

# THE AESTHETIC REALISM TEACHING METHOD SHOWS *Every Fact Has Meaning*— & STUDENTS LEARN!

*Speakers:* PATRICIA MARTONE (ESL, PS 134M) • LEILA ROSEN (English, Bayside HS)  
AVI GVILI (language arts, IS 7SI) • ROSEMARY PLUMSTEAD (science, NYC high schools, retired)  
ARNOLD PEREY (instructor, *The Aesthetic Realism Teaching Method*)

AS THE SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS, students all over America are asking—sometimes desperately: “Why should I learn this?” “What do I need history for?—or earth science—or Shakespeare?” “Am I studying this just to pass a test?” The scientific, kind, and deeply satisfying answers will be given by New York City school-teachers at this important public seminar.

Using examples of actual classroom lessons, teachers will show how the Aesthetic Realism method enables young people to learn successfully, with a sense of wonder and large meaning, *and* meet rigorous academic standards with greater ease. Through this method, students feel that the subjects they study are not just a collection of boring facts they’re required to memorize—but have exciting value for their lives! This is the educational method that can end the high dropout rates, the poor learning, and the violence in our nation’s schools!

Eli Siegel, founder of Aesthetic Realism, explained: “*The purpose of education is to like the world through knowing it.*” And he identified the greatest impediment to learning: contempt, “the addition to self through the lessening of something else.”

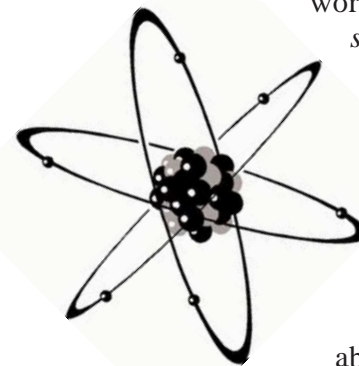
The Aesthetic Realism Teaching Method succeeds because it shows students that every fact in the curriculum says something about the world and their own often turbulent selves. The basis is this landmark principle:

**“The world, art, and self explain each other: each is the aesthetic oneness of opposites.”**

For instance, there’s Latisha, a 7th grader who goes from feeling painfully stuck to frantically restless in one afternoon. Then she learns in her science class that atoms put together the opposites of rest and motion: they’re made of elec-

trons that whirl at terrific speeds around the protons and neutrons, which stay securely inside the atom’s nucleus. Learning this, she feels excited and composed at once. She sees that the very atoms which are in her, and in her classmates, and in every bit of matter in the

world, are doing *what she wants to do: make a beautiful one of activity and calm, freedom and security!* Latisha feels, “This is about the world and it’s about me!” She welcomes learning, and feels closer to other people.



For more than 30 years, the Aesthetic Realism Teaching Method has enabled young people to succeed in their studies. That includes students in some of the most economically hard-hit neighborhoods. And in classrooms where teachers use this method, students are honestly kinder. It is the desperately needed opponent to racial prejudice and bullying.

On November 6th, come and see for yourself the teaching method that meets at last the hopes of students, parents, and teachers!



— SPEAKERS —

**AVI GVILI** has been a junior high school English teacher for 12 years. His article “Teaching Language Arts through the Aesthetic Realism Teaching Method” is published in *The English Record*, the journal of the NYSEC (New York State English Council).

**PATRICIA MARTONE** has taught ESL (English as a Second Language) in the New York City public school system for over 25 years. She has conducted numerous staff development classes in the Aesthetic Realism Teaching Method, in metropolitan area schools.

**ARNOLD PEREY, PhD**, received his doctorate in anthropology from Columbia University. He taught anthropology and sociology at CUNY, and teaches the course “Anthropology Is about You & Everyone” at the Aesthetic Realism Foundation.

**ROSEMARY PLUMSTEAD**, a teacher in NYC public high schools for more than 30 years, is one of the instructors of the bi-weekly Aesthetic Realism Teaching Method workshop for educators. She has given presentations on this teaching method at science conferences in many American cities.

**LEILA ROSEN** has taught English using the Aesthetic Realism Teaching Method in NY public schools since 1981. She was selected as one of the NYSEC’s “Educators of Excellence.”

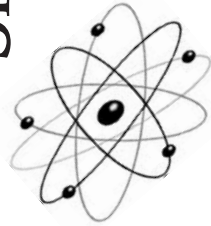
**THE AESTHETIC REALISM TEACHING METHOD WORKSHOP**

This interactive workshop for teachers of all grades and subjects—from reading to science, history to mathematics—meets on alternate Saturdays from 12:30 to 2:00 PM. The fall semester begins on September 20<sup>th</sup>.

Labor donated

PUBLIC SEMINAR ♦ NOVEMBER 6 ♦ THURSDAY 6:30 PM

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AESTHETIC REALISM FOUNDATION ♦

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