



CONFERENCE PREVIEW 2009

A preview of the Illinois Reading Council Conference
March 19-21, 2009

Inside:

- Keynote Luncheons with *Sharon Draper, Peter Johnston,* and *Neal Shusterman*
- Breakfast Speakers include *Tedd Arnold, Mary Cappellini* and *Giggle Poetry Theatre*
- *Jennifer and Matthew Holm* and *MaryEllen Vogt* Keynotes Banquets
- Look for many wonderful Featured Sessions with Children, YA, and Professional Authors and a performance by *Poetry Alive!*

Engaging Authors! Exciting Artists! Spectacular Speakers Igniting your passion for reading! All this and more await you at the 41st Annual Illinois Reading Council Conference! Celebrate the joy of reading with friends and colleagues! Get excited about new ideas you can take back to your classroom and school district! Learn about the latest research and best practices from engaging speakers, many of whom will be appearing at IRC for the first time! Most importantly, come dressed with a smile and be ready for the fireworks as we celebrate the conference theme:

Reading! Engage! Excite! Ignite!

Make An **ENGAGE**ment For Nell Duke's Luncheon Presentation!



Nell Duke

NELL K. DUKE is an Associate Professor of Teacher Education and Educational Psychology and Associate Director of the Literacy Achievement Research Center at Michigan State University. A sought-after speaker, Nell has received numerous honors from the International Reading Association and is the co-author of *Reading and Writing Informational Text in the Primary Grades: Research Based Practices*. Additionally, Nell is the author of *Literacy and the Youngest Learner: Best Practices for Educators of Children from Birth to Five*.

Janet Allen Is Sure To **EXCITE!**



Janet Allen

JANET ALLEN is an international consultant recognized for her literacy work with at-risk students. Her many books include *Inside Words: Tools for Teaching Academic Vocabulary*; *Tools for Teaching Content Literacy*; *On the Same Page: Shared Reading Beyond the Primary Grades*; *Yellow Brick Roads*; *Words, Words, Words*; and *Are They Really Reading?: Expanding SSR in the Middle Grades*. In addition, Janet has authored two complete audio-assisted literacy workshop programs for Recorded Books called *Plugged-in to Reading* and *Plugged-in to Reading Nonfiction*.

Vicki Benson Castagna Will **IGNITE** You With Ideas For Your K-3 Classroom!



Vicki Benson Castagna

VICKI BENSON CASTAGNA draws on her extensive experience in elementary classroom instruction and special education over the past two decades to offer practical classroom ideas with effective, proven results. She is the author of *RETELLING: Powerful Strategies to Build Your Students' Vocabulary, Fluency and Comprehension Skills*. Her most recent book is *Teaching the Information Generation* (Scholastic).

Don't Miss These ENGAGING Reading Experts!



MaryEllen Vogt

The gracious, intelligent MARYELLEN VOGT will be the speaker for Thursday evening's banquet during which an Illinois author will be awarded IRC's prestigious Prairie State Award. In addition to serving as the President of the International Reading Association in 2004-05, MaryEllen is a reading specialist and Professor Emeritus at California State University, Long Beach, and the author of *Reading Specialist and Literacy Coaches in the Real World* and *Making Content Comprehensible for English Learners*.

Join MARY CAPPELLINI for an engaging breakfast on Friday! Mary is an educational consultant who has worked over 20 years with English Language Learners and teachers of ELLs. Her experience includes being an elementary teacher, a bilingual resource teacher, a literacy coach, an ESL teacher, and an adjunct professor. In addition to authoring numerous bilingual children's books, Mary is the author of *Balancing Reading and Language Learning: A Resource for Teaching English Language Learners, K-5*.



Mary Cappellini



Jim Burke

Save your Saturday morning for the sensational JIM BURKE! Jim, who teaches English at Burlingame High School, is the author of numerous books including *The Reader's Handbook* (Great Source). Jim will demonstrate practical applications from his many books including *Reading Reminders*; *Writing Reminders*; and *50 Essential Lessons: Tools and Techniques for Teaching English Language Arts*.

Reading Hall of Fame recipient, PETER JOHNSTON, is the co-author, along with Richard Allington, of *Reading to Learn*. Peter, who is a professor at the University at Albany-SUNY, will speak at Thursday's luncheon. The co-author of *Critical Literacy Critical Teaching*, Peter may also have some "choice words" for all attendees as he is the author of the popular *Choice Words: How our Language Affects Children's Learning*.



Peter Johnston



Debbie Miller

DEBBIE MILLER, a popular speaker at IRC, taught and learned from children in the Denver Public Schools for thirty years. Her presentations will ignite your enthusiasm for teaching and learning! An engaging reading expert, Debbie is the author of *Reading with Meaning: Teaching Comprehension in the Primary Grades* and the video series *Happy Reading!* and *The Joy of Conferring*.

Continue With Even More **ENGAGING** Reading Experts!



Elisa Gagnon

ELISA GAGNON is the coordinator of the Asperger Syndrome Project at the University of Kansas Medical Center and a national consultant in the areas of Asperger Syndrome and Autism. She is the co-author of *This is Asperger Syndrome*, a book written for children ages 6-12 to introduce siblings and peers to the everyday challenges faced by children with Asperger Syndrome. In addition, she is the creator of *Power Cards: Using Special Interests to Motivate Children and Youth with Asperger Syndrome and Autism*. Bring your questions and concerns to her Friday sessions.

PAMELA A. NEVILLS will engage your brain! Pamela co-authored, with the renowned Dr. Patricia Wolfe, *Building the Reading Brain, PreK-3*. She is a teacher-researcher who specializes in brain development from birth through adulthood, and helps teachers learn how they can access the best brain systems to help children become competent readers.



Pamela A. Nevills



Laura Tillotson

Since 2000, LAURA TILLOTSON has served as editor of the highly respected national publication, *Book Links: Connecting Books, Libraries, and Classrooms*. Published by the American Library Association, *Book Links* is a timely, powerful classroom resource that focuses on literature appropriate for children in grades K-8. A passionate advocate of reading, Laura will be sharing the best books of the year and giving you practical ideas to tie them to different content areas.

CHERYL DOZIER is the author of *Responsive Literacy Coaching* and the co-author, along with Peter Johnston, of *Critical Literacy Critical Teaching*. Cheryl, who is an Assistant Professor at the University at Albany-SUNY, is a former kindergarten, second, and third-grade teacher in urban schools. Her presentations will describe how thoughtful, purposeful coaching can help “teachers learn effective ways to improve literacy instruction and student achievement.”



Cheryl Dozier



Kimberly Hill Campbell

KIMBERLY HILL CAMPBELL is a teacher who began her career teaching junior high language arts. She left the teaching profession in 1982 and earned a law degree from Willamette University. She returned to teaching at the high school level in 1987. She currently is an assistant professor in the M.A.T. program at Lewis & Clark College where she works with beginning teachers who want to be middle school and high school language arts teachers. Her book *Less is More* is described by noted teacher Cris Tovani as being “full of powerful ideas for teaching with short, provocative texts.”

Join These EXCITING Authors For Breakfast, Lunch, And Dinner!



Neal Shusterman

NEAL SHUSTERMAN not only writes enormously popular YA novels, but he also creates games and writes movie and television scripts. His original movie, *Pixel Perfect*, premiered on the Disney Channel, and his YA novel *Everlost* is being adapted as a feature film for Universal Studios. Neal is a prolific writer. Some of his novels include *Full Tilt*; *Unwind*; *The Schwa was Here*; *The Shadow Club*; *The Dark Side of Nowhere*; and *Downsiders*. His many books of short stories include *MindQuake*; *MindTwisters*; *MindBenders*; and *Darkness Creeping*. His Dark Fusion series includes *Dread Locks*; *Red Rider's Hood*; and *Duckling Ugly*.

SHARON DRAPER is a professional educator as well as an accomplished author. She has been honored as the National Teacher of the Year, is a five-time winner of the Coretta Scott King Literary Award, and is a New York Times bestselling author. She was one of the first teachers in the nation to achieve National Board Certification in English/Language Arts and was elected to the Board of Directors of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. Her Friday luncheon keynote address is entitled "Engaging, Exciting and Igniting through Literacy and Laughter." Sharon's YA books include *Copper Sun*; *Tears of a Tiger*; *Forged by Fire*; *Darkness Before Dawn*, *Romiette and Julio*; *Double Dutch*; *The Battle of Jericho*; and *November Blues*, a 2007 Coretta Scott King Honor Book. Sharon is also the author of the *Ziggy* series for middle readers.



Sharon Draper



Tedd Arnold

TEDD ARNOLD is, indeed, *The Fly Guy!* and is the author and illustrator of over 50 books. Tedd is sure to offer you some "scrambled" with your eggs at his breakfast presentation on Saturday morning as he describes his latest book, *There was an Old Lady Who Swallowed Fly Guy*. Tedd will speak about his first novel for middle school readers, *Rat Life*, at a session following his keynote presentation.



Jennifer Holm

You'll want to join JENNIFER and MATTHEW HOLM for their Friday evening banquet presentation entitled "There's a Mouse in Our House: How a Brother and Sister Created Babymouse and Lived to Talk about It." When they are not creating additional *Babymouse* graphic novel sagas such as *Babymouse: Rock Star*; *Babymouse: Puppy Love*, and *Babymouse: Queen of the World*, Matt writes and illustrates his web magazine *Strange Voices* and Jennifer writes short stories and novels. Jennifer's novels, *Our Only May Amelia* and *Penny from Heaven*, received Newbery Honors; her *Boston Jane* series is widely read and admired. Finally, her book *Middle School is Worse Than Meatloaf: A Year Told Through Stuff* is a ground-breaking novel told through digitally rendered collages of notes, detention slips, photos, invitations, and other "stuff."



Matthew Holm

The EXCITEMent Continues With More Authors!



Kadir Nelson

KADIR NELSON is the illustrator of the Caldecott Honor Book, *Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led her People to Freedom*. His illustrations were described as “dramatic renderings that evoke the spiritual and physical journey of Harriet Tubman.” Kadir, who is a graduate of New York’s Pratt Institute, exhibits his work in galleries and museums around the world. In addition to illustrating *Michael’s Golden Rules*; *Please Puppy, Please*; and the 2008 Caldecott Honor Book, *Henry’s Freedom Box*, Kadir is the author and illustrator of *He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands*; and *We are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball*.

JOHN COY is an award-winning author who also teaches classes at the University of Minnesota for adults who are interested in writing children’s books. John authors picture books as well as novels for young adults. His picture books include *Night Driving*; *Strong to the Hoop*; *Two Old Potatoes and Me*; *Vroomaloom Zoom*, and *Around the World*, a picture book about international basketball. His YA novel, *Crackback*, is extremely popular with middle and high school students.



John Coy



Margie Palatini

MARGIE PALATINI is the author of over two dozen outrageously funny children’s books. She is the master of puns and fun! Her books have been described as “compelling readalouds with appealing narrative arcs.” Some of her delightful books include *The Web Files*; *Moo Who?*; *The Three Silly Billies*; *Earthquack!*; *The Cheese*; *No Biting, Louise*; and *Bad Boys*.

MARGARET READ MACDONALD is the author of over 50 books on storytelling and folklore. Her sessions will be interactive so you will learn how to tell stories from the master storyteller herself! In addition, Margaret will be hosting our popular Storytelling Hour. In addition to her books on storytelling, Margaret is the author of several popular children’s books including *The Old Woman who Lived in a Vinegar Bottle*; *Bat’s Big Game*; *Go to Sleep Gecko*; *Fat Cat*, and *Teeny Weeny Bop*. Plan to attend her ENGAGING sessions!



Margaret Read MacDonald

The EXCITEment Continues With Even More Authors!



Matt McElligott

MATT MCELLIGOTT is an author-illustrator who will IGNITE your sense of humor! In addition to teaching at the Sage College of Albany in Albany, NY, Matt is the author-illustrator of *Backbeard and the Birthday Suit*; *Backbeard: Pirate for Hire*; *Absolutely Not*; *Bean Thirteen*; *Uncle Frank's Pit*; *The Truth About Cousin Ernie's Head* and *The Spooky Book*. When Matt is not visiting schools or writing and illustrating, he writes a newsletter called *Pen & Link*.

YING CHANG COMPESTINE is an author who can do it all! She is not only a dynamic public speaker but she also writes children's books, YA books, and even cookbooks! She has traveled the world but most recently gained attention as a YA author with *Revolution is Not a Dinner Party*, a gripping account of her life growing up in Wuhan, China, during China's Cultural Revolution. Ying's children's books include *The Real Story of Stone Soup*; *The Runaway Rice Cake*; *D is for Dragon Dance*; and *The Story of Chopsticks*. She may even be coaxed to share some healthy eating tips from her book, *Secrets from a Healthy Asian Kitchen*!



Ying Chang Compestine



Adrian Fogelin

ADRIAN FOGELIN is a remarkably talented writer whose books for middle readers and young adults ring true with humor, dramatic action, and realistic dialogue. Adrian immediately takes her readers to the time and place of her stories as well as into the hearts and minds of her characters. Her books include the award-winning *Crossing Jordan*; *Anna Casey's Place in the World*; *My Brother's Hero*; *Sister Spider Knows All*; *The Big Nothing*; and *The Sorta Sisters*.

Our very own P.J. FARRIS, who received IRA's Reading Hall of Fame Award in 2006, will be joining us to engage, excite, and ignite us about her first YA novel, *Crossover Dribble*! P.J.'s message to young readers is: Read on!! Play on!! Go for it!!! In another session, Dr. Farris will speak about the importance of reading comprehension in the social studies classroom.



P.J. Farris

IGNITE Your Passion For Reading Through Poetry And Music!



Giggle Poetry Theatre

Begin your conference with laughter as **GIGGLE POETRY THEATRE** performs at Thursday's breakfast! Poetry Performers Michelle Schwantes and Carney Gray will act out poems that will make you laugh until you cry! After their breakfast performance, all conference attendees will be invited to attend their Giggle Poetry Theater Workshop session to learn how to implement poetry performance in the elementary classroom!

On Friday, let the performance poets of **POETRY ALIVE!** teach you how to make poetry come alive in your middle and high school classrooms. Attending a **Poetry Alive!** workshop will change forever the way you share poetry with your students as you learn simple techniques to add life and lift to any poetry unit! Then on Friday evening, attend IRC's annual Poetry Coffeehouse and practice some of those techniques with the **Poetry Alive!** Performers!



Jennifer Fox & Annette Hackbarth

JENNIFER FOX and ANNETTE HACKBARTH have a combined 31 years of teaching experience in K-12 music. Each year, Jennifer, Annette, and their elementary students perform a **Book Concert** in which students bring picture books to life through music. Additionally, Jennifer and Annette pride themselves in teaching students African drumming techniques. Plan to attend Jennifer and Annette's workshops to learn how to add music to engage, excite, and ignite your reading instruction!

ENGAGE, EXCITE, IGNITE With Our Very Own Illinois Experts!

Talent abounds within the IRC membership so look for these Illinois Experts speaking on topics you, the members of IRC, have requested!



Maria Walther

MARIA WALTHER teaches first grade and is the author of **Literature is Back! Using the Best Books for Teaching Readers and Writers Across Genres**. Maria will expertly demonstrate how to use literature to enhance writing instruction in the primary grades.



Terry Schuster

TERRY SCHUSTER, Psychologist and PPS Supervisor for the Ogle County Education Cooperative for the past 12 years, will discuss the practical aspects of implementing a Problem Solving (PS) model upon which RtI decision-making is based. Terry will describe how to evaluate the variety of choices schools

have available regarding assessment methods, curriculum considerations, interventions, composition of decision-making teams, progress monitoring choices, and re-assessment. Additionally, Terry will discuss the type of data to be collected, guidelines regarding how long to wait to make eligibility decisions, state IEP forms and how they can be used to make LD/RtI eligibility decisions.

LOU FERROLI has been a member of IRC for 30 years. In addition to writing his column "Cool Studies" for *The Communicator*, Lou currently serves on the Executive Board as IRC treasurer. Dr. Ferroli is the Director of the Reading Clinic at Rockford College where he also teaches courses in Reading and Language Arts Methods, Reading Diagnosis, and Research Methods. Lou will expertly discuss the topic "How I Do Miscue Analysis: What Goodman and Clay only Dreamed About!"



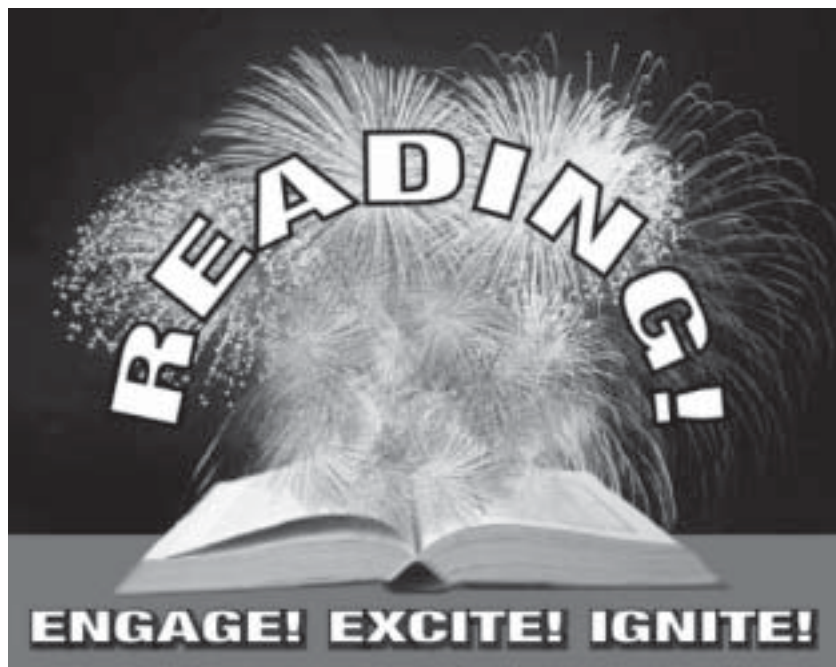
Lou Ferroli

MARY STAYNER, a member of IRC since 1983 and immediate past-president of the Northwestern Illinois Reading Council, has been a classroom teacher for 30 years. She became a National Board Certified Teacher (NBCT) in 2006 in the area of Early Childhood-Generalist. Join Mary as she expertly explains the process of achieving National Board Certification.



Mary Stayner

A Note From Your 2009 Conference Coordinator



A large banner hangs at the front of my classroom. The banner reads: “In this classroom, if you LOVE TO READ, you’ll seldom have homework.” I truly believe in the positive power of reading. I also believe that teachers must be excited about reading so their students can catch that enthusiasm. From these two beliefs came this year’s conference theme: **Reading! Engage! Excite! Ignite!**

I also believe in the Illinois Reading Council and its positive power to help teachers help students. One way I believe IRC helps teachers is by holding one of the best reading conferences in the nation—a conference during which teachers can learn and celebrate what they do and how they do it. It is only with enthusiasm and a genuine love of reading that teachers with books in hand can set off reading fireworks in their own classrooms! In 2009, come celebrate **Reading! Engage! Excite! Ignite!**

Christine Boardman Moen
2009 Conference Chair

Illinois Reading Council Conference

March 19-21, 2009

Plan to attend the 2009 Illinois Reading Council Conference in Springfield, Illinois.

Registration and housing information will be available in early Fall 2008.

Illinois Reading Council website: www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org

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