



## Post Fellowship Reporting - Project Summary

**Report Title:** Place Conscious Education      **Name:** Jennifer Troester  
**Other Team Members:**  
**Program:** Nebraska Program  
**Trip Dates:** 11/30/-0001 - 11/30/-0001      **Location Visited:** Italy  
**Post Fellowship Reporting Template:** PFR Template 01

**Project Summary:** "The best teachers of writing are writers themselves". This phrase constantly rang through my mind as I traveled to Italy for the "Tapping into the soul of place" writer's workshop in Vitorchiano. I learned from teacher Linda Lappin to look at "place" with fresh eyes and to observe what makes a place unique and how its people are shaped by it. The history, the traditions, the architecture, the land, and so much more define a place. I was able to do extensive writing, take photographs, gather ideas from my fellow writers, and explore the places I visited. This opportunity through Fund for Teachers has inspired my writing and will help me to become a better teacher of writing about place. Upon my return to school, my goal is to focus on place conscious writing in my classroom. Since I teach middle school students, identity is a major theme in their writing. For my students to understand their place and the area they live, it will be invaluable for them to learn about place conscious writing. My hope is that they grow as individuals and as writers through their writing about place. I am so grateful to be enriched by this valuable experience through Fund for Teachers. I will be a better teacher for it and my students will reap the rewards of my efforts.

**Career Impact:** \*Participated in a writer's workshop that focuses on place conscious writing  
\*Gained understanding of looking at place through a different lens and how to help my students do this  
\*Provided an opportunity for me to focus on my writing about place  
\*Explored a new culture in order to better understand my own

**Classroom/Community Impact:**\*Create a writing curriculum that focuses on place conscious writing  
\*Having a teacher who is enriched and rejuvenated through this experience  
\*Share the opportunities Fund for Teachers provides with fellow colleagues

**Open Response:** \*Continued development of place conscious curriculum  
\*Working on getting a Rural Writing Institute about Place Conscious Education in Holt County

**Quote:** The best teachers of writing are writers themselves.

Photos:



Outside the walls of Vitorchiano, Italy



My first view of the Arno River



At the top of Brunelleschi's Duoma



Before a procession in Vitorchiano



Amazing gardens



My writing friends



Rome in a day



Sienna