



REBECCA BARRIER NELSON

OBJECTIVES: To train and mentor new library media specialists and teachers to the end that their patrons/students will be motivated to read quality literature and be effective users of information. To share my expertise in, and enthusiasm about, children's literature with educators and children to the end that they are excited and motivated to become, and influence others to become, lifelong readers and learners.

EDUCATION: Rank 1, University of Kentucky, Summer 1993
MSLS, University of Kentucky, 1976
BA, English, Hanover College, 1972

WORK

EXPERIENCE:

- **Adjunct Faculty**, Teaching LIS 510, *Children's Literature and Related Topics*, through distance learning interactive television and on campus, University of Kentucky 1993 – Present
- **Reviewer**, *School Media Connection* 2016—Present
- **Reviewer**, *Maxwell in Motion*, "Recs for Young Readers," 2015—2020
- **Library Media Specialist/School Technology Coordinator**
Hearn Elementary School (Franklin Co.) 2001—2016 (Retired)
- **Library Media Specialist/School Technology Coordinator**,
G. C. Burkhead Elementary (Hardin Co.), 1986-2001
- **Librarian**, St. Patrick School, Maysville, KY, 1980-1986
- **Head of Public Services**, Health Sciences Library, Wright State University, Dayton, OH, 1976-1979
- **Head Librarian**, Council of State Governments, Lexington 1974-1976

LEADERSHIP

EXPERIENCE:

- **Candidate for Scott County School Board, 2022**
- **Kentucky State Board for the Certification of Librarians, 2022-2026**
- **Kentucky Bluegrass Award, Preschool Section Chair, 2016-Present**
- **Board of Trustees, Scott County Public Library, President, 2016-Present**
- **School-Based Decision-Making Council, Hearn Elementary**
2003-2005; 2008--2012
- **University of Kentucky:** Supervision and Evaluation of Practicum Students 2004—2016.
- **Kentucky Department of Education**—representing school librarians on the Professional Growth and Effectiveness System (*PGES*) as evaluation of Kentucky school librarians is revised 2013—2016.
- **Kentucky Association of School Librarians, Board of Directors**
1986— 2004; 2009—2010; 2013--2016;
Secretary 1993--1994; Treasurer 1998—2000;
State Conference Co-Chair 2003; 4th District President 1990-91
- **Governor's Cup Academic Team Quick Recall Moderator** 1988—2020.
- **Ebsco Host Focus Group** 2009--2011

- **Kentucky Virtual Library Steering Committee** 2009--2010
- **Kentucky Virtual Library for Kids Committee** 1999—2002
- **KTIP Teacher Mentor, 2006-2007**
- **KDE Instructional Technology Leader** 2000—2001
- **University of Kentucky Distance Learning Study--** Spring 2001
- **American Association of School Librarians, Count on Reading**
Chair 1994--1995
- **Library Media Assessment Task Force** 1994--1997
- **Society of School Librarians, Book Award Committee** 1990—1993
- **International Reading Association District President** 1989--1990
- **Hanover College Alumni Board of Directors** 1988--1993
President 1991-1992
- **Mason County Public Library Board of Directors** 1984--1986

INITIATIVES:

- **Battle of the Books, District-Wide Competition, Franklin Co. & Scott Co,** 2002-Present
- **Prime Time Family Reading Time,** Lexington Public Library, 2008, 2009
Louisville Free Public Library 2013, 2016
- **Mock Newbery Club, Mock Caldecott Club, Lunch Bunch, Mother-Daughter Book Club,**
2001- 2016.
- **2nd /3rd Grade Mock Caldecott Club, Maxwell Elementary, 2018, 2019.**

PRESENTATIONS:

On such topics as: Copyright, Flexible Scheduling, Library Automation, Changing Role of the Librarian, Elementary Book Reviews, Using Picture Books with Older Students, Student Parent Book Clubs Made Easy Through Collaboration, Site-based councils, Storytelling, The Librarian/administrator Partnership, Nonfiction Books for Children, the Elementary Reference Collection, Librarian/teacher Collaboration, The Alternative Calendar and the School Library Media Specialist; Using Fantasy Books with Children, the Big6→ Method of Instruction, Kentucky Virtual Library, Our Newbery Nominees and Caldecott Candidates...So Far.

Given to various groups including:

Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators MidSouth, Kentucky Educational Technology Conference, Kentucky Assn. of School Administrators, Kentucky Association of Technology Coordinators, Kentucky Assn. of School Librarians, KSMA Distance Learning Round Table, KSMA Summer Refresher, Kentucky International Reading Assn., Kentucky Public Library Association, McConnell Literature Conference, Tennessee State Librarians Conference, Kentucky Bluegrass Award Conference, Hardin County Schools, Davies County Schools, Bullitt County Schools, Hart County Schools, Pike County Schools, Catherine Spalding University, Univ. of Kentucky School of Library and Information Science, Central Kentucky Education Cooperative, 5 professional development programs for KET, etc.

Most Recent:

- *Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down (top children's novels of 2021)* to The Kentucky Public Library Association Conference, April 2022

Updated 9/27/22

- *Beyond Cute; Kentucky Bluegrass Award Preschool Titles* to Kentucky Association of School Librarians Summer Refresher, July 2022.
- *My Newbery Shortlist... So Far.* Virtual Presentation to Kentucky Association of School Librarians Summer Refresher Workshop, July 14, 2020.

AWARDS:

- Kentucky Association of School Librarians, Lifetime Achievement Award, 2016
- Named School Library Rock Star in School Library Connection Blog, Dec. 2016
- Hearn Elementary Teacher of the Year/runner-up 2008
- Kentucky Outstanding School Media Librarian 1990
- Kentucky State Council, International Reading Assn. Service Award 1990
- Merit Media Library, Ky. State Dept of Education 1991
- Kentucky PTA Library of the Year 1991
- ExCel Award Nominee 1991, 1994, 1996

PUBLICATIONS:

- Reviewer for *School Library Connection*, 2016 to present.
- Reviewer 6th edition, *Essentials of Children's Literature*, 2009 for Allyn & Bacon Publishers
- Reviewer for *Library Media Connection*, 2001-2004.
- Reviewer for *The Book Report*, 1984-1986
- Featured in *The State Journal*,
- Featured in *The State Journal*, March 7, 2016, "Get to Know: Hearn Elementary School Librarian Becky Nelson.
- Featured in *Kentucky Teacher*, May 1999, "Mother-Daughter Book Club Gives 5th Graders Added Interest In Reading."
- Featured in Kentucky Department of Education Professional Development Video on the Other Professionals Profession Growth and Effectiveness System, 2016.
- Featured in *Inside Kentucky Schools*, [topic Mother-Daughter Book Club] 1999

REFERENCES:

Kyle Sexton, Pupil Personnel Director, (Franklin County Public Schools)
502.695.6760 kyle.sexton@franklin.kyschools.us

Maria Cahill, Professor, College of Education/School of Information Science, University of Kentucky maria.cahill@uky.edu 423.737.1678

Kyle Lee, Principal, Seaton Catholic School, kylelee0923@gmail.com 502.751.7203

Kathleen Poole, Associate Director, Kentucky Humanities Council,
kathleen.pool@uky.edu 859.257.5472.