Allison Schuette: Guest Lecturer
Awarded $1,000

I would like to bring noted writer, scholar, and educator, Ronne Hartfield, to campus for a class visit and a campus-wide reading/lecture between March 26th and 28th of 2008. Her family and cultural biography, *Another Way Home: The Tangled Roots of Race in One Chicago Family*, will serve as one model for my Intro to Creative Nonfiction class, which will be spending six weeks working with Project Neighbors, looking through their archives, researching the organization’s history, conducting interviews and onsite observations for their final writing project—a compilation of essays designed to tell Walt Reiner’s story and the impact his organization has had and is having within the community. I anticipate the results of her visit will a) inspire students and provide them with practical advice for the kinds of research they’ll need to do and b) give the broader campus and town access to a highly regarded writer and scholar who will help us continue our commitment to conversations regarding diversity. The Project on Civic Reflection has already agreed to co-sponsor/co-fund her visit, and I’m in the process of contacting other groups, like BSO and the Department of Multicultural Programs.