



School Literacy and Culture

Mission:

As one of Rice University's longest-standing educational outreach program, School Literacy and Culture (SLC) promotes effective teaching through professional development initiatives that emphasize reading and writing, culture, child development, and research.

School Literacy and Culture

- Brings Rice University's "Unconventional Wisdom" to early childhood educators through an approach to literacy that promotes creative thinking and problem solving while addressing early literacy skills.
- Creates and sustains teacher leaders through classroom-based mentoring and monthly seminars that bring together teachers from diverse settings including public, private, and charter schools and Head Start centers.
- Promotes excellence in early education by extrapolating current early literacy research into classroom practice.

SLC programming ranges from single session workshops for teachers of very young children to year-long mentored residencies with elementary school teachers to arts integration seminars with teachers of middle and high school. Our most widely recognized programs are Classroom Storytelling, the Rice Oral and Written Language Lab (the Rice OWL Lab), and the Early Literacy Leadership Academy (ELLA). We also have programs for parents, administrators, and K – 12 students.

Visit their various pages to learn more:

[Website](http://literacy.rice.edu) - literacy.rice.edu

[Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/Rice-University-School-Literacy-and-Culture-173655271670/) - https://www.facebook.com/Rice-University-School-Literacy-and-Culture-173655271670/

Point of Contact:

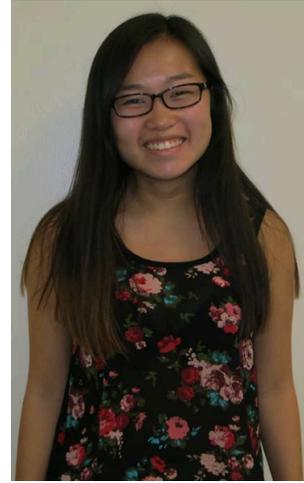
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Current Students:

Salem Hadgu (left) and **Talia Liu** (right) are both currently placed at SLC. Salem is researching the topic of executive function, which is necessary for children to learn how to control themselves, set goals, and do multiple tasks at once. She will use her research findings to create a research proposal that can be used by teachers, updates for the SLC website, and PowerPoint presentations for the SLC staff.



Talia is spending most of her time at the Rice Oral and Written Language Lab (OWL Lab), analyzing interactions between children in the classroom. Talia is looking to see if children are engaging in extended discourse, which is evidence that the OWL Lab programming is working well.

Past Students and Projects:

Fellowship Year	Names	Project Titles
2013-2014	Kathia Dumelle	<i>Bringing Story Baskets to Small Steps</i>
	Lauren Gernon	<i>Classroom Storytelling</i>
	Daniella Martinez	<i>Family Story Time: An Addition to the Weekly Newsletter</i>
	Janet Schwartz-Michaeux	<i>Small Steps Towards a Big Future: Small Steps Nurturing Center Families Visit Rice University</i>
	D'anna Young	
2014-2015	Olivia Lewis	<i>Improving Funder Communications and Relations with School Literacy</i>
	Joanna Lopez	<i>Promoting Early Childhood Literacy Skills through Storybaskets</i>

2015-2016	Magen Eissenstat	<i>Expanding the Mission of SLC through Creative Media</i>
	Cassandra (Cassy) Gibson	<i>The Power of Story: Narrating the Impact of the Early Literacy Leadership Academy</i>
	Isabel Patten	<i>Promoting Parent Integration at the Rice OWL Lab</i>

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