

Kate McDowell
University of Illinois

Curriculum Vitae

Kate McDowell

**Doctoral Student,
Graduate School of Library and Information Science,
University of Illinois, Urbana/Champaign, IL**

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EDUCATION

- ?? Doctoral coursework, beginning January 2003.
- ?? Masters of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois, August, 1999.
- ?? Bachelor of Arts, New College of USF, 1995.

EXPERIENCE

- ?? Member, Board of Trustees, The Urbana Free Library, Urbana, IL, appointed October 2003.
- ?? Instructor of LIS 406LE, Youth Services Librarianship: Principles and Practices in School and Public Libraries, Fall 2003.
- ?? Children's Librarian at The Urbana Free Library, Urbana, IL, 1999-2003.
- ?? Visiting Instructor of LIS 303LE, Literature and Resources for Children, Fall 1999 and Fall 2002.
- ?? Visiting Instructor of LIS 304LE, Literature and Resources for Young Adults, Spring 2000.

- ?? Research and Editorial Assistant, Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books. Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Champaign, IL. 1997 to 1999.
- ?? Teaching Assistant, Library Materials for Children. Graduate School of Library and Information Science, LEEP Online Education. Professor Elizabeth Hearne. Fall, 1998.

HONORS

- ?? American Library Association's Bound to Stay Bound Books Scholarship, 1997. One of six nationally selected recipients.
- ?? Herbert Goldhor Award for Public Librarianship from the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois, May 2000.
- ?? Incomplete List of Teachers Rated Excellent by Their Students, Fall 2000.
- ?? IMLS PhD Fellowship, Project Athena, beginning Fall 2003.

OTHER TEACHING

?? **Babies Lap Time**

An ongoing series of programs for children aged 6-24 months designed to both entertain babies and educate parents about the great range of songs, stories, and activities available for using with very young children. Developmental constraints, such as limited visual and motor skills abilities, are addressed by using a variety of inputs, including music, rhyming chants, movement (clapping, bouncing, counting fingers), and activities using rhythm.

?? **Caring Kids Class**

A series of presentations in conjunction with a class for 6th grade students at Urbana Middle School designed to teach them about entertaining and caring for young people. A range of appealing picture books were presented, along with ideas for adapting some picture books and traditional folktales for storytelling to young children, using creative dramatics, string figures, and music.

?? **Funfare, Time for Tales, Mini-concerts, Etc.**

Library programs ranging from weekly story hours to full-fledged concerts. Using storytelling for all ages (toddlers to adults), musical performance including a variety of musical instruments and vocal techniques (Slavic singing, dulcimer, guitar, etc.), creative dramatics, puppetry, crafts, and interpretive readings of books, I strive to make my library programming a multimedia experience that will guide children of all learning types and dispositions to a love of reading.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- ?? Reviews of books for children and young adults. Ongoing publication of four to eight reviews per month in the Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books, a nationally circulating and internationally renowned journal of literature for young people aimed primarily at librarians purchasing materials for public and school collections.
- ?? "Reading Rocks! Great Books for Summer 2002," presented at Lincoln Trail Library System for IREAD and broadcast ooktalking for Librarians
- ?? Featured Storyteller, for the Urbana Park District's Big Grove Storytelling Festival, annually since 2001.
- ?? "Web Site Selection for Children" presentation at "On the Front Lines," Illinois State Library Annual Conference, March 2000.
- ?? "Just Right! When Easy Readers are Too Easy and Chapter Books are Too Hard," Champaign Public Library Children's Literature Festival, November 2000.
- ?? Family Reading Night Presentation at Thomas Paine School, 1999.

CREATIVE WORKS

- ?? Story Songs: original musical adaptations of traditional folktales, such as the frog prince, the three billy goats gruff, and little red riding hood.
- ?? Puppet Gallery: Puppet design and creation (<http://www.itg.uiuc.edu/people/mcdowell/puppet-gallery>)
- ?? Puppet Shows: *Brer Rabbit Tales* and *Frog Prince*. Created, produced, and performed several original puppet shows based on folktales. Brer Rabbit Tales and Frog Prince
- ?? Babies Lap Time Resource Website: <http://www.itg.uiuc.edu/people/mcdowell/laptime/> (linked to by many libraries and librarian websites, including Los Angeles Public Library's website)

SERVICE

- ?? American Library Association, member since 1997.
- ?? Association for Library Service to Children, member since 1997.
- ?? Rebecca Caudill Young Readers Award Committee, 2000 and 2001.
- ?? Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books Blue Ribbons Award Committee, annually since 1999.
- ?? Guest Reader at American Education Week, Washington School, annually since 2000.
- ?? Volunteer Performer (Story Songs Concert) at Champaign Public Library, July 12, 2000.
- ?? Volunteer at Leal School Library, moving the collection for renovation, 2001.
- ?? Independent Media Center, Founding Member and Volunteer Librarian (<http://www.ucimc.org>)

OTHER RELEVANT EMPLOYMENT

- ?? Library Aide, Urbana Middle School Library and Urbana High School Library, Urbana, IL. 1996-1997.
- ?? Shelver/Circulation Clerk, Urbana Free Library, Urbana, IL. 1996.
- ?? Afterschool Recreation Leader, Champaign Park District, Champaign, IL. 1995-1996.
- ?? Substitute Children's Librarian, Urbana Free Library, Urbana, IL. May 1999 to July 1999