Announcing the 2013
Master Reading Teacher Institute
The University of Texas at Austin

June 6th through July 2nd
Monday through Thursday
8:30-4:00

Purpose:
The Master Reading Teacher program is offered in cooperation with the Texas Reading Initiative with a goal of improving the quality of reading instruction in the state. The Institute has been designed with the major content learning goals identified by the Texas legislature (House Bill 2307) in creating the Master Reading Teacher Certificate. These learning goals include the development of teachers’:

• knowledge of reading instruction and assessment across age groups and developmental levels;
• appropriate use and interpretation of reading assessments that inform instruction;
• awareness of the performance standards intended to guide instructional planning and goal setting;
• knowledge of the relationships between primary and second language and how to build on these understandings;
• knowledge and use of the characteristics, qualities, and needs of students with reading difficulties; and,
• understanding of professional leadership skills involving mentoring, collaboration, and research.

Those who successfully complete this program will be eligible to take the state examination for the Master Reading Teacher certificate. Program completion and passing this examination are two of the requirements for certification. Teachers who successfully complete all the certification requirements and teach on a “high needs” campus designated by the Commissioner of Education may be eligible for a $5,000 stipend.

We urge you to visit the State Board of Education Certification (SBEC) website to get the most updated information on the Master Reading Teacher Certificate (http://www.tea.state.tx.us/curriculum/master/). You can find specific information on the examination schedule as well as test preparation materials.
Participants

All participants in the institute must have a minimum of three years classroom teaching experience. There are three categories of Institute Participants. The requirements may vary as a function of enrollment status.

Graduate Students. Students who have already been admitted to the University of Texas at Austin graduate school and are pursuing either a doctorate or a master's degree should enroll in the Institute through regular summer course enrollment (6 semester hours of Reading).

Non-degree seeking students. Students who are not currently admitted to UT Austin have the option of enrolling in the Institute as a "non-degree seeking student". To do this you must complete an application form and supporting materials. If, in the future, you would like to pursue an advanced degree at UT you can apply these six hours toward your graduate degree. These course hours (6 hours maximum) will apply toward your program at UT or at most other colleges and Universities.

Institute Participant. These participants are enrolled in the Institute only. No graduate course hour credit will accrue. All books and course packets will be paid for through your Institute registration fee.

For All Students

Attendance and Participation. All students are expected to attend the Institute for all scheduled days between the hours of 8:30 and 4:00. Given the short-term duration and intensity of the Institute there is no easy to make up for absences. One day of absence is allowed, however you are responsible for having your tutorial responsibilities covered. Any absences in excess of one will need to be negotiated with the faculty on the first day of class. Additional work outside of the Institute may be required to insure that the content goals are addressed.

Fee

The Fee is applicable to students enrolled in the “Institute Only” option for the MRT. The Fee is **$800.00**. This fee will cover the cost of your books in the course.
Deadlines and Application Process

Space in the MRT Institute is limited to twenty students. The application deadline is March 22nd, 2013. You must send a letter indicating your interest in applying to:

Olivia Becerra  
Master Reading Teacher Institute  
1 University Station, D5700  
Department of Curriculum and Instruction SZB 406  
The University of Texas at Austin  
Austin, TX 78712

You must include an application fee of $80.00. The check should be made out to: The University of Texas at Austin. We will hold this check. If you are approved for entry into the program, your application fee will be applied to your registration fee of $800.00. If you are not approved for entry, the check will be destroyed.

You must indicate in your cover letter if you intend to enroll in the program as a graduate student or as an Institute Only Participant.

You must include in your cover letter contact information including a current email address.

You must also include a statement of purpose for applying to this program. This statement of purpose should be no longer than two pages (double-spaced). The statement should include information related to your background in teaching and your future goals.

Notification

You will be notified regarding your acceptance to the program by April 22nd, 2013 or earlier. If you have any questions regarding this program, please email jhoffman@austin.utexas.edu