

2014 Best of the Best Winners

The HHHART BEAT

Best Creative Writing

Half Hollow Hills Active Retired Teachers Association

“Teaching with teachers in Ethiopia”

The use of language here is extraordinary. In an article that is both well-written and well-illustrated with photographs, the author describes her experience teaching reading to teachers in Ethiopia. The author offers detail after detail about the country, the people, the problems, and this one, about a classroom: *“Mud walls practically bare but for the peeling blue/green paint; wall-to-wall crude picnic style benches packed with youngsters attempting to share decrepit exercise books; a constant haze of dust amplified by a singular source of light entering through a narrow filmy window; and a lone, rough, loosely mounted slate board.”* An excellent piece of work and a great reminder of what dedicated unionists are doing every day to make their world a better place.



Yorktown Congress of Teachers Vimeo

Best Use of Digital Media

Yorktown Congress of Teachers

“It's our turn to talk”

A compelling commentary on over-testing and a State Education Department that refuses to listen to the classroom professionals. Aside from the great message, the production values are tops. The image of the teacher, standing at a microphone, waiting in vain to speak to the issue, is priceless. An excellent and very effective video. The faces of the children, the taped mouths, and especially the repetition of the song lyrics on the test pages all combine to create an extremely persuasive “commercial.”

<http://vimeo.com/79709725>