

Digital storytelling –  
literacy online on demand  
– mobile learning

**Summer Institute 2005  
Adult Basic Education  
& Literacy  
Media and Technology:  
Points of entry,  
points of connection  
Views from here and abroad**

Montreal

June 27 -29, 2005

Co-sponsors:

The Centre for Literacy  
AlphaPlus  
CTAD (UK)  
NALD

This year's Institute will offer a rare opportunity for practitioners and researchers to learn with some of the most innovative developers and users of technology for basic education and literacy in Canada, the UK, and the US – to see how basic learners are using mobile technology, how they create digital stories, how they access and respond to on-line courses, and more. Developers will share findings on the links between print and electronic literacies, on the role played by instructors in supporting and mediating new ways of learning, and on the uses of media/technology for professional development to support teachers who remain central to the process.

Register for Early Bird rates  
[www.centreforliteracy.qc.ca](http://www.centreforliteracy.qc.ca)

# The Centre For Literacy

## News from The Centre

March 2005

### Grassroots: Community Writing and Arts 2005 Dialogue sans frontières/Can we talk?

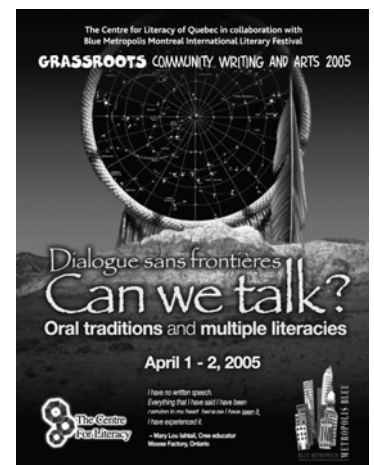
in collaboration with  
2005 Blue Metropolis Montreal International Literary Festival

The Grassroots: Community Writing and Arts event will bring together groups and individuals, from aboriginal and non-aboriginal cultures across Canada, who are mining the richness of talk and oral traditions, enlarging our understanding of what counts as literacy. Come hear:

- Larry Loyie and Constance Brissenden, Vancouver
- Helen Woodrow, Agnes Walsh and Milley Johnson, St. John's, Newfoundland
- Lisa VanEvery and three writers from Six Nations Writers, Brantford, Ontario
- Nancy Cooper and Rita Buffalo, Toronto and Thunder Bay, Ontario
- Students from Literacy in Action, Sherbrooke, QC, Literacy Unlimited, Montreal and the Chateauguay Valley Literacy Coalition, Chateauguay, QC

These participants will read and perform in a free public session at the 2005 Blue Metropolis Montreal International Literary Festival on Friday, April 1, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. They will meet again in workshop format on Saturday, April 2, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Dawson College, where they will read and share program experiences in promoting and affirming oral culture as a form of literacy.

See our web site for details and for registration instructions for the Saturday workshop.



### Sri Lankan school update

In January, we announced that The Centre is raising funds to help provide books, supplies and uniforms for some of the 325 students from a tsunami-devastated school in Bathigama, Sri Lanka. In the first month we raised \$1000. We thank the donors and remind those who still want to give that we will take donations until the end of May when we assess the status of the rebuilding project. Check our website for the first reports from graduate students in Colombo who volunteered to counsel Bathigama students and help build a new physical school structure.

## WORKSHOPS

### But do they understand? Communicating with patients and caregivers

Date: Friday, April 15, 2005  
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Place: Hotel du Fort, Montreal  
Facilitator: Linda Shoheit

### Literacy, Museums and the Arts

The latest phase of our project with the Canadian Museums Association ended in December, but we continue to investigate the potential use of community facilitators to act as brokers and liaisons among the adult basic education, community arts and museums/heritage sectors. The concept is borrowed from community development models that have been adapted in some European countries as ways to promote alternative sites and models for adult learning that could attract new participation. The Ministry of Education of Quebec is supporting an extension of this project as part of its adult education initiative. Bronwyn Chester, a journalist and community worker who has been our facilitator, interviewed local people in all three sectors and will share some of her findings in the next issue of LACMF. Briefly, she found that most local museums work regularly with the K-11 school system, but rarely with the adult sector. While time and resources were seen as barriers to deeper involvement, a number of adult educators, community arts groups and museum educators were open to meeting and talking about new possibilities.

We will be organizing a preliminary meeting this spring with some of the interviewees to explore the next steps in creating sustainable links between these sectors to support adult learning.

## Poetry Challenge Returns with Josh Freed, Meredith Dellandrea and Jeanette Kelly



*Josh Freed*

Schools and teachers sent us feedback last September to say they loved the idea of the Poetry Challenge but could not mobilize students at the beginning of the school year. We now intend to hold it annually in April to coincide with National Poetry Month. The Centre is organizing the 2005 event on April 20 in collaboration with the Quebec Writers' Federation, *Maisonneuve Magazine* and the Dawson College Creative Arts, Literature and Languages Program (CALL). Participation is fun and easy. You gather sponsors as you would for a walk-o-thon, but instead of walking, you come to a public venue and read or recite a poem – your own or a favourite. Proceeds will be shared among the Sri Lanka school project, Dawson's student publication *Creations*, and The Centre for Literacy to support community writing activities with disadvantaged groups. Schools that send students and raise funds will keep half the proceeds they bring in to be used for literary activities or materials in their own school.

Place: Dawson College, Room 5B.16

Time: Wednesday, April 20, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

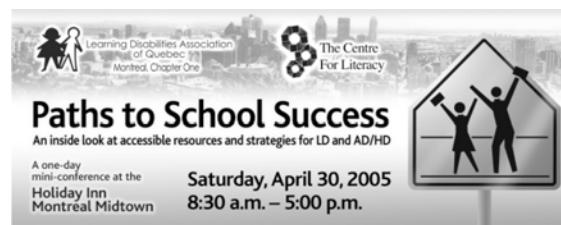
Hosts: Writer/humourist Josh Freed, and CBC radio hosts Meredith Dellandrea and Jeanette Kelly will each act as MC for one hour.

See our web site for details on participation.

## Learning Disabilities mini-conference

LDAQ Montreal Chapter One and The Centre for Literacy of Quebec  
have organized

**PATHS TO SCHOOL SUCCESS:**  
An inside look at accessible  
resources and strategies  
for LD and AD/HD  
Holiday Inn Montreal Midtown  
Saturday, April 30, 2005  
8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.



This one-day mini-conference will offer information about available English-language resources and services, and interactive presentations by speakers with extensive experience in the LD sector in Montreal. Topics include how to keep up with the research; secure appropriate accommodations; and make informed decisions about products and services. Tutoring centres, booksellers and software distributors will be at kiosks to provide information and answer questions about their products and services. The day will interest parents, professionals, and students coping with the challenges of learning disabilities or attention deficit disorders.

Registration information and forms are available on our web site.

## The Centre For Literacy

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