Recognizing Excellence in Art and Literary Magazines

Charge: To advise the NCTE staff liaison on any changes that should be made in the Recognizing Excellence in Art and Literary Magazines, review judging criteria, develop and review criteria for select-ing Highest Award winners, and to select Highest Award winners.

For more information on the Recognizing Excellence in Art and Literary Magazines, please go to: http://www2.ncte.org/awards/program-to-recognize-in-student-literary-magazines/.

Major activities: What major actions, projects, initiatives, or studies in your charge have been completed by your group since July 1, 2018? In each activity describe the more important features of the work, and connect your work to the NCTE Vision Statement, if applicable.

1. List names, affiliations, and geographic region for all committee members.

Jim Barnabee, Adlai E. Stevenson High School, Lincolnshire, IL
Becca Carson, Big Sky High School (Aerie Literary Program), Missoula, MT 59804
Maggie Deschaine, Lincoln North Star High School, Lincoln, NE
Peter J. Elliott, The John Cooper School, The Woodlands, TX
Alexa Garvoille, Durham School of the Arts, Durham, NC
Laura Gellin, Park Tudor School, Indianapolis, IN
Rebekah Goode, Woodward Academy, College Park, GA
Bryan Jeffreys, Judge Memorial Catholic High School, Salt Lake City, UT
Benjamin Lally, Hopkinton High School, Hopkinton, MA
David A. Ragsdale, Clarke Central HS, Athens, GA
Gillian Schneider, Neuqua Valley High School, Naperville, IL
Amy Williams-Eddy, Saint Mary's Hall, San Antonio, TX

2. What actions, projects, initiatives, or studies are “in progress” at this time?

- At the convention, we dissolved the State Coordinator position after many challenges. Laura Gellin will be the in-house REALM Coordinator to manage special cases that arise through the submission process.
- Gillian Schneider worked with Patrick Owen on the transition to online submissions and rating through EventPower.
- Our team rated literary magazines at the NCTE convention in Houston.
- We worked with Patrick Owen to shift our rating to online system through EventPower.
- Our group talked about the redesign of our presence online, including adding a rating sample video by next year.
- We are expanding our committee and have reached out to several teachers across the country to try to increase membership generally and expand our judging panel. We added 2 more judges this year and invited guest judges with the potential to be added to the committee.
- We modified the rubrics for high school, and extended rubrics for middle school and elementary.
- We created a draft of a college rubric.
- Ben Lally updated our digital map for NCTE, as the graphics department works on an appropriate version.

3. What have you accomplished so far, and what is your timeline for future work?

- We appointed Laura Gellin as the in-house REALM Coordinator to manage special cases that arise through the submission process. We will meet in Baltimore to further define this role.
- We transitioned to online submissions and rating through EventPower and will get feedback from sponsors and committee members until November.
- Our team will rate magazines at the convention in November (Friday this year).
- Our group talked about the redesign of our presence online, including adding a rating sample video by next year. We hope to meet on Thursday or Friday at the convention to film an updated version, as Patrick took care of this for this year.
- We added 2 more judges this year and invited guest judges with the potential to be added to the committee. Gillian will step down as Chair this year and renew for three years to help the transition.
- We modified the rubrics for high school, and extended rubrics for middle school and elementary. We will need to review these over the next year and finalize before creating a rating video for judges.
- We created a draft of a college rubric. We will need to review this over the next year and finalize before creating a rating video for judges.
- Ben Lally updated our digital map for NCTE, as the graphics department works on an appropriate version. Ben may continue to update this for the next couple of years until a final decision can be made on the best system.

4. How has the work of your group contributed to NCTE’s role in shaping the profession of teaching and/or the understanding of literacy in educational contexts?

- Our group is working with teachers to offer opportunities to publish student work, and we present at the annual convention in order to share best practices.
- We hope to inspire more schools to take advantage of technology to publish digitally (especially when funding prohibits publication of a physical magazine).
- We want to expand our base (of 330+ submitting sponsors) to inspire more teachers to offer outlets for creativity. As a result, we have expanded to include elementary school, middle school, and college literary magazines.
- We hope to remind teachers that writing can be fun and publishing a literary magazine can be rewarding. Our committee recognizes magazines on a national stage to inspire creativity and teamwork.
- Through creative writing and publication, our committee work helps “deepen every student’s consciousness of worth and widen possibilities for all students’ access, power, agency, affiliation, and impact, across a lifetime.”

Suggestions from your group: Your good ideas help direct future NCTE actions.

1. What significant changes or trends in our field point to action from the Council?

The use of technology in the field of student publications has shifted and helped equalize the field. As we mentioned last year, we hope to help sponsors balance the expense of publishing/printing vs. developing online magazines may make a difference for many schools in the literary magazine realm. THANKS to NCTE for helping public schools submit digitally this year, as private schools often have an upper hand.

2. What trends need to factor into medium- to long-term NCTE planning?

SEL, climate change and its effect on teens, divisive language of leaders

Gillian Schneider, Chair