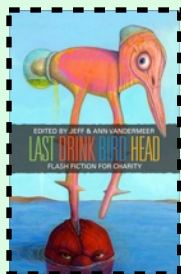


Letter from the Director:

The holiday time of year offers us a chance to reflect and bring you news of how READ TO ME materials are being used & celebrated. This Fall we presented at 2 Conferences: the NYCAEYC in Brooklyn & the Child Care Resources of Rockland Co, NY. On Halloween we were given an unexpected award from the world of fantasy writers & writing. Meanwhile, our friends and children continue to thrive. This Newsletter will showcase several in the hope that their good works will acquire an even wider audience. We send you our best! Contact us and we'll read with you. Love, Susan Straub



We just received the (Inaugural) **Last Drink Bird Head Award** for "Promotion of Reading" in recognition of individual whose effort contributes to the promotion of reading. How cool is this! Thank you Ann and Jeff VanderMeer! We love our adorable rocking bird award!

[Ecstatic Days » Blog Archive » The First Annual Last Drink Bird Head Award Finalists](#)

Infant Observation Journal (UK) has published Susan's brief article in their Nov/Dec.09 issue. The article describes the power of Facebook to reconnect friends over time and space. In this case it is the mother of the baby Susan observed weekly for 2 years while training in child psychotherapy 30+ years ago in London & the major influence of that experience on RTM.

Our friends at **Room to Grow** (Lexy Meyers, Andrea Veras & La Shell Wooten) are now incorporating aspects of Read To Me with their clients. www.roomtogrow.org

Hana Pressman, **Head Start** teacher at **Kirkbride School** (Philadelphia) has just launched a RTM Program with her class parents and grandparents who speak several languages. She managed to have the materials translated into Chinese, Khmer, Spanish, plus English. Wow! Thanks for the photos, Hana.



Iraira Butcher of **The Family Center's** Early Support for Lifelong Success Program (NYC) has offered her young families a Read To Me Program. Her enthusiasm is palpable. [The Family Center: For Families Affected by Parental Illness](#)

Susan offered Yolanda Rosado and her dedicated and clued-in social worker colleagues an excellent refresher course using RTM materials and DVD. In the new year we look forward to working with the supremely effective and joyous Lourdes Rodriguez, Parent Coordinator at **PS43**. Thanks to **LINC's** Coordinator Albania Jimenez for the introduction. Also, we will conduct an RTM training with the good folks at **LINC** before the end of the year.

In the new year we will present programs with the **Brooklyn Bureau of Community Services** and several **LYFE** Programs thanks to support from the **Brooklyn Public Library** and the **New York Public Library**.

Here, in excessively brief form, are announcements about our fabulous RTM Family & Friends.

Cat Gund, of Aubin Pictures, has developed a series of excellent food awareness films with the help of some very important children. She tells us "What's On Your Plate? is getting more and better audiences. The Cleveland Clinic is considering including a copy of WOYP in their "baby shower" gift bags that go home with new moms." [What's on Your Plate?](#)

Deanna Pacelli continues to work on her new production on the aftermath of Katrina with her writing partner Mari Brown. www.wordonthestreetplays.org Her adorable baby Tate is growing magnificently, raised on books and a sense of humor.

RTM-trained-leader **Amy Wilson** was recently spotlighted in a [NYTimes](#) article about 'shouting'. Not that Amy shouts at her sons, but she does have a masterful one-woman show on off-Broadway "Mother Load." We wish her all the very best! <http://www.motherloadshow.com/About.aspx>

Kristen Lynch continues to offer excellent theater workshops for very young children after school and during school vacations. [Welcome to Young Players Theater | Young Players Theater](#)

Jane LeCroy continues to perform her excellent poetry with her band. She transmits periodically. For more information, here is her link. [Jane LeCroy: The Website](#)

Emma Straub's debut novella *Fly-Over State* packs an epic amount of heart, wit and delight into its mere 51 pages. Louisville Courier-Journal. www.emmastraub.net/

