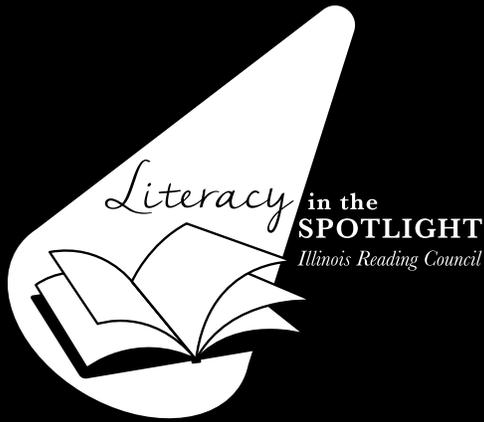


CONFERENCE PREVIEW

October 3 - 5, 2019
Peoria, Illinois



Empowering Lives Through Literacy



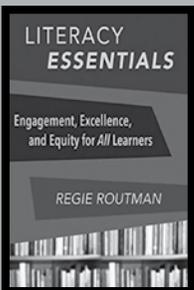
CORNELIUS MINOR

Cornelius Minor is a frequent keynote speaker and Lead Staff Developer at the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project. In that capacity, he works to support deep and wide literacy reform in cities (and sometimes villages) across the globe. Whether working with teachers and young people in Singapore, Seattle, or New York City, Cornelius always uses his love for technology, hip-hop, and social media to recruit students' engagement in reading and writing and teachers' engagement in communities of practice. As a staff developer, Cornelius draws not only on his years teaching middle school in the Bronx and Brooklyn, but also on time spent skateboarding, shooting hoops, and working with young people. You can connect with him on Twitter at [@MisterMinor](https://twitter.com/MisterMinor).



REGIE ROUTMAN

Regie Routman has more than forty-five years of experience working in diverse, underperforming schools across the U.S. and Canada as an educational leader, mentor teacher, literacy coach, classroom teacher, and teacher of students with learning differences. She currently works on-site in diverse schools and districts coaching and mentoring principals, leaders at all levels, and teachers. She demonstrates effective instructional and assessment practices with the goal of creating and sustaining effective, intellectual, joyful cultures, where all learners thrive as readers, writers, and responsible citizens. Her latest book is *Literacy Essentials: Engagement, Excellence, and Equity for ALL Learners*. Visit www.regieroutman.org for full information on Regie's many books and online literacy series.





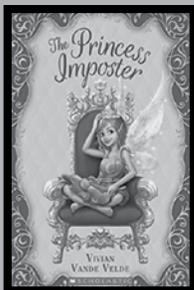
JON SCIESZKA

Bestselling children's author Jon Scieszka was born in Flint, MI, the second oldest of six boys. His mother was a nurse and his father was the principal of Freeman Elementary. He earned his MFA in Fiction from Columbia University in New York in 1980. Jon then became an elementary school teacher and re-discovered the best audience for the stories he had always liked to read and write: kids! He took a year off from teaching to write these stories, and (after being rejected several times) his first book *The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs!* was published by Viking in 1989. It has sold over 3 million copies and has been translated into 14 different languages. *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales* has been even more successful and won a Caldecott Honor. Jon is also the author of the *Time Warp Trio*, chapter books that have also been made into a successful television series, the *Frank Einstein* series, and the forthcoming *Astronuts* series, which Chronicle will publish in 2019. Jon is a nationally recognized reading advocate, and the founder of Guys Read, a web-based literacy program for boys whose mission is "to help boys become self-motivated, lifelong readers." He was also the first U.S. National Ambassador for Young People's Literature, appointed by the Librarian of Congress for calendar years 2008 and 2009. He received the annual University of Southern Mississippi Medallion for lifetime contribution to children's literature in 2013.



AARON REYNOLDS

Aaron Reynolds is a *New York Times* Bestselling Author and has written many highly acclaimed books for kids, including *Nerdy Birdy*, *Here Comes Destructosaurus!*, *Carnivores*, and the Caldecott Honor Winning *Creepy Carrots!* He has a passion for kids' books and seeing kids reading them. He regularly makes time to visit schools where his hilarious hands-on presentations keep kids spellbound. Aaron lives in Chicago with his wife, 2 kids, 4 cats, and anywhere between zero and ten goldfish, depending on the day. You can visit him at www.aaron-reynolds.com.



VIVIAN VANDE VELDE

Vivian Vande Velde is the author of 39 books: short story collections, easy readers and novels for middle-grade students and teens. Her books feature princesses with attitude, ghosts (also with attitude), futuristic technology, mixed-up fairy tales, and misbehaving squirrels (not all in the same story, of course). She has won the Edgar Award for best mystery novel for children, the Empire State Award for her body of work, and has been on numerous voted-on-by-children state reading lists. Her latest books are *23 Minutes*, *The Prince Problem*, and *Squirrel in the Museum*.



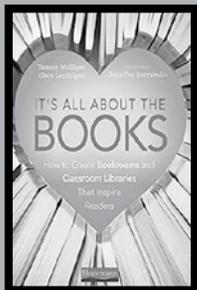
JUDY SCHACHNER

Judy Schachner was born into a large working class family. Money was as tight as their apartment was tiny and though she may not have had the easiest of childhoods, she credits her imagination with helping to survive it. She can't ever remember a time when she was not drawing and doodled on everything including her father's bald head. She drew herself into stories where she was the smartest in her class and into a family where mothers lived to be a ripe old age. Judy feels that her own life has resembled the fairy tales she loved reading as a child, complete with a happy ending. And the best part? She married a prince of a guy and they had two beautiful daughters and just like in her earliest tales, she plans on living to a ripe old age. Described by the *New York Times* as "...something like the James Joyce for the elementary school set..." Judy Schachner is the #1 *New York Times* Bestselling Author/ Illustrator of over 26 books for children including the *Skippyjon Jones* series, *Sarabella's Thinking Cap*, *Dewey Bob*, *Bits & Pieces*, *Yo Vikings*, *The Grannyman* and *Willy and May*. She has won many awards including the first E.B. White Read Aloud Award.



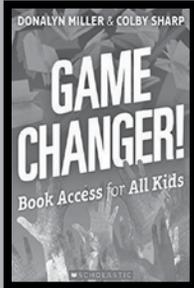
JENNIFER SERRAVALLO

Jennifer Serravallo is a literacy consultant, speaker, and the author of several popular titles including the *New York Times* Bestselling and past IRC Book Club titles *The Reading Strategies Book* and *The Writing Strategies Book*, and her latest book, *Understanding Texts & Readers*. Her upcoming publications are *A Teacher's Guide to Reading Conferences* and *Complete Comprehension*, which is a revised and reimagined whole book assessment and teaching resource based on the award winning Independent Reading Assessment. She was a Senior Staff Developer at the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project and taught in Title I schools in NYC. Tweet her [@jserravallo](https://twitter.com/jserravallo).



TAMMY MULLIGAN CLARE LANDRIGAN

Tammy Mulligan and Clare Landrigan are staff developers who are still teachers at heart. They began their work together 24 years ago co-teaching in an integrated first and second-grade classroom at the Eliot-Pearson Children's School in Medford, MA. They now lead a private staff development business, Teachers for Teachers, and spend their days partnering with school systems to implement best practices in the field of literacy. They believe that effective professional development includes side by side teaching, analysis of student work, mutual trust, respect, and a good dose of laughter. You can find them online at www.teachersforteachers.net where they blog about books and the art of teaching and on twitter at [@clareandtammy](https://twitter.com/clareandtammy).



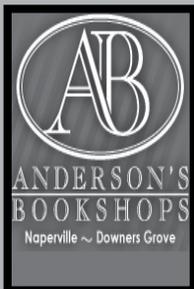
DONALYN MILLER

Donalyn Miller is an award-winning Texas teacher and author of several books on engaging children with reading including *The Book Whisperer* and *Reading in the Wild*. Donalyn is the co-founder of the community blog **Nerdy Book Club** and co-hosts the monthly Twitter Chat **#titledtalk**. Her articles about teaching and reading have appeared in publications such as *Education Week Teacher*, *The Reading Teacher*, *Educational Leadership* and *The Washington Post*. Donalyn serves as Scholastic Book Fairs' Manager of Independent Reading and Outreach.



KYLEENE BEERS ROBERT E. PROBST

Kylene Beers is a former middle school teacher who has turned her commitment to adolescent literacy and struggling readers into the major focus of her research, writing, speaking, and teaching. She taught in the College of Education at the University of Houston, served as Senior Reading Researcher at the Comer School Development Program at Yale University, and most recently acted as the Senior Reading Advisor to Secondary Schools for the Reading and Writing Project at Teachers College. Kylene is author of the best-selling *When Kids Can't Read/What Teachers Can Do*. Robert (Bob) Probst began his teaching career as a high school English teacher and then became a supervisor of English for a large district in Maryland. He spent most of his academic career at Georgia State University where he is now Professor Emeritus of English Education. After retiring from Georgia State University, he served as a research fellow for Florida International University. Bob is the author of *Response and Analysis*. Kylene and Bob are now consultants to schools, nationally and internationally, focusing on literacy improvement. Along with Linda Rief, Kylene and Bob are coeditors of *Adolescent Literacy: Turning Promise into Practice*. Kylene and Bob are also the authors of *Signposts for Young Readers: Helping K-5 Readers Notice & Note*, *Notice and Note: Strategies for Close Reading*, and *Reading Nonfiction, Notice & Note Stances, Signposts, and Strategies*. Friends of IRC, Kylene and Bob are sponsoring grants to support teachers in attending the 2019 IRC conference.



BECKY ANDERSON WILKINS

Becky Anderson Wilkins is the co-owner of Anderson's Bookshops and Anderson's Bookfair Company in Naperville, Downers Grove, and La Grange, Illinois. She has been a children's literature consultant and book buyer for over 25 years. Her family business was awarded the Pannell Award in 2015 for the Best Children's Bookseller in the nation, the Publisher's Weekly Bookstore of the year in 2011, the Illinois Family Business of the Year in 2002 by Loyola University and the Panell Award and the Haslam Award in 2002. She is the past-president of the national American Booksellers Association and past president of the Association of Booksellers for Children (ABC) and the Great Lakes Booksellers Association. Her love of reading and placing the right book in the right child's hand is apparent in her co-founding of Naperville Reads, a community-wide reading program and Andrea's Angels, a program that has distributed over 900,000 new and used books to disadvantaged children.