Last chance to sign up for the Billings Summer Institute

The Montana Writing Project has four slots available that are reserved for Gear Up teachers. After other registrations are complete MWP may end up with additional Gear Up spots.

Billings Career Center June 8-26

The MWP Summer Institute is a writing- and teaching-intensive, three-week program. MWP institutes blend place-based education, best literacy practices and Indian Education for All in equal measure. Throughout the Summer Institute, participants have hands-on experience in writing across the curriculum and with the computer as a tool for writing and teaching writing. Throughout the academic year, MWP Teacher-Consultants conduct in-service activities that promote and improve the teaching of writing in their schools and districts. MWP invites teachers of all content areas, K-16, to participate in the Summer Institute in the spirit of the Common Core State Standards. We are all teachers of writing.

For more information, contact us at mwp.eastern@gmail.com. Click here to apply to the Billings Senior summer institute.

Seven graduate credits are available from The University of Montana.

Cost:

- Program Fee - This institute program is free of charge for teachers from Montana's Gear Up schools.
- Credit Registration Fee - $ 135 for seven graduate credits from The University of Montana

Leadership:

- Marcia Beaumont, Co-Director - Lewis & Clark Middle School, Billings
- Wendy Tyree, Co-Director - Billings Skyview High School, Billings
- Casey Olsen, Co-Director - Columbus High School, Columbus
- Kate McPherson, Co-Director - Billings Senior High School, Billings
- Jacie Jeffers, Assistant Co-Director - Billings Senior High School

*Missoula, Montana July 19-25, 2015

Application deadline: June 1st, 2015
Applications available: https://www.thememoriallibrary.org/montana-application-2015/

One of thirteen satellite seminars nationwide, sponsored by New York City's Memorial Library in New York City and the Montana Writing Project, Worlds Apart But Not Strangers will be held in Missoula, Montana from July 19-July 25, 2015. This institute is designed for individuals who currently teach or are interested in teaching the Nazi Holocaust and/or Indian Education for All, and would like to discover ways to make connections between these topics. Relevant to teachers grades 4-12 as well as college and university faculty, the purpose of the course is to provide novice and experienced
teachers with knowledge about and teaching strategies for Holocaust Education, Indian Education for All and community building, using literacy, and especially writing, as tools to drive inquiry.

The institute will focus on past history, including the Nazi Holocaust and the impact of U.S. policies on Native peoples of our nation. Our lens will then turn to the present, as we consider the roles (target, perpetrator, ally, bystander) people choose in their daily interactions with each other as well as the stereotypes and prejudice affecting our schools and our communities today.

Due to the generous support of the Memorial Library, Worlds Apart is offered at no cost to teachers. Our work is intensive; including events during a 9-4 day and most evenings. ** Three University of Montana credits are available for the $135 cost of the recording fee. Participants will be responsible for travel and housing costs, but many meals will be provided and dorm space will be available.

A video overview of the seminar is available here http://www.thememoriallibrary.org/videos/satellite-seminars (select Montana)

and a short video of the 2011 seminar here http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5MrEtIc2fHI

Facilitators: Brenda Johnston, Marcia Beaumont, Wendy Warren

Address questions to Wendy Z. Warren wendyzwarren@yahoo.com

* Q&A With Sir Ken Robinson - Education Week http://t.co/TIAifjF5Mc via @educationweek #MTedchat #NCCEchat

This is a fascinating audio interview with Sir Ken Robinson, education reformer, lecturer and writer. He has been seen on TED Talks in an inspiring video. His newest book is Creative Schools.

*If Students Are Smart, They’ll Major in What They Love

By Cecilia Gaposchkin

It’s that time of year again: At many colleges, second-year students must declare their majors. Uncles, grandmothers, and friends will almost certainly ask: "What are you going to do with that?" Some parents will say, "I am not going to shell out this amount of money for my kid to major in ….""

[But] By releasing students from the pressure of the practical major and allowing them to study what they are sincerely interested in, we allow them to become smarter, more creative, and more able. This is what potential employers value, not course content that is likely to be obsolete once they have finished training the recent
An alumnus who is a physician told me this year that majoring in history (my discipline) was the best thing he ever did. He explained that much of his job is listening to people’s stories and trying to figure out patterns and irregularities, and that doing those things well was what his history major had taught him.

*The Chronicles of Higher Education May 21, 2015

To read the full article click on http://chronicle.com/article/If-Students-Are-Smart/230307

Dates to keep in mind for the fall:

**ACT Aspire Training Montana**

Proposed locations: Kalispell (FVCC?)
Billings (MSU-B or City College?)

Proposed dates: Tuesday, September 16 (Kalispell) and Thursday, September 18 (Billings) OR Tuesday, September 23 (Billings) and Thursday, September 25 (Kalispell) (MPSEOC College Fairs)

Proposed time: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. (TBD)

Agenda items:
- ACT Aspire Overview-Key Features
- Aspire Online Administration
- GEAR UP Technical Assistance (Year 4 IP/Budget, GEARS?)

- Check dates with state team
- Send proposed dates to ACT
- Find venues (Aspen)
- ACT Aspire registration (MTGU/Schools)
- ACT system readiness check-schools
ACT College and Career Readiness Workshops

Learn about Maria and Anne, two students on the journey to college and career readiness, at the 2015 ACT College and Career Readiness Workshops.

Through the eyes of these two students, discover how the data and insights derived from ACT products help inform and direct student preparation. Walk through score reports from the ACT® test, ACT Aspire®, ACT Engage®, ACT WorkKeys®, ACT KeyTrain®, and the ACT National Career Readiness Certificate™, and leave with ideas, actions, and resources to use in your school.

This free half-day, interactive workshop is open to all educators, principals, school counselors, district testing coordinators, and district curriculum professionals. Invite a friend or bring your school team and connect your insights to your own school’s needs and objectives for achieving college and career readiness.

Register now for an ACT College and Career Readiness Workshop near you! We encourage you to share this information with others from your school so they can benefit from attending the workshop, too. Members of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) will earn 3 clock hours for participating in the workshop.*

*ACT is an NBCC-Approved Continuing Education Provider (ACEP) and may offer NBCC-approved clock hours for events that meet NBCC requirements. The ACEP is solely responsible for all aspects of the program.

If you need assistance in participating in this meeting or event due to a disability as defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), please email amy.putty@act.org at least ten business days prior to the scheduled meeting or event to request an accommodation.

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Follow us on LinkedIn and Twitter for workshop updates.