

# SCHOOL OF EDUCATION CURRICULUM LAB RECEIVES LITERATURE GRANT



The Curriculum Lab of the UM-D School of Education is a recent recipient of the “We the People Bookshelf” grant. This project is a national grant initiative that provides classic children’s literature to school and public libraries.

Selected institutions received free hardcover editions of 21 classic books on the theme of “Created Equal.” The awards are part of the National Endowment for the Humanities “We the People” initiative, which aims to encourage and strengthen the teaching, study and understanding of American history and culture.

It is the intent of the Curriculum Lab to encourage pre-service educators to use the books in this special collection to develop lesson plans which will raise awareness of this classic literature and engage young readers to understand the full meaning and application of the phrase “all men are created equal.”

The American nation, observed Abraham Lincoln, was “conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.” What challenges has America faced, and what progress has it made in its efforts to live up to the ideal of universal human equality? How did

Abraham Lincoln, whose 200<sup>th</sup> birthday we celebrate in 2009, contribute to the idea of equality in America?

In this fifth “We the People” bookshelf program, 3,000 libraries received a set of classic books for young readers related to the theme “Created Equal.” The National Endowment for the Humanities proudly offers this program in cooperation with the American Library Association.

The “Created Equal” Bookshelf includes the following titles:

### **Kindergarten to Grade 3**

*The Ugly Duckling* by Hans Christian Andersen

*The Gettysburg Address* by Abraham Lincoln

*Pink and Say* by Patricia Polacco

*Pink y Say* by Patricia Polacco (translated by Alejandra Lopez Varela)

### **Grades 4 to 6**

*Elijah of Buxton* by Christopher Paul Curtis

*Give Me Liberty! The Story of the Declaration of Independence* by Russell Freedman

*Lincoln: A Photobiography* by Russell Freedman

*Many Thousand Gone: African Americans from Slavery to Freedom* by Virginia Hamilton

*Lyddie* by Katherine Paterson

*Lyddie* by Katherine Paterson (translated by Rosa Benavides)

### **Grades 7 to 8**

*Saturnalia* by Paul Fleishman

*Freedom Walkers: The Story of the Montgomery Bus Boycott* by Russell Freedman

*Abraham Lincoln the Writer: A Treasury of His Greatest Speeches and Letters* edited by Harold Holzer

*Breaking Through* by Francisco Jimenez

*Senderos Fronterizos: Breaking Through Spanish Edition* by Francisco Jimenez

**Grades 9-12**

*Abigail Adams: Witness to a Revolution* by Natalie S. Bober

*That All People May Be One People, Send Rain to Wash the Face of the Earth* by Nez Perce  
Chief Joseph

*Flowers for Algernon* by Daniel Keyes

*Flores Para Algernon* by Daniel Keyes (translated by Paz Barroso)

*Lincoln's Virtues: An Ethical Biography* by William Lee Miller

*Amistad: A Novel* by David Pesci

**Bonus:**

*History in a Box Kit on Abraham Lincoln*

More information about the grant program is available at:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/ppo/programs/currentprograms/wethepeople/wepeople.cfm>