

Agenda

1. Who we are
2. Brief Restorative Writing Activity (on your own, share in chat)
3. The traumatic events of grief and the pandemic
4. How writing has helped us retain our joy in teaching, and in life
5. Q & A

Restorative Writing

Please write for 7-8 minutes and put 1 brief thought from each of these in the chat

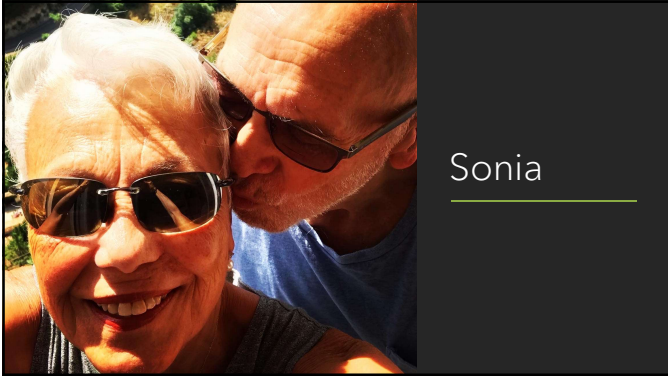


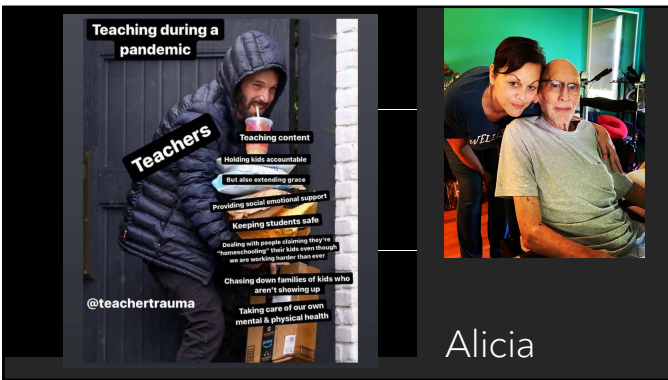
1) What has helped keep you grounded throughout the pandemic



2) What do you need for your own teaching and motivation?

Traumatic Events: Personal Grief/the Pandemic





How writing has helped us retain our joy in teaching, and in life

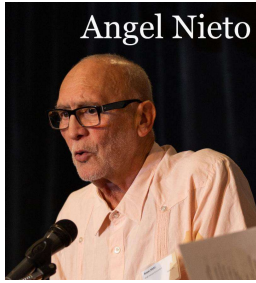
Sonia





The life
Angel and I
created was
defined by
letters





Angel Nieto

Antonia Pantoja Award

Dear familf (a poem for my daughters and grandchildren)

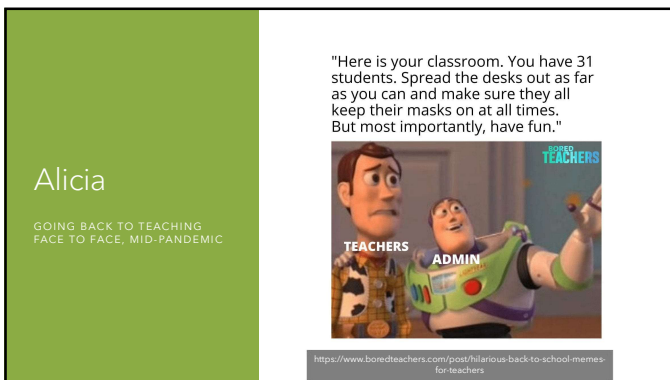
Well, seven months of COVID-19,
everyone is tired and stressed
impatient and distressed
angry, hopeless, anxious, and desperate
but we are doing the best we can.
We will survive and we will thrive!

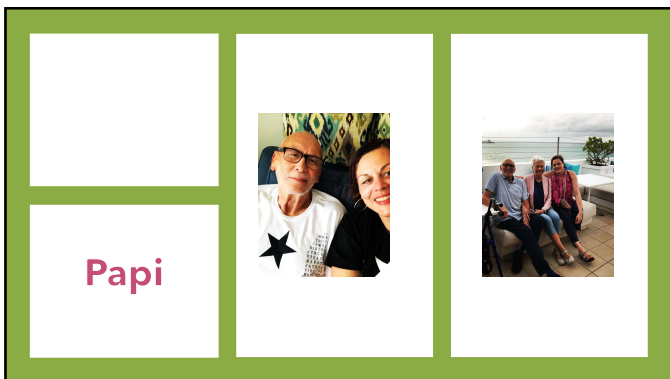


Monthly bilingual page

This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA
Holyoke Daily Transcript.





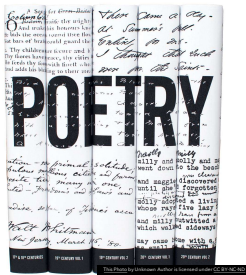





Shoebbox Ofrendas

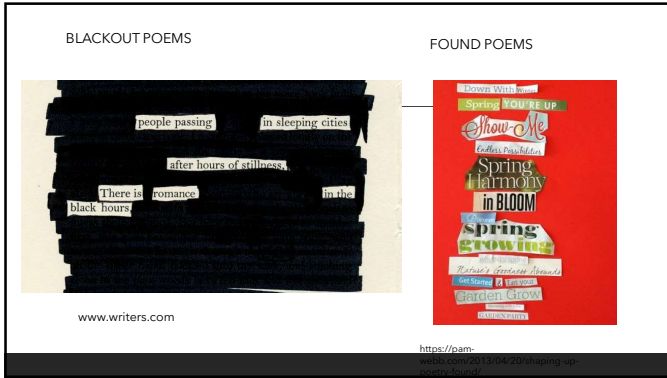
<https://www.culdeschool.com/how-to-make-an-ofrenda>

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Calligrammes - Guillaume Apollinaire



I am from
poem

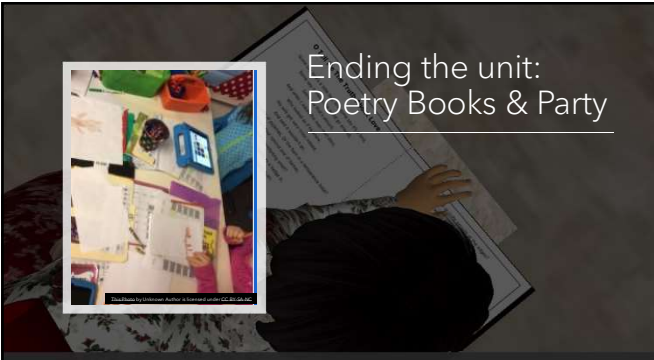
inspired by George Ella Lyon's poem *Where I'm From*

Lyon's website has more info: [http://www.georgeella.com/where-iam-from/](#)

Linda Christensen provides a template for writing these poems

- Items found around their home:** bobby pins or stacks of newspapers, grandma's teeth, discount coupons for a Mercedes. (They don't have to tell the truth.)
- Items found in their yard:** broken rakes, dog bones, hoses coiled like green snakes. (I encourage them to think of comparisons as they list.)
- Items found in their neighborhood:** the corner grocery, Mr. Tate's beat up Ford Fairlane, the "home base" plum tree.
- Names of relatives, especially ones that link them to the past:** Uncle Einar and Aunt Eva, Claude, the Christensen branch.
- Sayings:** "If I've told you once..." (The students had a great time with this one; they had a ready supply that either brought me back to childhood or made me want to steal their families' lines.)
- Names of foods and dishes that recall family gatherings:** lufdefisk or tamales or black eyed peas.
- Names of places they keep their childhood memories:** Diaries, boxes, underwear drawers, inside the family Bible.

check out this webpage: [http://www.lindachristensen.com/](#)



Ending the unit: Poetry Books & Party



