



SCIRA

Suburban Council of the International Reading Association

Spring Newsletter 2010

Suburban
Council of the
International
Reading
Association

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ckatz17755@aol.com or
847-236-1164
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Note from the President

By Laura Beltchenko
Co-President of SCIRA

Dear SCIRA Friends,

Greetings to all of our friends and colleagues in the literacy world! It is without hesitation that I write this newsletter welcoming our newest members of SCIRA and wishing our current members a continued renewal of literacy and learning for their students. Please do not forget to update your membership to Suburban Council of IRA (SCIRA), our reading council, so you can continue to receive our newsletter and benefits of our conferences.

As the weather begins to warm and our students long for a run on the soccer or baseball fields, it is important that we continue to partner with parents to create a summer atmosphere of literacy and learning. The collaboration between the International Reading Association and the National Council for the Teaching of English website [Read write think.org](http://www.readwritethink.org) is an outstanding way to keep parents as our partners to prevent the summer literacy slump. The *Parent and Afterschool Resources* page on this website creates and shares that it has "Fun activities to suggest books.... And that ...we've got your out of school time covered". With that said, the web address for this site is <http://www.readwritethink.org/parent-afterschool-resources/>. You will find a plethora of information and topics to suggest to parents for their child's summer literacy adventures. Also check out the Calendar Activities on the main web site page. There you will find a daily, weekly and monthly view of "timely" literacy activities for your classroom.

At our recent SCIRA board meeting, we reflected on our current year and created a plan for an outstanding

**SCIRA Board
2009-10**

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summer event as well as presenters for next year. We were able to provide to you valuable literacy and learning events this year. Based on many of your suggestions we hope to bring you interesting events for next year. We are always looking for schools that will host our events. If you would like to volunteer your school please provide us with a contact name and phone number. You can email me your suggestions for events and locations anytime at lbeltchenko_d118@yahoo.com.

We want to encourage your personal professional literacy growth and development and extend a sincere invitation to have you join **SCIRA and National-Louis University** for our annual **Summer Teacher Renewal Conference**. This year we are very proud and pleased to bring Dr. Donald Bear to Illinois for our summer conference featuring the foundational information on word study and literacy development through **Words Their Way**. As the philosophy sites, ***"Words Their Way is a developmentally driven instructional approach providing an integrated way to teach phonics, vocabulary and spelling to improve literacy skills. It is a student centered plan for vocabulary growth and spelling development."*** This workshop is valuable for all levels of teaching and we encourage you to bring a collegial team with you to fully develop the concepts not only in your classroom but across all grade levels in your and school. The attached flyer will share with you a quantity discounted rate for group attendance. Break out sessions will also share what this actually looks like in classrooms for a practical perspective.

To that end, on behalf of our entire SCIRA Board of Directors we wish you all the best for a fulfilling remainder of the school year and hope that you will share a few days of your summer vacation with your SCIRA friends at our **Summer Teacher Renewal Conference**.

With much respect and admiration for all that you do for the students of Illinois,
Laura Beltchenko
Co-President with Jan Rashid

Memories From a Night With Donna Ogle

Despite the blistering cold and the massive amounts of snow, the Suburban Council of the International Reading Association, SCIRA, held its Winter Conference at Walker School in Evanston, Illinois on Wednesday, February 24th, 2010. The keynote speaker at the conference was Dr. Donna Ogle. She was well worth the trip in bad weather!

The conference was a huge hit! Hearing Dr. Ogle present PRC2 (Partner Reading in Content, Too) to the whole group and after viewing some video clips and pictures of PRC2 in action, participants broke off into smaller groups which were led by teachers who have successfully put this strategy into action! It was great to hear more practical ways to apply partner reading from people who are in the field using it. The handouts were easy to follow and ready to be put into place in classrooms!

SCIRA's Winter Conference was a great success! Thank you to Dr. Ogle and the leaders of the small group sessions.



The Suburban Council of the International Reading Association
present

Words Their Way: Word Study in Action



Donald Bear

Thursday, June 17 and Friday, June 18, 2010

8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Holiday Inn Chicago North Shore Skokie 5300 West Touhy Ave Skokie, IL 60008

The NLU Teacher Renewal Seminar (TRS) and SCIRA (Suburban Council of the International Reading Association) will sponsor a two-day conference presenting Dr. Donald R Bear, author of *Words Their Way: Word Study for Phonics, Vocabulary and Spelling Instruction*.

Dr. Bear's talk will focus on the following topics:

- *Word Study: The integration of phonics, spelling and vocabulary instruction*
- *The synchrony of literacy development*
- *Word study for reading and writing and word study for vocabulary learning*
- *Organizing word study*
- *Getting started*
- *Guiding and extending sorts*
- *Thinking about and observing sort*

Dr. Bear is a professor in the Department of Educational Specialties in the College of Education at the University of Nevada, Reno. He has been involved in a number of grants and innovative professional development programs. Assessments that he has developed are widely used in statewide literacy programs. He conducts workshops and consults with school districts to develop their programs.

Recent studies and writings examine the synchrony of literacy development, word study with English-language learners, upper level word knowledge, and the literacy learning of preschoolers. He is a co-author of several books including *Words Their Way*.

Teachers working toward CPDUs and CEUs should be assured that the materials presented in this conference will address the needs of serving students with disabilities, including adapting and modifying the general curriculum related to the Illinois Learning Standards to meet the needs of students with disabilities and serving such students in the least restrictive environment. Each conference day will count for 8 CPDUs.

2010 TRS/SCIRA CONFERENCE –JUNE 17TH AND 18TH
FEATURING Dr. Donald R Bear, Words Their Way: Word Study in Action
One person per form, please.

Name _____

Preferred email (for confirmation) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Preferred Phone (_____) _____

School Name _____ District # _____

Check the appropriate pre-registration fee below:

_____ Two-day event-**\$175.00 for members and non-members** (includes registration for Thursday and Friday, light breakfast and lunch both days, two-day address by Donald Bear, breakout sessions, and exhibits. DOES NOT INCLUDE SCIRA MEMBERSHIP)

_____ SCIRA members may attend for one day only, Thursday or Friday-**\$100.00** (Includes light breakfast and lunch, address by Donald Bear, breakout sessions, exhibits.) Indicate day attending _____

_____ Non-SCIRA may attend for one day only, Thursday or Friday-**\$145.00** (Includes light breakfast and lunch, address by Donald Bear, breakout sessions, exhibits, includes SCIRA membership.) Indicate day attending _____

YOU MAY PAY BY CHECK, CREDIT CARD OR PO. MAKE CHECK, CREDIT CARD OR PO PAYABLE TO: NATIONAL-LOUIS UNIVERSITY. MAIL THIS FORM AND PAYMENT TO:

CLAUDIA KATZ 1329 Oxford Rd Deerfield, IL 60015

CREDIT CARD OPTION:

I hereby authorize National-Louis University to charge my Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express account in the amount of \$ _____, which represents my payment for the Donald Bear conference.

CHECK ONE: ___ VISA ___ MASTERCARD ___ DISCOVER ___ AMEX

Card No. _____ Exp. Date _____

CARDHOLDER'S NAME (*print*) _____

Registrants will receive a conference confirmation by e-mail. Please include your e-mail address at the top of this page, or you will NOT receive confirmation.

Questions or School District GROUP RATES

Call Claudia at 847-236-1164 ckatz17755@aol.com Claudia.katz@nl.edu

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_____ One hour of National Louis University course credit is available for an additional \$327. You must pay for University credit with a separate check or credit card. The University tuition does not include the conference cost. See course description and registration on page 6&7.

Details – Donald Bear in Chicago 2010

- ✓ **Location – Holiday Inn Chicago North Shore Skokie**
5300 West Touhy Ave Skokie, IL 60008 847-679-8900
- ✓ **Check-In** –Seminar check-in begins on Thursday, June 17th at 7:30 a.m.
- ✓ **Cost** – \$175 per person
- ✓ **Special group rate**
 - \$150 per person for groups of five or more
 - \$125 per person for groups of ten or moreMay pay with check, PO, or credit card. (See registration form.)
- ✓ **SCIRA one-day rate** – may attend one day only
\$100 per person for current SCIRA members
\$145 per person for non-SCIRA members (includes membership)
May pay with check, PO, or credit card. (See registration form.)
- ✓ **Times** – Seminar begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 3:00 p.m. both days.
- ✓ **Hotel** – a special room rate of \$125.00 per night is available at the Holiday Inn. Be sure to mention Words Their Way/ NATIONAL-LOUIS UNIVERSITY to receive this special rate.
- ✓ **Parking** – Free self-parking is available at The Holiday Inn.
Get directions on the page 5.
- ✓ **Meals** – Continental breakfast provided both days; breakfast will be available from 7:30 am. Lunch provided on-site on Thursday, and Friday.
- ✓ **Credit** – One graduate credit will be available through National-Louis University for \$327.00. See pages 6&7 of this document.
- ✓ **Resources** – A wide range of professional books and curriculum resources for your reading and learning pleasure will be available for purchase from private vendors.

A Flexible Agenda

Thursday June 17th

Morning Session

8:00-10:45 Introduction of the speaker
Keynote address by Dr. Bear

10:45-11:00 Break

11:00-11:45 First Break-out sessions

Lunch (Provided on site, 11:45-1:00)

Afternoon Session

1:00-1:45 Second Break-out sessions

1:45-2:00 Break

2:00-3:00 Whole Group session with Dr. Bear, Q&A

3:00-4:00 Assessment: and Reflection for Course participants. Extended project will be discussed.

Friday June 18th

Morning Session

7:30- 8:00 Course participants check in. Discuss extended project.

8:00-10:45 SCIRA business Keynote address by Dr. Bear

10:45-11:00 Break

11:00-11:45 First Break-out sessions

Lunch (11:45-1:00)

Afternoon Session

1:00 – 1:45 Second Break-out sessions

1:45-2:00 Break

2:00-3:00 Whole Group session with Dr. Bear, Q&A

Raffle, CPDU forms will be available at 3.

DIRECTIONS TO THE Holiday Inn Chicago North Shore

Skokie Banquet & Conference Center
5300 W Touhy Skokie, Illinois 60077
847.679.8900

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

Coming from the **North**: Take 94 East to the Touhy Avenue West Exit #39A and the Hotel is three blocks west on the right hand side.

Coming from the **South**: Take 94 West to Milwaukee at the 90-94 split. When on 94 West, exit off at Touhy Ave #39A. The Hotel is three blocks west on the right hand side.

Tri-state Tollway

Coming from the North: Take 294 south to Dempster Avenue East exit. Continue East to Caldwell Avenue. Turn right (south) on Caldwell Avenue to Touhy Avenue. Turn Left (east) on Touhy past Niles Center Road to Holiday Inn (turn left into the parking lot).

Coming from the South: take 294 north to Touhy Avenue. Go east on Touhy avenue to the Holiday Inn (just east of Niles Center Road) to Holiday Inn (turn left into the parking lot).

O'Hare International (ORD)

Distance: 10.0 MI/16.09 KM NORTH EAST to Hotel

Taxi Charge (one way): \$30.00

Time by Taxi: 20 minutes

Midway Airport (MDW)

Distance: 27.0 MI/43.45 KM NORTH to Hotel

Taxi Charge (one way): \$50.00

Time by Taxi: 45 minutes

CTA Train

Station Name: Howard "L"

Distance: 2.0 MI/3.22 KM SOUTH WEST to Hotel

Taxi Charge (one way): \$15.00

Holiday Inn (North Shore) 847.259.5000

DISCOUNTED Room Rates are \$125 a night plus tax. Be sure to mention National-Louis University when you make your reservation.

National Louis University
RLR 595 Special Topics in Reading: Words Their Way
June 17 and 18, 2010 7:30-3:30 PM
Course Description

Instructors: Debra Gurvitz/ Claudia Katz

Phone: 847/564-7749/847-236-1164

E-mail: djgurvitz@nl.edu/claudia.katz@nl.edu

This class will enhance participants' knowledge of exemplary practices in word study for Phonics, Vocabulary, and Spelling instruction for professional development through reflection and application.

Major course topics:

1. *Word Study: The integration of phonics, spelling and vocabulary instruction*
2. *The synchrony of literacy development*
3. *Word study for reading and writing and word study for vocabulary learning*
4. *Organizing word study*
5. *Getting started*
6. *Guiding and extending sorts*
7. *Thinking about and observing sorts*

Method(s) for evaluating student performance:

- **Text:** Students will read and summarize an article related to the conference topic. The summary should be no more than 100 words. Choose one of these articles:
 - Bear, D.R. (1991, Summer). "Learning to fasten the seat of my union suit without looking around": The synchrony of literacy development. *Theory into Practice*, 30:3, 149-157.
 - Shen, H. & Bear, D.R. (2000). Development of orthographic skills in Chinese children. *Reading and Writing: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, 13, 197-236.
 - Bear, D.R. & Templeton, S. (1998). Explorations in developmental spelling: Foundations for learning and teaching phonics, spelling, and vocabulary. *The Reading Teacher*, 82:3, 222-242.
- Students will actively participate in and reflect on this professional conference for two full days of contact time.
- Students will maintain a reflective journal describing three new ideas they acquire during the conference
- Students will develop a plan for implementation of Words Their Way within their Word Study Block.

The objective of the assignment is to develop a plan that can be used in a classroom based on what has been learned during the Donald Bear Conference. The plan should utilize the materials that exist in the school situation as well as the information presented during the workshop sessions. In this plan the student will:

1. Identify grade level and classroom needs and a state objective to be achieved through the plan.
2. Identify key ideas from the presentations that guided the development of the plan and give an explanation of why they were chosen.
3. Explain how students will be evaluated to determine the effectiveness of the plan and the knowledge acquired by the students.
4. Explain how instruction will be differentiated.

DO NOT MAIL GRADUATE REGISTRATION directly to NLU
MAIL COMPLETED GRADUATE REGISTRATION FORM with \$327.00 CHECK OR
CREDIT CARD FORM payable to NLU AND TEACHER RENEWAL SEMINAR REGISTRATION
WITH \$175.00 TO:
CLAUDIA KATZ, 1329 OXFORD RD, DEERFIELD, IL 60015

NATIONAL-LOUIS UNIVERSITY GRADUATE REGISTRATION FORM

SOCIAL SECURITY NO. _____

NAME: LAST _____ FIRST/MIDDLE _____

MAIDEN (IF APPLIES) _____ /Check if new name or address since last graduation

STREET ADDRESS: _____ CITY _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: (____) _____ BUSINESS PHONE: (____) _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

CHECK ONE: /FALL _____ /WINTER _____ /SPRING _____ /SUMMER _____

BIRTHDATE: _____ SEX: / M _____ /F _____

ETHNIC BACKGROUND (CHECK ONE)

1 /American Indian or Alaskan _____ 2./Black Non-Hispanic _____ 3 /Asian or Pacific Islander _____
 4 Hispanic _____ 5 /White Non-Hispanic _____

IF YOU HAVE A FELLOWSHIP OR A DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIP, PLEASE CHECK:

/Fellowship _____ /Doctoral Scholarship _____

ADMITTED TO GRADUATE PROGRAM: Program _____ Advisor _____

In the Collage of Education, a maximum limit of nine semester hours of NCE/NLU credit taken as a special student prior to formal admission many apply toward a Master's Degree, Educational Specialist Degree or Certificate of Advanced Study.

ALL INFORMATION MUST BE COMPLETED OR FORM WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU

CRN	COURSE NUMBER	COURSE REGISTRATION	SEM HOURS
	RLR595	Course Title: Special Topics in Reading: Words Their Way	1

NOTE: Payment must be submitted at time of registration.

 Student's Signature Date

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
 D.P. _____

CREDIT CARD CHARGE FORM
 STUDENT'S SOCIAL SECURITY NO. _____
 STUDENT'S NAME (print) _____
 ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 I hereby authorize National-Louis University to charge my Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express account in the amount of \$ _____, which represents tuition.
 CHECK ONE: /VISA_/MASTERCARD_/DISCOVER_/AMEX Exp. Date _____
 Card No. _____ CARDHOLDER'S NAME (print) _____
 Cardholder Signature _____

SCIRA Announcements

Grant Recipients

SCIRA is proud to announce the recipients of the 2009-2010 SCIRA Literacy and Learning Grants. Through an extensive blind review process the following grants have been funded for their scores on the grant rubric and the attributes of their projects.

Over \$5000.00 worth of funding was awarded this year!

CONGRATULATIONS to the following SCIRA members for their literacy projects:

Laura Beltchenko - *Using Children's Literature Differently...Supporting the Social/Emotional Learning and Well Being of Primary Children Through Picture Books*

Kelli Renfro - *Leveled Non-fiction Readers for PRC-2*

Karen Haynie - *Acquiring Background Knowledge for Content Area Units*

Cynthia Rosario - *Summer Reading Materials for Native Spanish Speakers*

Jesse Blachowicz - *Using Fiction and Non-Fiction Mentor Texts to Improve Writing in a Multicultural First Grade*

Monica Stewart - *Adolescent Reading of Popular And High Interest Novels at Varying Reading Ability Levels*

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Skokie, Il 60077**

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**SCIRA
Suburban
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**Join Us For An Enlightening &
Insightful Conference**

Summer Teacher Renewal Conference

(Suburban Council International Reading Association)

June 17 & 18, 2010

Featuring Donald Bear

Words Their Way: Study in Action

Holiday Inn Chicago North Shore Skokie

Please visit the *Illinois Reading Council* website for valuable information on upcoming SCIRA conferences. Additional registration forms may be downloaded there as well. Please visit <http://www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org/>