



**ICL** INSTITUTE  
FOUNDED 1969 OF CHILDREN'S  
LITERATURE

# MEET YOUR INSTRUCTOR

## Sheila Wood Foard

### FICTION:

*Harvey Girl*, Texas Tech University Press

### NONFICTION:

*Diego Rivera*, The Great Hispanic Heritage, Chelsea House

*Fred Harvey's Fast Food Empire*,  
Yesterday & Today, Amazon Shorts

### MAGAZINE:

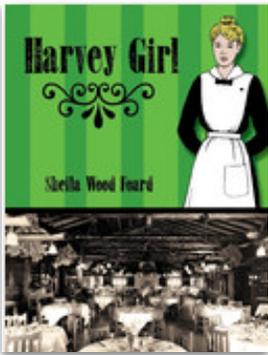
Stories, articles, essays, and poems for over 250 publications including *'TEEN*, *Highlights for Children*, *Cicada*, *Cricket*, *Spider*, *Ladybug*, *Wee Ones*, *Hopscotch for Girls*, *Nature Friend*, *I Love Cats*, *Missouri Conservationist for Kids*, *Albuquerque Journal*, *Byline*, *Country Home*, *Highlights' Hidden Picture Playground Booklets*, and more.

Sheila Wood Foard is an award-winning author and dedicated writing teacher.

Ms. Foard, who earned a bachelor's degree in English and Communication Skills and a master's degree in Education from the University of New Mexico, enjoys writing profiles and biographies. "Everyone has a story to tell," she says, "and I'd like to write it—or teach others how to write it." For young readers, she has written magazine profiles of famous Americans, including scientist Rachel Carson, architect Mary Jane Colter, and artist Georgia O'Keeffe. Her biography of Mexican muralist Diego Rivera, updated in 2010 to include his wife Frida Kahlo, targets teen readers. Her profiles of the not-yet-famous include a Native American teen poet, a Ballet Folklórico dance instructor, a woman sports trainer, an interpreter for the deaf, a woman magician, and a drama professor, who teaches children how to write and perform their own plays.

Ms Foard's first love is writing. Teaching writing is a close second passion. As a high school teacher, she taught creative writing, journalism, and English while sponsoring the school's award-winning literary magazine, yearbook, and newspaper. She has taught for the Institute of Children's Literature for more than ten years. Her high school students, as well as her other ICL students of all ages have been published and won awards, too.

Researching and writing historical fiction is one of Ms. Foard's main interests. She completed a middle grade novel, *Harvey Girl*, while enrolled in ICL's Writing Children's Books course. Published by Texas Tech University Press in 2006 and re-released in 2013 (with a new cover), *Harvey Girl*, which a TTUP editor dubbed "a perennial classic," has been on several reading lists and won numerous awards, including the WILLA Literary Award Children's/Young Adult category (from Women Writing the West) and first place in the National Federation of Press Women Communications Contest, Category—YA Books.



*"Writing is like hiking in the mountains. If you're down in the hollow, every path leads uphill. But the view from the ridge is worth the strenuous climb."*

SHEILA WOOD FOARD

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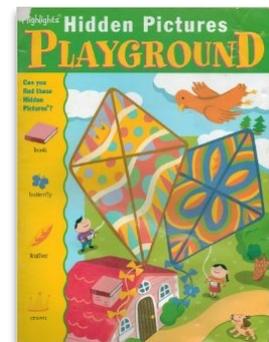
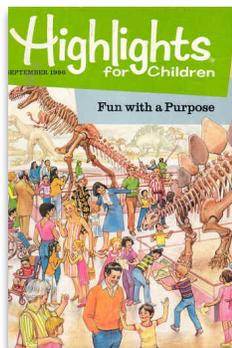
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## Sheila Wood Foard

In addition to books and magazine articles, Ms. Foard has written press releases and publicity articles, reading passages for educational testing companies, brochures for a museum in a historic Harvey House built beside the tracks of the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway. She's written haiku, sonnets, free verse, and rhyming poems for children, rebus stories, blogs for her website, a Teacher's Study Supplement for her novel *Harvey Girl*, and a Junior Ranger Activity Booklet for Ozark National Scenic Riverways, a national park in Missouri.



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