



Piasa Bluffs Writing Project



Summer 2009
Professional Growth Retreats
for Teachers

Science & Nature Study
Writing, Art & Inquiry

NATIONAL WRITING PROJECT



When was the last time you explored Saint Louis' cultural landscapes through the eyes of writers, botanists or artists?

Come help create and experience a professional learning community workshop for teachers where we explore our St. Louis Botanical Gardens and our city's cultural landscapes through the eyes of botanists and life scientists. Together, we will become teacher-writers and scientists who:

- Build on what you already know about writing in life science,
- Build on your students' family knowledge, as a resource for classroom learning,
- Experience the depth and connection of interdisciplinary learning,
- Refine and transform as a teacher among teachers,
- Develop learning experiences to apply immediately to the classroom,
- Develop professional development networking with colleagues,
- Earn continuing professional development units.

"The best part I learned about life science is classifying the plants and their leaves. I'll never look at a leaf the same way again."

—K.J. Elementary Student

Push yourself to grow. You'll walk away having made new friends as well as inspired to involve your students to draw on their own scientific knowledge and lived experiences to enrich their learning.

Space is limited to 12 participants. Notebooks and teaching resources will be provided.

Life Science & Writing — 9AM till 3PM
July 11, 2009 or July 18, 2009
St. Louis Botanical Garden

Cost: \$150 for the one day workshop.
Earn 5 CPDUs.

download an application at:
siue.edu/piasabluffswritingproject

For more information contact:
Dr. Ralph Cordova
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Workshop Facilitator:

A former 3rd grade bilingual teacher of 14 years, Ralph Cordova is now professor of literacy and language at SIUE. An expert in community-based literacies learning, his research and teaching center around nurturing learning communities, interacting with and learning from the lived experiences of others. As a member of the National Writing Project and director of the Piasa Bluffs Writing Project, he believes teachers and teacher knowledge are among our nation's natural resources — and they must be protected and nurtured to grow.

