



The Chat Room

College of Education and Professional Studies Newsletter

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The Adventures of Paige and Berry Bear, Published by Education Student

Stephanie Klingler, senior elementary education major, recently published her first children's book, *The Adventures of Paige and Berry Bear*, through Mirror Publishing Co. The book originated from a classroom project where students were to design their own children's book in February 2010.

"My daughter was my inspiration for this story," Klingler said. "How she played with her Berry Bear and cardboard boxes gave me the idea for the story."

The original story focused on the days of the week and had a 354-word count. The main character, Paige, which is also the name of Klingler's daughter, takes trips in a cardboard box with Berry Bear, her stuffed animal, every day for a week.

Klingler said her professors encouraged her to take the next step and submit the book for publishing. This wouldn't be her first manuscript submitted to publishers. Klingler wrote and submitted other children's books but only received rejection letters. After three weeks of not hearing anything from prospective publishers, Klingler's luck changed when Mirror Publishing Co. made an offer.

"The company liked the concept of the story, however, they asked me to expand on it," she said. "I decided the characters would go on a trip once a month and was able to expand the book to 600 words."

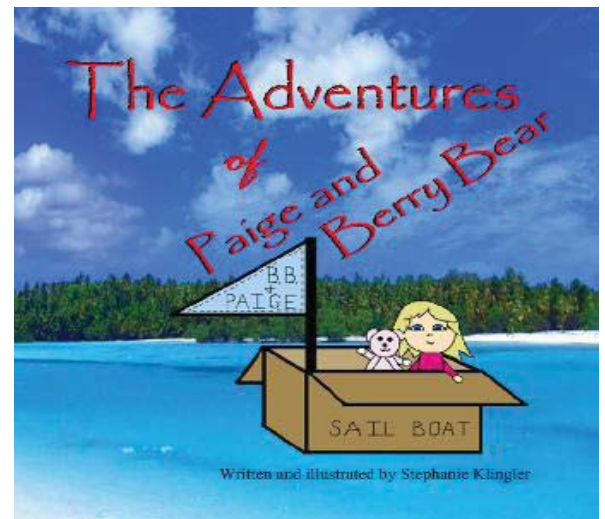


Photo courtesy of Mirror Publishing Co.

CEPS 2010 Award Recipients

Recreation Administration

Riordan Award:
Hannah Morgenroth
Sara Fosbender

Lefty” Bryden Award:
Anthony Pritchard
Kristen Bertucci

Dorothe Johnson Award:
Brittany Prysock

Gretchen Sue Denton Award:
Brittany Prysock
Katie Klimek

William Smith Award:
Katie Klimek

Kinesiology

Dolly & Gene McFarlandt:
Courtney Beals

Florence McAfee Scholarship:
Kayla Wagner

Dorothy M. Hart Memorial
Scholarship:
Julianne Vasilak

Errett Warner Award in Physical
Education:
Brittany Bart
Ben Hussey
Justin Tomaska
Matt Zucco
Craig Utterback

Klingler illustrated the book herself with the help of her daughter, Paige.

“Berry Bear used to be a bright pink, but he’s been loved so much that he’s faded,” she said. “So Paige was sure to point out if he was ‘too pink’ in the illustrations.”

Klingler resides in Olney, Ill. She said the town embraced her book with local stores selling copies and holding book signings.

“I even got to read the book to Paige’s preschool class, where she told everyone it was ‘her story’,” Klingler said.

Mirror Publishing Co. has asked Klingler to start on a second book hoping for a Paige and Berry Bear series.

“I felt so good when I completed the book. ‘The Adventures of Paige and Berry Bear’ was like my baby. I had a strong attachment to the story, so I want to take my time with the next book,” she said. “But if you want a teaser, the characters are going to explore nature.”

Klingler said she hopes to keep writing and publishing books, however, teaching is her first passion and cannot wait until she has her own classroom.

“Teaching is what I want to do with my life professionally,” she said. “Writing is my hobby that relieves stress.”

For those interested in publishing a children’s book, Klingler gave the following advice, “As a writer you’ll go through a lot of rejection, just be persistent and keep trying.”

Klingler donated her book to Booth Library where it can be checked out. More about the book and where it can be purchased can be found at <http://www.pagesofwonder.com/klingler.html>.

Recreation Facility Research Project

Dr. Byunggook Kim, professor of Recreation Administration, conducted a study from November 2009 to March 2010, on the minority use of recreational facilities. “The purpose of this study was to explore inequality of recreation and leisure opportunities across ethnicity, gender, age, and socio-economic status,” he said. His research was published in the Spring Issue of the Illinois Journal.

Researchers have previously explored differences in recreational activity participation between different ethnic groups. Dr. Kim’s study provides an

Mike & Phoebe Church
Scholarship:
Tyler Arnholt

Barbara Snow Award:
Jessica Acevedo

Larry J. Ankenbrand Physical
Education Scholarship:
Marcus Waller

Shannon McNamara Outstanding
Student Award:
Angela Ziemba

Athletic Training Scholarship:
Bart Thyer
Sharon West

Dr. & Mrs. Richard H. Larson
Athletic Training Scholarship:
Miranda Williams

Graduate Student Awards

Pedagogy:
Christine Dickerson

Sports Administration:
Dominic Morais

Exercise Science:
Sue Stout

Thomas Woodall Exercise Science
Scholarship:
Vanessa Budde

Outstanding Graduate Student in
Department:
Maranda Rehg

Health Studies

Carl Sexton Memorial
Scholarship:
Justin Tomaska

important contribution to the literature in the sense that the differing recreation satisfaction of the four identified ethnic groups (e.g., White American, African American, Hispanic, and Asian) must be understood for community recreation to have the greatest change of success.

Dr. Kim had his students involved in collecting data. "Findings from this study indicated that there existed differences of recreation perception and recreation satisfaction between four different ethnic groups (e.g., White American, African American, Hispanic, and Asian), age, and gender," Dr. Kim said.

For example, both White American and African American had significantly higher perception than both Hispanic and Asian in all recreation activities. Males appeared to be more likely to satisfy a set of recreation activities than females. The group that was the most different from the other ages groups in recreation satisfaction was ages between 40~49.

"The finding of this study also suggested that people who perceive recreation more positively might be more satisfied in their recreational activities."

Visit the Education Exhibit at Booth Library October-December 2010

Booth Library created an exhibit to celebrate the preparation of teachers on campus and in the state titled, "Teachers Tame the Prairie: Vignettes of Eastern Illinois University and Education in Illinois."

The exhibition consists of documents and images from the past 150 years of Illinois' educational history and will be on display from October 12 to December 10, 2010.



Old Main featured on the cover of exhibit brochure.

Department (Telefund):

Mera El Ramahi
Amanda Ghibellini
Katy Noffke
Jamie Reid
Melissa Sons-Ashmore

Williams Travel Awards:

Mera El Ramahi
Lincoln Estes
Amanda Ghibellini
Jiwon Sung
Fred Washburn

Graduate School
Research/Creative Activity Grant:

Mera El Ramahi
Amanda Ghibellini
Lincoln Estes
Jiwon Sung
Fred Washburn

Early Childhood, Elementary and
Middle Level Education

Graduate Research Awards:

Kelly Shore
Stratia Renfro
Amy Cannady

Distinguished Graduate Student:

Kari Bierman

Mary K. Moore Award:

Michelle Nocek

Kelly L. Neville Award:

Sara Huber

Minnie Alice Phillips Award:

Chynna DelBene

Reading Council Award:

Nichole Steber

Sarah Adams Leitch Award:

Stephanie Klingler

Jamie Willis, Art Educator of the Year

The Illinois Art Education Association has selected Mattoon Middle School art teacher Jamie Willis as the recipient of the Illinois Art Education Association Middle School Art Educator of the Year for 2010.

“Jamie Willis is a warm, caring teacher who makes learning exciting and enjoyable for her students,” said Mattoon Superintendent Larry Lilly. “We are very fortunate to have an excellent arts program throughout the district, and we are extremely proud of Jamie’s well-deserved recognition,” Lilly added. Mrs. Willis is in her 29th year of teaching art in Central Illinois, including the past six at Mattoon Middle School.

“It is amazing to watch Jamie’s students come alive in her classroom. Fully engaged, they watch her model techniques, give instructions, and dive whole-heartedly into their own exploration, creating beautiful pieces. She has created a warm, inviting atmosphere that allows her students to flourish in class and also through extra-curricular opportunities, including Art Club. Jamie is a gem; we are very lucky to have her at Mattoon Middle School,” said MMS Assistant Principal Christy Hild.



Jamie Willis teaches middle school art in Mattoon, Ill.

Speaking on behalf of the award’s committee, Amanda Kurzawski, IAEA vice president, said the committee described Willis as an exemplary model for her dedication to provide a well-rounded art education to enrich the lives of the students in her school.

“Her work inside the classroom and her coordination with other teachers in the school provide a valuable education for the students at Mattoon Middle School, said Kurzawski. “Jamie’s activities outside the classroom, in the field, for the Illinois Art Education Association, and in the community have benefited many people.”

“We hope that your school, as well as your community, will join the Illinois Art Education Association in honoring the excellence of this educator,” Kurzawski added.

The IAEA Awards Program is intended to recognize art educators who are committed and dedicated to their students and the art education profession, according to the IAEA website. This program, which recognizes excellence in individuals and programs, helps provide for the development of quality art education throughout the state of Illinois. It also promotes public awareness of the importance of quality art education and recognizes significant contributions to the profession and organization of IAEA.

Press release submitted by The Illinois Art Education Association

Eastern Student Dies From Car Crash Injuries Early Fall 2010 Semester

Margaret J. “Margz” Chickey died on Friday, Aug. 27, 2010, at Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis. She was 21. The cause of death was from injuries received in an automobile accident on July 15, 2010.

Chickey was born April 2, 1989, in Lake Forest, Ill. She was a lifelong resident of Libertyville, Ill., where she graduated from Libertyville High School in 2007. She was currently an elementary education major entering her senior year at Eastern.



Katherine Chickey (right) with her twin sister Margaret Chickey (left)

“She was very driven, pulled all nighters. She was here to get her stuff done and move on,” Kenneth Napravik, Chickey’s best friend and roommate, said. He said she had plans to travel after graduating college and then work with inner city children.

Chickey was described as a “counselor” by her friends that resided with her freshman year at Eastern. “She touched so many people’s lives she encountered, girls would have problems and they would come to her, and she would be able to talk them through stuff,” said Napravik.

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The Benefits of the COST Program

Usually, the one experience that all American teachers have in common is a student teaching experience somewhere in the United States while in college. That is, unless you’re one of the few who have chosen to student teach abroad.

Eastern’s relationship with the Consortium for Overseas Student Teaching (COST) allows some EIU teacher education students to have the rare experience of student teaching in a foreign country. The COST program provides student teachers with opportunities for personal and professional growth in ways that are increasingly important for living and working in the U.S. In 2009-2010, Eastern students taught in Greece, Germany, Australia, New Zealand, and Ireland.

All of the students who complete their student teaching requirement overseas have brought back extraordinary memories of their experiences, where they

Sardella Family William H. &
Waneta Sedgwick Catey Award:
Lauren Covington
Nicole Talley

Joseph E. & Gloria S. Seiler
Award:
Audra Pflaum

Erret & Mazie Warner Award:
Amanda Gaston
Tiffany Kennedy

Lottie Leach Leeds Award:
Westin Steinberg

Ronald A. Wilson Award:
Amanda Harmeson

Emma Reinhardt Award:
Margaret Berry
Sarah Rusk

Carol Helwig Award:
Diana Veach

Waunetah D. Buckler Award:
Michelle Speaker

CEPS Development Grant:
Gina Griffin
Ashley Dunham
Amanda Bobka

Charles & Barbara Clark Award:
Jill Vokral

Martha & Vernice Clark Award:
Terry Inboden

Coles-Douglas Award:
Brooke Carie

Carol Schnick Coyle Award:
Marisa Moomey

Mary L. Carrico Gaskill Award:
Nickie Mueller

Bryan & Adra Heise Award:
Sara Swartz

Bertha G. Hoedebecke Award:
Danielle McFarlin
Mary Ashley Walsh

Nell C. Hutchason Award:
Nicole Kowalczyk

John Kelley Award:
Jessica R. Smith

Educational Leadership

Hans C. Olsen Scholarship:
Arshad Mehmood
Ryan Hobbs

Warner Educational Admin
Scholarship:
Michele Wernsing
Lisa Mann
Lance Marcum

Rohn Family Scholarship:
Jeffrey Herrmann

CEPS Telefund:
Madeline Landes
Andrew Palmer
Paula Allen
Melinda James

Congratulations to
all award recipients
from the College
of Education &
Professional Studies



learned about themselves in the process. "I knew it would strengthen my adaptability and flexibility, and give me a better appreciation of cultures other than my own," said Kathleen Lashbrook.

"This fall, we have students in South Africa, Australia, Ecuador, Ireland, and the Bahamas," says Dr. Jim Kestner, who coordinates the COST program for EIU. "We have confidence that the individuals we send abroad will be top notch student teachers. Not only do they gain rare insight into education in other cultures, but they also show the world EIU's high quality educator preparation. We are proud to have them represent our university, state, and nation in these important roles."

Illinois Teacher of the Year, 2010-2011

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) selected eight finalists for the 2010-2011 Illinois Teacher of the Year from a selection pool of nominees from ISBE's 'Those Who Excel' educator recognition program.

"These eight teachers are representative of many wonderful Illinois educators," said State Superintendent of Education Christopher A. Koch in a press release from the ISBE. "Their dedication in helping students to become successful learners is unparalleled."

Three of the eight finalists are Eastern alums:

Leanne Jebens ('83 ELE), kindergarten teacher at Christa McAuliffe School in Kirby School District 140; Susan Thomas ('99 SOS '05 EDA) teaches social studies at Centennial High School in Champaign Unit 4 School District; and Patricia Vanderploeg ('78 English), an 8th grade teacher of English at Plum Grove Junior High School in Community Consolidated School District 15.

The 2009-2010 Illinois Teacher of the Year was awarded to Eastern alum, Kevin Rutter, an Economics teacher from Carl Schurz High School in Chicago Public School District 299. This year the award recipient is Alton High School English and Journalism Teacher, Annice Brave.

The ISBE Website stated that in her nomination letter, Principal Barbara A. Gillian, wrote that Brave's "devotion to all students is obvious in the countless hours she spends working with small groups and individuals long after the school day ends."

Brave holds a Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communication and a Master of Science in Education from Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville.



Annice Brave, *Teacher of the Year 2010-2011*, Alton High School