable ear, a wise and musical ear to match his voice. And when I open up any of his books, I listen." —Bill Cosby

☞ "Al Young is following his distinct vision... taking chances that in the end work to elevate the exercise of writing to art." —San Francisco Chronicle

Al Young's writings, as his life, reflect the aesthetic and social unity — that gift of universality — which the Roman senator Cicero expressed millennia ago: "All the arts which pertain to humankind are joined as if by kinship." Across genres, Al Young provides images and insights which offer a legacy of heightened moments in literature, jazz, and painting spanning three decades.

A native of the Gulf Coast and resident of the Bay Area, he is the author of several screenplays as well as a dozen books of fiction, non-fiction, essays and poetry. His freelance work has appeared in *Rolling Stone*, the *New York Times*, the *Chicago Sun Times*, and *Harper's*, and his teaching career includes Stanford, U.C. Berkeley, and U.C. Santa Cruz among others. He now travels frequently between East and West coasts for teaching, reading, and speaking engagements. His 1987 book, *Things Ain't What they Used to Be*, chronicles his musical memories, and in January, Echo Press of New York City will issue his latest publication, *Drowning in the Sea of Love*.



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