



From the Editors

Summer shines brightly across the nation, and with it often comes an opportunity for a vacation—a respite from the daily routine. With your break—no matter how brief—from the everyday concerns, we hope you’ll take some time to venture with us along “A Road Less Traveled,” our theme for this issue of *The ALAN Review*, as we continue to explore the growing field of young adult literature.

Patty Campbell, ALAN president, begins our unique journey with a preview of the fall 2005 ALAN workshop set for Pittsburgh. With the theme of “Bearers of Light: The Caring Community of Young Adult Literature,” the workshop guarantees to provide numerous roads to navigate when using young adult literature. The workshop kicks off with Yann Martel, author of *The Life of Pi*, speaking at the annual ALAN breakfast. From there, it’s two full days of leading authors, publishers, and other experts in the field. Be sure to check out the tentative schedule to see when some of the top names in young adult literature will be sharing with conference-goers.

This issue also features Steven T. Bickmore’s teaching approaches for Joseph Buchac’s *Heart of a Chief*, as well as an interview with the Native American author. Pete Hautman provides a humorous narrative of how he won a national book award for *Godless*, while another award-winner—John Mason of Scholastic Inc., who received the 2004 Ted Hipple

Service Award, shares what it’s like in the world of publishing.

Author Shannon Hale continues our journey, explaining the art of telling archetypal stories, while Joseph O. Milner explores life on the fringe of society for many protagonists in Kay Smith’s *High School Connection*. Wendy Glenn then shares details of fiction shaped by history, based on two current authors, Julie Chibbaro and Jennifer Donnelly. First-time contributor Katherine E. Proukou discusses the nature of young adult literature through traditional lenses and examines whether the genre is a rite of passage or a rite of its own.

And, as a tribute to a woman who blazed many historic and vital trails in literacy and reader response, Duane Roen and Nicholas Karolides discuss the life and times of Louise Rosenblatt, who passed away earlier this year. ALAN award winner Jacqueline Woodson discusses her novels and how she attempts, through the written word, to help young people stand up for their beliefs.

Finally, in our regular columns, we provide the Clip and File section featuring reviews of 31 of the latest in young adult literature.

Be prepared for an issue filled with a variety of less traveled roads—all different and interesting options to reach our one primary destination, making the most of young adult literature. Enjoy this literary vacation; it’s a valuable journey.

Announcement from Catherine Balkin, ALAN Authors' Bureau Coordinator

Dear ALAN Member:

Since the purpose of ALAN is to promote the reading, teaching, and appreciation of literature for adolescents, the Board has created an ALAN Speakers Bureau to advance the reading and use of young adult literature in schools, libraries and other settings.

We are currently collecting speakers' names for a posting on the ALAN website. If you are interested in becoming a guest speaker at school, library, or university functions, or if you already do a lot of speaking, a mention on the ALAN website could generate a number of requests for you.

If you would like to be included, please provide us with your name, address, phone number, and email address, and tell us your honorarium range, how many presentations you are willing to do each day, your audience preference (YAs only, adults only, both), what kinds of subjects you are comfortable with and how far you're willing to travel. On the

ALAN website, we will publish only your name, school or university affiliation, city and state. All requests for speaking engagements will be filtered through the Speakers Bureau.

In return for this service, we ask that you pay ALAN a finder's fee of 15% of the honorarium you receive from each speaking engagement. The money that ALAN receives from this service will go back into the membership by way of grants, programs, etc., to advance our stated purpose. A satisfaction survey will be sent to each school or university after the speaker program, and upon request, we will be happy to share the results of the survey with you.

If you are interested in joining the ALAN Speakers Bureau, or if you have any questions, please contact Catherine Balkin at telephone 718-857-7605 or Catherine@BalkinBuddies.com. Also, if you were previously on the ALAN Speakers Bureau and wish to continue to be on it, please contact Catherine Balkin with the above mentioned details. We look forward to working with you on this enterprise.

Call for Manuscripts

2005 Fall theme: Finding My Way

This theme is intended to solicit articles about young adult literature and its use dealing with the search for self. This theme is meant to be open to interpretation and support a broad range of subtopics, but some possibilities include examination and discussion of the approach an author or group of authors take to leading protagonists down the path to self discovery, comparisons of how this is accomplished across subgenres of young adult literature, or how young adult literature compares to developmental or adolescent psychology. We welcome and encourage other creative interpretations of this theme.

2006 Winter

The theme for our 2006 winter issue will reflect the theme of the 2005 ALAN Workshop, *Bearers of Light: The Caring Community of Young Adult Literature*. October 15 submission deadline.