

# RADICAL TEACHER

A SOCIALIST, FEMINIST, AND ANTI-RACIST JOURNAL ON THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF TEACHING

## News for Educational Workers

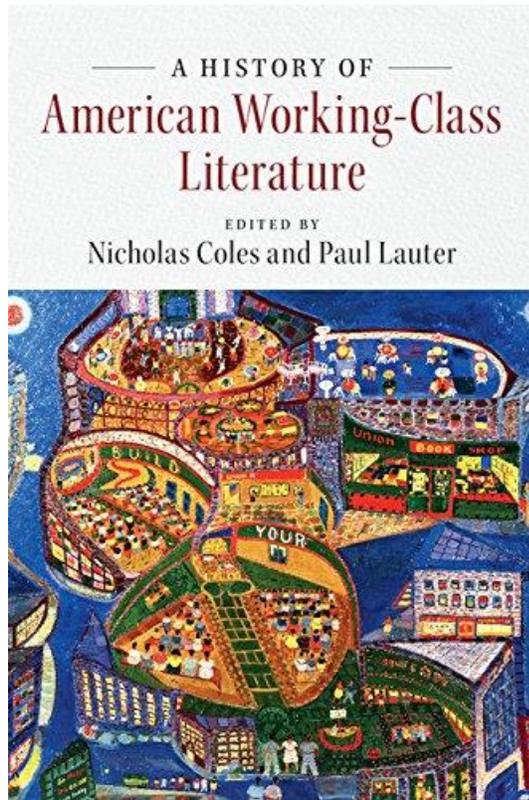
by Leonard Vogt

News for Educational Workers has been a featured column of *Radical Teacher* almost since the journal's conception. With this and the previous issue of the journal, however, news items of interest to progressive and radical educators will be posted on the new *Radical Teacher* blog at <http://www.radicalteacher.net/wp-admin/>.

Other less timely resources, such as books, films, journals, articles, and resources will continue to be featured in this newer, abbreviated News for Educational Workers column which will continue to be published with each of our forthcoming online issues.

## Books

A History of American Working-Class Literature edited by Nicholas Coles and Paul Lauter

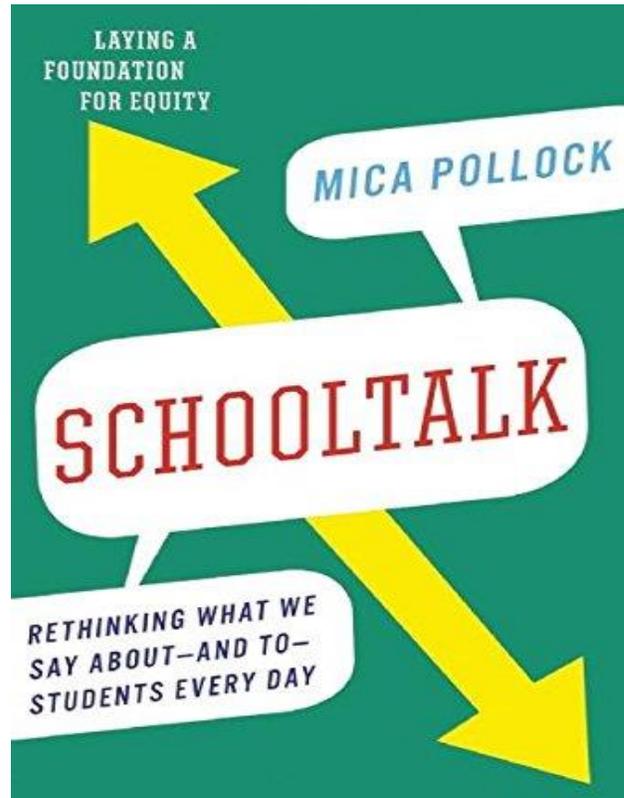


*A History of American Working-Class Literature* sheds light not only on the lived experience of class but the enormously varied creativity of working-class people throughout the history of what is now the United States. By charting a chronology of working-class experience, as the conditions of work have changed over time, this volume shows how the practice of organizing, economic competition, place, and time shape opportunity and desire. The subjects range from transportation narratives and slave songs to the literature of deindustrialization and globalization. Among the literary forms discussed are memoir, journalism, film, drama, poetry, speeches, fiction, and song. Essays focus on plantation, prison, factory, and farm, as well as on labor unions, workers' theaters, and innovative publishing ventures. Chapters spotlight the intersections of class with race, gender, and place. The variety, depth, and many provocations of this History are certain to enrich the study and teaching of American literature.

*Schooltalk: Rethinking What We Say About—and To—Students Every Day* by Mica Pollock

Mica Pollock, editor of *Everyday Antiracism*—the progressive teacher's must-have resource—now turns to what it takes for those working in schools to match their speech to their values, giving all students an equal opportunity to thrive. By juxtaposing common scenarios with useful exercises, concrete actions, and resources,

*Schooltalk* describes how the devil is in the oft-dismissed details: the tossed-off remark to a student or parent about the community in which she lives; the way groups—based on race, ability, and income—are discussed in faculty meetings about test scores and data; the assumptions and communication breakdowns between counselors, teachers, and other staff that cause kids to fall needlessly through the cracks; or the deflating comment to a young person about her college or career prospects. *Schooltalk* will empower educators of every ilk, revealing to them an incredibly effective tool at their disposal to support the success of all students every day: their words.



## Film

*Passionate Politics: The Life and Work of Charlotte Bunch* tells the story of Charlotte Bunch, from idealistic young civil rights organizer to lesbian activist, to internationally-recognized leader of a campaign to put women's rights on the global human rights agenda. Charlotte has been both a product and creator of her times: every chapter in her life is a chapter in the story of modern feminist activism, from its roots in the 1960's struggles for social justice to international campaigns against gender-based violence today.

*PUZZLES: When Hate Came to Town* tells the story of a hate crime that occurred in a LGBTQ bar called Puzzles Lounge in New Bedford, MA when a teenager brutally attacked its patrons. *PUZZLES* explores the correlation between economic hardship and homophobia, intolerance, and, ultimately, violence. In the wake of the devastating attack at the LGBTQ nightclub PULSE in Orlando, Florida that killed 49 patrons, this documentary is particularly important as it asks hard questions and frames the

connection between hate crimes and extremist ideologies and the increase in hate violence against LGBTQ communities. This 53-minute documentary is available through New Day Films.

Bullfrog Films has five new offerings for use in the high school or college classroom:

In 2012, California amended its "Three Strikes" law--one of the harshest criminal sentencing policies in the country. *The Return* examines this unprecedented reform through the eyes of prisoners suddenly freed, families turned upside down, reentry providers helping navigate complex transitions, and attorneys and judges wrestling with an untested law.



THE  
RETURN

*Dr. Feelgood: Dealer or Healer?*, the story of Dr. William Hurwitz—a preeminent pain specialist sentenced to 25 years in prison for drug trafficking—provides a window into the ethical dilemma of opioid prescriptions.



DR. FEELGOOD:  
DEALER OR  
HEALER?

*Disturbing the Peace* follows former enemy combatants—Israeli soldiers and Palestinian fighters—who have joined together as the peace activist group, Combatants for Peace, to challenge the status quo and say "enough."



DISTURBING  
THE PEACE

*The Activists: War, Peace, and Politics in the Streets* brings to life the stories of ordinary people who tried to stop and end the U.S. wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.



THE ACTIVISTS:  
WAR, PEACE AND  
POLITICS IN THE  
STREETS

In his new film, *How to Let Go of the World and Love All the Things Climate Can't Change*, Oscar-nominated director Josh Fox (*Gasland*) continues in his deeply personal style, investigating climate change—the greatest threat our world has ever known. Traveling to 12 countries on 6 continents, the film acknowledges that it may be too late to stop some of the worst consequences and asks, what is it that climate change can't destroy? What is so deep within us that no calamity can take it away?



HOW TO LET GO  
OF THE WORLD  
AND LOVE ALL  
THE THINGS  
CLIMATE CAN'T  
CHANGE

All films available at [www.bullfrogfilms.com](http://www.bullfrogfilms.com).

## Journals

"The Makings of a Heroic Mistake: Richard Wright's 'Bright and Morning Star,' Communism, and the Contradictions of Emergent Subjectivity" by Joe Ramsey (<http://www.mediationsjournal.org/articles/heroic-mistake>) appears in the new issue of *Mediations*, the journal of the Marxist Literary group. The entire text of issue 30.1 can be found as a PDF at [http://www.mediationsjournal.org/files/Mediations30\\_1.pdf](http://www.mediationsjournal.org/files/Mediations30_1.pdf).

*Legacy: A Journal of American Women Writers* announces the publication of a new special issue, Vol. 33, No. 2 (2016): Recovering Alice Dunbar-Nelson for the Twenty-First Century. Guest editors: Katherine Adams, Caroline Gebhard, and Sandra A. Zagarell.

## Resources



The Network for Public Education just published the NPE Toolkit: School Privatization Explained, with the following 13 Toolkits or chapters, explaining anything there is to know about school privatization:

Introduction 1

Are charter schools truly public schools? 2-3

Do charter schools and school vouchers "hurt" public schools? 4-5

Do charter schools get better academic results than public schools? 6-7

Are charter schools and vouchers a civil rights cause? 8-9

Are charter schools "more accountable" than public schools? 10-11

Do charter schools profit from educating students? 12-13

Do school vouchers help kids in struggling schools? 14-15

Are charter schools innovative? 16-17

Are online charter schools good options for families? 18-19

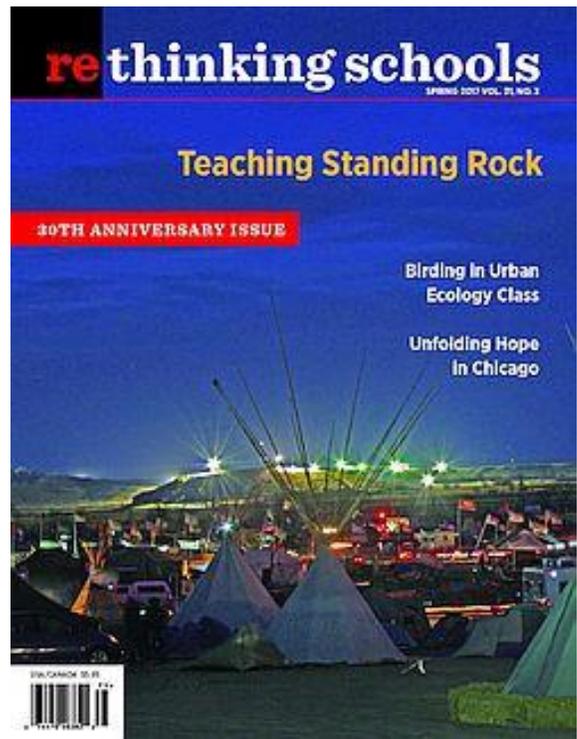
Do "Education Savings Accounts" lead to better results for families? 20-21

Do education tax credit scholarships provide opportunity? 22-23

Are tax credit scholarships a voucher by a different name? 24-25

Do charter schools and vouchers save money? 26-27

The 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Issue of *Rethinking Schools* (Spring 2017 Vol. 31, No. 3) has a cover story on "Teaching Standing Rock" as well as an editorial on "Teaching in the Time of Trump" and an article, "Teachers Take on Trump Era." Inside the issue is a small pamphlet featuring publications of the last 30 years from this "Voice of social justice educators."



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