WHAT THE TECH IS GOING ON?

Join us for *What the Tech is Going On?*, a unique technology series for K-12 teachers hosted by the Bay Area Writing Project in partnership with UC Berkeley.

All sessions will focus on deepening writing instruction through the use of technology in order to meet **Common Core writing standards.**

COST $20 cash or check to "UC Regents"

LOCATION   **University of California Berkeley**
                  Tolman Hall
                  Rooms 2319 and 2326

SCHEDULE   9:00 to 9:30   Coffee and pastries
                  9:30 to 11:00   Breakout sessions (A and B)

Space is limited. Sign up now at

http://whatthetechspring.eventbrite.com

Session A: Geeking Out with Wikis

Invite students to engage in relevant current debates by geeking out on a three dimensional collaborative project. Using a wiki, students share and broaden their concept of "precious knowledge" by exploring a current controversial issue, posting analytical and argumentative written responses, and designing unique artistic creations. The wiki platform allows students to go in multiple directions as well as to include video, art, and other media into their project. The presenter will provide an overview of the collaborative assignment and share sample student posts. Participants will try out the basic functions of Wikispaces, learn effective strategies to design their own wiki, and share troubleshooting tips. The workshop is appropriate for upper elementary to college.

Kristin Land loves to teach reading, writing and critical thinking at Chabot Community College in Hayward. Her work is heavily influenced by The Puente Project, a program in which she has taught for the past 13 years at the secondary and college level. She is a strong advocate for Teacher Inquiry/Research which she first discovered while earning her Masters Degree in Education through the MUSE program at UC Berkeley. She is the current co-director of BAWP's Invitational Summer Institute.
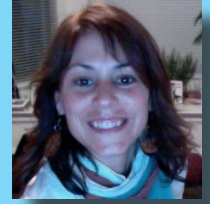
Session B: Vivid Word Choice: Leave the Thesaurus Back in the Triassic Period

What free online resources can support students in selecting the "right word" or revising word choice so that it is precise as well as academic? We'll investigate tools, including concordances, select online dictionaries, and a vocabulary profiler that draws from the Academic Word List, to boost word choice accuracy, variety, and sophistication without compromising voice or clarity. We'll discuss effective ways to teach complex lexical skills to our students and convince them to leave behind the thesaurus method of revising!

Michelle Baptiste has a B.A. in English with an Education concentration from Carleton College and a Masters degree in English as a Second Language from University of Hawai'i at Manoa. She has taught writing to multilingual students at the University of Hawai'i, as well as to Navajo (Dine) teachers on the Navajo Nation through Northern Arizona University. She is a returned Peace Corps volunteer and loves to interact with people from diverse cultures. Since 2002 she has taught full time in the College Writing Programs at UC Berkeley as a multilingual student writer specialist.

Session A: Animation

Spend some time learning a few basic online tools that will allow your students to become novice media makers. Sites like Animoto and Prezi allow students to express their thoughts and ideas in an animated or video format. Be prepared to write, upload pics and revise your work as you, too, learn some basics of producing videos!

Stephanie Robillard, a library media specialist in Oakland Unified School District, has been working with middle schoolers for the past twenty years. In addition to connecting kids with books, she is also the lead teacher on her school's technology team. Stephanie has worked with Young Writers Camp as a teacher and also as editor of the ezine. She is an avid baseball fan.

Session B: Scratch

This workshop will introduce teachers to the possibilities of using Scratch, a free web-based MIT Media Labs created programming language and program that allows participants to animate images (real people and fictional characters) while learning basic programming concepts. One can create interactive games and stories that incorporate students' voices, as well as images.

Clifford Lee is an assistant professor in the Kalmanovitz School of Education at St. Mary's College of California. He is a former English, Social Studies, and Media Arts teacher at Life Academy High School in East Oakland. He continues to be driven by the transformation of inequitable opportunities for urban youth of color. His research and social justice work reflects this as he examines and creates opportunities for youth to participate and engage in work at the intersections of critical literacies, computational thinking practices, and youth culture.

Session A: Google Docs

Google Docs is here to stay! What is google doc? Why should I or my students use google doc? What are the benefits? These questions and many more will be answered in this introductory workshop on google docs. In this workshop you will have the chance to explore and learn about the components that make up google docs, by using it. You will be writing, peer editing, sharing your work and more.

Marna Blanchard teaches 8th grade Humanities and a media class at Francisco Middle School in San Francisco. In addition, she also teaches at the Young Writers Camp for digital storytelling here in the Bay Area, as well as similar workshops in Seoul, Korea and recently in Singapore. Marna is a frequent contributor to the Digital Paper, an online publication featuring the work of teacher writers.
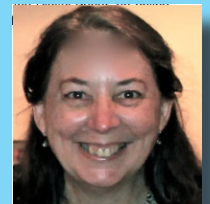
Session B: Rap Genius

This hands-on workshop will introduce teachers to the online collaborative text annotation platform, Rap Genius. Initially developed for fans of hip hop music to annotate lyrics and debate meanings of their favorite songs, Rap Genius has moved into classrooms over the past several years, rapidly becoming a tool for teachers to engage students with different texts and "flip" classrooms. With the ability to annotate with text, images, and video, Rap Genius helps encourage the 'close reading' of texts we want to students to practice. In addition to learning how to navigate Rap Genius' multimodal platform, teachers will also have the opportunity to join a growing network of innovative educators around the world.

Exequiel "Rex" Ganding is currently a second-year doctoral student in the Language, Literacy, and Culture program in UC Berkeley's Graduate School of Education. He is interested in issues at the intersection of Composition and Literacy studies, specifically examining the challenges and potential that digital culture poses to writing pedagogy. For the past five years, Rex has also served as a College Composition instructor at various institutions in the Bay Area, teaching courses from below-transfer level to second-year composition.