

Mirrors and Windows: Using Children's Literature to Foster Cultural Understanding

Audience:	Elementary Classroom Teachers, Library Teachers and Literacy Specialists	Location:	TEC Professional Development Center
Instructor:	Chris Swerling	Cost:	\$220 TEC Members / \$260 Non-TEC
Dates & Times:	Saturdays, March 31 & April 28, 2012 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM	Earn:	12 PDPs 22.5 PDPs for graduate credit
		Grad Credit:	1 credit from Worcester State University for an additional \$100, payable at the first class

Course Description: Students need to see themselves in what they learn and what they read! This course will heighten teachers' sensitivity toward providing balanced and broad literature experiences in the classroom that reflect the cultures of the students and the ever-expanding cultural world in which our students learn and will eventually work. Participants will explore a range of children's literature resources that illuminates the personal and historical experiences of various communities and populations such as African American, Hispanic American and Asian American. The course will focus on new and emerging authors/illustrators of children's literature that provide a window into that culture for children. Participants will also explore the growing collection of literature that promotes understanding of the global world with texts such as the children's version of Three Cups of Tea. Participants will analyze texts for stereotyping and discuss ways to address the reading of those texts with students. Emphasis will be placed on reviewing the work of specific authors, known and honored for their cross-cultural writing for children.

About the Instructor: **Chris Swerling** has been a librarian for over 30 years and is a National Board Certified Teacher. A library teacher in Newton Public Schools since 1994, she is also the Library Coordinator for the school district. Knowledgeable in children's literature and publishing trends, Chris is a former reviewer for *School Library Journal*. Prior to this course, she taught Multicultural Children's Literature to a cohort group for Wheelock College and is passionate about the role good literature can play in developing empathy among students. Currently, Chris is an adjunct professor in the Simmons Graduate School of Library and Information Science.

Cancellations: No credits or refunds will be given on withdrawals less than 10 business days before the first class.

Checks will be processed approximately two weeks prior to the start date of the course; other payments are processed immediately.

Note: After January 27, a \$25 late fee is required with each course registration.

To register: Visit our Online Registration Form at http://www.tec-coop.org/PDL_RegForm.html or complete this form and send, along with your check or purchase order, to:
TEC Professional Development, P.O. Box 186, Dedham, MA 02027

Please register me for "Mirrors and Windows" beginning on 3/31/12!
Enclosed is a check or purchase order for: ___\$220 TEC / ___\$260 Non-TEC

Name: _____ School: _____
Home address: _____ Role: _____
City, state, zip code: _____ Address: _____
Email: _____ City, state, zip code: _____
Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____

Online registration available! - see TEC website for more information

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