

# RESUME OF RICHARD A. GAIR

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## QUALIFICATIONS

32 years of teaching experience

## EDUCATION

1977- Bachelor's Degree (Summa Cum Laude) in Elementary Education, Glassboro State College (Now renamed Rowan University), Glassboro, NJ

1982- Master's Degree, Major- Reading Education, Minor- Curriculum Supervision and Development and Elementary School Administration

1982- Present Graduate credit to the level of Master's Plus 78 additional graduate credits from various institutions of higher education. Areas of concentration: Gifted and Talented Education, Curriculum Development, Supervision, Elementary School Administration, Holocaust Education, Film Theory and Criticism

## TEACHING CERTIFICATES HELD (6)

K-8 Elementary Education, Reading Specialist K-College, Reading Teacher, Curriculum Supervision, Elementary School Administration, Literature

## EMPLOYMENT

2003-Present- Professor of Developmental Reading and Holocaust Literature & Multimedia, Valencia Community College, Orlando, Fl. 32825 (407) 582-2641

Currently I am a full-time tenured Professor of Reading and Holocaust Literature. In addition to Developmental Reading, I incorporate Holocaust literature into my basic reading course. I also teach an upper-level literature course entitled, "Literature and Multimedia of the Holocaust." I am the recipient of the Endowed Chair in Study of the Holocaust for the 2006-2007, 2008-2009 AND 2009-2010 academic years. During the summers of 2006 and 2007 I accompanied the Jewish Labor Committee and the American Gathering of Holocaust Survivors on a three week scholar's trip to the various Holocaust camps and former ghettos and study centers in Europe and Yad Vashem in Jerusalem. In July 2008 & July 2009, I graduated from the International School for Holocaust Studies at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, Israel. In August 2009 I took a personal study trip to several Holocaust sites in Germany and the Czech Republic

1989- 2003 (Retired )-Teacher, Medford Township Public Schools, Medford, NJ 08055, 1-609-654-6416 Over the years I was employed as a teacher of the gifted and talented program, Grades 1-5; teacher of computer technology Grades K-5; and computer technology Grades 6-7-8. I was also the school's Webmaster and advisor for the school's Web Page Club that maintained the site. I developed and taught a course entitled, "Literature of the Holocaust." I designed and conducted many community education courses in the area of computer applications, as well as Staff Development courses for faculty to use and integrate technology into the various classroom curriculum areas I served as a technology integration advisor for curriculum revision committees as well. Medford is a 39.8 square mile suburban / rural upper middle class community located on the edge of the NJ Pine Barrens, approximately 15 miles from the city of Philadelphia. Population about 23,000.

1988-1989 Assistant Principal, Merchantville Elementary K-8 School, Merchantville, NJ Served in the capacity of Assistant Principal for one year. I then decided that I wanted to return to the classroom to be closer to the children.

1979-1988 Countryside Elementary School, Mt. Laurel, NJ During my nine years at Countryside I served at various times as a teacher in a self-contained 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes. I was also the computer coordinator for the school.

1970's-1980's-Smokenders Inc..

Part time seminar leader and instructor for Smokenders Inc. Smokenders was a behavior

modification course designed to teach people how to permanently quite smoking over a period of weeks. I was responsible for conducting open sales meetings to the public to sign people up for the program. In addition, I lead weekly seminars , as well as trained new instructors to conduct seminars.

#### **College Teaching Experience**

Part time adjunct at Camden County College, Blackwood, NJ for three years, Mercer County College, NJ and currently as a full time Professor at Valencia Community College.

#### **Business Experience**

Prior to entering the teaching profession I was employed as a fashion women's coat buyer for a major chain of department stores in New York City, and then Philadelphia, PA. I spent eight years in the retailing business and then decided to return to college and change careers. Using the G.I. Bill I returned to college and pursued a degree in Education.

### **PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

- ◆ Graduate of the International School for Holocaust Studies at Yad Vashem, Jerusalem, Israel
- ◆ Presenter at the 6<sup>th</sup> International Holocaust Educators Conference, Yad Vashem, Jerusalem, Israel
- ◆ Leader of Holocaust Study Abroad trips to Poland for Valencia Community College
- ◆ Completion of the Belfer I and Belfer Step 2 Teacher Training in Holocaust Education at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, DC (Summer 2001 and Summer 2002)
- ◆ Completion of the New Jersey Council for the Humanities residential 5 day training seminar at Monmouth University on "Literature of the Holocaust" (Summer 2001)
- ◆ Served on a committee for the New Jersey Council for the Humanities to develop material for their web site on the topic of "Women and the Holocaust" (September 2001 to April 2002)
- ◆ Completion of a 5 day residential seminar at Hofstra University on "Human Behavior and the Holocaust" Summer 2002 (Sponsored by Facing History and Ourselves)
- ◆ Designed a new middle school course "Literature and Media of the Holocaust"
- ◆ Recipient of the 2006-2007, 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 Endowed Chair in Study of the Holocaust at Valencia Community College
- ◆ Member of the educators team to travel to Holocaust sites and study at Yad Vashem, Israel, Summer 2006, sponsored by the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors & The Jewish Labor Committee
- ◆ Served on a variety of curriculum revision committees over the years. Areas of experience include Language Arts, Technology, Social Studies, Health, Reading Education, Science, Gifted and Talented.
- ◆ Presenter at various workshops at conferences and colleges in the area of Technology, Web Quest Development and Implementation, Holocaust Education for the following organizations: NJAET (NJ Association of Educational Technology, NJECC (NJ Educational Computing Consortium), Apple Computer Corp., Stockton State College, Pomona, NJ, Queens College, Flushing, NY, NJEA (NJ Education Association)
- ◆ Publisher of the Memorial School "Memorial Technology News" that is sent home to the community with each middle school report card.
- ◆ Completion of advanced Graduate courses under Dr. Irving Sato at Widener University, Delaware in the area of Gifted and Talented Education to prepare for teaching the gifted program in Medford, NJ.
- ◆ Winner of the technology integration lesson plan contest at the ETTC of NJ (Educational Technology Training Center) May 2001
- ◆ Winner of various awards for web site design and curriculum integration of the Web with the school curriculum as webmaster for my current school, Memorial Middle School (<http://www.eticomm.net/~panther>)
- ◆ Advisor for two after-school clubs, Memorial Web Site Club and Memorial Computer Game Club
- ◆ Adjunct instructor (Basic Reading Skills) for three years at Camden County Community College, Blackwood, NJ.

#### **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP (Past and Present)**

Holocaust Education Center, Cherry Hill, NJ  
Pennsylvania Task Force of Holocaust Education  
Educational Outreach Committee of the Holocaust Resource Center, Maitland, Fl.  
National Education Association (NEA)  
New Jersey Education Association (NJEA)  
International Reading Association (IRA)  
NADE (National Association of Developmental Education)  
FDEA (Florida Developmental Education Association)

#### **REFERENCES**

Della Paul, Dean of Communications, Valencia Community College, East Campus, Orlando, Fl. 32825