Nationally recognized and fourth-generation storyteller Lyn Ford shares her “Home-Fried Tales” with audiences across the country. Her first book *Affrilachian Tales* takes the reader back to her roots of storytelling. Lyn’s work has also been published in *The Storytelling Classroom: Applications across the Curriculum and Sayin’ Somethin’: Stories from the National Association of Black Storytellers*. Lyn received the National Storytelling Network’s Circle of Excellence award at the National Storytelling Conference in August 2013.

Submit YOUR writing at:

[literacy.kent.edu/beginnings/writersconference.html](http://literacy.kent.edu/beginnings/writersconference.html)

All entries must be submitted via the online process. No handwritten/ emailed pieces will be accepted.

Entries must not be copied from any source. Deadline for submission is February 13, 2015.

Only students who are currently enrolled in an Ohio Adult Basic and Literacy Education program are eligible.

Ohio Literacy Resource Center
Research One—1100 Summit St.
PO Box 5190, Kent State University
Kent, Ohio 44242
Phone: 800-765-2897
http://literacy.kent.edu
Attention ABLE Artists

Please send your original art on an 8 1/2 x 11” sheet of paper to:
Ohio Literacy Resource Center,
Attn: Beginnings ART
Research One—1100 Summit St.,
PO Box 5190 Kent State University,
Kent Ohio  44242

Written entries can ONLY be submitted at: literacy.kent.edu/beginnings/writersconference.html

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
DAVID GIFFELS

David Giffels is the author of the new book *The Hard Way on Purpose*, a collection of linked essays about the quirky, hardbitten cultural landscape of the Rust Belt and the people who thrive there. The book has received widespread acclaim, and was featured as an “Editors’ Choice” in the New York Times Book Review, which declared, “a region on the mend has found its voice.”

Giffels’ last book, the memoir *All the Way Home: Building a Family in a Falling-Down House*, was a critical hit, described by the New York Times as “sweet and funny,” and by the Los Angeles Times as “a truly wonderful book.” It topped the “Fantastic Summer Reads” list in Oprah’s O at Home magazine.

Giffels is coauthor of *Are We Not Men? We Are Devo! and Wheels of Fortune: The Story of Rubber in Akron*. He was a longtime columnist for the Akron Beacon Journal and a contributing commentator and essayist on National Public Radio station WKSU in Kent, Ohio. He has written for the New York Times Magazine, the Wall Street Journal, Parade, Esquire.com, ESPN’s Grantland, Redbook, and many other publications. He also was a writer for the MTV series *Beavis and Butt-Head*.

Ohio Writters’ Conference

**BEGINNINGS XVIII**

Every year since 1998, Ohio celebrates the outstanding writing accomplishments of adults who are participants in Adult Basic and Literacy Education (ABLE) programs throughout the state.

ABLE students are invited to submit original writings for review. All genres are acceptable. The submissions however, must be original. Original means that the work must not be copied from any source.

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Accepted submissions are published in a softbound book, *Beginnings*. Students whose work is accepted are invited to attend the daylong Ohio Writters’ Conference, along with their teacher and one paid guest. The 18th annual event will take place in Columbus, Ohio, on May 8, 2015.

The day begins with fourth-generation storyteller Lyn Ford sharing a few of her “Home-Fried Tales”. A keynote address and an interactive writing workshop conducted by author David Giffels will follow. After an awards luncheon, *Beginnings* authors are invited to share their work at an open mike session. An author signing will conclude the day.