



*This web site is easy to navigate.  
Here's a short tour, to help you get the hang of it.*

**First, go to the Writers Home Pages tab. Choose a writer from the drop-down.** All home pages are set up the same: It's an easy way to get a quick fix on a writer or introduce them to others.

**On each home page, you can click a small triangle at three points and play the writer's voice for a group. Students love it. Suddenly the writer is real!** Here's a tour of the home page:

- Click the first triangle at the top of the page next to the quote. The quote is a great way to introduce the writer or play to generate discussion.
- The writer's book jackets decorate the page. It's easy to mention them as you show the page.
- A little bio in the "glimpses" section gives you talking points.
- Further down, a writing sample. Click to hear the writer read. A related writing activity follows it.
- See five suggested ways to get the most out of the web site, followed by research links.
- The quote at the bottom is a discussion-starter. Click the triangle, listen, discuss.

**Second, go to that writer's Listening / Audio/ Transcripts page.** Click on the writer's name on the drop-down menu. From this page, you can:

- **Listen to the entire audio visit** with the writer: 58 minutes
- **Choose specific tracks you'd like to play or listen to.**
- **How do you know what's on each track? Read (and download) a full transcript** from this page. The transcript has track marks, so you can find out what's on each track. If you download it, you can easily mark passages you'd like to use or come back to.
- **Check out / download the Table of Contents.** It is an overview of the whole program. It gives you the general nature and exact length of each track, so you can easily plan.
- **Jump over to the Activities page or the list of CCRS standards for teachers.**

**Third, check out the Writing Activities.** There are six pages, for all ages. All activities are coordinated with writer content, so people can sharpen writing skills as they learn more about their literary heritage. Here's the list of activities pages:

- **Activities for children who are not reading yet.** This page is limited to activities using the writing of Cynthia Rylant and Marc Harshman. They rely on storytelling and art activities.
- **"Level 2" activities: Do-able for upper elementary and middle school students.** Many would work well with adults.
- **"Level 3" activities: For adults and interested teens** who want to improve their writing skills. They also include many discussion ideas that would work well for reading groups.
- **West Virginia history / social studies activities.** These are coordinated with the writers' readings and stories that deal directly with West Virginia history or culture. Participants are encouraged to download historical photos and try their hand at historical fiction.
- **Other arts activities.** Teachers and librarians may enjoy bringing in visual art, music, drama and other arts that help build motivation and inspiration.

**Fourth, look at the teacher page and the CCRS standards on the drop-down.** The WV Department of Education created a list of CCRS standards specifically for this web site.

**Questions? Comments? Contact us at [info@voicesofwv.org](mailto:info@voicesofwv.org).**

