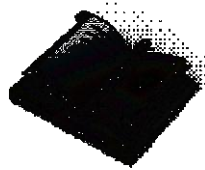


Welcome to the 2008 ISI Anthology

We believe in the power of classroom-tested knowledge. The Invitational Summer Institute (ISI) is the core program of the Central West Virginia Writing Project (CWVWP). Its goal is to develop teacher-consultants who will teach other teachers how to increase the quantity and quality of writing in classrooms across the curriculum, kindergarten through adult. CWVWP is supported by funds provided by the National Writing Project, West Virginia Department of Education, and boards of education of partnering counties.

Summer Fellows are practicing teachers who are recruited and selected to participate in the ISI with the expectation that they will assume leadership roles within our participating county schools. Following completion of the ISI, Fellows join the Writing Project as Teacher Consultants (TCs). Encouraged and supported by CWVWP, TCs provide classroom-tested professional development training that is grounded in theory, practice, and published research. Along the way, our ISI Fellows become prolific writers, often sharing funny tales, poignant memories, and personal poetry. They frequently surprise us with their talents, and they often surprise themselves as well, for many teachers do not realize the power they have within them to enlighten, to entertain, and to touch the hearts of others through writing. Everyone has a story to tell, and this collection features the best of the best: stories, essays and poetry written by Fellows of the 2008 Invitation Summer Institute. We proudly welcome you to the 2008 Anthology of the Central West Virginia Writing Project.



Barbara Holmes, Director, CWVWP

Paul Epstein, Co-Director

Carol Mathis, Assistant Co-Director