

HEIDI MORDHORST

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[WHISPERshout Writing Workshop](#) ~ [my juicy little universe](#)

SUMMARY Published poet and teacher working to bring essential experiences of creative language arts to children, especially those in underserved populations. Dynamic, responsive classroom veteran with deep experience in a diverse range of school settings, language communities and age groups. Early literacy specialist with a focus on creative writing as SEL learning. Functional knowledge of Spanish, French and German. Early Childhood, Elementary and ESOL certified.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Freelance Poetry and Early Literacy Teacher 2005-2011, 2022-present

Presenting paid workshops, professional development presentations and Poet-in-Residence programs on reading and writing poetry with grades K through 5, through my organization WHISPERshout Writing Workshop, Arlington VA Public School's Pick-a-Poet Program, and *Books for Beginners*, a creative writing workshop for ages 4-6, conducted in various school sites and at the Writer's Center in Bethesda.

Part-Time ESOL/English Language Development Teacher, MCPS MD present

Providing push-in and pull-out support for Emergent Multilingual learners K-5 across the curriculum.

Classroom Teacher, Rock View ES 2011-2022

Kindergarten 2011-2015 ~ 2nd Grade 2015-2019 ~ PreK 2019-2022, including 1+ years virtual instruction.
Green School Leader.

Part-Time Focus Teacher for Grades K-2, MCPS MD 2008-2011

Specialized in creative ways to integrate curriculum areas during extended pull-out programs for K, 1st and 2nd graders.

Lead Teacher, Bethesda Cooperative Nursery School, Bethesda, MD 1999-2007

Designed and conducted a half-day thematic curriculum for 4-year-olds, including formal and informal parent education in a cooperative setting.

Class Teacher, Grade 3, Dodge Park Elementary School, Landover, MD 1996-1998

Music Teacher, Lordship Lane Infant School (ages 3-7), London Borough of Haringey 1994-1996

Class Teacher, Years 5 and 2, Brecknock JMI School, London Borough of Camden 1991-1994

Class Teacher, Grades 3, 1 and 1/2, P.S. 96, East Harlem, New York City 1987-1991

EDUCATION

M.A. with Distinction in Language and Literature, Institute of Education, University of London 1994

Courses included sociolinguistics, bilingual education, and the evaluation and selection of literature. Dissertation on the role of classroom literature experience in developing children's writing fluency.

M.S. Ed. with Distinction (K-6), Bank Street College of Education, New York City 1988

Courses focused on child observation & recording and design & implementation of integrated, developmentally appropriate curriculum.

B.A. American Studies, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT 1985

Concentration in American public education policy and reform. Editor of literary magazine.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Working Poet and Blogger with publications in a wide variety of children's & adult publications in print & online current

Member, NCTE Excellence in Poetry Awards Committee; Cybils Awards Judge, Poetry Category 2017-2022

Presenter, National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention 2014-2023

Attendee, Poetry Foundation Summer Teachers' Institute July 2018

Author of *Pumpkin Butterfly: Poems from the Other Side of Nature*, published by Wordsong/Boyd's Mills 2009

Author of *Squeeze: Poems from a Juicy Universe*, Wordsong/Boyd's Mills 2005

Member, Primary Steering Committee, National Association of Teachers of English, UK 1993-1996

Graduate, Columbia Teachers' College Summer Writing Institute 1988