

Notes from the Editors-in-Chief

Welcome to the 20th issue, volume number 1, of *New Waves-Educational Research and Development* (NWERD)! We are happy to present this fifth special issue of New Waves journal. The theme of this special issue focuses on learning outside of the classroom. With much research focusing on learning within the classroom, it is inevitable to not forget the importance of experiences outside of the classroom. The articles in this issue represent research from scholars in the field of teacher education whose studies focus on learning within the contexts of communities and families. The authors of each article explore the topic through various lenses and provides different perspectives into the influence of family and communities. The first article discusses how a community-based heritage program engaged its teachers, students, and parents to use their community and cultural resources as tools for expanding opportunities for teaching and learning. The second article's encouraging findings indicate the need and importance of engaging families in nature and art based activities. The third article shares how parents' memories of being "parented" made an impact on their approach to being involved in their children's education, thus suggesting an intergenerational dynamic to school relationships. We hope this special issue will encourage other scholars and researchers to delve into this important topic.

Our sincere gratitude goes to the guest editor of this special issue, Dr. Kyle Miller, whose valuable time and expertise yielded high quality and relevant articles. We applaud her passion and dedication to the influence of family and community on children's development and to her commitment on this special issue in the New Waves Journal. We also would like to thank everyone who reviewed manuscripts for this special issue. Their thorough and constructive suggestions and comments were greatly appreciated and assisted in refining each of the manuscripts while enhancing the issue's overall quality. The contribution you have made is greatly appreciated by us and all the members of the Chinese American Educational Research and Development Association.

Alan Bates and Miranda Lin
Editors-in-Chief