

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY™

School of Education and Human Services



ACCOLADES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Tanya Christ Co-Authors Articles for Publication

Tanya Christ has co-authored two articles that have been published in academic journals.

The first article, "[Social-emotional learning of refugee English language learners in early elementary grades: Teachers' perspectives](#)," was co-authored with Hyonsuk Cho from the University of North Dakota and X. Christine Wang from the State University of New York at Buffalo. It was published in the *Journal of Research in Childhood Education* in January.

The second article, "[Technology integration in literacy lessons: Challenges and successes](#)," was co-authored with Poonam Arya from Wayne State University and Yu ("Louis") Liu, a doctoral student in the Department of Reading and Language Arts here at Oakland University. It was published in *Literary Research and Instruction*.

Congratulations, Tanya!



Student's Steel Art to Appear on Cover of English Journal

Ajay Keerthy, age 16, has been selected to have "A Twister of Feelings" appear on the cover of the July 2019 issue of *English*



Journal, a peer-reviewed journal for ELA teachers on the teaching of writing and reading, literature and language. Keerthy's steel art and accompanying personal narrative were developed in the Writing Clinic, directed by S. Rebecca Leigh from the Department of Reading and Language Arts.

Students in the seven-day workshop create art as an element of the revision process for their writing projects. One of the core assignments teaches the students to paint on weathered, sixteen-gauge steel, which serves as a metaphor for the revision process: steel is a porous medium where rust comes through the paint and water after each application, suggesting possibilities and unexpected directions for the writer as an artist.

Keerthy describes his experience in this way: "The steel started off as just a rusty square of metal, but over several days it developed completely new features; each day, the steel looked different than the day before. Just looking at how the steel was changing gave me different ideas to write about."

Congratulations, Ajay!

IN THE NEWS

Weekly ERL Update: New Additions and Celebrating National Poetry Month

Two of the ERL's new picture books get to the heart of what children might be feeling as they face life in a new home country. In *Mustafa* by Marie-Louise Gay, we meet a young boy who has recently immigrated "a very long way" to a new country due to war. Names of both the old and new countries are left non-specific, but as Mustafa tries to adjust, he asks his mother, "Is that the same moon as in our old country?" Now his journey to finding friendship, learning a new language that he cannot yet understand and adapting to a new culture is just the beginning. Mustafa's thoughts and feelings will resonate with other children who may have faced similar situations.



In *A New Home* by Tania de Regil, two children are moving household: one from New York City to Mexico City, and the other from Mexico City to New York City. The illustrations alternate from wide views of each city to close shots of the children as they ponder similar fears and questions — "I'm not sure I want to leave my home because I am going to miss lots of things." On each page, a single line of text voices the thoughts of both characters, and the similarities between the children, their experiences, and even details about their cities emerge. What a great book to start the conversation about the anxiety faced in beginning something new and finding home wherever one might travel.

In other news, April is [National Poetry Month](#). The ERL has displayed a selection of its newest poetry titles, just right for sharing with the young people in your life. Sharing poetry with children encourages a love of language, creativity, writing and reading. A poem can be a friend, remembered for a lifetime or a means to express your deepest feelings. For older fans and high school students, you can find a poem a day at [Poetry 180](#), where students and educators can find a poem for each day of the school year.

Lowry Center Holds 7th Annual Family Math and Science Night

On March 26, the Lowry Center held its 7th Annual Family Math and Science Night. This event was hosted by OU students taking EC 3324 – Science and Math: Curriculum and Assessment, guided by instructor Margaret Mudge. This event is funded by the Pamela Grossman Memorial Endowment. Approximately 107 children plus their families participated in hands-on math and science activities. A fun and educational night was had by one and all!



UPCOMING EVENTS

World Autism Awareness Day Event — April 3

OUCARES will be hosting a World Autism Awareness Day celebration on Wednesday, April 3 from noon – 1 p.m. in Founders Ballroom A of the Oakland Center.

Spencer Kelly, an Oakland University student with an Autism Spectrum Disorder, will be speaking at the event. Hear how Spencer has struggled as a student, how he overcomes challenges related to autism as a college student and how you can help make a positive impact on students with autism at OU.



The event is open and free for all OU students, faculty and staff, and will include giveaways and a light lunch. Please note that space is limited and lunch is served on a first come, first served basis.

For more information, [view the event flyer](#).

Please note: World Autism Day is on April 2, but the OUCARES celebration will be held on April 3 due to space availability.

BIRTHDAYS





If you do not wish to have your birthday included, contact [Trevor Tyle](#).

ABOUT THE SEHS BULLETIN

The SEHS Bulletin is a place where faculty and staff can share news and celebrate the wonderful things happening in SEHS. The bulletin is the perfect place to share information about your publications and awards, special projects and committee news, as well as announce events.

All are welcome to send items for inclusion. If you choose to do so, please ensure that your items are print ready, that you include all related links, and that you have permission to publish any photos being submitted. Please put "SEHS Bulletin" in the subject line and email your information to: ttyle@oakland.edu.

If you have questions about the bulletin, email Trevor Tyle at ttyle@oakland.edu.

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