

Children's Authors and Illustrators

With Iowa Connections

Compiled by Barbara Campbell
March, 2008

Curriculum Resources Lab
University of Iowa, College of Education

DINA ANASTASIO, was born in Des Moines, Iowa. She was editor for Sesame Street Magazine from 1980-84 and has written books for all ages from preschool through young adult, as well as professional materials. Titles for the very young include *Pass the Peas Please: A Book of Manners*, illustrated by Katy Keck Arnsteen (Warner, 1988) and *Big Bird Can Share*, illustrated by Tom Leigh, (Western Pub. & Children's Television Workshop, 1985). She has also written high interest/low level books for struggling readers, activity books and professional materials for elementary teachers, and young adult mystery novels with environmental themes.

Something About the Author: Vol. 94
Web Page: <http://www.dinaanastasio.com/>

Titles in the Curriculum Lab:

THE CASE OF THE GLACIER PARK SWALLOW	Roberts Rinehart, 1994.	F /A534c
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NATALIA BELTING was born in Oskaloosa, Iowa in 1915, attended Coe College in Cedar Rapids, then went on to become a professor of history at the University of Illinois. Her book *The Sun is a Golden Ear Ring*, illustrated by Bernarda Bryson, was an ALA notable book in 1962 and she wrote many other children's books between the years 1959 -1974.

Something About the Author: Vol. 6;
Third Book of Junior Authors (Wilson, 1972)

Titles in the Curriculum Lab:

MOON WAS TIRED OF WALKING ON AIR	Houghton Mifflin, 1992.	398.2 /B453m
THE SUN IS A GOLDEN EARRING	Holt, Rinehart and Winston [1962]	808.88 /B453s
WHIRLWIND IS A GHOST DANCING	Dutton [1974]	811 /B453w



MARIBETH BOELTS was born in Waterloo, Iowa and received her BA from the University of Northern Iowa in 1987. She currently resides in Cedar Falls, IA. After working for several years as a preschool teacher, Boelts decided to devote full-time to her writing career. She is known for her *Little Bunny* series (A. Whitman Publishers) which presents family issues of interest to toddlers, a *Kids Guide* series of safety books for very young children published by PowerKids Press, and many other picture books for children including *A Firefighter's Thanksgiving*, *Before you Were Mine*, and *Those Shoes*.

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

BEFORE YOU WERE MINE	Putnam, 2007.	new
BIG DADDY, FROG WRESTLER	Albert Whitman, 2000.	E /B671b
A KID'S GUIDE TO STAYING SAFE AROUND FIRE	PowerKids Press, 1997.	628.9 /B671k
A KID'S GUIDE TO STAYING SAFE AROUND WATER	PowerKids Press, 1997.	797.2 /B671k
A KID'S GUIDE TO STAYING SAFE ON BIKES	PowerKids Press, 1997.	796.6 /B671k
THE FIREFIGHTERS' THANKSGIVING	Putnam's, 2004.	E /B671f
GRACE AND JOE	A. Whitman, 1994.	E /B671g
LULLABY LULLABOOK	HarperFestival, 2002.	E /B671l
THOSE SHOES	Candlewick, 2007.	New
WHEN IT'S THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL	Putnam's Sons, 2004.	E /B671w
YOU'RE A BROTHER, LITTLE BUNNY	Albert Whitman, 2001.	E /B671y



ALEX BRADLEY is the pen name for author Jeremy Jackson who was born in Ohio, grew up on a farm in Missouri, and currently lives in Iowa City, Iowa. He is a graduate of Vassar College and of the Iowa Writers Workshop. *24 Girls in 7 Days*, a young adult novel published in 2005, is set in Iowa City and local readers will recognize many of the names and places he cites. Jackson has also published cookbooks and two other novels under his real name.

Author page at Harper Collins:
http://www.harpercollins.com/authors/24523/Jeremy_Jackson/index.aspx

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

24 GIRLS IN 7 DAYS	Dutton, 2005.	F /B811t
HOT LUNCH	Dutton, 2007.	New



CRAIG BROWN author and illustrator of children's books, was born in Fairfield, Iowa and cites Tama, IA as his hometown. He currently lives and works in Colorado Springs, CO. After working in advertising for 16 years, he became a full-time, free-lance illustrator. His love and respect for farms and nature is reflected in his works. His drawings are done using a technique called "stippling", which uses dots, spaced closely or apart for depth, then color is added with pastels.

Something About the Author : Vol. 73
 Web Page: http://www.geocities.com/craigbrown_2000/

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

BARN RAISING	Greenwillow , 2002.	E /B877b
BIG THUNDER MAGIC	Greenwillow , 1990.	E /S915b
CITY SOUNDS	Greenwillow , 1992.	307.76 /B877c
HOW DO YOU RAISE A RAISIN? (AUTHOR: PAM MUNOZ RYAN)	Charlesbridge, 2003.	664 /R989h
IN THE SPRING	Greenwillow , 1994.	E /B877i
MY BARN	Greenwillow , 1991.	E /B877m
THE PATCHWORK FARMER	Greenwillow , 1989.	E /B877p
TRACTOR	Greenwillow , 1995.	E /B877t



SARAH MARTIN BUSSE grew up in Mt. Vernon, Iowa. She is the daughter of picture book author, Jacqueline Briggs Martin and Richard Martin, an English professor at Cornell College in Mt. Vernon. She received her BFA in Creative Writing and Literature from Bennington College in Vermont and currently lives in Madison, Wisconsin with her husband and two children. Her poetry has been published in many on-line and print journals and she collaborated with her mother on the children's book *Banjo Granny*, published in 2006.

Web pages: <http://bookthatpoet.com/poets/bussesar.html>
<http://www.bluebuttongifts.com/applemedley/bluelikemilk.html>

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

BANJO GRANNY	Houghton Mifflin, 2006.	E /B981b
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DORI HILLESTAD BUTLER was born and lived in Fairmont, Minnesota for many years, but currently lives in Coralville, Iowa with her husband and two sons. Her early career included writing stories for children's magazines such as *Cricket*, *Child Life*, *Children's Digest*, *Highlights for Children*, and *Guideposts for Teens*. She was also a ghost-writer for popular children's series *The Boxcar Children* and *Sweet Valley Twins*. She has written both fiction and non-fiction picture books and novels for children and middle-grade students. Her books featuring male protagonist, Tank Talbot, may be familiar to many readers.

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Web Page : <http://www.kidswriter.com/index.htm>

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

ALEXANDRA HOPEWELL, LABOR COACH	A. Whitman., 2005.	F /B985a
DO YOU KNOW THE MONKEY MAN?	Peachtree, 2005.	F /B985d
F IS FOR FIREFIGHTING	Pelican, 2007.	628.9 /B985f
MY GRANDPA HAD A STROKE	Magination Press, 2007.	new
MY MOM'S HAVING A BABY!	A. Whitman, 2005.	618.2 /B985m
SLIDING INTO HOME	Peachtree, 2003.	F /B985s
TANK TALBOTT'S GUIDE TO GIRLS	A. Whitman, 2006.	F /B985tg
TRADING PLACES WITH TANK TALBOTT	A. Whitman, 2003.	F /B985tr



MARY CALHOUN is the pen name for author Mary Huiskamp Wilkins. She was born in Keokuk, Iowa, and besides being a writer of children's and young adult books, has worked as a reporter, a society editor, and as a volunteer in public libraries. She and her husband currently live in Clark, Colorado. She has written more than 50 books and has received numerous honors and awards over the years, particularly for *Cross-Country Cat* and *High-Wire Henry*, both illustrated by Erick Ingraham. Her love for the Mississippi River, cats and European folklore have influenced her writing and her enthusiasm for creating characters with strong, authentic emotions have contributed to the long-lasting popularity of her work.

Something about the Author: Vol. 139 (See Wilkins)

Web page: http://www.harpercollins.com/authors/11883/Mary_Calhoun/index.aspx

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

BIG SIXTEEN	Morrow, 1983.	398.2 /C152b
BLUE-RIBBON HENRY	Morrow, 1998.	E /C152b
CROSS-COUNTRY CAT	Morrow, 1979.	E /C152c
FLOOD!	Morrow, 1997.	E /C152f
HIGH-WIRE HENRY	Morrow, 1991.	E /C152hi
HOT-AIR HENRY	Morrow, 1981.	E /C152h
JACK AND THE WHOOPÉE WIND	Morrow, 1987.	E /C152ja
JULIE'S TREE	Harper & Row, 1988.	F /C152j
KATIE JOHN	Harper [1960]	F /C152k
KATIE JOHN AND HEATHCLIFF	Harper & Row, 1980.	F /C152ka
OLD MAN WHICKUTT'S DONKEY	Parents' Magazine Press [1975]	398.2 /C152o
A SHEPHERD'S GIFT	HarperCollins, 2001.	E /C152s
TONIO'S CAT	Morrow, 1996.	E /C152t
WHILE I SLEEP	Morrow, 1992.	E /C152wa
THE WITCH'S PIG : A CORNISH FOLKTALE	Morrow, 1977.	398.2 /C152wp



DAVID R. COLLINS was born in Marshalltown, Iowa. He taught English at Woodrow Wilson Jr. High and Moline Senior High in Moline, Illinois for 35 years. He has written nearly 100 books for children and young adults, mostly biographies, and has been named for numerous awards and honors. After his retirement from full-time teaching in 1997, he devoted all of his time to his writing and to speaking in schools. Active in the quad cities area, Collins founded the Mississippi Valley Writers' Conference in 1973 and continued as its chair until his death in 2001.

Something About the Author: Vol. 121

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

THE COUNTRY ARTIST : A STORY ABOUT BEATRIX POTTER.	Carolrhoda, 1989.	921 /P866c
J.R.R. TOLKIEN : MASTER OF FANTASY.	Lerner, 1992.	921 /T649j
TO THE POINT : A STORY ABOUT E.B. WHITE	Carolrhoda, 1989.	921 /W583t



GREG COUCH was born in Bettendorf, Iowa. He received a BFA in painting from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri and later studied at New York University's School of Visual Arts. He has been a children's book illustrator for over 20 years, and has also worked on two films for Blue Sky Studios: *Ice Age* and *Robots*. He now lives in Nyack, New York with his wife and family. For contact information and to see examples of his work, visit "TheIsSpot" at

<http://www.theisspot.com/search/index.cfm?fuseaction=portfolioSearchAction&artistID=a2817&SearchParameter=artistID&newSearch=yes>

Biographical information gleaned from various book jackets.

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

Anderson, Stephen A.	I KNOW THE MOON.	Philomel, 2001.	E /A549i
Behn, Harry.	HALLOWEEN.	North-South, 2003.	811 /B419h
Berry, James.	FIRST PALM TREES : AN ANANCY SPIDERMAN STORY.	Simon & Schuster, 1997.	398.24 /B534f
Cutler, Jane.	THE CELLO OF MR. O.	Dutton, 1999.	E /C989c
London, Jonathan.	SUN DANCE, WATER DANCE.	Dutton, 2001.	811 /L847s
Plourde, Lynn.	SPRING'S SPRUNG.	Simon & Schuster, 2002.	E /P731sp
Plourde, Lynn.	SUMMER'S VACATION.	Simon & Schuster, 2003.	E /P731su
Plourde, Lynn.	WILD CHILD.	Simon & Schuster, 1999.	E /P731w
Plourde, Lynn.	WINTER WAITS.	Simon & Schuster, 2001.	E /P731wi
Wood, Douglas.	THE WINDIGO'S RETURN : A NORTH WOODS STORY.	Simon & Schuster, 1996.	398.2 /W874w
Yolen, Jane.	MOON BALL.	Simon & Schuster, 1999.	E /Y54mo



MOLLY COXE was born in Atlanta, Georgia and currently lives in Norwalk, Iowa. She writes simple but witty animal stories. Some have patterned or predictable plots, especially useful for pre-school audiences; others work within a guessing-game format. She illustrates her own books, and has illustrated books for other authors as well. Her bright, water color and ink illustrations have been praised for the way they complement the text.

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Web page: http://www.harpercollins.com/authors/11970/Molly_Coxe/index.aspx

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

BIG EGG	Random House, 1997.	E /C879b
DUCKS, DUCKS, DUCKS (Author: Carol Otto)	HarperCollins, 1991.	E /O91dd
THE GREAT SNAKE ESCAPE	HarperCollins, 1994.	E /C879g
HOT DOG	Golden Books, 1998.	E /C879h
WHOSE FOOTPRINTS?	Crowell, 1990.	E /C879w



PATRICIA BRENNAN DEMUTH was born in Sioux City, Iowa and is the author several children's books, more than 30 textbooks for major publishing companies, and editor of educational products and teacher guides. Being a member of a large family (8 siblings) and living near a farm in a rural area inspired the settings for at least four of her books. After marrying, she and her husband, a photojournalist, moved to New York where she worked with him on *City Horse* (Dodd, Mead) and, *Joel, Growing Up a Farm Man* both photo-documentaries. Her more recent books have been related to natural science topics.

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Titles in Curriculum Lab:

ACHOO! : ALL ABOUT COLDS.	Grosset & Dunlap, 1997.	616.2 /D389a
BUSY AT DAY CARE HEAD TO TOE.	Dutton Children's Books, 1996.	E /D389b
IN TROUBLE WITH TEACHER.	Dutton Children's Books, 1995.	F /D389i
JOEL, GROWING UP A FARM MAN.	Dodd, Mead, 1982.	630 /D389j
THE ORNERY MORNING.	Dutton Children's Books, 1991.	E /D389o
THOSE AMAZING ANTS.	Maxwell Macmillan Canada, 1994	595.79 /D389t



MICHELLE EDWARDS, author and illustrator, (and knitting enthusiast) currently lives and works in Iowa City, Iowa. She was born in Connecticut, received her B.A. from the State University of New York at Albany and her MA and MFA from the University of Iowa. Her book, *Chicken Man* won the National Jewish Book Award and the Marcia and Louis Posner Award and it will be back in print in January, 2008. She is known for her numerous picture books and also the *Jackson Friends Series* of easy-to-read books. On her web site, Edwards states that she likes to remain "open to new ways of writing and drawing," and her most recent book, *Stinky Stern Forever*, was illustrated entirely on the computer.

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Web Page: <http://michelledwards.com/>

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

ALEF-BET: A HEBREW ALPHABET BOOK	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1992.	E /E26a
A BAKER'S PORTRAIT	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1991.	E /E26b
BLESSED ARE YOU: TRADITIONAL EVERYDAY HEBREW PRAYERS	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1993.	269.4 /E26b
CHICKEN MAN	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard B, 1991.	E /E26c
DORA'S BOOK	Carolrhoda, 1990.	E /E26db
EVE AND SMITHY : AN IOWA TALE	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1995.	E /E26e
PA LIA'S FIRST DAY	Harcourt, 2001, 1999.	F /E26p
PAPA'S LATKES	Candlewick, 2004.	E /E26p
STINKY STERN FOREVER	Harcourt, 2005.	F /E26s
THE TALENT SHOW	Harcourt, 2002.	F /E26t
WHAT'S THAT NOISE?	Candlewicks, 2002.	E /E26wh
ZERO GRANDPARENTS	Harcourt Brace, 2001.	F /E26z



JILL ESBAUM currently lives on a working farm about fifteen miles away from where she was born and raised in eastern Iowa. As a child, she was always an avid reader and story teller, but once she began reading to her own children, she decided to take a writing class, and pursue a career as a children's book author. Her stories, articles and poems have appeared in periodicals such as *Jack and Jill*, *Highlights*, *Babybug*, *Ladybug*, *Spider*, *Cricket* and *Teen Magazine*.

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Web Page: <http://www.jillesbaum.com/>

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

Curriculum Resource Lab - <http://www.education.uiowa.edu/crl/>

ESTELLE TAKES A BATH.	Henry Holt, 2006.	E /E74e
STE-E-E-E-EAMBOAT A-COMIN!	Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2005.	E /E74st
STINK SOUP.	Farrar Straus and Giroux, 2004.	E /E74s
TO THE BIG TOP	Farrar Straus and Giroux, 2008.	E /E74t



STAN FELLOWS is a commercial artist, teacher and illustrator who lives in Iowa City, Iowa. He studied at the Minneapolis College of Art and design, then continued his education at Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California. By his own calculations, he has produced about three paintings or drawings per day since leaving college, and has contributed to such publications as *Audubon*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *Harpers'*, *Smithsonian*, *Sports Illustrated* and more. He turned to illustrating books in the 1990's, working mostly in watercolor, but also in acrylics and oils. He has illustrated four children's books, to date, as well as the "Johnny Appleseed" videos produced by Rabbit Ears Productions. Fellows' love of nature and of birding is evident in his work, particularly in the illustrations for *John Muir: America's First Environmentalist* by Kathryn Lasky. Reviewers have noted his "lovely, carefully detailed scenes of natural beauty" and "the insertion of s small paintings of plants and animals" which make his work realistic, warm, and a perfect compliment to the text.

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Web Page: http://www.joaniebrep.com/fellows_bio.html
and <http://www.stanfellows.com/> (under construction)

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

Rosen Michael. J.	THE CUCKOO'S HAIKU	Candelwick, 2009	811 /R813c
Lasky, Kathryn.	JOHN MUIR: AMERICA'S FIRST ENVIRONMENTALIST	Candlewick, 2006.	921 /M953j
Schaefer, Carole Lexa.	THE COPPER TIN CUP	Candlewick, 1999.	E /S294co



STEVEN GAMMELL was born in Des Moines, Iowa and currently lives and works with his wife in St. Paul, Minnesota. He is both an illustrator and an author. He never had any formal artistic training but started his career with commercial freelance work for record stores, magazines and various periodicals in the 1960's and 70's. He became interested in children's book illustration and embarked a trip to New York in the early 1970's, portfolio in hand, to visit various publishers. An editor a Putnam's liked his work and offered him a contract to do the illustrations for "A Nutty Business" by Ida Chittum which was published in 1973 (Putnam). Since that time, he has gone on to illustrate over fifty titles. Several of the books he has illustrated have won Caldecott honors and awards: *Where the Buffaloes Begin* by Olaf Baker received an Honor in 1982; *The Relatives Came* by Cynthia Rylant won the Honor in 1986; *Song and Dance Man* by Karen Ackerman received the Caldecott Medal in 1989.

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Web Page: http://www.childrensliteraturenetwork.org/aifolder/aipages/ai_g/gammell.html

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

Ackerman, Karen	SONG AND DANCE MAN	Knopf/RandomHouse, 1988	E /A182s
Aylesworth, Jim.	OLD BLACK FLY	Holt, 1992.	E /A978ol
Aylesworth, Jim.	THE BURGER AND THE HOT DOG	Atheneum, 2001.	811 /A978b
Baker, Olaf.	WHERE THE BUFFALOES BEGIN	F. Warne, 1981.	E /B168w
Birdseye, Tom.	AIR MAIL TO THE MOON	Holiday House, 1988.	E /B618a
Blos, Joan W.	OLD HENRY	Morrow, 1987.	E /B656o
Bunting, Eve	TERRIBLE THINGS	Harper & Row, 1980.	E /B942t
Callen, Larry.	WHO KIDNAPPED THE SHERIFF? : TALES FROM TICKFAW	Atlantic Monthly, 1985.	F /C157w
Donnelly, Jennifer.	HUMBLE PIE	Atheneum, 2002.	E /D685h
Esbensen, Barbara J.	SWING AROUND THE SUN	Carolrhoda, 2003.	811 /E74s
Fritz, Jean.	STONEWALL	Putnam, 1979.	921 /J14s
Gammell, Stephen.	IS THAT YOU, WINTER? : A STORY	Silver Whistle/Harcourt, 1997.	E /G193i
Gammell, Stephen.	ONCE UPON MACDONALD'S FARM	Four Winds, 1981.	E /G193o
Gammell, Stephen.	RIDE	Silver Whistle/Harcourt, 2001.	E /G193r
Gammell, Stephen.	TWIGBOY	Harcourt, 2000.	E /G193t
Gauch, Patricia Lee.	THUNDER AT GETTYSBURG	Putnam, 1990, c1975.	F /G265th
Kinerk, Robert.	TIMOTHY COX WILL NOT CHANGE HIS SOCKS	Simon& Schuster, 2005.	E /K51t
Lisle, Janet Taylor.	THE GREAT DIMPOLE OAK	Orchard, 1987.	F /L771g
Livingston, Myra Cohn.	THANKSGIVING POEMS	Holiday House, 1985.	808.81/L787th
Livingston, Myra Cohn.	HALLOWEEN POEMS	Holiday House, 1989.	811.008/L787h
Lyon, George Ella	COME A TIDE	Orchard, 1990.	E /L991c
Rosenberg, Liz.	MONSTER MAMA	Philomel, 1993.	E /R813mo
Rylant, Cynthia.	THE RELATIVES CAME	Bradbury, 1985.	E /R994r
Rylant, Cynthia.	WAITING TO WALTZ, A CHILDHOOD : POEMS	Bradbury, 1984.	811 /R994w
Schwartz, Alvin	MORE SCARY STORIES TO TELL IN THE DARK	Lippincott, 1984.	398.2 /S399m
Schwartz, Alvin,	SCARY STORIES 3 : MORE TALES TO CHILL YOUR BONES	HarperCollins, 1991.	398.2 /S399sc
Schwartz, Alvin	SCARY STORIES TO TELL IN THE DARK : COLLECTED FROM AMERICAN FOLKLORE BY ALVIN SCHWARTZ	HarperCollins, 1981.	398.2 /S399s
Sierra, Judy.	THE SECRET SCIENCE PROJECT THAT ALMOST ATE SCHOOL	Simon& Schuster, 2006.	E /S572s
Simon, Seymour.	GHOSTS	Lippincott, 1976.	133.1/S596g
Sneve, Virginia Driving Hawk.	DANCING TEEPEES : POEMS OF AMERICAN INDIAN YOUTH	Holiday House, 1989.	811.008/S671d

Weston, Tamson.	HEY, PANCAKES!	Harcourt, 2003.	E /W536h
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BONNIE GEISERT was born in Hartley, Iowa, and is the author of both picture books and novels for young readers. She has also worked as a fourth grade teacher, feature writer, columnist, and photographer. Geisert received her B.S. from Concordia College in Seward, NE, and her M.A. from Concordia University in River Forest, IL. She currently lives in Galena, IL with her husband, illustrator Arthur Geisert, who has illustrated all of her books. Her picture books portray the atmosphere and life on farms and in small towns, with simple text and detailed illustrations. In 2002, Geisert published her first novel, *Prairie Summer*, which tells the story of Rachel, a 5th grader who is not happy with her life on a South Dakota farm. *Lessons*, the sequel continues the story, looking a bit deeper into family issues. A third “prairie” novel for young readers is in progress.

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Web Page: <http://www.scbwi-illinois.org/Bgeisert.html>

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

DESERT TOWN	Houghton Mifflin, 2001.	307.76 /G313d
HAYSTACK	Houghton Mifflin, 1995.	633.2 /G313h
LESSONS	Houghton Mifflin, 2005.	F /G313l
MOUNTAIN TOWN	Houghton Mifflin, 2000.	E /G313m
PRAIRIE SUMMER	Houghton Mifflin, 2002.	F /G313p
PRAIRIE TOWN	Houghton Mifflin, 1998.	307.72 /G313p
RIVER TOWN	Houghton Mifflin, 1999.	307.72 /G313r



MARY GENSICKE is a library media specialist and lives with her husband in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. She has written two informational books about Iowa that use the alphabet as an organizational structure: *I is for Iowa* and *I is for Iowa People*. In them, she features information about geographical locations, important industries, significant historical events, and extraordinary people in the state of Iowa.

Web Page: <http://www.iowaconnections.com/communityofreaders/abc/authors3.htm>
and http://www.library.uni.edu/youth/iowa_connections_in_children.shtml

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

I IS FOR IOWA	Iowa State University Press, 1995.	977.7 /G336i
I IS FOR IOWA : PEOPLE	Iowa State University Press, 2001.	920 /G336i



CAROL GORMAN was born and raised in Iowa City, IA and graduated from the University of Iowa. She taught middle school in Cedar Rapids until the mid-1980's, when she married Ed Gorman, author of adult mysteries, and with his encouragement, began her own writing career. After writing two non-fiction books for middle-school readers, Gorman began writing fiction. She is especially known for her “Dork” books featuring Jerry Flack and her series featuring Lizard Flanagan. Her books have won numerous awards and honors. She currently conducts writing workshops and presentations for elementary and middle schools, and works as a part-time instructor at Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

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Titles in Curriculum Lab:

BACK FROM THE DEAD	Avon/Flare, 1995.	F /G671b
DORK IN DISGUISE	HarperCollins, 1999.	F /G671do
DORK ON THE RUN	HarperCollins, 2002.	F /G671dr
GAMES	HarperCollins, 2007.	F /G671ga
GRAVEYARD MOON	Avon Books, c1993.	F /G671gr
JENNIFER-THE-JERK IS MISSING	Simon& Schuster, 1994.	F /G671j
LIZARD FLANAGAN, SUPERMODEL?	HarperCollins, 1998.	F /G671l
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DORK	HarperCollins, 2004.	F /G671md
THE MIRACULOUS MAKEOVER OF LIZARD FLANAGAN	HarperCollins, 1994.	F /G671mi
STUMPTOWN KID	Peachtree, 2005.	F /G671st



LYNN HALL was born in Lombard, Illinois and currently lives with her dogs in rural Elkader, Iowa in a stone cottage of her own design. She began writing about thirty years ago when she read a book about horses and realized that she could do better. Hall once proclaimed “the loves of my life, horses and dogs, provide the impetus for my writing,” and many of her books are about them. Several of her novels reflect incidents and experiences drawn from her own childhood, and she also writes about young adults who face difficult situations, such as homosexual friends, bullying, sexual abuse and coming of age. She is currently retired from writing books but enjoys helping other writers begin their careers with a company called, “The Writer’s Mentor.”

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Web Page: <http://www.thewritersmentor.com/meet-our-team.htm>

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

BARRY, THE BRAVEST SAINT BERNARD	Random House, 1992.	636.7 /H177b
DAGMAR SCHULTZ & THE GREEN-EYED MONSTER	Collier Macmillan/Maxwell, 1981	F /H177dd
FLYING CHANGES	Harcourt Brace, 1991.	F /H177fb
HALSEY’S PRIDE	Scribner, 1990.	F /H177hp
MURDER IN A PIG’S EYE	Harcourt Brace, 1990.	F /H177mi
THE MYSTERY OF THE PHANTOM PONY	Random House, 1993.	F /H177mp
THE SOUL OF THE SILVER DOG	Harcourt Brace, 1992.	F /H177sf
THE TORMENTORS	Harcourt Brace, 1990.	F /H177to
WINDSONG	Charles Scribner’s Sons, 1992.	F /H177wi



KATHERINE HANNIGAN was born and raised in western New York with lots of pets and lots of books. She currently resides in rural, northeast Iowa. Before beginning her writing career, she studied art and design, obtaining both her bachelors and masters degrees in painting. She taught in New York colleges for several years before moving west to teach at Iowa State University in Ames, IA, first as a drawing instructor and later an assistant professor of art and design. Her first children’s book, *Ida B . . . and Her Plans to Maximize Fun, Avoid Disaster, and (Possibly) Save the World* published in 2004, and was listed as a New York Times Bestseller. Hannigan is working on two more stories for middle-grade readers.

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Web Page: <http://www.harperchildrens.com/authorintro/index.asp?authorid=27798>

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

IDA B : --AND HER PLANS TO MAXIMIZE FUN, AVOID DISASTER, AND (POSSIBLY) SAVE THE WORLD	Greenwillow, 2004.	F /H245i
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CLINT HANSEN earned his BFA in graphic design at Iowa State University and has been working as a graphic designer and illustrator for about 20 years. Some of his more famous clients include the International Olympic Committee, the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, Iowa Air National Guard, Disney, and he has produced coin designs for the U.S Mint. He currently lives in Des Moines, Iowa. His media include scratch board, oils, paper sculpture, stained glass mosaic, engraving and video. Web page: <http://www.neisgroup.com/artists/hansen/index.html>

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

DEAR MR. LEPRECHAUN: LETTERS FROM MY FIRST FRIENDSHIP	London Town, 2003.	E /B974d
FOOLING THE TOOTH FAIRY	London Town, 2005.	E /B974f



MICHAEL HAYES was born in Iowa City, Iowa, but grew up in Pittsburgh, PA. After high school, he spent a gap year attending Trailside Country School (now known as Audubon Expedition Institute) which allowed him to travel with fellow students and teachers across the United States, camping, studying natural history and environment and playing folk music. He received his B.F.A. in Illustration from the Rhode Island School of Design in 1979. He began his illustration career in New York, and his illustrations appear on dozens of book jackets for various publishers as well as in more than 18 picture books. In 1988, he moved to Chicago, helping to establish a new chapter of the Graphic Artists Guild and teaching classes in art and children's book illustration at Columbia College. He has collaborated on three books with Pete Seeger, a long time inspiration, and likes to perform "Abiyoyo" himself when he visits elementary schools to talk about illustrating and books.

Eighth Book of Junior Authors and Illustrators (Wilson, 2000)

Web Page: http://chicago.gag.org/michael_hays_profile.html

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

Ackerman, Karen	THE TIN HEART	Atheneum, 1990.	E /A182t
Clifton, Lucille	THREE WISHES	Doubleday, 1992	E /C639th
Oppenheim, Shulamith Levey.	THE HUNDREDTH NAME	Boyd's Mills/St. Martin's Press, 1995.	E /O62h
Ryder, Joanne.	HELLO, TREE!	Lodestar Books, 1991.	582.16 /R992h
San Souci, Robert D.	PEDRO AND THE MONKEY	Morrow, 1996.	398.2 /S197p
Schmandt-Besserat, Denise.	THE HISTORY OF COUNTING	Morrow, 1999.	513.5 /S347h
Seeger, Pete	SOME FRIENDS TO FEED : THE STORY OF STONE SOUP	G.P. Putnam's, 2005.	398.2 /S451s
Seeger, Pete,	ABIYOYO : BASED ON A SOUTH AFRICAN LULLABY AND FOLK STORY	Macmillan/Collier Macmillan, 1986.	E /S451a
Smalls-Hector, Irene.	JONATHAN AND HIS MOMMY	Little, Brown, 1992.	E /S635j
Taylor, Mildred D.	THE GOLD CADILLAC	Dial, 1987.	F /T244g



MAX HAYNES was born in Mason City, Iowa, and attended elementary and secondary schools in Waterloo. After beginning his studies at Drake University he went on to graduate from the University of Iowa earning his B.G.S. in 1982. He has written and illustrated a number of children’s picture books, 8 published by major publishers and 5 that he has published himself. His *Sparky’s Field Guide* (Nightsky Press, 1979) books feature the writings of children. He asked them to write their own versions of a classic fairy tale based on his illustrations. He then edited the more than 1,800 responses for the best uses and misuses of language, unusual observations about his images and left in the misspellings. *Grodylooks and the Tree Bears* was the featured story in first edition of three to be created. Currently, Haynes lives in Maple Grove, Minnesota. He has taught a course at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design called “The Business of Children’s Illustration” and works as a photographer and Web designer.

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Web Page: <http://maxhaynes.com/>

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

DINOSAUR ISLAND.	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books, 1991.	E /H424d
SPARKY’S RAINBOW REPAIR.	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books, 1992.	E /H424s



CHRISTIE HOLL is an award-winning author of 34 books for children, one nonfiction book for writers, and has published over 150 stories and articles for children and adults which have appeared in *Jack and Jill*, *Child Life*, *Hi-Call*, *Your Life & Health*, *Touch*, *The Writer*, *Children’s Writer*, and the *SCBWI Bulletin*, among others. She was born in Guthrie Center, Iowa, graduated from Marshalltown High School and over the years, has lived in various cities around the state, including Mason City, Cedar Falls, Red Oak, Knoxville, Conrad, and Story City. In July 2003, she and her husband moved to San Antonio, Texas. Some of her most recent books are part of Tommy Nelson's *TodaysGirls.com* series and Zonderkidz' new *Faithgirlz!* Series. She has 4 titles in a new *Faithgirlz!* mystery series for Zonderkidz' due to be published in Spring, 2008.

Something About the Author: Vol. 51

Web Page: <http://www.kristiholl.com>

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

CAST A SINGLE SHADOW	Atheneum, 1986.	F /H733c
FIRST THINGS FIRST	Atheneum, 1986.	F /H733fi
FOOTPRINTS UP MY BACK	Atheneum, 1984.	F /H733f
THE HAUNTING OF CABIN 13	Atheneum, 1987.	F /H733h
HIDDEN IN THE FOG	Atheneum, 1989.	F /H733hi
NO STRINGS ATTACHED	Atheneum, 1988.	F /H733n
PATCHWORK SUMMER	Atheneum, 1987.	F /H733pa
PERFECT OR NOT, HERE I COME	Atheneum, 1986.	F /H733p
THE ROSE BEYOND THE WALL	Atheneum, 1985.	F /H733r



WILLIAM G. HOSFORD is an award-winning photographer and artist who was born and raised in Massachusetts. He currently lives in Lisbon, Iowa with his wife, Winnie. Mr. Hosford has an Associates Degree in Electrical Engineering, a B.A. Degree in Earth Science and two Master of Education Degrees: one in Educational Media and the other in School Librarianship. He has previously been a middle school Science teacher, high school Library-Media Specialist and Energy Engineer in Massachusetts, and is currently a School Library-Media Specialist in Cedar Rapids, IA, where he has worked in both elementary and middle schools. His interest in nature and the environment inspired him to write for young readers, as a way to share the beauty and mystery of the natural world. *Geo the Geode*, published in 2006 by WGH Arts LLC, is his first non-fiction book. The author has also published several short stories and is working on additional children's books.

Web page: www.wgharts.com.

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

GEO THE GEODE	WHG Arts LLC, 2004.	552 /H825g
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HADLEY IRWIN is the pseudonym created by **LEE HADLEY (1934-1995) & ANN IRWIN (1916 - 1998)** who collaborated to write 13 young adult books between 1979 -1995. Hadley was born raised on a farm in Madrid Iowa, She taught at Iowa State University as an assistant professor beginning in 1969, continued as an associate, then eventually full professor of English until her death in 1995. Ann Irwin was born in Peterson, Iowa and also grew up on a farm. She taught elementary and junior high school classes before becoming an associate professor of English at Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. Their first book together was *Lillith Summer* in which a 12 year old girl becomes a companion to a 77 year old woman, learning much about herself and values through the summer they spend together. Other novels deal with issues such as divorce, incest, intergenerational relationships, racism and the search for identity. The last book they wrote together was *Sarah with an H* which was published in 1996.

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ABBY, MY LOVE.	Atheneum, 1985.	F /I72a
BRING TO A BOIL AND SEPARATE.	Atheneum, 1980.	F /I72b
CAN'T HEAR YOU LISTENING.	M.K. McElderry, 1990	F /I72c
I BE SOMEBODY.	Atheneum, 1984.	F /I72i
JIM DANDY.	M.K. McElderry, 1994	F /I72j
KIM/KIMI.	M.K. McElderry, 1987.	F /I72k
THE LILITH SUMMER.	Feminist Press, 1979.	F /I72li
MOON AND ME.	Atheneum, 1981.	F /I72m
THE ORIGINAL FREDDIE ACKERMAN.	M.K. McElderry, 1992	F /I72o
SO LONG AT THE FAIR.	M.K. McElderry, 1988.	F /I72s
SARAH WITH AN H.	M. K. McElderry, 1996.	F /I72sa
WE ARE MESQUAKIE, WE ARE ONE.	Feminist Press, 1980.	F /I72w
WHAT ABOUT GRANDMA?.	Atheneum, 1982.	F /I72wh



GARY KELLEY received his art degree from the University of Northern Iowa, and currently lives and works in Cedar Falls. He is an internationally known illustrator who has been the recipient of 26 medals from the Society of Illustrators. His illustrations have appeared in publications such as *Time*, *Rolling Stone*, *The New Yorker*, *Sports Illustrated*, as cover art for record jackets, and in a variety of children's books. He recently completed two 70-foot murals for the renovated Barnes and Noble Bookstore on 5th Avenue at 48th Street in New York City. His picture-book artwork has earned numerous awards including the 1992 Hamilton King Award for Best Illustration.

Biographical information gleaned from various book jackets.
 Web site: <http://www.illustrationacademy.com/GaryKelley.htm>

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

Coville, Bruce.	WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S MACBETH	Dial, 1997.	822.3 /C873w
De Maupassant, Guy.	THE NECKLACE	Creative Editions, 2004.	F /D373n
Kelley, Gary.	T IS FOR TOSCANA	Creative Editions, 2003.	945 /K29t
Lewis, J. Patrick.	BLACK CAT BONE	Creative Editions, 2006.	811 /L674bc
Lewis, J. Patrick.	BOSH BLOBBER BOSH : RUNCIBLE POEMS FOR EDWARD LEAR	Creative Editions/ Harcourt, 1998.	821 /L674b
Lewis, J. Patrick.	THE STOLEN SMILE	Creative Editions, 2004.	E /L674st
San Souci, Robert D.	THE RED HEELS	Dial, 1995.	E /S197r
Tallchief, Maria.	TALLCHIEF : AMERICA'S PRIMA BALLERINA	Viking, 1999.	921 /T147t



BARBARA KRAMER presently lives in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, but grew up on a farm near Dana, Iowa, a small town in the central part of the state, with her six siblings and dozens of cats. In addition to writing, Ms. Dana teaches a correspondence course for people who want to learn to write for children through the Institute for Children's Literature. When she was young, Ms. Dana enjoyed reading biographies and later decided that she would like to write them. She loves the researching, and fact-finding which allows her to bring the person she is writing about to life for her readers. When not writing or teaching, she likes to read, go for walks, garden, and go on motorcycle rides with her husband.

Web site: <http://www.barbarakramer.com/>

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

JOHN GLENN : A SPACE BIOGRAPHY	Enslow, 1998.	921 /G558j
MADELEINE ALBRIGHT : FIRST WOMAN SECRETARY OF STATE	Enslow, 2000.	921 /A342m



DOUG LARCHE is a poet, professor, playwright, author and much more. His credentials include a Ph.D. from Indiana University, an MFA from the University of Iowa Playwright's Workshop, post-doctoral study at Harvard, Yale and Oxford Universities, 25 years of teaching across the Midwest, and two years as cabinet member and Director of Cultural Affairs for the State of Iowa. Larche spent fourteen years as a tenured full professor and chair of the Department of Creative and Performing Arts at Grand View College in Des Moines before accepting a position as policy advisor and speech writer for the Governor of Iowa in 1999. Currently, he is on the faculty at the University of Wisconsin-Marinette as the Theatre on the Bay's artistic Director and Playwright-in-Residence. He has written over forty plays, all produced, many published, and has won national awards for playwriting. The artistic director of nearly 200 productions and 40 film projects, he has also won an Equity Award for his *Father Gander Nursery Rhymes: the Equal Rhymes Amendment* which was named one of "Forty Best Books for Girls in America" in 1998. It presents revised versions of traditional nursery rhymes without violence, sexism, or racism. In the spring of 2002, his student theatrical group, Bayside Players, took his multimedia, interactive drama about health and substance abuse, "S*M*A*S*H," on a tour of area middle schools and Theatre on the Bay presented the world premiere of his new play, "Ganderland: A Mother Goose and Father Gander Musical."

Websites: Portal Wisconsin.org - <http://www.portalwisconsin.org/larche.cfm>
 University of Wisconsin-Marinette - <http://www.marinette.uwc.edu/uwmarinette/larchedbio.htm>

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

FATHER GANDER NURSERY RHYMES : THE EQUAL RHYMES AMENDMENT	Advocacy Press, 1985.	398.8 /L319n
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JACQUELINE BRIGGS MARTIN was born in Maine and is the daughter of a dairy farmer. She earned her Bachelor's degree from Wellesley College and her M.A. from The Minnesota Institute of Child Development. She married her husband Richard Martin, a professor at Cornell College in 1967, and they currently live in Mt. Vernon, Iowa. Martin's books for children have won numerous awards and Notable Books citations from the American Library Association, National Council for the Social Studies, Bulletin of The Center for Children's Books, and the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. Her books reflect her love of the past, the sound of words, and many are inspired by ancestors, family members and childhood memories. Some reflect her love of gardening, the environment, and interesting people she has met or learned about. For Ms. Briggs Martin, it is all about stories, as she explains on her web page: "I have always loved stories as much as some people love watching elephants, riding bicycles, or eating chocolate ice cream. As I travel and visit with students and others I am surprised and touched by the variety of our lives, the kindnesses we show to each other, the things that make us laugh, the ways we get through sadness, the stories that are part of all our lives."

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Web Page: <http://www.jacquelinebriggsmartin.com/jbmindex.html>

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

BIZZY BONES AND MOOSEMOUSE	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1986.	E /M381bi
BIZZY BONES AND THE LOST QUILT	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1988.	E /M381ba

BIZZY BONES AND UNCLE EZRA	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1984.	E /M381b
BUTTON, BUCKET, SKY	Carolrhoda , 1998.	E /M381bu
CHICKEN JOY ON REDBEAN ROAD: A BAYOU COUNTRY ROMP	Houghton Mifflin, 2007.	E /M381c
THE FINEST HORSE IN TOWN	HarperCollins, 1992.	E /M381f
GOOD TIMES ON GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN	Orchard Books, 1992.	E /M381g
GRANDMOTHER BRYANT'S POCKET	Houghton Mifflin, 1996.	E /M381gr
THE GREEN TRUCK GARDEN GIVEAWAY: A NEIGHBORHOOD STORY AND ALMANAC	Simon & Schuster, 1997.	E /M381gt
THE LAMP, THE ICE, AND THE BOAT CALLED FISH	Houghton Mifflin, 2001.	919.804 /M381i
ON SAND ISLAND	Houghton Mifflin, 2003.	E /M381o
SNOWFLAKE BENTLEY	Houghton Mifflin, 1998.	921 /B477s
WASHING THE WILLOW TREE LOON	Simon & Schuster, 1995.	E /M381w
THE WATER GIFT AND THE PIG OF THE PIG	Houghton Mifflin, 2003.	E /M381wa



CLAUDIA MCGEHEE is an author/illustrator who lives in Iowa City, IA with her husband, daughter and cat. She is originally from the Pacific Northwest and holds degrees in Anthropology, and Graphic Design. Claudia's favorite medium for illustration is scratchboard, which involves using a sharp blade to scratch away layers of ink from a specially prepared clay surface. The resulting image looks similar to a woodcut. Her interests in nature, history and archeology are reflected in her detailed illustrations.

Web Page: <http://www.claudia-mcgehee.com>

Article: http://www.iowasource.com/books/prairieABC_0904.html

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

A TALLGRASS PRAIRIE ALPHABET	University of Iowa Press, 2004.	577.4 /M145ta
A WOODLAND COUNTING BOOK	University of Iowa Press, 2006.	513.2 /M145w



DOROTHY MORRISON was born in Nashua, Iowa, and received her B.A from the University of Iowa. Now she lives near Portland, Oregon. When she first moved to the West Coast, she fell in love with the people and history of the area. She is able to combine her passions with her skill as a writer by writing biographies of historical characters for children and she has produced both non-fiction and historical fiction titles for Atheneum Publishing. Among her books are: *Chief Sarah: Sarah Winnemucca's Fight for Indian Rights*; *Ladies Were Not Expected: Abigail Scott Duniway and Women's Rights*; *The Eagle and the Fort: The Story of John McLoughlin*; and *Under a Strong Wind: The Adventures of Jessie Benton Fremont*. Ms. Morrison enjoys photography, square dancing, plays violin in a community orchestra, is active in the Masters' swimming program, and has traveled extensively in Mexico, Europe, and the Middle East. (Oregon Historical Society)

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A-1 Women's Discount Bookstore – Author Contributor page

<http://www.a1wdb.com/cgi-bin/women/author?author=2297>

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

WHISPER AGAIN	Atheneum, 1987.	F /M878wa
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SHARELLE BYARS MORANVILLE grew up in rural, southern Illinois and currently lives in West Des Moines, Iowa. After attending college at Southern Illinois University, she went on to graduate school in Binghamton, New York, and completed her PhD at Kent State University in Ohio. At Kent State, she met and married her husband and they have one daughter. Moranville has taught college English, been a social worker, engaged in child advocacy, worked in the corporate world, and written several books for young adults. She regularly teaches fiction writing at the University of Iowa Summer Writing Festival. Her books have received starred reviews and been nominated for “Best Books” lists from publications such as *Booklist*, *Bulletin for the Center of Children’s Books*, and *Kliatt*. On her web page, Moranville states, “I knew that writing for young readers would be harder for me than writing for adults, but I had so much I wanted to say about growing up. So I spent a few hard years breaking in to the field. I also love to teach as well as write. And these days, I have the opportunity to teach creative writing . . . the best of both worlds.”

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Web Page: www.sharellebyarsmoranville.com/

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

A HIGHER GEOMETRY	Holt, 2006.	F /M829h
OVER THE RIVER	Holt, 2002.	F /M829o
THE SNOWS	Holt, 2007.	new



VIOLET OLSEN was born in 1922 and grew up in Spencer, Iowa. After graduating from Spencer High School, she attended the American Institute of Business in Des Moines, and later majored in Art and English at the University of Iowa. From 1943-46, during WWII, she served as a WAVE in the U.S. Navy. Ms. Olsen taught for the Davenport School system for many years before retiring to write and volunteer doing art therapy. Besides publishing nonfiction articles for *Readers Digest* and other magazines, she wrote several novels for Young Adults. Violet Olsen died in 1991

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Biographical information gleaned from various book jackets

THE GROWING SEASON	Atheneum, 1982	F /O52g
NEVER BROUGHT TO MIND	Atheneum, 1985	F /O52n
VIEW FROM THE PIGHOUSE ROOF	Atheneum, 1987	F /O52v



KATHY PELTA was born in Madrid, Iowa. She received her Bachelor's degree at San Diego State College (now University) and did graduate work at University of California, Berkeley. She has written short stories, mysteries and numerous nonfiction titles for young readers. *Bridging the Golden Gate* earned an Honorable Mention in the Children's Science Book Award Program of the New York Academy of Sciences. Pelta has also written several state books for the "Hello U.S.A." series as well as two titles for "How History is Invented" series for Lerner Publications. *Discovering Christopher Columbus* was named an ALA Notable Book, an International Reading Association Children's Choice and a Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People. *Rediscovering Easter Island* (Lerner, 2001) is her 21st book for children, and was also recognized as a Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People. Kathy Pelta and her husband currently live on the coast of Maine.

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Information gleaned from various book jackets

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

BRIDGING THE GOLDEN GATE	Lerner, 1987.	624 /P393b
DISCOVERING CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS: HOW HISTORY IS INVENTED	Lerner, 1991.	970.01/P393d
TEXAS	Lerner, 1994.	976.4 /P393t
THE U.S. NAVY	Lerner, 1990.	359 /P393u
VERMONT	Lerner, 1994.	974.3 /P393v



SARAH PRINEAS is originally from Lyme, Connecticut, and currently lives with her husband and children in Iowa City, IA . She attended college in Minnesota to earn her PhD and works part-time for the University of Iowa Honors Program and as a scholarship coordinator where she also is able to teach classes on fantasy and science fiction literature. Before writing *The Magic Thief*, she wrote fantasy stories for adult readers. This is her first novel, and it is the first of a trilogy. She is currently at work on the next book in the series.

Web Page: <http://www.sarah-prineas.com/>

The Magic Thief	HarperCollins, 2008	F /P957s
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DELIA RAY lives in Iowa City, Iowa with her husband and three daughters. She was born in Newport News, Virginia and received her B.A. from the University of Virginia. She began her writing career as author of several nonfiction books, including *Gold! The Klondike Adventure*, *A Nation Torn: The Story of How the Civil War Began* and *Behind the Blue and Gray: The Soldier's Life in the Civil War*. More recently, Ray has turned to historical fiction, with novels set in the early twentieth century in the American South. *Ghost Girl* was nominated to 6 state reading lists and was named as the Society for School Librarians International Book Award in 2004. On her web page, Ray explains that she grew up on a wooded rural property which had once housed a blacksmith, wagon and coffin makers cabins, and families since the early a 1800's. "Sometimes I think my fascination with old things began in those woods. Scraps of history turned up everywhere." Her love of history, people and the mysteries of the past is reflected in her meticulous research and in the characters and settings of her thoughtful, engaging books for young people.

Something About the Author: Vol. 179
Web Page: www.deliaray.com/

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

A NATION TORN: THE STORY OF HOW THE CIVIL WAR BEGAN.	Lodestar, 1990	973.7 /R263n
BEHIND THE BLUE AND GRAY: THE SOLDIER'S LIFE IN THE CIVILWAR.	Lodestar, 1991	973.7 /R263b
GHOST GIR : A BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAIN STORY.	Clarion, 2003.	F /R263g
GOLD!: THE KLONDIKE ADVENTURE.	Lodestar, 1989	971.9 /R263g
SINGING HANDS.	Clarion, 2006.	F /R263s



JON RIPSlinger a Michigan native, moved to the Quad Cities area when he attended St. Ambrose to study English. He earned his B.A in English from St. Ambrose College and his MA in Regional Studies from Augustana College. He taught English at Davenport West High School for 35 years before retiring in 1994. He was a participant in the University of Iowa Writer's Workshop, and over the years has published numerous short stories for various magazines. Ripslinger has written several novels for young adults, all of which deal with the anxieties, frustrations, and situations faced by young people today. "I think the best teen novels explore characters who are trying to understand themselves during those troubled but exciting years." Many of his ideas came from his experiences with students and his novels are set in Iowa. Ripslinger is currently a Davenport resident and still writes at age 70.

Web Page: www.mindspring.com/~philipp/ripslinger.html

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

HOW I FELL IN LOVE & LEARNED TO SHOOT FREE THROWS.	Roaring Brook, 2003.	F /R593h
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HELEN RONEY SATTler (1921-1992) was born in Newton, Iowa. She was respected and prolific author of nonfiction books for children. She was also a regular contributor of puzzles, verse, stories and "how-to" articles for periodicals including, *Jack and Jill*, *Boys' Life*, *Cricket* and *Highlights for Children*. Sattler was inspired to write *Dinosaurs of North America* when her grandson spoke of not being able to find a book about dinosaurs without any mistakes in it. She believed that "all children, like my grandson, want the facts in their books to be accurate," so she researched her books carefully and arranged them thoughtfully, striving to "capture the interest of all children, especially reluctant readers." Her books have been recognized for numerous awards and praised as outstanding by many professional organizations and reviewers. A world traveler for much of her life, Sattler was living in Bartlesville, Oklahoma at the time of her death.

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Titles in Curriculum Lab:

BABY DINOSAURS	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard , 1984.	567.9 /S253b
THE BOOK OF EAGLES	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard , 1989.	598 /S253b
THE BOOK OF NORTH AMERICAN OWLS	Clarion , 1995.	598 /S353b
THE EARLIEST AMERICANS	Clarion , 1993.	970.01 /S253e
GIRAFFES, THE SENTINELS OF THE SAVANNAS	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard , 1989.	599.73 /S253g
THE NEW ILLUSTRATED DINOSAUR DICTIONARY,	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard , 1990.	567.9 /S253n
OUR PATCHWORK PLANET: THE STORY OF PLATE TECTONICS	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard , 1995.	551.1 /S253o
RECIPES FOR ART AND CRAFT MATERIALS	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1987.	745.5 /S253r

SHARKS, THE SUPER FISH	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard , 1986.	597 /S253s
STEGOSAURS : THE SOLAR-POWERED DINOSAURS	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard , 1992.	567.9 /S253s
TRAIN WHISTLES : A LANGUAGE IN CODE	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard , 1985.	385 /S253tr
WHALES, THE NOMADS OF THE SEA	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard , 1987.	599.5 /S253w



ADAM SELZER was born and grew up in Des Moines, Iowa and currently lives in Chicago. As his “official “ job , he works as a tour guide, historian and ghost investigator for a company called *Weird Chicago Tours* which he co-founded, but he also writes fiction for young adults. In 2007 he wrote *How to Get Suspended and Influence People* which was nominated for a Cybil award and in 2008 it was followed by the sequel, *Pirates of a Retail Wasteland*. Both titles were named as “Booksense Pick for Summer.”

Web Page : <http://www.adamselzer.com/>

Titles in the Curriculum Lab:

PIRATES OF THE RETAIL WASTELAND	Delacorte Press, 2008	F /S469p
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TIM SIEVERT was born in Davenport, Iowa in 1983, and graduated from Assumption High School in 2001. He graduated from the Minneapolis School of Art and Design in 2005, and currently lives in Minneapolis where he works as a cartoonist for an interactive design company creating animation and interactive media. His first work, a graphic novel called *That Salty Air* was published in 2008.

Web Page: <http://profile.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=user.viewprofile&friendid=9194710>

THAT SALTY AIR	Top Shelf, 2008	741.5 /S573t
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STEPHANIE SPINNER was born in Davenport, Iowa and currently lives and works in New York. After graduating from Bennington College in Vermont, she worked in book publishing for a short time, then began traveling all over the world, especially in the Middle East and South America before returning the United States to study the art of Buddhist thangka painting. She returned to the world of book publishing working as a children’ book editor before beginning her own writing career. *Aliens for Breakfast*, co-written with Jonathon Etra, won the Texas Blue-Bonnet award in 1991. Later books in this popular series include *Aliens for Lunch* and *Aliens for Dinner*. She has since written and co-written a number of books for both younger and middle grade readers. Her novel *Quicksilver* (Knopf, 2005) received starred reviews and was listed as a “Best Children’s Book of 2005” by the Bank Street College of Education. She is currently working on an illustrated retelling of *The Nutcracker*, due to be released in 2008.

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Web Page: [http://www.randomhouse.com/features/stephaniespinner/about author.html](http://www.randomhouse.com/features/stephaniespinner/about_author.html)

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

ALIENS FOR BREAKFAST	Random House, 1988.	F /E85a
ALIENS FOR DINNER	Random House, 1994.	F /S757a
IT'S A MIRACLE! : A HANUKKAH STORYBOOK	Atheneum, 2003.	E /S757it
LITTLE SURE SHOT : THE STORY OF ANNIE OAKLEY	Random House, 1993.	921 /O11l
THE ADVENTURES OF PINOCCHIO	Random House, 1983.	F /C714pa



TESS WEAVER grew up in Coshocton, Ohio, but currently lives in Iowa City, IA with her husband and two sons. She has traveled and worked as marketing manager, book reviewer, copywriter, and freelance writer and has written jackets summaries for a variety of books. She now she has published two books and a third is to be released in 2008. *Opera Cat* and *Cat Jumped In* both received praise and starred reviews. She believes "Everyone has a story to tell" and enjoys visiting schools and talking to children about writing books and "making ideas come alive."

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Titles in Curriculum Lab:

CAT JUMPED IN!	Clarion, 2007.	E /W363c
OPERA CAT	Clarion, 2002.	E /W363o



ANNE YLVISAKER currently lives in Cedar Rapids, IA with her husband and daughter. She grew up in Minneapolis, Minnesota then lived and worked in St. Paul, MN. until 2006. She has a Master's Degree in Education. Her first novel, *Dear Papa* won the "2002 Top Ten Youth First Novel, and in 2005, Anne was awarded the McKnight Artist Fellowship/Loft Award in Children's Literature. Her second novel, *Little Klein* (Candlewick, 2007) is receiving praise from Kirkus, VOYA and other reviewers.

Web Page: <http://www.annelyvisaker.com/>

Titles in Curriculum Lab:

DEAR PAPA	Candlewick, 2002.	F /Y52d
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