

# MEDIA MATTERS

A NEWSLETTER FOR PEOPLE WHO CARE ABOUT LIBRARY MEDIA PROGRAMS

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## DORCHESTER ACADEMY: THIS PLACE MATTERS



See more information on page 2.



Have a safe, restful, happy summer and I will see you when school begins again.

Read, rest, and enjoy your well deserved vacation.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation has placed Dorchester Academy (located in Liberty County) on the list of the **11 Most Endangered Historic Places for 2009**. The academy was established after the Civil War as a school for freed slaves and was used in this capacity until the 1940s.

The story of Dorchester Academy, one of the earliest schools for African Americans in the state of Georgia and a National Historic Landmark, is forever linked to the cultural and political forces that shaped our nation's history. Founded in 1871 as a school for freed slaves, Dorchester started humbly in a one-room schoolhouse with a student body ranging in age from eight to 80. As the school grew, boarders joined day students, many of whom walked miles to fulfill their dream of learning how to read. In later years, the school played a pivotal role in voter-registration drives and as a center of activity for the civil rights movement.

Dorchester Academy was established by the American Missionary Association (AMA) at the urging of William A. Golding, a former slave who became a state legislator. By the 1920s, school enrollment fluctuated between 220 and 300 students, and by the 1930s, the school housed the Dorchester Cooperative Center store and credit union, which helped local residents buy homes and open businesses. When the Academy ceased operating as a school in 1940, the innovative spirit of the institution continued with the opening of a community center housed in the old boys' dormitory.

During the 1940s, the school was the site of African-American voter registrations. At the height of the civil rights movement, Dorchester Academy hosted Citizen Education Workshops sponsored by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference to train grassroots leaders from all over the South and to send these leaders home to instruct their neighbors about their legal rights and responsibilities. Later, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Dr. Ralph Abernathy, and Dr. Joseph Lowery spent time at the Academy preparing for the Birmingham march, and Dr. King also wrote and practiced portions of his "I Have a Dream", speech at Dorchester Academy.

### **Updates**

**April 2009:** Today, the only remaining building on the Dorchester campus, a red brick, Greek Revival structure built in 1934 as a boys' dormitory, is deteriorating and structurally compromised. The community that has done its best to nurture and sustain the academy since its earliest days does not have the financial resources to rescue the building.

While some repair and stabilization work has been completed through the combined efforts of community donations and a \$50,000 grant from the state, damage to the dormitory still extends from the roof to the basement, and is compromising the structural support beams and foundation.


The cost of completely restoring the building has been estimated at \$1-1.5 million. The vision of the Dorchester Improvement Association is to complete this task and create a world-class museum and community facility.

From the National Trust for Historic Preservation website:

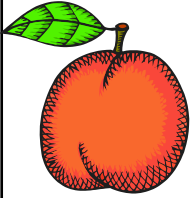
<http://www.preservationnation.org/travel-and-sites/sites/southern-region/dorchester-academy.html>

**MEDIA SPECIALISTS ARE TEACHERS TOO! THESE MEDIA SPECIALISTS WERE CHOSEN AS TOTYS AT THEIR SCHOOL OR IN THEIR SYSTEM. CONGRATULATIONS!**

Kimberly Sharp	Ivy Creek Elementary School Top 20 Semi-Finalist for Gwinnett County!
Wayne Clark	Moore Street Elementary Dublin City Schools
Sayra Stone-Harris	Sand Hill Elementary Effingham County
Vanessa Fortenberry	Stoneview Elementary DeKalb County
Rebecca Bishop	Spring Place Elementary Murray County
Brenda Humphrey	Parker Mathis Elementary: Lowndes County
Margaret Melton	White County Middle School
Cindy Taylor	Pine Grove Elementary Lowndes County
Amy Altman	Statesboro High School
Connie Van Brackle	Lee County Primary School 2008-2009 (not included last year)
Julie Richardson	Jones Middle School: Gwinnett County



Were you left off the list? Let me know. Several emails were sent asking for this information but we can make it up to you (see Connie's name above).



The Peach Book Award for Teen Readers Winner is  
**IMPULSE** by Ellen Hopkins

The two Peach Book Award Honor Books are

**UGLIES** by Scott Westerfeld

**RIGHT BEHIND YOU** by Gail Giles

Please visit the Georgia Library Media website, Peach Award page, for all the resources you'll need to encourage reading and voting on the next field of 20 nominees on which teens will vote between now and March 2010. There are some wonderful books, and we would love to have your teens' input both on which titles should win and what new books we should consider for our next round of nominees.

<http://www.glma-inc.org/peachaward.htm>

### Media Specialists of the Year!

Amy Altman	Statesboro High School: Bulloch County
Janie Cowan	Settles Bridge Elementary : Forsyth County
Julie Richardson	Jones Middle School: Gwinnett County
Karen Liebert	International Studies Elementary Charter School: Dougherty County
Karen Pitts	Alexander High School: Douglas County
Marie Yelvington	Centennial High School: Fulton County
Mary Kay Harris	Luella Middle School: Henry County
W. Robin Wofford	Allatoona High: Cobb County

**Georgia Educational Technology Conference®  
GaETC® 2009: The Challenge of Change**

November 4-6, 2009  
Georgia International Convention Center  
College Park, Georgia



Information on Workshops and Special Events will be coming soon! Go to <http://www.GaETC.org> to register and check back often for new information as it becomes available!

According to the research, if we can encourage our students to read 5-8 books over the summer that:

1. they are interested in
2. are on their Lexile level

the effects will be the same as going to summer school. Encourage your students to use the public library this summer.

The "Find a Book" website on the Lexile webpage can help parents and students find books that meet the two criteria above.

<http://www.lexile.com/findabook/>

It is helpful to have the student's Lexile score, but the Lexile number is not required.

The student can choose areas of interest and the Lexile website will suggest books and even tell him/her (based on your IP computer address) the nearest public library where he/she can find the books.

Happy Summer and Happy Reading!

Teachers have a unique opportunity to counteract unhealthy influences in a pupil's early childhood....While parents possess the original key to their offspring's experience, teachers have a spare key. They too can open or close minds and hearts of children.

Haim Ginott



 <h1 style="text-align: center;">Congratulations Retiring Educators!</h1>	
Alicia Franco	Mason Elementary: Gwinnett
Ann Shaw	Gray Elementary : Jones County
Anne Hogan	DeKalb
Barbara King	Hickory Hills Elementary: Marietta City
Becky Ferguson	Garden Lakes Elementary : Floyd
Beth Beasley	Mathews Elementary : Muscogee County
Beth Sudderth	Sugar Hill Elementary: Gwinnett
Brenda Murray	Dorsett Shoals Elementary: Douglas
Carmen Redding	Oglethorpe Avenue Elementary : Clarke County
Carol Taylor	Director of Educational Media and Technology: Richmond County
Claudia Leach	Commerce High: Commerce City
Debra P. Graham	Stewart Co. Middle/Stewart-Quitman High
Diane Gavin	Effingham County High
Enid Hanson	Memorial Middle : Rockdale County
Gina McEachern	Ben Hill Primary : Ben Hill County
Jan Case	Nesbit Elementary: Gwinnett
Jane Rabey	DeKalb
Judith Cabbage	Screven Elementary: Wayne County
Katherine Elizabeth Lunsford	Westwood Elementary :Dalton City
Kathy Blackburn	Stewart County Elementary
Kathy Eleanor McAllister	Park Creek Elementary: Dalton Public s
Linda Mobley	DeKalb
Mark Drexler	Tolbert Elementary : Whitfield
Mollye Cook	DeKalb

Continued on next page

**Retired educators!**

I don't remember creating such a long list that I needed two pages in this newsletter!

Did you get left off this list? Several email requests were sent over the last few months, but if you missed the notice, please let me know and we will include you in the next issue.



## Congratulations Retiring Educators! Part II

Myra Crosby	Sand Hill Elementary : Effingham
Nancy Crawford	DeKalb County
Pam Swift	Griffin High : Spalding County
Patricia B. Mosley	Marbut Theme : DeKalb County
Paula Y. Lee	Ithica Elementary : Carroll County
Peggy James	Crabapple Elementary: Fayette County
Rosetta Moses	Irwin County
Sally Suzanne Sparks	Roan Elementary: Dalton City
Sharon Buckner	Northside Elementary : Dougherty
Sharon Tonge	Commerce High and Commerce Middle : Commerce City
Sheila Levie	Macon County Elementary
Sue M. Buckalew	Meadowcreek High : Gwinnett
Susan King	Alexander High: Douglas
Valena Price	Pine Street Elementary : Rockdale
Wynelle Washington Scott	Maynard Jackson High: Atlanta City

Thank you for all of your years of service. I wish we had totaled up the combined years of service and experience that we will lose when you all retire....but if I know educators.....you won't be idle for long. Best wishes.

The people playing the parts are more important  
than the parts. David Irving



Mark your calendar!



Your name  
Your school



When we think of a great teacher, most often we remember a person whose technical skills were matched by the qualities we associate with a good and trusted friend.



Ernest Boyer



While some of us are winding down our libraries for the end of the school year, COMO XXI is gearing up!



COMO XXI will be held in Columbus, Georgia, October 7-9 and this year's theme is "Connect, Collaborate, Communicate." We are looking for public, academic, and school librarians who would like to present their best practices at this year's conference. Have you created a program that exceeded your expectations? Your colleagues want to know! Have you made a collaborative relationship work in novel ways? Your colleagues want to know! Have you discovered ways to incorporate Web 2.0 tools into your program? Your colleagues want to know!

The 2009 conference is an exciting professional development opportunity co-sponsored by GLA, GAIT, and GLMA. Members of sponsoring organizations get a discount on their registrations, and presenters will receive a \$10 cash rebate on site as a "thank you" for sharing your expertise. Click on the link below and enter your proposal online. Deadline for proposals is MAY 31, 2009!

If you have any questions about a proposal, please feel free to get in touch and I will be happy to help. Please consider sharing your "stars" with the rest of us at COMO XXI in Columbus, Georgia on October 7-9!

[www.georgiacomo.org](http://www.georgiacomo.org)

Susan Grigsby, Teacher-Librarian  
President, GLMA  
Elkins Pointe Middle School  
Roswell, Georgia  
[susan.grigsby@gmail.com](mailto:susan.grigsby@gmail.com)



## School Library Media & Instructional Technology Vendor Fair



Date: May 12, 2009

Time: 10:00 am-7:00 pm

**Book Vendors  
Equipment/  
Technology Vendors**

Contact people: [dputnev@westga.edu](mailto:dputnev@westga.edu) [psnines@westga.edu](mailto:psnines@westga.edu)  
[sarah.duffey@carrollcountyschools.com](mailto:sarah.duffey@carrollcountyschools.com)  
UWG Media & IT Department 678-839-6558

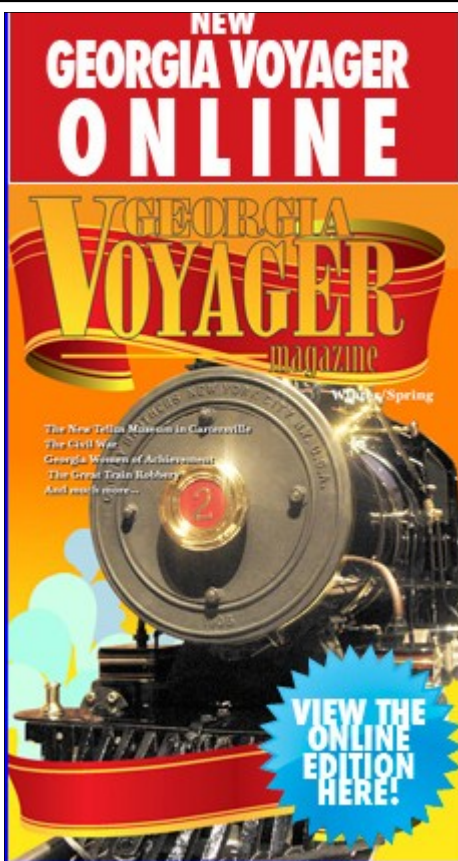
Sure your budget is tight. So don't you need to shop around for great products at the best prices available?

We've invited your favorite vendors to our School Library Media & Instructional Technology Vendor Fair to save you time and money.

This will also be an opportunity to network with other school media specialists and instructional technology specialists to share ideas and solutions.

We'd like to invite you to send PPT slides of events and activities from your media center that you are willing to share with other media specialists and instructional technology specialists. Please insert your name, school name, district name, and the title of the event or activity. Send your PPT slides to Sarah Duffey at: [sarah.duffey@carrollcountyschools.com](mailto:sarah.duffey@carrollcountyschools.com)

**Location: University of West Georgia Education Center  
1601 Maple St, Carrollton, GA 30118  
Please wear your school name badge when you come!**



The *Georgia Voyager Magazine* is giving all teachers, students, and friends of the Georgia Voyager a free sample of our new ONLINE magazine.

In this issue of the magazine we spotlight Georgia history, a Profile in Character of Beverly Hall, the superintendent of Atlanta Public Schools, and famous women authors. We have new page turning software as well as links directly into other websites and even audio of interviews with famous people. We hope you will enjoy our new online magazine with teacher resources as well as fun activities to download and even a free practice for the CRCT.

Just click on <http://www.gavoyager.com> and use **gvoyager** as your user name and your password. Let us know how you like our new product! We look forward to hearing from you soon.

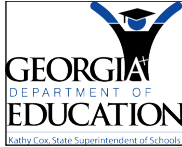
Cathy Hodge Editor/Publisher

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Most of us end up with no more than five or six people who remember us. Teachers have thousands of people who remember them for the rest of their lives.

Andy Rooney



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We will lead the nation in  
improving student achievement.

## **SAT Online Prep Course available free for all Georgia students Grades 9-12**

For the fourth consecutive school year, the state has made available to all Georgia students, grades 9-12, the SAT Online Course. This web-based, personalized online course offers students review lessons and quizzes designed by the maker of the SAT exam, an immediate essay scoring feature, and 6 full-length SAT tests with immediate scoring and individualized reports for students and teachers. Each public high school in Georgia receives instructions in August for registering all students in SAT Online.

Private high schools must register through the SAT unit at GaDOE to receive registration access.

Private schools may initiate this process by clicking the appropriate link located in the SAT RESOURCES box on this page. For further support, private schools may contact Georgia McSwain at GaDOE at  
404-657-9799.

Home schooled students may obtain access to SAT Online by clicking the appropriate link located in the SAT RESOURCES link below. For further support, home schooled parents may contact  
Bonnie Marshall at GaDOE at  
404-656-6854.

[http://public.doe.k12.ga.us/ci\\_iap\\_satap.aspx?PageReq=SATOPrep](http://public.doe.k12.ga.us/ci_iap_satap.aspx?PageReq=SATOPrep)

## BRAGGING PAGE.... WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO SHARE?

I am happy to say I just found out that one of our fifth grade students is the 2008-2009 first place winner of the Georgia Poetry Society contest for grades 1-5! The contest is the Margery Carlson Prize, to which I sent four entries from our school. The prize is \$15.00 and publication in the Society's Youth Contest book entitled The Reach of Song.

The media center sponsored a poetry competition at school and sent four entries to the Georgia Poetry Society contest this winter. Here is a link:

[http://www.georgiapoetrysociety.org/youth\\_winners.html](http://www.georgiapoetrysociety.org/youth_winners.html)

I had another teacher to help read the entries and narrowed it down to four. There is no entry fee for student contests, and the society sponsors a contest for middle and high students as well. Also, they provide Poets in the Schools for no charge. We had an area poet come for our recent Fine Arts Day and gave the organization an honorarium since they were so gracious to provide a poet for the whole day.

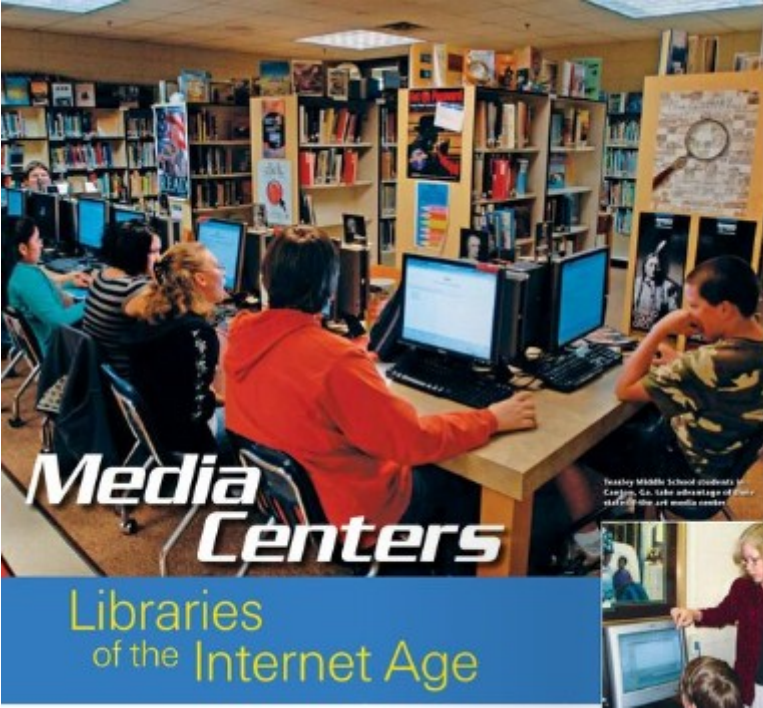
Wanda Dunn  
Library Media Specialist, NBCT  
Pate's Creek Elementary  
Stockbridge, GA



### The Lexile Framework for Reading

Check out this new page on the GSO website concerning Lexiles. There is information for both parents and educators.

<https://www.georgiastandards.org/Resources/Pages/Tools/LexileFrameworkforReading.aspx>



The PAGE article on 21st century media centers is out and online.


For the story the reporter interviewed **Tommy Tatum** (Adairsville Middle in Bartow), **Buffy Hamilton** and **Ruth Fleet** (Creekview High in Cherokee), **Kris Woods** (Teasley Middle in Cherokee), **Debbie Hanenkrat** (Cass Middle: Bartow), **Dale Lyles** (Newnan Crossing: Coweta), **Anne Wallace** (Luella Elementary: Henry), **Susan Grigsby** (Elkins Point Middle: Fulton), and **Paula Galland** (Georgia Virtual School).

This reporter could have interviewed almost any Library Media Specialist in the state and would have come away impressed, dazzled, and in awe of what you do all day/every day for our students.


<http://viewer.zmags.com/showmag.php?magid=157069#/page6>

I have come to believe that a great teacher is a great artist and that there are as few as there are any other great artists. Teaching might even be the greatest of the arts since the medium is the human mind and spirit.

John Steinbeck.



**The Game Show Network is having a contest! You can vote for "The Smartest Game Show contestant (Kathy Cox is one of the nominees).**



<http://tinyurl.com/gameshowcontest>



# May 2009



## Georgia Department of Education

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																
					<b>1</b> Empire State Building dedicated: 1931	<b>2</b> 1936: Manuscript of Edna St. Vincent Millay's Conversations at Midnight destroyed in hotel fire																																																																																																
<b>3</b> Birthday of Yehuda Amichai: 1924-2000	<b>4</b> Horace Mann born: 1796-1859	<b>5</b> Birthday of Leo Lionni: 1910-1999	<b>6</b> Birthday of Willie Mays: 1931-	<b>7</b> 1812: Robert Browning is born	<b>8</b> What does the "S" stand for in Harry S Truman?	<b>9</b> Birthday of William Pene DuBois: 1916-1993																																																																																																
<b>10</b> 1869: Transcontinental Railroad completed	<b>11</b> Who is Irving Berlin?	<b>12</b> Edward Lear born: 1812-1888	<b>13</b> Norma Klein born: 1938-1989	<b>14</b> 1804: Lewis and Clark depart	<b>15</b> Who is L. Frank Baum?	<b>16</b> Margret Rey born: 1906-1996																																																																																																
<b>17</b> Supreme Court rules in Brown v. Brown: 1954	<b>18</b> Mt. St. Helen erupts: 1980	<b>19</b> 1943: FDR and Churchill plot D-Day	<b>20</b> 1873: Blue jeans patented Birthday of Carol Carrick: 1935-	<b>21</b> American Red Cross founded: 1881	<b>22</b> 1859: Sir Arthur Conan Doyle is born	<b>23</b> Birthday of Scott O'Dell: 1898-1989 Margaret Wise Brown born: 1910-1952																																																																																																
<b>24</b> 1935: Major league baseball has first night game	<b>25</b> Ralph Waldo Emerson born: 1803-1882	<b>26</b> 1897: Bram Stoker's novel Dracula goes on sale in London	<b>27</b> M.E. Kerr born: 1927-	<b>28</b> 1935: Tortilla Flat is published	<b>29</b> Willow Davis Roberts born: 1928-	<b>30</b> 1st automobile accident: 1896 (Wear your seat belt!)																																																																																																
<b>31</b> Birthday of Walt Whitman: 1819-1892	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">April</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		April							S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30			<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">June</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		June							S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30				
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*In every child who is born, under no matter what circumstances, and of no matter what parents, the potentiality of the human race is born again. James Agee*