

## TEACHING STUDENT WRITERS TO WRITE PERSONAL, PERSUASIVE, AND LITERARY ESSAYS WITH CONTROL OF STRUCTURE AND CRAFT

October 23, 2006 • Grades 4-9

Oct. 23, 2006: Holiday Inn, Saddle Brook

Essay writing is an imperative and daunting task for many of our student writers. Yet it is possible, with knowledgeable instruction, to teach students to control the structure and craft of essays. In this workshop, Mary Ehrenworth will share ways to teach essay writing so that students graduate from apprentice writers to writers who have mastery of essays. Specifically, Mary will start with teaching students strategies for finding powerful subjects of personal essays, and then lessons and methods that help students control a basic structure of essays. Next she will share revision lessons that raise the quality of student writing. From there, she will move us to teaching persuasive essays, and in this study she will share other ways to structure essays, and more craft and revision lessons. Finally, she will look at methods for writing about reading, and teaching students to write powerful literary essays.

Mary Ehrenworth brings her experience working with hundreds of students and teachers, in New York and across the country. She will look at what's hard about teaching essays, what gets in the way of students being more independent and masterful writers in this genre, and how to use what we know about the teaching of writing to break through these barriers so students control this most important genre, and learn to write with beauty and power. Teachers may expect to come away with curriculum, methodologies, specific lessons, mentor texts, and student work.

**Dr. Mary Ehrenworth** is a national literacy consultant as well as a staff developer and researcher for Teachers College, Columbia University, where she is Deputy Director of the Reading and Writing Project. She has an Ed.D. in Curriculum and Teaching from Teachers College, and is the author of many articles and books, including: *Testing Realities: Preparing Students for High Stakes Literacy Exams* (Heinemann, 2007); *The Power of Grammar: Unconventional Approaches to the Conventions of Language* (Heinemann, 2004), co-authored with Vicki Vinton; and *Looking to Write: Students Writing Through the Visual Arts* (Heinemann, 2003).

## About the Presenter

## THE ART OF TEACHING GRAMMAR

October 24, 2006 • Grades 4-9

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Mary Ehrenworth has been closely studying the teaching of grammar. Her book, co-authored with Vicki Vinton, *The Power of Grammar*, showed teachers how to embed grammar instruction in writing workshop, how to plan grammar curriculum, and methodologies for instruction. In this workshop, Mary will share her most current knowledge of successful instruction of grammar. She will demonstrate how to assess students' knowledge and control of grammar by looking at their writing and also listening to their spoken language. She will help teachers envision how to plan curriculum and instruction across their year, and also across their school, so that students benefit from consistent, thoughtful instruction. Next, Mary will demonstrate methodologies for instruction, so that teachers can effectively implement grammar instruction in their own classrooms. Teachers may expect to come away with mentor texts, student work, specific lessons, methodologies, and curriculum plans.

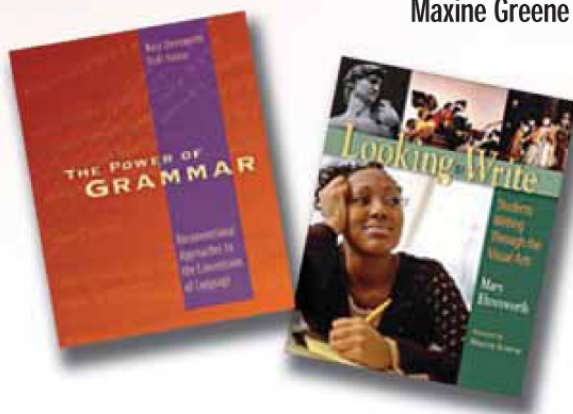
### Highly Recommended by Shelley Harwayne

"Mary provides practical and fresh supports for struggling or complacent students, including observations, storytelling, teacher modeling, partnerships, side-by-side conversations, and templates to follow."

Shelley Harwayne  
*praise for Looking to Write*

"Mary Ehrenworth tempts, suggests, arouses; she helps us over the obstacles to the mastery of writing."

Maxine Greene



MARY EHRENWORTH