

From the Editor

Friends and Colleagues,

Thank you for your support of this fourteenth issue of *The Journal of Literature in Language Teaching*. This journal is a peer-reviewed publication of the Literature in Language Teaching group (SIG) of the Japan Association for Language Teaching (JALT).

In the feature article, “Educating (Future) Global Citizens: Michael Williams’ *Now Is the Time for Running*,” **Christian Ludwig** introduces refugee literature and examines its merits for foreign language classrooms in order to raise students’ awareness of global issues and their role in society. His paper concludes by providing some practical ideas for reading and discussing the novel in class.

In Literature in Practice, **Jing Zhang** describes the ways she used “Composing *Da You Shi* in English: Chinese EFL Students’ Perceptions and Desires to Write Poetry in English.” In part, her research revealed that participants perceived composing *Da You Shi* in English as a positive experience, and that the writing experience significantly improved participants’ confidence in writing English poetry. She concludes that culturally relevant poetry writing can offer EFL students a meaningful literacy experience with enjoyment and beneficial challenges and that English instructors should consider incorporating culturally relevant poetry writing as an effective EFL pedagogy in their class.

Simon Bibby and **Vicky Richings** report on the PanSIG Conference held at Konan University in Kobe. LiLT members presented on the theme of “Texts that work.” **Simon Bibby** discussed the merits of *Animal Farm*, **Paul Hullah** explained how he uses British lyric poetry to demonstrate literary language’s special emotively-affective agency, **Vicky Richings** outlined a series of activities for use with literature (*Botchan*) in a Japanese as a Foreign Language setting, **Iain Maloney** talked about three texts he has used — *The Beach* by Alex Garland, *Wrong About Japan* by Peter Carey and *Moshi bokura no kotoba ga uisuki de attanara* [If Our Words Were Whisky] by Murakami Haruki — to explore different approaches to writing introductory paragraphs in travel writing, and, finally, **Akira Watanabe** introduced easy-to-read short stories of Gabriel García Márquez, the Spanish version of *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros, and also the Spanish version of *Yours Sincerely*, *Giraffe* by Megumi Iwasa.

The JALT Conference will be held from November 1-4, 2019 in Nagoya. LiLT’s featured speaker will be Professor Janice Bland. Please see this issue (p.43) for full details. Biographies of this year’s JALT Conference LiLT Forum presenters begins on page 46.

As always, LiLT members and readers and researchers from around the world are invited to submit their own observations and findings, as well as their commentary about any of the articles published to date.

The next issue of *The Journal of Literature in Language Teaching* is expected to be published in the spring of 2020 and **submissions are being accepted on a rolling submissions basis**. Further information is available at the LiLT SIG website <http://liltsig.org> and from the editor of this journal via email: liltsig@gmail.com. or directly to greggmcnabb@gmail.com.

We would like to extend our gratitude to the contributors who have published in this journal and, as always, to the conscientious, thoughtful people who took time out of their busy schedules to help with editing, proofreading and mentoring. Perhaps you may also want to help us in our double-blind review process and enable us to proceed more efficiently through the publishing process. Most of all, as always, we thank you, our readers.

Gregg McNabb — Editor

About the Literature in Language Teaching Special Interest Group

Literature in Language Teaching (LiLT) is a Special Interest Group (SIG) within the NPO JALT. We established this group in 2011 to encourage and promote the use of literature within language classes. The group coordinates with other groups to hold events, publishes a peer-reviewed journal and publishes several newsletters per year.

LiLT SIG Organisational Team, 2019

Co-Coordinator: Simon Bibby and Tara McIlroy

Membership Chair: Kevin Stein, John Maune (shadow membership)

Treasurer: Vicky Richings

Web Design: Kevin Stein

Newsletter: Tara McIlroy

Program Chair: Richard Hodson

Publicity Chair: Lorraine Kipling

Journal Editor: Gregg McNabb

Assistant Editor: Cameron Smith

Members at Large: Jane Joritz-Nakagawa, Quenby Hoffman Aoki, Atsushi Iida, Paul Hullah, Cameron Smith

Editor: Gregg McNabb

Design & Layout: Gregg McNabb (this issue)

Advisors

Simon Bibby – Kobe Shoin Women's University

Tara McIlroy – Meiji University

Gregg McNabb – Shizuoka Institute of Science and Technology

Cameron Smith – Aichi University