

Low-Residency MFA in Writing for Children & Young Adults faculty information:

## Phyllis Root

### **Biography:**

I've been writing for thirty years, teaching in low residency MFA programs for twelve, first at Vermont College and now at Hamline. I've published around forty picture books, of which AUNT NANCY AND OLD MAN TROUBLE won the Minnesota Book award, BIG MOMMA MAKES THE WORLD won the Horn Book award, and LUCIA AND THE LIGHT received the McKnight award. I've also published one middle grade novel, have another under contract, and am working on a non-fiction picture book.

### **I Am Happy to Work with Students in the Following Genres/Areas:**

Picture books, novels, fiction and non-fiction.

**Other Things to Know About Me as an Advisor:** I will work with electronic packets as well as hard-copy packets. I tend to make lots of suggestions about stories, look closely at the heart of a story, and try to suggest ways for the structure to reveal that heart. Picture books are where I have the most experience, but I have also worked extensively with middle grade and young adult novels.

### **Books of Mine I Recommend That You Read:**

*BIG MOMMA MAKES THE WORLD*

*LUCIA AND THE LIGHT*

*ONE DUCK STUCK*

*IF YOU WANT TO SEE A CARIBOU*

*AUNT NANCY AND OLD MAN TROUBLE or AUNT NANCY AND THE BOTHERSOME VISITORS*

*RATTLETRAP CAR*