

About Mary

Dr. Hollowell is a graduate of Davidson College & the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is a former public school science teacher and director of education at Cincinnati Museum Center. She's also worked for the National Park Service in Washington D.C., at the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust in England, & at Seacamp in the Florida Keys. She lives in suburban Atlanta with her 2 daughters and tolerant husband, who always makes her laugh.



Mary is happy to share her experiences and volunteer as a workshop leader or guest speaker on writing, research, juvenile justice & advocacy issues, as time allows. Her recent presentations took place at the National Archives Southeast Region, Central Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, & the National Youth At-Risk Conference in Savannah.



photo by Mary Hollowell

Awards



photo by Auktram Burton

WINNER of the 2010 Equity & Social Justice Advocacy Award National Association for Multicultural Education

Mary Hollowell has been advocating against the use of school solitary confinements cells since her discovery of this practice in 2004. Her descriptions of solitary confinement of students with disabilities (often termed "school seclusion") are included in her award-winning book *The Forgotten Room: Inside a Public Alternative School for AT-Risk Youth*. Her book includes documentation in the form of photographs, with a particularly vivid picture of graffiti written in blood. This evidence, along with media coverage and her oral testimony before the State Advisory Panel for Special Education, has helped sway board members to ban school seclusion in Georgia.

FINALIST in education/academic category of the International Book Awards

WINNER 2nd place in nonfiction at a Sandhills Writers Conference



Clayton State University

With 163 acres, the park setting offers a peaceful & safe environment conducive to learning. The University's wooded campus with five lakes, ducks, & swans is a lovely contrast to the vibrant urban life of metropolitan Atlanta, which is just a 20 -mi drive away.

Demographics

The 2009 US News & World Report ranking of colleges identifies Clayton State University as having the most diverse student body population among comprehensive baccalaureate - level colleges and universities in the Southern United States.