

Third  
Annual  
Borderlands  
Early  
Literacy  
Day

April 17, 2010



Hearing the Voices of All Children:  
Revaluing Early Literacy

Gary Soto – Keynote Speaker

Sponsored by the Department of Curriculum and Instruction



CONFERENCE STRANDS:

- BIRTH THROUGH FOUR YEARS
- KINDERGARTEN THROUGH THIRD GRADE
- LITERACY, FAMILY AND CULTURE
- REGGIO AND FAMILY

April 17, 2010  
O'Donnell Hall  
New Mexico State University  
Las Cruces, NM

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:**  
**GARY SOTO**

**G**ARY SOTO, born and raised in Fresno, California, is the author of eleven poetry collections for adults, most notably *NEW AND SELECTED POEMS*, a 1995 finalist for both the Los Angeles Times Award and the National Book Award. His poems have appeared in *Ploughshares*, *The Iowa Review*, *Ontario Review*, and most frequently *Poetry*, which has honored him with the Bess Hokin Prize and the Levinson Award and by featuring him in the *Poets in Person Series*. He has received the Discovery-The Nation Prize, the California Library Association's John and Patricia Award [twice], a Recognition of Merit from the Claremont Graduate School [for Baseball in April], and the Silver Medal from the Commonwealth Club of California, in addition to fellowships from the California Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts [twice], and the Guggenheim Foundation. For ITVS, he produced the film "The Pool Party," which received the 1993 Andrew Carnegie Medal. In 1995, for his work with

young people, he was selected NBC Person of the Week. In 1999 he was honored with the Human and Civil Right Award from the American Education Association, the Literature Award from the Hispanic Heritage Foundation, and the PEN Center West Book Award for his young-adult short story collection *Petty Crimes*. For the Los Angeles Opera, he wrote the libretto to the opera "Nerdlandia." In all, his books have sold nearly four million copies. He divides his time between Berkeley and his hometown of Fresno.



**Registration: 8:30am-9:00am**

**Location: O'Donnell Hall Atrium**

**Welcome: 9:00am**

**Dr. Pat Conn, Assistant Dean for Advancement**

**Location: O'Donnell Hall Room 111**

**Keynote: 9:00am-10:15am**

**Location: O'Donnell Hall Room 111**

**Gary Soto--Professor of creative writing at the University of California, Riverside**  
*"This is Where You Are: a California Writer"*

**Abstract:** In 1990, Gary Soto burst onto the children's literature scene with *Baseball in April*, a pioneering book in that it was a short story collection (publishers seldom take on this genre) and second that it presented Mexican American youth as protagonists. By training—and interest—Soto is a regionalist. The heart of his stories is set in Fresno, California, where he was born, raised, and educated. This, too, was an anomaly—small-town Fresno brought to life through literature. Mr. Soto will trace his early years and sum up his current activities.

## **SESSION I: 10:15am-10:45am**

**O'Donnell Hall Atrium**

**NMSU BOOKSTORE BOOK SIGNING**

**Abstract:** This will be an opportunity for participants to purchase Gary Soto's books engage in dialogue, and allow Mr. Soto to sign your book.

**O'Donnell Hall Atrium**

**NMSU STUDENT SHOWCASE**

**Abstract:** Students in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction who are studying to become early childhood educators will showcase their research for early literacy through posters and brochures.

**O'Donnell Hall Atrium**

**VENDOR/EXHIBITOR SHOWCASE**

**Abstract:** Participants will have an opportunity to visit with the Vendors who are showcasing their educational materials and products.

**COFFEE AND PASTRIES WILL BE PROVIDED**

# **VENDORS**

ASSOCIATION FOR CHILDHOOD EDUCATION INTERNATIONAL

LAKESHORE

LA VIDA INSTITUTE

NMSU BOOKSTORE

REBECCA SWALLOWS, JEWELRY

USBORNE BOOKS

## SESSION II: 10:45am-11:45am

**O'Donnell Hall Room 241** \_\_\_\_\_Melissa Jozwiak, Nayalin Feller, Andrea Mares, Deborah Powell

### ***Using Questions as the Basis for Collaboration: Multiple Stories of Professional Growth***

**Abstract:** Asserting the importance of asking questions of ourselves, our colleagues and our work, this session shares personal stories of teachers transforming their work through collaboratively questioning and publicly sharing their thinking about literacy.

**O'Donnell Hall Room 232** \_\_\_\_\_Myriam Torres & Nancy Wasser

### ***Brand recognition by Young Kids: A pre-literacy skill or a tragedy?***

**Abstract:** Brand recognition by young kids: A pre-literacy skill or a tragedy? We contend that it's both. Brand recognition is a pre-literacy skill because young children learn to respond to symbols which may be letters or words associating with specific objects such as toys and food. It is a tragedy because this indicates that they have been targeted successfully by advertisers whose creed is 'loyalty to brands', 'from cradle to grave'.

**O'Donnell Hall Room 227** \_\_\_\_\_Lynn Hurd

### ***Great Books for Early Literacy: Kid's Picks from the NMSU Glass Family Library***

**Abstract:** This presentation will be an active discussion of reading selections that appeal to young kids and get them turned on to reading. A handout of popular titles will be available and there will be books to sample and time to share new discoveries and effective practices in early literacy

**O'Donnell Hall Room 151** \_\_\_\_\_Alma Stevenson

### ***CREATING ANALYTICAL MINDS THROUGH LITERATURE IN GRADES K-3: A CRITICAL LITERACY APPROACH***

**Abstract:** This presentation addresses the importance of the Four Resources Model (Freebody and Luke, 1990) as a framework to teach and learn literacy. This model should be included in any effective literacy pedagogy, and emphasizes the literacy skills that every learner

**O'Donnell Hall Room 143** \_\_\_\_\_Candace Kaye

### ***BROCCOLI OR COOKIES SUPPORTING EARLY SKILLS FOR EMERGENT LITERACY***

**Abstract:** The use of storybooks as a 'cookie' teaching tool can be effective because it is both fun and stimulating for very young children and serves as a precious togetherness time with important adults in their lives. There is no drill work in story books that could produce a potential future "broccoli" effect of resisting reading. Development of skills of phonemic awareness, print awareness and language concepts during the reading of storybooks and activities based on the storybooks will be discussed.

**O'Donnell Hall Room 127** \_\_\_\_\_Tim Garcia & Todd Hays

### ***Hands-On Emergent Literacy***

**Abstract:** Using the New Mexico Early Learning Guidelines for 4 year olds as a base, particularly the Literacy Outcomes, we will explore possible classroom activities that encourage the development and expansion of listening skills, communicating through speaking, emergent reading skills and emergent writing skills.

**O'Donnell Hall Room 111** \_\_\_\_\_Gary Soto

### ***"The Effects of a Knut Hamsun on a Fresno Boy"***

**Abstract:** Mr. Soto will speak about his influences, both in literature and life, and will read from the above essay about the struggles of a writer's early years.

Session & Time	Birth-4 Years	K through 3rd Grade	Literacy, Family and Culture	Reggio and Family
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<p><b>SESSION II</b> <b>10:45AM TO 11:45AM</b></p>	<p>Tim Garcia &amp; Todd Hays</p> <p><i>Hands-On Emergent Literacy</i></p> <p>Room Monitor's Initials _____</p>	<p>Candace Kaye</p> <p><i>Broccoli or Cookies Supporting Early Skills for Emergent Literacy</i></p> <p>Room Monitor's Initials _____</p>	<p>Alma Stevenson</p> <p><i>Creating Analytical Minds Through Literature in Grades K-3: A Critical Literacy Approach</i></p> <p>Room Monitor's Initials _____</p>	<p>Lynn Hurd</p> <p><i>Great Books for Early Literacy: Kid's Picks from the NMSU Glass Family Library</i></p> <p>Room Monitor's Initials _____</p>	<p>Gary Soto</p> <p><i>"The Effects of a Knut Hamsun on a Fresno Boy"</i></p> <p>Room Monitor's Initials _____</p>	<p>Myriam Torres &amp; Nancy Wasser</p> <p><i>Brand recognition by Young Kids: A pre-literacy skill for a tragedy?</i></p> <p>Room Monitor's Initials _____</p>	<p>Melissa Jozwiak, Nayalin Feller, Andrea Mares, and Deborah Powell</p> <p><i>Using Questions as the Basis for Collaborative: Multiple Stories of Professional Growth</i></p> <p>Room Monitor's Initials _____</p>
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