Outstanding Literacy Students and Tutors Honored

Wisconsin Literacy, Inc. and Wisconsin Institutions Literacy Council (WILC) work at providing literacy programs in Wisconsin. Wisconsin Literacy, Inc. is a statewide agency that was initially formed in 1985 as a coalition of adult, family and workplace literacy providers for the purpose of supporting one another through resource development, information and referrals, trainings and advocacy. WILC is an organization which promotes literacy and life skills through a learner-centered environment. This is accomplished through tutoring services offered by individual institutions for inmates enrolled in school, and also for inmates in general population who wish to improve their math, reading, writing and keyboarding skills in order to prepare for re-entry into society, family life and the work place.

Each year, the Wisconsin Literacy, Inc. and WILC partner to hold the annual Celebration of Literacy. Wisconsin Literacy hosted its 8th Annual Celebration of Literacy at the Monona Terrace in Madison on Tuesday, April 27, 2010. Eight awards were presented. Each winner received a plaque and two complimentary tickets to the celebration.

This year, WILC nominated three outstanding individuals:

- **Courage Award for Achievement in a Correctional Setting:**
  Winner: Tremaine Brown, nominated by Racine Youthful Offender Correctional Facility (RYOCF)
  Honorable Mention: Vincent Bell also nominated by RYOCF

- **Tutor of the year:**
  Honorable Mention: Dawn Ludwig, nominated by Taycheedah Correctional Institution

The other awards presented at the Celebration of Literacy were:

- **Outstanding Adult Literacy Learner of the Year:** Nou Thao, nominated by Literacy Volunteers - Chippewa Valley

- **Outstanding English Language Learner of the Year:** Angelica Taubenheim, nominated by Family Resource Centers of Sheboygan County Literacy Council Project, Honorable Mention: Tin Win, nominated by Kenosha Literacy Council

- **The First Lady Jessica Doyle Award for Family Literacy:**
  International Learning Center Parenting Education and Home Visitation Program, nominated by Neighborhood House of Milwaukee

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Few Changes on CEA-Wisconsin Board

At the CEA-Wisconsin State Conference in Elkhart Lake on May 3, President-Elect Margaret Done will assume the office of President of the State Chapter. President Mary Stierna has chosen to stay on the CEA-W Board and serve as President-Elect.

Margaret has been a teacher at the Racine Youthful Offender Correctional Facility and Robert E. Ellsworth Correctional Center since 1999. She teaches GED, Parenting, and Re-Entry classes and coordinates the tutoring program. She is helped plan and has presented workshops at several CEA conferences. Margaret is a Board member on the Wisconsin Institutions Literacy Council.

All of the CEA-W Board members up for election this year were unopposed and will be returning for another term. Continuing on the Board are:

- **Secretary** - Sharon Nesemann, WRC
- **Treasurer** - Ray Schlesinger, OCI
- **Maximum Security Representative** - Mike Breszee, WCI
- **Medium Security Representative** - Peter Garetson, OSCI
- **State Agency Representative** - Peggy Meyers, WTCS
- **At-Large Representative/Newsletter Editor** - Jerry Bednarowski

At the May CEA-W Board Meeting, the new Board members will assume their offices.

The Minimum Security Representative office on the board continues to be vacant. Anyone interested in serving as Minimum Security Representative on the CEA-Wisconsin Board may contact Mary Stierna at mary.stierna@wisconsin.gov

To join CEA go to: [www.ceanational.org](http://www.ceanational.org)
Friends of Correctional Education 2010 Award

Do you know someone who has been noteworthy in their support of correctional education?

This person may be a volunteer who contributes time and effort to an education program, a community agency employee who has presented special workshops, a business person who has donated funds or materials to make programs more effective, or an advocate of correctional education in some way. If such person has contributed to your facility's education program, submit his/her name to the Correctional Education Association-Wisconsin for the "Friends of Correctional Education Award."

Nominees cannot be employed by the Department of Corrections, Department of Health and Family Services, or a county jail.

Friends of Correctional Education Entry Form

Name:____________________________________________________________________

Contribution to Correctional Education:

_________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________

______________________

___________________________________________________

Nominator's Name:__________________________________________________________

Institution:_________________________________________________________________

Deadline: July 1, 2010

Submit your entry to:
Mike Breszee
CEA-W Awards and Recognition
Waupun Correctional Institution
PO Box 351
Waupun, WI 53963-0351

Phone: (920) 324-5571 (0) ext.1389  Fax: (920) 324-7250
Email: michael.breszee@wisconsin.gov
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- **Outstanding Achievement in a Workplace Literacy Program**: Paragon Potato Farms, nominated by Portage County Literacy Council
- **Outstanding Achievement in Health Literacy**: Literacy Network of Dane County, nominated by Literacy Network of Dane County, Honorable Mention: Bilingual Medical Interpreter Training, nominated by Milwaukee Achiever Literacy Services
- **Tutor of the Year**: Margaret (Peg) Frey, nominated by Northern Waters Literacy, Honorable Mention: Jeanette Baribeau, nominated by Literacy Volunteers-Chippewa Valley
- **Literacy Advocate of the Year**: Peg Palmer, nominated by Milwaukee Achiever Literacy Services, Honorable Mention: Le Ganschow, nominated by Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin

The WILC winner of the Courage Award for Achievement in a Correctional Setting, Tremain Brown’s nomination was submitted in his own words:

*On November 1, 2000 I arrived in Green Bay, Wisconsin from Chicago, Illinois with my mother and 2 younger sisters. We lived with family members until my mom was able to find a place of her own. Ever since I could remember it was just me, my mother and my sisters because my dad was always in and out of prison. The decision to move to Green Bay was based on the facts that violence was always around us, and my mom was concerned for our safety.*

*I went to school in the Brown County Public School System. The first school that I attended was Franklin Middle School. I attended there for the rest of 7th Grade and 8th Grade. During the summer of my transition from 7th grade to 8th grade I started to miss my old home and my friends. I had started doing bad things, and I started to get into trouble. That’s pretty much where my life took a wrong turn. I was always a good student in school; my mom taught me how to be respectful and have good manners, but I still decided to hang with the wrong crowd of people and do things that I knew were bad. When I got to high school my grades started to slip. By the time I was 18 years old, I dropped out of high school. I then became a father. On the verge of turning my life around to be a good father to my daughter, I was in the wrong place at the wrong time doing something that I knew I shouldn’t have been doing in the first place. Those actions placed me in the Racine Youthful Offender Correctional Facility (RYOCF), away from my daughter and my family.*

*Arriving at RYOCF March 5, 2009, I decided that this is not a place where I belong and I never want to ever come back. I knew that one of the things that I needed to make it in the outside world upon my release was to obtain my H.S.E.D. With hard work and determination by the end of July 2009 I had my H.S.E.D. I also completed many of the Reentry Modules that are offered at the institution to help prepare us for when we return to the community. In September 2009, I went through tutor training to become a tutor, not because it was a paying job at the institution, but because I wanted to use what I learned to help others achieve their H.S.E.D.*

*Many students in prison feel like giving up. A method of determination that I used whenever I felt like giving up, or felt I just could not go any further, was to read a poem I wrote when I was in 8th grade that my Mom had sent to me. She knew that I liked this poem and that I could use it as a means of encouragement to go that extra step whenever needed. The name of the poem is “Choose Not to Lose, Choose to Win”.*

*In the game of life where choices are made, We often hold back, we are often afraid. We are hung up on race, on our size, on our fear. We stay on the same treadmill year after year. But choice must be made to do or give in. JUST CHOOSE NOT TO LOSE, CHOOSE TO WIN! No one can tell us that life is a breeze, That we’re going to have roses, and take our ease. No one can tell us it’s easy or fair. We see injustice, inequality, neglect everywhere. But, inside each heart there’s a quiet voice, Helping to conquer, helping us make our choice. No one can hear this voice but you,*
Whispering what is right, what is best to do.  
For choice must be made to do or give in,  
JUST CHOOSE NOT TO LOSE, CHOOSE TO WIN!!  
No matter how long it takes, how rough the way,  
You’ll someday be glad that you did not stray.  
You’ll be standing in sunshine, smiling and proud,  
While everyone’s cheering long and loud,  
For a person who got up whenever knocked down,  
And set out to go for another round,  
Who never gave up in despair and defeat,  
Who stayed in the race till the goal was complete.  
Remember choice must be made to do or give in,  
JUST CHOOSE NOT TO LOSE, CHOOSE TO WIN!!

Mr. Brown tutors in two Adult Basic Education classrooms and works in the library. Mr. Brown will soon return to the community. I believe that if Mr. Brown uses the same determination and courage that he showed while in corrections in the community he will be successful. Mr. Brown has the courage to choose not to lose – he has chosen to win. I nominate Tremaine Brown for the Courage Award for Achievement in a Correctional Setting.

This year’s keynote speaker for the Celebration of Literacy luncheon was award-winning Wisconsin author Jane Hamilton. Hamilton lives, works and writes in an orchard farmhouse in Wisconsin. Her short stories have appeared in Harper's magazine. Her first novel, The Book of Ruth, won the PEN/Ernest Hemingway Foundation Award for best first novel and was a selection of the Oprah Book Club. Her second novel, A Map of the World, was an international bestseller.

As Wisconsin Literacy’s only fundraiser, the Celebration of Literacy helps raise necessary funds to support 61 literacy programs throughout the state while also celebrating the accomplishments of outstanding learners, tutors and literacy advocates.

Congratulations to Tremaine Brown, Vincent Bell, Dawn Ludwig, the Wisconsin Institutions Literacy Council, and the Wisconsin Department of Corrections.

by: Kay C George, WILC Co-Director &  
Tutor Supervisor Racine Youthful Offender Correctional Facility

Stories from the Inside

The March 2010 issue of the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families’ Youth Initiatives e-newsletter includes an article on two books which offer unique, insider perspectives on life for juveniles while incarcerated - one from a while back, and one just published.

In 1996, Pulitzer Prize winning author Edward Humes wrote No Matter How Loud I Shout: A Year in the Life of Juvenile Court in which he spent over a year talking with and gathering stories about youth held in the Central Juvenile Hall in Los Angeles. Although the stories take place in Los Angeles, the characters (kids and adults) are universal, and the stories about how kids got there and how they have learned to survive their road through the juvenile system apply anywhere.

Just released this month is I Don’t Wish Nobody to Have a Life Like Mine: Tales of Kids in Adult Lockup, by David Chura. Mr. Chura, a teacher for 10 years in a jail, provides a window into the lives of youth who are in the adult court system.

Correctional Education Association-Wisconsin 2010 Scholarship Program

Again this year CEA-Wisconsin is sponsoring two $500 scholarships. One scholarship will go to a CEA-W member and the other will go to a family member of a CEA-W member.

Purpose: The CEA-Wisconsin Scholarship Award Program is designed to assist CEA-W members or their spouses/dependents that are pursuing a degree at an accredited university or technical college.

Scholarships Details: Each year, CEA-Wisconsin endows two scholarships of $500 each. One scholarship will be awarded to a CEA-W member who is furthering his/her education in the education or library services field. The other scholarship will go to a family member of a CEA-W member who is pursuing a university or technical college degree in any field. The recipients must provide verification of enrollment in an accredited university or technical college.

Eligibility:
☑ Applicant must be a current CEA-W member, member’s spouse, or member’s dependent.
☑ Applicant must be pursuing (full or part time) a graduate, undergraduate, or technical degree at an accredited university or technical college.
☑ Applicant must be entering his/her freshman, sophomore, junior, senior year, or graduate school. First year students must have been officially accepted by the college/university they plan to attend.
☑ Past winners are not eligible.

Application: Applicants must complete the application form that can be found on the www.ceawisconsin.org website, provide all required attachments, and submit the entire package to the address below no later than July 1, 2010. Incomplete application packages will not be accepted for consideration.

Selection: The scholarship recipients will be selected by the CEA-Wisconsin Board. Criteria for selection will include academic record, financial need, and school, community, or association activities. Recipients will be notified in writing.

For more information contact:

Holly Audley
CEA-Wisconsin Scholarship Committee
Southern Oaks Girls School
21425B Spring Street
Union Grove, WI 53182
262-878-6525
holly.audley@wisconsin.gov
Jayne Servais Gave of Herself

It is with heavy heart that I am reporting the passing of Jayne Servais, teacher extraordinaire, at GBCI.

Ms. Servais joined the Green Bay Correctional Institution Education staff on November 6, 2000. She served as a Title 1 teacher for two years and as a Vocational Communications/Reading teacher for the remainder of her time at GBCI. In 2007, Jayne was chosen by WFRV-TV, Channel 5, Green Bay, as the recipient of the Teachers Who Make a Difference Award. It was richly deserved.

Ms. Servais’ classes were always in great demand and were always filled to capacity --- for good reason. Her intelligence, teaching ability, and her genuine warmth, pleasantness, and caring for her students was always welcomed and appreciated by those she taught. It resulted in incredible student achievement for students who had previously floundered in their attempts at writing and reading. Yes, Jayne will be missed by staff as well as her students.

For Jayne, a good and decent person, teaching in corrections, at GBCI, was more a vocation than a “job”. She felt quite fortunate to be able to do what she did in the place that she did it. Jayne believed that giving of herself in this way served a higher purpose as well as obvious practical ends. Ms. Servais, rest in peace, and thank you for having graced this school with your loving presence.

by: Jack Doruff, Education Director, GBCI

Learn All About CEA-Wisconsin at:
www.ceawisconsin.org

Wanted: Creative Writings and Drawings

Once again, CEA-Wisconsin invites incarcerated writers and artists to submit their works for the ninth annual edition of the CEA-W Creativity Contest. Each year CEA-W publishes original prose, poetry, and ink drawings from Wisconsin’s jail, prison, and juvenile facility populations. All levels of writers and artists are encouraged to offer submissions. Authors and artists whose works are selected will each receive two free copies of the booklet when it is published in January.

Encourage your learners to express themselves in drawings (black ink on 8½ by 11 white paper) and writings up to 1000 words including poems, letters, essays, and short stories. Winners are selected from all levels, so urge beginning writers to give it a try. The deadline for entries is August 1, 2010.

Please ask entrants to read the contest rules and fill out the submission form legibly. Entries can be sent to Libby Kraft at the WRC address on the submission form. Other members of the Creativity Contest Committee are Mary Stierna (WRC), Sharon Nesemann (WRC), Jane Schirger (RGCI), Jason Brost (SOGS), Linda Lentz (JCBCC), Pandora Lobacz (LHS), Susan Casper (OSCI), Ray Schlesinger (OCI), and Laurie Jarvis (FVTC/Waushara CJ).

The booklets are typeset by inmates at OSCI and printed by inmates at CCI. This publication reflects the professional commitment of CEA-W members to promote literacy. Each CEA-W member gets a free copy of the booklet. If you want to join the committee, contact Sharon Nesemann at WRC.

See pages 8 and 9 for contest rules and the Submission Release Form.
CEA-Wisconsin – Creativity Contest Rules

1. Entries are limited to writers who are incarcerated in prisons, juvenile facilities, and county jails located in Wisconsin. People in alternative correctional programs such as bracelet monitoring, probation, and parole are not eligible.

2. **All entries must be the original work of the entrant. Plagiarism, copying someone else’s work and claiming it as your own, is against the law and is not acceptable!**

3. Submission emphasis will be placed on those enrolled in educational programs. Special needs students who have received high school diplomas but have skill levels at the basic education level are encouraged to apply.

4. Artwork must be black ink on white paper and allow for at least a one-inch margin around a standard 8.5 x 11” page. Wider and darker lines allow for better reproduction. Photocopies are allowed, but the teacher or representative must see the original work at the time of submission.

5. Writing is judged on voice, organization, and creativity. Any form of writing is acceptable: poems, essays, short stories, letters, etc. Writing can be as short as one paragraph, but should not exceed 1,000 words. Entries must be typed, double-spaced, with a maximum of 2 pages.

6. Only one submission for each category, art and writing, will be accepted from each entrant.

7. The enclosed release form must accompany the entry. The instructor is responsible for explaining that the work will undergo the usual editing process which any publication undergoes. All writing technicalities (punctuation, grammar) will be corrected. Instructors are advised not to correct students’ work. Assistance in writing should include suggestions for expanding ideas, development of themes, and organization. Over-correcting by instructors interferes with the voice of the writer. Entries may be reviewed locally by the Education Director or by DOC Central Office for appropriateness and security consideration as needs and policies dictate.

8. Entries must be signed by the Education Department contact person and received at the address on the release form by July 30, 2010. Winners will receive publications by January 2011. **No submissions will be returned.** Writers whose work is not accepted will not be notified.

9. The writer should include an address where he/she can be contacted in December, 2010. The institutional address can be listed, provided the student agrees to contact the instructor in December about contest results. For jail programs, booklets will be sent to the institutional address in care of the Education Department Contact Person, as listed on the form, for distribution to winners.

10. Writers retain copyright to their work. CEA-W has first publication rights and rights to the collection of work. Winners will receive two (2) copies of the book. No payment for published work will be provided.

11. Students may have their essays published anonymously. The release form, however, must contain the student’s real name and signature. This information will be used by contest coordinator only and kept confidential. Write anonymous or use initials (no pseudonyms, please) on the writing submitted, and staple the two together.

12. Illegible submission forms or entries may be disqualified.
I hereby give the CEA–W permission to publish the following work(s), if selected for the contest publication. These works are my original, unpublished writings and/or artwork. I understand that the selections may be minimally edited. I further understand that after publication all rights will return to me, however, original works will not be returned. The titles of the works submitted (maximum two) are listed below:

A. Title(s): May submit only one (1) of each category.

Writing: ____________________________ Art: ____________________________

B. CEA-W will send each person whose work was selected two copies of the book. Please print clearly your full name and mailing address as of December 2010. Illegible submission forms may result in disqualified entries.

(Full Name) (Inmate Number)

(Mailing address – Street Address) (Institution where currently residing)

(Mailing address -- City, State, Zip)

☐ Check here if this is a juvenile facility.

C. On the line below, please print the way you would like your name to appear in the book if selected. You may only use your institution name, first name with last initial, initials only, or anonymous. No aliases.

(PRINT your name, initials, or anonymous)

D. Sign and date. By signing I verify that these works are my original, unpublished writings and/or artwork.

(Signature) (Date)

E. Education Department Contact Person (For county jails, the contact person will be responsible for distributing booklets to winning authors.)

(Signature) (Facility)

(Print Name) (Contact Info -- Phone or Email)

Please circle one: Jr/Sr High School (DJC) ABE Intermediate HSED Post High School

NOTE: This form must accompany all submissions. Incomplete or incorrect submissions forms may disqualify the entry. Submissions must be sent to Libby Kraft, WRC, by July 30, 2010
President’s Message

This is my last message to you as CEA-W President. Over the past two years, I have enjoyed meeting CEA members, visiting institutions and getting to know programs around the state. The programs that Wisconsin offers and the teachers who deliver them are amazing! Thank you for sharing your programs and ideas with me.

Many of you are attending the CEA State Conference Day on May 3rd. There are some wonderful workshops lined up on a variety of topics. I want to thank all of the presenters for sharing their knowledge with us. We also have some special attendees: CEA Executive Director Steve Steurer, National Board President Denise Justice, National Board Vice President David Webb, Region III Director Peggy Meyers, Region III Secretary Susan Nell, Region II Director Norris Williams and co-editor of the *Journal of Correctional Education* John Dowdell from Ashland University.

I want to thank the CEA-W Board for all the hard work that they do to promote correctional education and support members including organizing conferences, setting aside funds for the various awards and printing and distributing the newsletters. Margaret Done is the new President of the CEA-W Board. She is a creative, wonderful person who will do a great job during her term!

Thank you CEA-W members for all of your support,

Mary Stierna

CEA-Wisconsin News Review
Sharon Nesemann, CEA-W Secretary
Wisconsin Resource Center
P.O. Box 16
Winnebago, WI 54985