2023 Illinois Reading Council Conference

FINAL PROGRAM

REVOLUTION
A CHANGE IS GONNA COME
ILLINOIS READING COUNCIL

March 9 - 10, 2023
Springfield, Illinois
GENERAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Please take a moment to read the information below regarding the 2023 IRC Conference.

- **IRC Conference is an Open Forum**
The IRC Conference serves as an open forum and exchange of ideas and opinions. Opinions that are expressed by program presenters and participants do not reflect endorsements by the Illinois Reading Council.

- **Conference Sessions**
All conference sessions will be held in the Bank of Springfield Center, President Abraham Lincoln Hotel, and Wyndham Hotel.

- **Pre-Registration & Registration**
Pre-registered conferees may obtain their registration packets at the Registration Desk in the Exhibit Hall at the Bank of Springfield Center. On-site registration is also available. Hotel reservations and meal function tickets should be secured prior to arrival in Springfield. Registration Hours: Wednesday, March 8 – 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Thursday, March 9 – 7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Friday, March 10 – 7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

- **ISBE PD Clock Hours**
IRC is an approved ISBE Professional Development Provider. Registered conference attendees can earn up to one clock hour for each session attended. Registered presenters can also earn up to eight clock hours for presenting a session. At the end of the conference, plan to submit your clock hours for the sessions that you attended and/or presented at the conference via an online form. The ISBE Evidence of Participation will be sent to you about two weeks after the conference.

- **Admission to Meetings**
Paid conferees receive a badge with their registration packet. Badges are required at all times and for all conference functions. Seating will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Pre-purchased tickets are required for all meal functions.

- **Special Accommodations**
Individuals who need special accommodations should make specific requests in writing to the IRC office three weeks prior to the conference in order for their needs to be met.

- **Food**
All scheduled meal functions require pre-purchased tickets. The concession area in the Bank of Springfield Center will be open during exhibit hours. Springfield restaurant information will be available at the hospitality table in the Exhibit Hall at the Bank of Springfield Center.

- **Hospitality & Information Table**
A hospitality and information table is located in the Exhibit Hall at the Bank of Springfield Center.

- **Message Board**
There will be a message board for conferees to leave notes in the registration area in the Exhibit Hall at the Bank of Springfield Center. A phone line (309-454-1341) has been established at the Registration Desk to receive emergency phone calls.

- **Lost and Found**
Inquire at the Registration Desk in the Exhibit Hall at the Bank of Springfield Center regarding lost and found items. IRC is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

- **Parking Options**
Downtown Springfield has many public parking options that cost anywhere from $5 to $10 a day to park. Details on the public parking will be available under the Resource Tab in the Conference APP.

- **Program Book and Conference APP**
In accordance with ILA guidelines, individuals have not been designated by titles. Acknowledgments to publishers and other companies for sponsoring speakers and special events are current as of this printing. Information in this program is subject to change. Don’t forget to bring a device to download the Conference APP or the PDF of the Final Program Book as there will not be a printed Final Program Book or a tote bag.

- **No Smoking**
In consideration of others we request your cooperation in observing the NO SMOKING regulations inside buildings.

- **Cell Phones**
Please silence phones during sessions at the conference.

- **Videotaping/Audiotaping/Photos**
Unless notified in writing, registration to the conference constitutes an agreement that the registrant’s image, likeness, and appearance can be used in photographs of such events and activities. It is also not permitted to videotape, audiotape, or take photos of conference speakers without the speaker’s consent.

- **Anti-Harassment Policy**
The Illinois Reading Council (IRC) does not allow harassment or discrimination of any kind at any IRC affiliated event. IRC and its affiliates will take appropriate and immediate action in response to complaints or knowledge of violations of this policy including expulsion from the event. To report an issue, please visit the Event Registration Desk.

- **Cancellation/Refund Policy**
Conference refund requests must be in writing and postmarked by February 1, 2023. Requests can also be faxed to (309) 454-3512 or emailed to irc@illinoisreadingcouncil.org. A $25 processing fee will be assessed. Please note that membership fees are non-refundable. Conference registrations are transferable, but replacement names must be requested by March 5, 2023.
Dear Conference Attendees,

On behalf of the Illinois Reading Council Executive Board, the IRC Staff, the Conference Committee members, and you, the IRC members, welcome to the 54th Annual Illinois Reading Council Conference—Revolution: A Change is Gonna Come.

We have made three revolutions around the sun since our lives have been forever changed by COVID-19. In that time, we have pivoted, moved forward, and had a chance to reflect. Overall, we have noticed that some things have changed, and our students have needs we had not accounted for in previous generations. It is time for us to put new pedagogies and practices in place. In some cases, we need to bring back what we know works.

By now, you have probably heard about the “Reading Wars” and it might sound like something new. In fact, these disagreements over the “best” way to teach reading have been going on for centuries. Rather than choosing a side, when we know that our students need and deserve both—skills and joy—transform your instruction to include both! If you already know how to build a community of readers who love books, attend a few sessions that will give you some tools and strategies to help students hone their skills as readers. If you have a classroom of readers who can read, but don’t love to read, attend some sessions that emphasize joy and passion for reading. Build your foundation in the sessions on equity, diversity, and inclusion in literature and then tighten up your knowledge on technology. Mix it in with some time with your favorite authors and you have a recipe to revolutionize your instruction. After all, we don’t want to choose one side or the other for our students. We want them to have it all!

This conference is packed with over 200 sessions to cover your needs. Don’t forget to visit our exhibitors and drop by the membership booth. Make plans to attend the Illinois Reads Event as well as “Hear the Authors Read” which is our late-night autograph session on Thursday!

As you move through these exciting conference days, you will also notice hundreds of volunteers who make this conference come together so seamlessly. You will see volunteers who are donating their time and the conference would not be the same without them. When you see someone taking tickets at a meal function, registering attendees, putting up signs, guiding people to the right session room, or helping out in any way, please thank them! Special thanks to Carrie Sheridan, our Executive Director. She is the one who brings this all together for us each year. Make sure you thank her, too!

Have a great conference!

Julie Hoffman, EdD
IRC President-Elect
2023 Conference Chair
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## Welcome
- General Conference Information ................................................. 2
- Letter from the 2023 IRC Conference Chair ................................. 3
- Table of Contents ........................................................................ 4
- Conference Overview ..................................................................... 5
- Acknowledgments .......................................................................... 6-7

## Program
- Illinois Reads Author Event ......................................................... .12, 38
- Autograph Schedule ...................................................................... 13
- Welcome Reception ......................................................................... 15
- Wednesday Program Sessions ....................................................... 16
- Conference Strands ....................................................................... 16
- Thursday Program Sessions ......................................................... 18-42
- Visit the Exhibits .......................................................................... 20, 50, 71
- Hear the Authors Read & Autographing ...................................... 43
- Friday Program Sessions ............................................................... 48-70
- Annual IRC Membership Meeting ............................................... 70
- Preservice Teachers’ Pizza Party .................................................. 70
- Exhibitors ...................................................................................... 72-75
- Index of Program Presenters by Session Number ..................... 76-77
- Map of Meeting Rooms at the PAL Hotel ................................... 78
- Maps of Meeting Rooms at the Wyndham Hotel ....................... 79
- Map of the Exhibit Area ............................................................... 80
- Maps of Meeting Rooms at the BOS Center Lower Level ........ 81
- ISBE PD Clock Hour Instructions ............................................... 82
- ISBE Evaluation and IRC Record of Clock Hours Form ........... 83-84
- IRC Evaluation ............................................................................ 85-86

---

## Illinois Reading Council
- 2023 Conference Committee Chairs ........................................... 6
- IRC Executive Committee and Office Staff ................................ 8
- IRC Board of Directors ............................................................... 9
- IRC Service & Hall of Fame Awards ............................................ 10
- IRC Past Presidents .................................................................... 11
- Illinois Reads Program ............................................................... 14
- IRC Book Club ............................................................................ 17
- IRC Award Winners .................................................................... 41
- IRC PL&D Services ..................................................................... 42
- Prairie State Award ..................................................................... 44-45, 62
- IRC Awards and Grants ............................................................. 46
- IRC Webinar Series .................................................................... 47
- IRC Publications .......................................................................... 54
- Save the dates and plan to present at the 2024 IRC Conference .... 87
**CONFERENCE OVERVIEW**

**Wednesday, March 8, 2023**

**Registration** - Exhibit Hall in the Bank of Springfield Center  
5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

**Welcome Reception** - PAL Hotel Ballroom  
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

**Thursday, March 9, 2023**

**Registration** - Exhibit Hall in the Bank of Springfield Center  
7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Orientation for New Participants** - PAL Hotel Bond Room  
7:00 a.m. – 7:45 a.m.

**Thursday Breakfast** - PAL Hotel Ballroom - *Matt de la Peña*  
7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

**Exhibits** - Exhibit Hall in the Bank of Springfield Center  
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Hall of Councils** - Bank of Springfield Center Lower Level  
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Sessions/Featured Speakers/Workshops**  
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Refreshments in Exhibit Area** - Bank of Springfield Center Exhibit Hall  
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

**Thursday Luncheon** - Wyndham Hotel Grand Ballroom - *Donalyn Miller*  
12:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Thursday Luncheon** - PAL Hotel Ballroom - *Jerry Craft*  
12:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Thursday Lunch Sessions** - Bank of Springfield Center  
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Sessions/Featured Speakers/Workshops**  
2:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Illinois Reads Author Event** - Wyndham Hotel Grand Ballroom  
2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Refreshments in Exhibit Area** - Bank of Springfield Center Exhibit Hall  
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Thursday PSA Banquet** - PAL Hotel Ballroom - *Tiffany D. Jackson*  
6:15 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.

**Hear the Authors Read and Autographing** - Wyndham Hotel Grand Ballroom  
8:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

**Friday, March 10, 2023**

**Registration** - Exhibit Hall in the Bank of Springfield Center  
7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Friday Breakfast** - PAL Hotel Ballroom - *Sara K. Ahmed*  
7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

**Exhibits** - Exhibit Hall in the Bank of Springfield Center  
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Hall of Councils** - Bank of Springfield Center Lower Level  
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Sessions/Featured Speakers/Workshops**  
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Administrators Academy** - PAL Hotel Lincoln Room - *Alison Gordon*  
8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

**Refreshments in Exhibit Area** - Bank of Springfield Center Exhibit Hall  
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

**Friday Luncheon** - Wyndham Hotel Grand Ballroom - *Steven L. Layne*  
12:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Friday Luncheon** - PAL Hotel Ballroom - *Derrick Barnes and Gordon C. James*  
12:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Friday Lunch Sessions** - Bank of Springfield Center  
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Sessions/Featured Speakers/Workshops**  
2:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Refreshments in Exhibit Area** - Bank of Springfield Center Exhibit Hall  
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**IRC Annual Membership Meeting** - PAL Hotel Lincoln Room  
4:45 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

**Preservice Teachers’ Pizza Party** - PAL Hotel Ballroom  
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Special appreciation is extended to the following professionals for their extensive contributions to the success of the 2023 IRC Conference.

PUBLISHERS & BUSINESSES

Anderson’s Bookshops
Illinois Reads Event
Hear the Authors Read
Featured Speaker Books
New & Notable Books with Becky Anderson Wilkins

Cornucopia Books of Michigan
Featured Speaker Books

Crossland Literacy
Illinois Reads Event

Heinemann
Featured Speaker Books

Illinois Principals Association
Administrators Academy with Alison Gordon

Lake-Cook Distributors
Student Helpers

Savvas Learning Company
Coffee Break in Exhibit Hall on Friday Morning

Stenhouse Publishers
Featured Speaker Books

Visit Springfield/SCVB
Hear the Authors Read

Zaner-Bloser
Lynne Dorfman (Moved to the 2024 IRC Conference)

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CHAIRS & STAFF

Julie Hoffman, 2023 IRC Conference Chair
Melissa Stinnett, Assistant Chair & 2024 Chair
Deb Augsburger, Autographing
Pat Braun, Meal Tickets & Book Club Moderator
Barb Chrz-White, Registration
Janell Hartman, Speaker Gift Bags
Karen Kortkamp, Exhibits
Cindi Koudelka, Greeters/Hospitality
Brenda Kraber, Autographing
Greg Micek, Greeters/Hospitality
Roxanne Owens, Autographing

Carol Owles, Preservice Pizza Party
Sheila Ruh, Technology
Dawn Schwarzkopf, Preservice Pizza Party
Sherry Sejnost, Technology
Carrie Sheridan, Executive Director
Rebecca Steinbach, Speaker Gift Bags
Kristen Stombres, Student Helpers
Joy Towner, Student Helpers
Alaina Weatherford, Signs
Melissa Wheeler, Meal Tickets & Book Club Moderator
Jennifer Young, Special Events
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Special thanks are extended to the exhibitors for their continued support and sponsorship of presentations at the 2023 Conference.

EXHIBITORS

95 Percent Group LLC  Morgynne Hicks
Amplify Education  Lindsay Barts
Carnegie Learning Corporation  Martha Burns, John Rocco
Crossland Literacy  Bert Crossland, Amy Huftalin
Curriculum Associates  Eileen Townsend, Chris Burgess
Custom Education Solutions  Elisa Brente
hand2mind  Keegan Wilson
Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom  Kevin Daugherty, Chris Wyant, Stephanie Hospelhorn, Lee Deal
Illinois Digital Educators Alliance (IDEA)  Stefanie Crawford
Istation  Julie Ellis, Jorge Almodovar
Mike Lockett/Storyteller and Author  Michael Lockett
NAACP  Teresa Haley
Read Right Systems, Inc.  Dee Tadlock
Reading Horizons  Ethan Lynn
Savvas Learning Company  Allison Arndt
SCBWI  Alice McGinty, Sarah Aronson, Reese Eschmann
Short, BIG!  Katherine McKnight, Alan Sitomer
SLANT System for Structured Language Training  Beth Hatlen, Karla O’Brien
Smekens Education Solutions  Kristina Smekens
Vista Higher Learning  Adelfio Garcia
Worldreader  Samina Hadi-Tabassum, Crystasany Turner, Kristen Walter
Zaner-Bloser  Emily Larsen
Illinois Reading Council
2022 - 2023 Executive Committee

Leslie Forsman
President

Julie Hoffman
President Elect

Melissa Stinnett
Vice President

Katie Russell
Past President

Melissa Wheeler
Recording Secretary

Cindi Koudelka
ILA State Coordinator

Donna Herman
Director of Membership Development

Nancy Oesterreich
Treasurer

Illinois Reading Council
Office Staff

Carrie Sheridan
Executive Director

Karen Kortkamp
Public Relations Coordinator
Illinois Reading Council Board of Directors

Regional Directors

Region 1
Alaina Weatherford

Region 2
Becky McTague

Region 3
Sherry Sejnost

Region 4
Lynn Keck

Region 5
Pat Braun

Region 6
Katie Russell

Region 7
Melissa Wheeler

Region 8
Amy Hewing

Region 9
Teresa Burdin

Region 10
Camille Lutz

Standing Committee Chairs

Budget, Finance, and Strategic Planning
Leslie Forsman

Bylaws, Policies & Procedures
Melissa Stinnett, Katie Russell

Conference
Julie Hoffman

Membership
Donna Herman

Nominating
Katie Russell

Organization/Council Bylaws
Cindi Koudelka

Personnel and Grievance
Leslie Forsman

Special Committee Chairs

AISLE Liaison
Leslie Forsman

Advocacy
Cindi Koudelka

Educational Media
Sheila Ruh

Family Literacy
Barbara Ashton

ILA Exemplary Reading Program
Diana Wilkie

Illinois Reads
Stephanie Benson

International Projects
Carol Owles

IRC Communicator Editor
Marjorie Henseler

IRC Journal Editor
Roxanne Owens

IRC Literacy Support Grants
Pat Braun

ISBE Liaison
Kimberly Johnson

Jerry Johns Reading Educator of the Year
Melissa Wheeler

Obama Literacy Fund
Jen Brooks

Prairie State Award
Cindy Wilson

Professional Learning
Laura Beltchenko

Publicity and Publication
Sherry Sejnost

Rebecca Caudill Rep
Ruth Gheysen

Council Presidents

Blackhawk - Michael Carton
Central Illinois - Andrea Trexler
Chicago Area (CARA) - LaVerne Wright
East Central-EIU - Denise Reid
Fox Valley - Camille Lutz, Dawn Lutz
Illini - Jaclyn Turner
Illinois Valley - Regetta Wharram
Lake Area - Stacie Noisey
Lewis & Clark - Andy Mayer
Macon County - Cara Burkhart
MID-State - Elana Heinonen
Mississippi Valley - Leslie Forsman
National Road - Amy Hewing
Northern Illinois - Jacqueline Cleven
Northwestern Illinois - Christine Barr
Prairie Area - Tracy Billie, Laura Riley
Sauk Valley - Kimberly Bork
South Eastern - Tambree Krouse
South Suburban - Terri Campos
Southern Illinois - Leslie Small
Starved Rock - Alaina Weatherford
SCIRA - Natalie Biancalana
Two Rivers - Christine Throop
Vermilion Valley - Lynette Evans
West Suburban - Kari Pawl
Western Illinois - Jennifer Young
Will County - Donna Herman
CIRP - Shadrack Msengi
ICARE - Roxanne Owens
ILLC - Leslie Forsman
SRL - Rachel Lesinski-Roscoe
IRC Reading Hall of Fame

Robert Hillerich, 1981
P. David Pearson, 1983
William Durr, 1983
Dolores Durkin, 1984
David C. Rhoads, 1985
Kathryn Ransom, 1985
Dale D. Downs, 1986
Donna Ogle, 1986
William Powell, 1988
Jerry Johns, 1989
Jane Davidson, 1990
Gene Blair, Gene Cramer, 1991
Carol Winkley, 1992
Taimi Ranta, 1993
Roberta Berglund, 1994
Camille Blachowicz, 1995
Marrietta Castle, 1995
John Logan, 1996

IRC Service Award

(Formerly known as the IRC Certificate of Recognition)

Carol Winkley, Don Meints, 1981
Kathryn Ransom, Jeanette Massey, 1983
Peg Livesay, David Rhoads, 1981
Marian Oleson, Agnita Wright, 1982
Mary Christopherson, 1982
Geneva Andrews, Mary Williams, 1983
Gene Cramer, Barbara Wyne, 1984
Donna Ogle, Jerry Johns, 1985
Ottieh Womack, Taimi Ranta, 1986
Kay Spalding, 1986
Hattie Miller, Jane Davidson, 1987
Jim Coe, Evelyn Jackson, 1988
Larry Pennie, 1988
Gene Blair, Anna Sanford, 1989
Wilma Deal, James Walker, 1990
Arlene Pennie, 1990
Nancy Venegoni, 1991
Roberta Berglund, 1992
Marlene Fletcher, Eunice Greer, 1992
Barbara Seaman, Tom Sexton, 1993
Lyne Rauscher-Davoust, 1994
Kathleen Sweeney, 1996

Peter Fisher, 1997
Margaret Richek, 1998
Susan Davis Lenski, 1999
Timothy Shanahan, 2002
Pamela J. Farris, 2006
Larry Pennie, 2009
Steven L. Layne, 2010
Lou Ferroli, 2011
Roxanne Owens, 2012
Pamela Nelson, 2013
Becky Anderson Wilkins, 2014
Roberta Sejnost, 2014
Kathy Barclay, 2015
Maria Walther, 2016
Pat Braun, 2017
Joyce Jennings, 2021

Kathleen Sweeney, 2023
# Illinois Reading Council Past Presidents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Range</th>
<th>President(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1968 - 1969</td>
<td>William Powell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969 – 1970</td>
<td>Mary Serra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970 - 1971</td>
<td>Mary Ellen Batinich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971 – 1972</td>
<td>David Bear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972 – 1973</td>
<td>Wilson Stone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973 – 1974</td>
<td>David Rhoads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974 – 1975</td>
<td>Kathryn Ransom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975 – 1976</td>
<td>Sister Cor Marie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976 – 1977</td>
<td>Robin Carr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977 – 1978</td>
<td>Agnita Wright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978 – 1979</td>
<td>Gene Blair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979 – 1980</td>
<td>Donna Ogle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980 – 1981</td>
<td>Lawrence Pennie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981 – 1982</td>
<td>Jerry Johns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982 – 1983</td>
<td>James Coe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983 – 1984</td>
<td>Dale Downs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984 – 1985</td>
<td>Nancy Venegoni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985 – 1986</td>
<td>Anna Sanford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986 – 1987</td>
<td>Sharon Neste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987 – 1988</td>
<td>Jean Clem Bailey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989 – 1990</td>
<td>Linda Fuller Farruggia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990 – 1991</td>
<td>Kathleen Sweeney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991 – 1992</td>
<td>Lorri Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993 – 1994</td>
<td>Paula Schoenfelder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994 – 1995</td>
<td>Susan Hanks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995 – 1996</td>
<td>Jeff Hildreth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996 – 1997</td>
<td>Susan Davis Lenski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997 – 1998</td>
<td>Claudia Anne Katz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998 – 1999</td>
<td>Barb Haas Bender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999 – 2000</td>
<td>Hattie Spires</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000 – 2001</td>
<td>Marsha Strader</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001 – 2002</td>
<td>Mike Ellerman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002 – 2003</td>
<td>Beth Arthur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003 – 2004</td>
<td>Barb Vines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004 – 2005</td>
<td>Ronda Mitchell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005 – 2006</td>
<td>Steven Layne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006 – 2007</td>
<td>Pam Nelson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007 – 2008</td>
<td>Donna Monti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008 – 2009</td>
<td>Roxanne Owens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 – 2010</td>
<td>Christine Boardman Moen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010 – 2011</td>
<td>Susan Cisna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011 – 2012</td>
<td>Cindy Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 – 2013</td>
<td>Pat Braun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 – 2014</td>
<td>Tammy Swinford-Potts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 – 2015</td>
<td>Cindy Gerwin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 – 2016</td>
<td>Lou Ferroli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 – 2017</td>
<td>Patricia Tylka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 – 2018</td>
<td>Janel Sebeny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018 – 2019</td>
<td>Priscilla Dwyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 – 2021</td>
<td>Stephanie Benson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021 – 2022</td>
<td>Katie Russell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023 IRC Conference</td>
<td>2023 IRC Conference</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ILLAONISO READS EVENT

Join authors of the 2023 Illinois Reads Books for a happy hour speed dating experience! This 2-hour event will bring you face to face with four of the Illinois Reads Authors. You will choose your FREE BOOK and four-author rotation at the door (rotations will be on a first-come, first-served basis). Participants will spend the hour moving table to table, meeting authors and discussing their books. Appetizers and nonalcoholic drinks are provided with your entry fee and a cash bar will be available. There will be an autograph session with the authors from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m., followed by an hour of meeting the Illinois Reads Authors (ten minutes with four of the authors). Illinois Reads books will be available for purchase at this event.

Admittance requires a pre-purchased ticket for $10.
A limited number of tickets are still available at registration!

Kayla Ancrum
Grades 9-12

Jarrett Dapier
Grades K-2

Jay Fleck
Grades K-2

Jacob Grant
Birth to 4

Janice N. Harrington
Grades 3-5

Michael Leali
Grades 6-8

Natalie Lund
Grades 9-12

Stephen F. Majsak
Birth to 4

Kelly Leigh Miller
Birth to 4

Mary Robinette Kowal
Birth to 4

Justin Roberts
Birth to 4

Skyler Schrempp
Grades 3-5

Sally M. Walker
Grades 6-8

Alex Willan
Grades K-2
**AUTOGRAPH SCHEDULE**  
Bank of Springfield Center Exhibit Hall

Prior to each autographing session, please purchase the books you wish to be autographed. Books are available at each author’s publisher’s booth or Anderson’s Bookshops booths in the exhibit area. Most authors will be signing in the designated area located at the back of the exhibit hall. A separate line will be formed for each author.

Due to the number of authors and scheduling, **it will not be possible for books to be left for later autographing.** Some authors will sign only their name and do no personalizing.

Each author will sign a maximum of three books per person when that person is in the author’s line. If an individual would like to have more than three books signed by an author, there are two options:

a. Bring purchased books to Authors Signing Booth and ask for bookplates. (There are limited quantities.)
b. Go to the end of the line and wait to have three more books signed by the author. The author may or may not have time to sign additional books because authors agree to sign for specific time periods.

Presentations by authors are listed on the Conference APP.

### Thursday

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Author(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 – 10:00</td>
<td>Matt de la Peña</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 11:00 – 12:00 | Tiffany D. Jackson  
Lauren Tarshis |
| 1:00 – 2:00 | Illinois Reads Authors *(list on page 12)* |
| 2:15 – 3:15 | Blue Balliett  
Joelle Charbonneau  
Jerry Craft  
Donalyn Miller *(Booth 328)* |
| 3:30 – 4:30 | Tiffany D. Jackson  
Steven L. Layne |

### Friday

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Author(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:45 – 10:45</td>
<td>David Biedrzycki</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 2:15 – 3:15 | Derrick Barnes  
Jacob Grant  
Gordon C. James  
Steven L. Layne |

### Locations

- **Autographing on Thursday and Friday will take place at the back of the Exhibit Hall or at the noted exhibitor’s booth in the BOS Center.**
- **Books will be available for purchase at Anderson’s Bookshops *(Booth 409)*, Cornucopia Books *(Booth 631)*, or Heinemann *(Booth 328)*.
- A special autograph session will take place for the Illinois Reads Authors from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. on March 9, 2023 in the Autograph Area. Books will be available for purchase at Anderson’s Bookshops *(Booth 409)*.
- A special autograph session after the Hear the Authors Read will take place from 9:30 – 10:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 9, 2023 in the Wyndham Ballroom. Books will be available for purchase at the event.
Join the statewide literacy initiative! Six books in each age band, birth to adult, with fun activities, book clubs, author events, online blogs, Skype visits, and more! Order bookmarks and posters today!

Visit our website for more information
www.illinoisreads.org

Birth-4
Would You Come Too?
by Liz Garton Scanlon and illustrated by Diana Sudyka
This is Music: Drums
by Rekha S. Rajan
Chicago, Baby!
by Feather Flores and illustrated by Kelly Leigh Miller
ABC Animals!
by Stephen F. Majsa
I'll Be Your Polar Bear
by Justin Roberts
Molly on the Moon
by Mary Robinette Kowal

K-2
The Most Haunted House in America
by Jarrett Dapier
Stella Keeps the Sun Up
by Clothilde Ewing
Elephant's Big Solo
by Sarah Kurpiel
The Meaning of Pride
by Rosiee Thor and illustrated by Sam Kirk
Tortoise and Hare: A Fairy Tale to Help You Find Balance
by Susan Verde and illustrated by Jay Fleck
Yetis are the Worst!
by Alex Willan

3-5
Exquisite: The Poetry and Life of Gwendolyn Brooks
by Suzanne Slade and illustrated by Cozbi A. Cabrera
Buzzing with Questions: The Inquisitive Mind of Charles Henry Turner
by Janice N. Harrington
Pighearted
by Alex Perry
A Rover’s Story
by Jasmine Warga
Apple Crush
by Lucy Knisley
Three Strike Summer
by Skyler Schrempp

6-8
Courage
by Barbara Binns
The Civil War of Amos Abernathy
by Michael Leali
Pilar Ramirez and the Escape from Zafa
by Julian Randall
Tumble
by Celia C. Pérez
ReThink the Internet: How to Make the Digital World a Lot Less Sucky
by Trisha Prabhu
Underground Fire: Hope, Sacrifice, and Courage in the Cherry Mine Disaster
by Sally M. Walker

9-12
A Man Called Horse: John Horse and the Black Seminole Underground Railroad
by Glennnette Tilley Turner
Murder Among Friends: How Leopold and Loeb Tried to Commit the Perfect Crime
by Candace Fleming
As Fast As Her: Dream Big, Break Barriers, Achieve Success
by Kendall Coyne
Strike the Zither
by Joan He
The Wolves Are Watching
by Natalie Lund
Daring
by K. Ancrum

Adult
The Upstairs House: A Novel
by Julia Fine
Grace: President Obama and Ten Days in the Battle for America
by Cody Keenan
Eat, Drink, and Be Murray: A Feast of Family Fun and Favorites
by Andy Murray
Remarkably Bright Creatures: A Novel
by Shelby Van Pelt
The Two Lives of Sara
by Catherine Adel West
Last Summer on State Street: A Novel
by Toya Wolfe
Welcome Reception

Wednesday, March 8, 2023
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
PAL Hotel Ballroom

Complimentary appetizers will be served!
1. 7:00 - 8:30 PM
Welcome Reception

All Conference Attendees are invited to attend the opening reception and connect with other conferees. Light appetizers will be served. What a great way to start the IRC Conference!

Audience: All
Location: PAL Ballroom
Join educators from all over the state in the online Spring 2023 IRC Book Club! Choose one or two books!

Read, reflect on, and respond to Being the Change: Lessons and Strategies to Teach Social Comprehension by Sara K. Ahmed and/or Rebellious Read Alouds: Inviting Conversations About Diversity With Children’s Books by Vera Ahiyya. Beginning March 26, these seven-week online discussions will help your students develop skills of social comprehension to make sense of themselves and the world as they navigate relevant topics in today’s society and/or to spark meaningful conversations about race, identity, and social justice in your classroom using read alouds as an entry point. Participants who complete all assignments will be eligible to receive 15 PD clock hours for each book club. Participants who complete one book club during the Winter will have the opportunity to participate in the other one during the Spring session.

Required for participation:
- Gmail address (free at https://mail.google.com/). The Book Club uses Google Classroom, which does not work with Yahoo, AOL, Hotmail, etc.

Register by March 15, 2023, to participate in the book club. Registration is FREE for IRC Members. The cost for non-members is $45, which includes IRC membership for one year. PLEASE NOTE: The cost of book is not included.
### Thursday, March 9, 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Bank of Springfield Center Lobby</td>
<td>7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orientation for New Participants</td>
<td>PAL Hotel Bond Room</td>
<td>7:00 a.m. - 7:45 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday Breakfast</td>
<td>PAL Hotel Ballroom - <em>Matt de la Peña</em></td>
<td>7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibits</td>
<td>Bank of Springfield Center Exhibit Hall</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hall of Councils</td>
<td>Bank of Springfield Center Lower Level</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sessions/Featured Speakers/Workshops</td>
<td></td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refreshments in Exhibit Area</td>
<td>Bank of Springfield Center Exhibit Hall</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday Luncheon</td>
<td>Wyndham Hotel Ballroom - <em>Donalyn Miller</em></td>
<td>12:15 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday Luncheon</td>
<td>PAL Hotel Ballroom - <em>Jerry Craft</em></td>
<td>12:15 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday Lunch Sessions</td>
<td>Bank of Springfield Center Lower Level</td>
<td>1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sessions/Featured Speakers/Workshops</td>
<td></td>
<td>2:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois Reads Author Event</td>
<td>Wyndham Hotel Ballroom</td>
<td>2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refreshments in Exhibit Area</td>
<td>Bank of Springfield Center Exhibit Hall</td>
<td>3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday PSA Banquet</td>
<td>PAL Hotel Ballroom - <em>Tiffany D. Jackson</em></td>
<td>6:15 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hear the Authors Read &amp; Autographing</td>
<td>Wyndham Hotel Ballroom</td>
<td>8:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Sponsored by* [Crossland Literacy](#) and [Anderson's Bookshops](#)

*Blue Balliett, Derrick Barnes, David Biedrzycki, Joelle Charbonneau, Jerry Craf, Matt de la Peña, Jacob Grant, Tiffany Jackson, Gordon James, Steven Layne, and Lauren Tarshis*
2.  7:00 - 7:45 AM
Orientation
Sherry Sejnost
Sheila Ruh
You just downloaded the Conference APP and/or the digital IRC Program Book. There are over 200 sessions, meal functions, special events, exhibits, and author autographing. How do you begin to plan to attend all that is offered? Attend this special session by seasoned IRC conference attendees. They will share their tactics, tricks, and survival skills for an IRC conference.
Audience: All
Location: PAL Bond

3.  7:00 – 8:30
Thursday Breakfast
Journey from Reluctant Reader to Author
Matt de la Peña
Author
San Diego, California
Matt will talk about the transformative nature of literature. “I didn’t fall for books until I was in college — I got there on a basketball scholarship — but once I did, it changed my life.” He’ll also talk about the power of education, focusing on the barriers many working class boys and young men encounter in the acquisition of literacy.
Audience: Ticket Required
Location: PAL Ballroom

4.  8:30 – 9:30
Crossing the Content-Areas with the I Survived Series
Lauren Tarshis
Author
New York City, New York
Each of the 22 I Survived books explores iconic events from history, from natural disasters like Hurricane Katrina to world-changing events like the Revolutionary War and 9/11. The books are widely used in classroom for reading instruction, read-alouds, and independent reading. But a growing number of districts are building the books into social studies and science curriculum as well. In this session, author Lauren Tarshis will share her process of creating her I Survived books as she presents models for transforming her engaging books into powerful cross-content instructional units that will delight students, build critical content-area background knowledge and skills, and connect to key standards in science and social studies.
Audience: All
Location: BOS Center B-11A
5. 8:30 – 9:30
Changing the World One Word, One Book and One Reader at a Time

Joelle Charbonneau
Author
Chicago, Illinois

Join New York Times Best-Selling author Joelle Charbonneau in a discussion of the importance of the worlds used throughout history and how since books were first created, they always seem to be under attack. She will walk through the words that have shaped our past, how the limiting of the words we read and use should always be questioned and the unique place of teachers, librarians and readers to not only use words and stories to open eyes, create discussion and inspire—but to change the world.

**Audience:** All  
**Location:** BOS Center B-11D

6. 8:30 – 9:30
Reading Fast and Slow: The Reading Brain in a Digital Age

Carol Jago
 Educator/Author
 Oak Park, Illinois

As instruction moved online, many students had difficulty reading digital texts because they approached them as they would social media. Students are skimming and scanning when they need to be reading closely, attending to detail and purpose. Students think they are studying, but in fact they are in a state of continuous partial attention -- never giving their full attention to what needs to be absorbed. As neuroscientist Maryanne Wolf explains in Reader, Come Home, “The great challenge now is to learn how to use both print and digital mediums to their best advantage for all. Carol Jago will demonstrate instructional moves to help make this happen and share books that are sure to delight your students.

**Audience:** All  
**Location:** Wyndham Rendezvous

7. 8:30 – 9:30
Books for a Better World 2023

Donalyn Miller
 Educator/Author
 San Antonio, Texas

Reading offers validation for our experiences and fosters empathy and awareness of others who have different experiences than ours. In this session, Donalyn Miller will booktalk new(ish) children’s and young adult books offering a wide variety of perspectives, voices, & formats, and provide resources and suggestions for sharing these books with young readers.

**Audience:** All  
**Location:** Wyndham Plaza 3
8. 8:30 – 9:30
Promoting Student Voices for Equity
   Steven Zemelman
   Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago
   Katy Smith
   Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago
   Tina Curry
   Fernwood Elementary School, Chicago
Though discussing race and other equity concerns is questioned in many communities, students can shine their own light, researching issues—including strengths, to avoid just a deficit view. We’ll describe this in classrooms, as participants share strategies as well.
Audience: 4-12, ELL, Spec
Strand: Equity & Diversity
Location: BOS Center B-11BC

9. 8:30 – 9:30
Positivity Starts With Me
   Kimberly Gow
   Chicago Public Schools
Positive intentions is “a matter of respect for others.” Positive Intentions creates an open-minded environment where individual strengths are appreciated. Through active engagement, participants will acquire strategies allowing students to appreciate the differences in others and learn to work together.
Audience: 4-9
Strand: Social Emotional Learning (SEL)
Location: BOS Center B-1

10. 8:30 – 9:30
We Need to Talk ... About Writing
    Kristen Walsh
    Murphy Junior High, Oswego
Conversation is an important aspect in the writing process, and this session will focus on student writing and the discourses students engage in about their writing. Participants will leave with practical applications for the classroom.
Audience: K-9, Admin
Strand: Writing
Location: BOS Center B-2

11. 8:30 – 9:30
Transformative Grading Practices
    Anna Jakubowski
    Westmont CUSD 201, Westmont
    Brian Roach
    Westmont High School, Westmont
We will present our process from selecting essential standards to developing and implementing our proficiency scales.
Audience: 6-12
Strand: Coaching
Location: BOS Center B-3

12. 8:30 – 9:30
Defy Aliteracy: Put Power Back in Students’ Hands
    Nichole Woodruff
    Batavia SD #101, Batavia
    Kathryn Hoving
    CUSD 300, Hampshire
Revert against apathetic and fake readers! Put the learning responsibility back where it belongs – with students. Discover how utilizing student voice and choice (SVC) strategies position teachers collaboratively with students to develop relationships, ownership, and motivation surrounding literacy learning.
Audience: 4-12, ELL, Spec
Strand: Reluctant Readers
Location: BOS Center B-4

13. 8:30 – 9:30
What’s Your Story?
    Keta Foltz
    Eastland SD #308, Shannon
    Amber Findlay
    Watseka Elementary School, Watseka
    Christa Curley
    West Carroll SD #314, Savanna
Everybody’s got a story to tell! What’s yours? Let’s get students to write and share their stories. Learn about quick writes, fan mail, young author books, author visits, vocabulary, a smart-scot named Rocky, and more!
Audience: K-3
Strand: Writing
Location: BOS Center B-6
14. 8:30 – 9:30
Revolution in Illinois: The 1908 Race Riots and the NAACP
   Teresa Haley
   NAACP, Springfield
This session will discuss the 1908 Race Riots that occurred right here in Springfield, Illinois and how the riots led to the establishment of the NAACP. This session will include information about the history and goals of NAACP.
   Audience: All
   Strand: Equity & Diversity
   Location: BOS Center B-7
   Sponsored by NAACP

15. 8:30 – 9:30
Collaboration to Create a Culture of Reading
   Theresa Ciupinski
   Mannheim SD 83, Melrose Park
   Jamie Reinke
   Mannheim Middle School, Melrose Park
Build a culture of reading throughout your school with real-life examples and how-to’s from a literacy coach and a librarian working together at the middle school level.
   Audience: All
   Location: BOS Center B-8

16. 8:30 – 9:30
Removing Students Masks for Increased Engagement
   Jennifer Lancaster
   SD #129, Aurora
Students wear masks to hide their lack of confidence, motivation, and skill set. Based on Cris Tovani’s work, this session will identify the mask and provide strategies, instructional shifts, and planning strategies to engage those tough-to-reach learners.
   Audience: 6-12, ELL, Spec, Admin
   Strand: Reluctant Readers
   Location: BOS Center B-9

17. 8:30 – 9:30
Getting the Most out of Decodable Texts
   Jewels Caliper
   Mascoutah School District
   Jacqueline Jones
   Mascoutah School District
Structured vs Balanced, Science of Reading, and decodable texts are words buzzing around education. In this session, we will explore SOR, evaluate decodable texts, and provide an adaptable routine of implementing decodable text in classrooms. Educators will leave with the knowledge and confidence to create an immediate impact on student learning.
   Audience: PreK-3
   Strand: Reluctant Readers
   Location: PAL Ottawa A

18. 8:30 – 9:30
More Than a Letter: Using Assessment Results to Guide Reading Instruction
   Kristy Piebenga
   Judson University, Elgin
Benchmark assessments offer valuable insights into our readers, but when we focus only on the letter results, we miss the opportunity to provide meaningful direction to students. This session will first provide a look at how benchmark results allow us to understand reading needs; then, we will explore many strategies to guide readers accordingly.
   Audience: K-3, Admin
   Location: PAL Ottawa B

19. 8:30 – 9:30
Pairing Contemporary, Diverse, and Brand New Young Adult Literature with Books Commonly Used in the Classroom by Teachers
   Wendy Streit
   Romeoville High School, Romeoville
   Beth Stephens
   Lukansic Middle School, Romeoville
No school can keep up with every new book, but with a Museable, teachers can keep up with the latest literature and connect their students with the books they are teaching in the classroom. We find: Mentor Text Connections, Literary Devices, Writing Connections, and Water Cooler Topics. Lesson Plans using brand new diverse books!
   Audience: 4-12, Spec, Univ, Admin, Lib
   Strand: Librarians
   Location: PAL Altgeld

DOWNLOAD CONFERENCE APP FOR ABSTRACTS AND MORE
20. 8:30 – 9:30
What is the Science of Reading?
Lyndi Davis
WCUSD 5, Waterloo
Have you heard of the term ‘science of reading’ but aren’t entirely sure what it means? We will start by defining the science of reading and then explore the miracle and what the eyes and brain do to enable reading.
Audience: All
Strand: Coaching
Location: PAL Bond

21. 8:30 – 9:30
50 Book Talks that Rock: A Revolution of Informational Texts for Change
Margaret Policastro
Roosevelt University, Chicago
Heather Cook
Lily Lake Grade School, Maple Park
Noreen Wach
Roosevelt University, Chicago
This session will highlight why book talks matter, how to do book talks and feature 50 book titles that will rock your instruction. Book talks will be modeled using the most recent and award winning books that include culturally responsive, culturally relevant, globally diverse and justice driven texts. Resources and materials provided. books.
Audience: PreK-9, ELL, Spec, Lib
Strand: Equity & Diversity
Location: PAL Freeport A

22. 8:30 – 9:30
Dual Language Instruction Using the Science of Reading to Enable Students Attain English and Spanish Proficiency
Julie Ellis
CUSD 300, Algonquin
Jorge Almodovar
CUSD 300, Algonquin
CUSD 300’s DL program’s mission for students to become bilingual, bi-literate, bicultural. Istation’s Lectura is based on the Science of Reading. Students start with foundational skills moving to difficult skills. Progress monitoring informs instruction in real time. Digital and print resources are provided.
Audience: PreK-6, ELL, Admin
Strand: English Language Learners
Location: PAL Freeport B
Sponsored by Istation

23. 8:30 – 9:30
Two Truths And A Lie: Creating A Balance of Reading Instruction
Andrea Raskie
Christ the King, Springfield
I am a teacher that didn’t know what I didn’t know. Now I can decipher between two truths and a lie. We will navigate the science of reading with a balance of literacy approach. I will teach you 10 strategies that will take 10 minutes and will increase student’s reading success Ten Fold.
Audience: PreK-3, ELL, Spec, Adults, Univ, Admin
Strand: Reluctant Readers
Location: PAL Freeport C

24. 8:30 – 9:30
Writing in Response to Reading: Scaffolding Instruction to Meet the Needs of All Learners
Jaime Herron
South Cook Intermediate Center, Beecher
Jan Lenci
SD 194, Steger
Mandy Helsel
Steger Primary School, Steger
Frosini Smith
Columbia Junior High, Steger
Tina Scheffer
Steger Intermediate School, Steger
Learn how to integrate reading, writing, and speaking strategies to increase student engagement and impact student learning. Participants will be able to understand the importance of using writing in response to reading as evidence of a student’s reading comprehension through the K-8 learning progressions.
Audience: K-9, Spec, Admin
Strand: Writing
Location: Wyndham Plaza 1
25. 9:45 – 10:45
Crossing the Content-Areas with the I Survived Series

Lauren Tarshis
Author
New York City, New York

Each of the 22 I Survived books explores iconic events from history, from natural disasters like Hurricane Katrina to world-changing events like the Revolutionary War and 9/11. The books are widely used in classroom for reading instruction, read-alouds, and independent reading. But a growing number of districts are building the books into social studies and science curriculum as well. In this session, author Lauren Tarshis will share her process of creating her I Survived books as she presents models for transforming her engaging books into powerful cross-content instructional units that will delight students, build critical content-area background knowledge and skills, and connect to key standards in science and social studies.

Audience: All
Location: BOS Center B-11A

26. 9:45 – 10:45
From Reluctant Reader to Newbery Winning Author

Jerry Craft
Author
New York, New York

Jerry Craft shares his journey from a kid who hated to read books, and was told that reading comics would rot his brain, to the creator of the first graphic novel to win the prestigious Newbery Medal.

Audience: All
Location: BOS Center B-11BC

27. 9:45 – 10:45
My Journey to Writing

Tiffany D. Jackson
Author
New York, New York

Join Tiffany D. Jackson as she shares her journey to writing. It will be a discussion on the beauty of storytelling, the process, and how, through books, the possibilities to create meaningful change in our world are endless for students, parents, and educators alike.

Audience: All
Location: BOS Center B-11D

28. 9:45 – 10:45
Why Read Poetry (At a Time Like This)?

Carol Jago
Educator/Author
Oak Park, Illinois

Galway Kinnell said, “Poetry is someone standing up and saying, with as little concealment as possible, what it is for him or her to be on earth at this moment.” Carol Jago explores the purposes of poetry along with practical methods for engaging students in reading, reflecting, responding, and writing about contemporary poems. So much depends upon students asking great questions of a poem -- questions that lead to more questions and richer learning. In this session Carol will demonstrate ways of using poetry to inspire students to write their own poems while developing intellectual stamina and fluency.

Audience: All
Location: Wyndham Rendezvous
29. 9:45 – 10:45
Building, Cultivating, and Managing a Classroom Library
Donalyn Miller
Educator/Author
San Antonio, Texas

A classroom library needs to be the constantly evolving heart of a classroom. In this session Donalyn Miller will share ideas for choosing and evaluating books, managing a classroom library, and using the collection to help kids become habitual readers.

Audience: All
Location: Wyndham Plaza 3

30. 9:45 – 10:45
Deeper Reading Comprehension Lessons from Harry Potter and the Sacred Text
    Deb Augsburger
    Lewis University, Romeoville
Explore five activities that support deep, close reading, inspired by and adapted from the podcast, “Harry Potter and the Sacred Text.” HP&ST uses reading practices from ancient faith traditions to deeply explore text and spark meaningful discussion.

Audience: 4-12, ELL, Univ
Strand: ICARE
Location: BOS Center B-1

31. 9:45 – 10:45
What’s Trending? Empowering Adolescent Writers
    Janel Sebeny
    Kingsley Junior High School, Normal
    Naomi Kosier
    Parkside Junior High School, Normal
Engaging writers in workshop has recently felt more difficult than in years past. In this presentation, participants will learn effective instructional strategies and receive “ready-to-go” activities to help develop agency in their middle grade writers.

Audience: 6-9, Spec, Admin
Strand: Writing
Location: BOS Center B-2

32. 9:45 – 10:45
Games are for Big Kids, Too: Popular Games with a Literacy Twist for Secondary Students
    Elizabeth Bramley
    Evanston Township High School
    Philinda Coleman
    Evanston Township High School
Attendees will learn how to utilize popular games for explicit instruction of literacy skills for striving readers in a secondary school setting as part of intervention, confidence building, and interpersonal skills development.

Audience: 6-12
Strand: Reluctant Readers
Location: BOS Center B-3

33. 9:45 – 10:45
Reconsidering Your Literacy Curriculum through the Lens of Student Identities
    Sophie Degener
    National Louis University, Chicago
    Tina Curry
    Chicago Public Schools, Chicago
    Camille Auguste
    National Louis University, Chicago
How well does your literacy curriculum reflect the lives of your students? In this session, we will highlight the importance of exploring teacher and student identities to better understand and address the disconnect diverse learners often feel in literacy classrooms.

Audience: K-12, ELL, Spec, Univ
Strand: Equity & Diversity
Location: BOS Center B-4

34. 9:45 – 10:45
Leaving Little House Behind: Exploring Agriculture in Young Literature
    Kevin Daugherty
    Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom, Bloomington
Google “Young Adult Literature and Ag” and the classic Little House on the Prairie series will appear, but there are many more stories featuring agriculture for students to read. Join this session to extend your ag-related library with topics ranging from pollinators to nutrition and row crops into the ELA classroom.

Audience: 4-12
Location: BOS Center B-6
Sponsored by Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom
35. 9:45 – 10:45  
Fostering SEL in the Classroom  
Becky McTague  
DePaul University  
Laura Beltchenko  
Education Consultant, Libertyville  
SEL is communication, critical thinking, collaboration, and creativity. Different students have different social and emotional needs; addressing only the cognitive attributes may result in social exclusion and underachievement. This session provides strategies and resources to scaffold all students’ SEL processes.  
Audience: All  
Strand: Social Emotional Learning (SEL)  
Location: BOS Center B-7

36. 9:45 – 10:45  
Reading the Pictures: Supporting Comprehension While Leveraging Students’ Multimodal Skills  
Grace Pigozzi  
Purdue University Northwest, Hammond, IN  
In a study of third graders reading social studies books to build conceptual knowledge, students often navigated away from logocentric instruction and used multimodal techniques instead. This paper explores how students used graphical devices to interpret texts and how teachers can leverage this skill.  
Audience: K-6, Lib  
Strand: Early Career  
Location: BOS Center B-8

37. 9:45 – 10:45  
Revolutionizing Who’s Doing the Work: Fostering Equitable Student Agency & Reading Engagement  
Cindi Koudelka  
Fieldcrest CUSD 6, Minonk  
Stop working harder than your students! Give them confidence and strategies to independently access and reflectively engage with a variety of texts. Through a workshop approach using inclusive literature, every student will feel loved and ready for a learning revolution.  
Audience: 4-12  
Strand: SRL  
Location: BOS Center B-9

38. 9:45 – 10:45  
Coaching Collaboratively: Building Relationships Between Instructional Coaches and Staff  
Jewels Caliper  
Mascoutah School District  
Jacqueline Jones  
Mascoutah School District  
Erica Larsen  
Mascoutah School District  
Instructional Coaching is an approach that creates a partnership focused on learners. This honors teachers’ vast experience and knowledge while propelling student learning forward. In this session, we will explore the guiding principles of coaching, leaving educators with the knowledge and confidence to utilize them within their districts.  
Audience: All  
Strand: Coaching  
Location: PAL Ottawa A

39. 9:45 – 10:45  
Black Joy in Literature: Revolutionizing Representation in Your Classroom Library  
Melissa Wheeler  
Mattoon CUSD 2  
Jennifer Brooks  
Illinois State University, Bloomington  
Julie Hoffman  
Springfield Public Schools  
There are SO many amazing authors and books with authentic representation of Black Joy that we will have a hard time squeezing them all into an hour! Join us as we gush about our growing list of must-haves for your classroom library!  
Audience: All  
Strand: Equity & Diversity  
Location: PAL Ottawa B

Visit Anderson's Bookshops in Booth 409
40. 9:45 – 10:45
**Books for Struggling Readers Grades 5-12**
Elizabeth Goldsmith-Conley
Don Moyer Boys and Girls Club, Champaign
Leslie Forsman
Triopia CUSD #27, Concord
Tambree Krouse
Edwards County High School, Albion
We will share this year’s recommendations by IRC members of books that engage older struggling readers. Participants receive handouts that include titles, summaries, and reading levels and best practices for choosing books. Participants will be encouraged to share their own suggestions.
**Audience:** 6-12, Lib
**Strand:** Reluctant Readers
**Location:** PAL Altgeld

41. 9:45 – 10:45
**Behind the Creation of ABC Animals!**
Stephen Majesak
Studio Steve Photography & Silver Dolphin Books, Chicago
The presentation shares the creative process resulting in the publication of the Children’s book, ABC Animals! along with the original concept, final production, and stories about which photos did and didn’t make the final cut, all presented by the author.
**Audience:** PreK-3, Spec, Adults, Univ, Admin
**Strand:** Librarians
**Location:** PAL Bond

42. 9:45 – 10:45
**Poetry 101: Engaging Ways to Use Poetry (So Our Students Stop Hating It)**
Tina Scruggs
Judson University, Elgin
Poetry and middle-school students go together like oil and water. In this presentation, teachers will be introduced to new and creative ways to use poetry that encourages writing, reinforces content, and most importantly, creates a positive experience with poetry again – for students and teachers.
**Audience:** 4-9
**Strand:** Writing
**Location:** PAL Freeport A

43. 9:45 – 10:45
**Engaging Literate Minds**
Peter Johnston
State University at New York-Albany
Kathryn Champau
Educational Consultant, Waukesha, WI
Learn how to provide children the social and emotional as well as the cognitive tools to establish strong literacy development, intellectual development, socioemotional development, and an engaging classroom life.
**Audience:** K-6, Spec, Univ
**Strand:** Social Emotional Learning (SEL)
**Location:** PAL Freeport B

44. 9:45 – 10:45
**Reimagining the Reader as a Writer Using Wordless Books During Shared Reading**
Kari Pawl
Concordia University, Chicago
Annette Van Aken
Concordia University, Chicago
Wordless books provide distinctive encounters for readers with unique opportunities to support literacy. Participants will deepen their understanding of how authors’ make intentional decisions to support readers. Using non-leveled texts, participants will investigate the writers to readers approach.
**Audience:** K-3, Adults
**Strand:** Reluctant Readers
**Location:** PAL Freeport C

45. 9:45 – 10:45
**The Stories Quilts Tell**
Patricia Braun
Concordia University Chicago, River Forest
Marianne Stremsterfer
Springfield Art Association, Springfield
Quilts tell many stories from long ago and present day. In addition to the history, will be participation in hands-on activities that include writing your stories and representing them on paper quilt blocks in your classrooms.
**Audience:** 4-12, Spec
**Strand:** Writing
**Location:** Wyndham Plaza 1
46. 11:00 – 12:00
New and Notable Books for Grades K-3

Becky Anderson Wilkins
Anderson's Bookshops
Naperville, Illinois

This is a presentation of new and notable books recommended for classroom reading. A variety of genres, including picture books, poetry, fiction, and informational books will be presented, and books will be available for inspection.

**Audience:** PreK-3  
**Location:** BOS Center B-11A

47. 11:00 – 12:00
Writing Books or Plagiarizing the World

Matt de la Peña
Author
San Diego, California

Matt will talk about the inspiration for his diverse stories and characters and his fascination with the real world. “Sometimes, I explain to students, I’m not sure if I’m writing books or just plagiarizing the world.” He talks about what that means and how small moments in his own life have grown into books. He also talks about how each of us owns an important story and how to access it.

**Audience:** All  
**Location:** BOS Center B-11BC

48. 11:00 – 12:00
Changing the World One Word, One Book and One Reader at a Time

Joelle Charbonneau
Author
Chicago, Illinois

Join New York Times Best-Selling author Joelle Charbonneau in a discussion of the importance of the worlds used throughout history and how since books were first created, they always seem to be under attack. She will walk through the words that have shaped our past, how the limiting of the words we read and use should always be questioned and the unique place of teachers, librarians and readers to not only use words and stories to open eyes, create discussion and inspire — but to change the world.

**Audience:** All  
**Location:** BOS Center B-11D

49. 11:00 – 12:00
Reading as Power

Blue Balliett
Author
Chicago, Illinois

Blue Balliett is passionate in her belief that anyone who learns to love reading has a huge advantage in life. Readers of any age can gather important communication skills simply by getting hooked on a story. The more you read and the deeper your comprehension, the better you become at expressing your own ideas and dreams. Reading becomes a painless source of surprise, pleasure and power that can give you a voice in the world. Reading matters for anyone who wants to be heard!

**Audience:** All  
**Location:** Wyndham Rendezvous
50. **11:00 – 12:00**  
Successful Strategies for Building Lifetime Readers

Steven L. Layne  
Educator/Author  
Wheaton College  
Wheaton, Illinois

Energetic author and educator Steven L. Layne promises a high-energy session to delight, empower, and motivate every educator with a concern for reaching students who are disenfranchised when it comes to text. This session is based on his bestselling professional book Igniting a Passion for Reading.

**Audience:** All  
**Location:** Wyndham Plaza 3

---

51. **11:00 – 12:00**  
Formative Feedback Loop in a Formative Assessment Framework

Gena Lewis  
Concordia University, Chicago  
Annette Van Aken  
Concordia University, Chicago

Explore Growthplicant Formative Assessment as well as a Feedback Loop and apply this to giving and receiving feedback in the classroom as well as collaborate through practice with giving Growthplicant Feedback of their own and sharing reflections for their own practices.

**Audience:** All  
**Strand:** CIRP  
**Location:** BOS Center B-1

---

52. **11:00 – 12:00**  
Book Clubs, Not Literacy Circles

Bess Kirch  
CUSD #300, Algonquin

Andrea Mear  
CUSD #300, Algonquin

An interactive workshop that will give participants the opportunity to explore how when giving students choice of text leads to student agency in the classroom and thus, creates lifelong readers.

**Audience:** 6-12, ELL, Spec  
**Strand:** Equity & Diversity  
**Location:** BOS Center B-2

---

53. **11:00 – 12:00**  
Authentic Voices: The Key to the Speaking-Writing Connection

Elisa Brente  
Custom Education Solutions, Bolingbrook

In this session participants will learn how to ensure equity and cultural relevance in the classroom that promotes the transfer of an authentic voice to quality speaking and writing.

**Audience:** 4-6, ELL  
**Strand:** Writing  
**Location:** BOS Center B-3  
*Sponsored by Custom Education Solutions*

---

54. **11:00 – 12:00**  
Turning Teens into Readers: “CRISP” Strategies for Implementing Young Adult Literature Book Clubs in the Secondary Setting

Kathryn Hoving  
CUSD #300, Hampshire  
Nichole Woodruff  
Batavia SD #101, Batavia

Are teens apathetic toward the texts you teach? Try book clubs! Discover the benefits of Choice, Relevance, Interest, Success, and Peer Interaction (CRISP) in an interactive session about how to incorporate YAL book clubs in your own classrooms and schools.

**Audience:** 6-12, ELL, Spec  
**Strand:** Reluctant Readers  
**Location:** BOS Center B-4

---

55. **11:00 – 12:00**  
The Heart of an Elementary Literacy Community

Anastasia Gruper  
SD #47, Crystal Lake

Follow the journey of a first-year principal as she shares her story of providing opportunities for students, staff, families, and community members to grow a school-wide reading community.

**Audience:** PreK-6, Spec, Admin, Lib  
**Strand:** Administration  
**Location:** BOS Center B-6
56. 11:00 – 12:00
Selecting and Using Culturally Relevant and Inclusive Children’s Picture Books
Laura Beltchenko
ELA, Assessment and Gifted Education Consultant, Libertyville
This session will focus on the importance of creating inclusive and culturally relevant school and classroom libraries. As educators we need to build global and social awareness as well as to allow students to see themselves represented in books in non-stereotypical book scenarios. Together, we will explore selection criteria and engaging lessons.
**Audience:** PreK-6, ELL, Spec, Adults, Univ, Admin, Lib
**Strand:** Equity & Diversity
**Location:** BOS Center B-7

57. 11:00 – 12:00
Integrate Frequent Research Experiences to Prepare for the Read-Write Performance Task
Kristina Smekens
Smekens Education Solutions, Inc., Warren, IN
The research process is emphasized in writing standards W7, W8, and W9. And despite its importance, many teachers dread the never-ending research-writing unit. Attend this session to learn authentic opportunities for students to execute research within the everyday classroom.
**Audience:** 4-12, Admin, Lib
**Strand:** Writing
**Location:** BOS Center B-8
Sponsored by Smekens Education Solutions

58. 11:00 – 12:00
Changing the World One Reader at a Time: Inspiring Lifelong Readers by Building a Classroom Reading Community
Kim Hollis
Geneva CUSD 304
Kathryn Dagres
Geneva Middle School South
Brenda Engelhardt
Geneva Middle School North
How do you build students’ reading identities when they don’t identify as readers? This interactive presentation addresses the building blocks for a reading community: Choice, Access, and Time. Walk away with ideas/resources to build your classroom reading community.
**Audience:** 4-9, Lib
**Strand:** Reluctant Readers
**Location:** BOS Center B-9

59. 11:00 – 12:00
Innovative Learning with Technology to Improve Student Achievement
Sheila Ruh
CUSD 201, Westmont
Sherry Sejnost
Educational Consultant, Downers Grove
This presentation will provide many innovative learning activities and instructional strategies that integrate technology to transform learning and increase student achievement across content areas.
**Audience:** All
**Strand:** Technology
**Location:** BOS Center B-10

60. 11:00 – 12:00
Implementing SOR (Science of Reading) Practices in the Secondary Classroom: A Practical, Research-Based Toolkit
Raquel McGee
River Forest High School, Oak Park
Participants will be provided with a brief overview of the most salient findings from the field of reading research for secondary educators, and then immediately dive into practical instructional applications.
**Audience:** 9-12
**Location:** PAL Ottawa A

61. 11:00 – 12:00
Choice Projects Boost Teacher Engagement
Kristin Lems
National Louis University, Chicago
Sarah Evans
National Louis University, Chicago
Daune Demus
National Louis University, Chicago
PD builds content expertise and sociocultural awareness and can also help participants know themselves and others better. Teachers can explore their identities and meaningful connections to their past and present communities through PD encouraging choice, within and across PD sessions.
**Audience:** Adults, univ
**Strand:** Coaching
**Location:** PAL Ottawa B
62. 11:00 – 12:00
Librarians’ Roundtable
Leslie Forsman
Triopia CUSD #27, Concord
This session will allow attendees to share ideas and concerns about library use in their schools. It also allows attendees to build connections with other librarians for future networking.
Audience: All
Strand: Librarians
Location: PAL Altgeld

63. 11:00 – 12:00
What is Disciplinary Literacy’s Place in the Elementary Classroom?
Sue Cangro
West Prairie CUSD #103, Good Hope
Come and discover the ways elementary teachers begin to set their students on the path to eventual college and career readiness. Lay the groundwork for students to achieve discipline specific literacy skills. Leave with concrete plans in social studies and science.
Audience: K-6
Strand: ICARE
Location: PAL Bond

64. 11:00 – 12:00
Why Student Agency Matters: Strategies for Promoting and Developing Student Agency Across the Curriculum
Margaret Policastro
Roosevelt University, Chicago
Carolyn Franklin
SD #149, Dolton
This session will cover the importance of student agency and why it matters. Specific strategies will be highlighted for promoting and developing student agency across the curriculum and within the literacy block routine. Strategies for the interactive read-aloud, literacy centers and independent reading & writing will focus on agency.
Audience: All
Strand: Coaching
Location: PAL Freeport A

65. 11:00 – 12:00
Developing Empathy: Changing the World Through Reading
Christy Moore
Taylor University, Upland, IN
Reading and discussing great literature can develop the deepest form of comprehension that has the power to transform our readers and the communities that they live in. Participants will observe how this can be done with even our primary students and is a natural way to approach social and emotional learning.
Audience: PreK-3, ELL, Spec, Lib
Strand: Social Emotional Learning (SEL)
Location: PAL Freeport B

66. 11:00 – 12:00
Read-Aloud, Move-Aloud: An Innovative Approach to Elementary Reading Read-Alouds
Corrine Wickens
Northern Illinois University, DeKalb
Elizabeth Primrose
Bloom Elementary School, Rockford
This presentation will model an innovative approach to conducting elementary reading read-alouds. Rather than sitting down during a read-aloud, we will demonstrate how to incorporate physical activity into a read-aloud, while supporting phonological awareness, vocabulary, and oral comprehension.
Audience: PreK-3
Strand: Reluctant Readers
Location: PAL Freeport C

67. 11:00 – 12:00
Expanding the Concept of Literacy: Media Literacy and the Common Core State Standards
Laurie Hendrickson
Illinois Writing Project, Chicago
Beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, every public high school must include in its curriculum a unit of instruction on media literacy. This workshop will focus on ways to include interesting and engaging Media Literacy activities based on the overlapping standards educators already use.
Audience: 6-12, Adults, Univ, Lib
Location: Wyndham Plaza 1
Thursday Luncheon

68.  12:15 – 2:00
Telling Diverse Stories Within Diverse Stories

Jerry Craft
Author
New York, New York

Join Jerry Craft as he talks about how his lack of mirrors in books as a kid made him into an author who strives to tell stories about POC that center on joy and happiness. He will also share his journey as an author as well as fun facts about his books and his writing process.

Audience: Ticket Required
Location: PAL Ballroom

Obama Literacy Fund Award
will be presented at the Thursday Luncheon to
Rachel Heckman
Award will be presented by Jen Brooks, Chair

Thursday Luncheon

69.  12:15 – 2:00
The Joy of Reading: Joyful Reading Thrives in a Supportive Community

Donalyn Miller
Educator/Author
San Antonio, Texas

Many readers report more enjoyment from their reading lives when they can share books and reading experiences with other readers. Literate talk between readers can improve reading and social comprehension, too. Unfortunately, in many schools, the only reading community events are contests and competitions. Donalyn Miller shares the research findings behind social reading and offers tips and resources for fostering supportive reading communities with kids and families.

Audience: Ticket Required
Location: Wyndham Grand Ballroom

Family Literacy Award
will be presented at the Thursday Luncheon to
Wendy Streit
Award will be presented by Barb Ashton, Chair

HUNGRY?
The BOS Center Concession Stand is Open!
Purchase lunch and take it to one of the lunch time sessions planned from 1:00-2:00 p.m. in the BOS Center

Concessions are Open:
Thursday  8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Friday  8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
1:00 – 2:00

70. 1:00 - 2:00
The Power of Play: Add Games to Your Classroom
Stefanie Crawford
Illinois Digital Educators Alliance, Peoria
Research has proven that game based learning for students of all ages increases not only engagement with the material but also student comprehension. Participants will experience several games as a student and begin creating their own classroom adaptations.
Audience: 4-12, ELL, Spec, Adults, Univ
Location: BOS Center B-1
*Sponsored by Illinois Digital Educators Alliance (IDEA)*

71. 1:00 - 2:00
CANCELED
The Student Knows: Using Foundational Concepts in Picture Books to Bridge the Familiar with the Unfamiliar
Alice McGinty
Illinois Author – SCBWI
When Alice McGinty and Alan Havis wrote The Sea Knows, they wrote from the perspective of what the child already knows. Learn how to use foundational concepts in picture books to start students from a secure place, growing from there.
Audience: PreK-3, Lib
Strand: STEAM
Location: BOS Center B-2
*Sponsored by SCBWI*

72. 1:00 - 2:00
Bringing the Science of Reading to the Balanced Literacy Classroom
Allison Arndt
Savvas Learning Company, Paramus, NJ
In this session, we’ll explore the Science of Reading and develop a better understanding of how to best weave these practices into the balanced literacy classroom. We’ll review current practices and identify which practices to keep and which to abandon.
Audience: PreK-3, Spec
Location: BOS Center B-3
*Sponsored by Savvas Learning Company*

73. 1:00 - 2:00
Science of Reading: Principles and Research and Applying it to Best Practices
Lindsay Barts
Amplify Education, Brooklyn, NY
This session focuses on educator awareness of underlying principles and literacy research. It will emphasize best practices that support a shift in instruction using the Science of Reading research and ways to ensure equity and diversity across your district.
Audience: All
Strand: Equity & Diversity
Location: BOS Center B-4
*Sponsored by Amplify Education*

74. 1:00 - 2:00
The Science of Reading: What Is It and How to Apply It?
Ethan Lynn
Reading Horizons, Peoria Heights
First, we will review the processes involved with learning to read. Next, we will learn how to teach phonics with seven decoding patterns. Finally, we will focus on structuring lessons with multi-sensory dictation practice.
Audience: K-6
Location: BOS Center B-6
*Sponsored by Reading Horizons*

75. 1:00 - 2:00
Get Savvy about Syllable Types: Unlocking Syllable Types to Improve Decoding Skills to Positively Impact Comprehension
Beth Hatlen
Karla O'Brien
Classmates Educational Group, Inc., Downers Grove
This presentation will address the importance of helping students understand syllable types. This understanding of decoding words and helping to understand the meaning of prefixes, suffixes and base words will lead to improved comprehension across all content areas.
Audience: All
Strand: Reluctant Readers
Location: BOS Center B-7
*Sponsored by SLANT System for Structured Language Training*
76. 1:00 - 2:00
Why Do So Many Students Have Reading Problems? The Science Is Wrong!
Dee Tadlock
Central Washington University, Shelton, WA
Unacceptably, 66% of 4th, 8th, and 12th graders read below proficiency (Source: NAEP). Teachers teach according to science, but little improves. This presentation explains why and suggests major changes in reading instruction that must be made to benefit students.
**Audience:** PreK-12, ELL, Spec, Adults, Univ, Admin
**Strand:** Reluctant Readers
**Location:** BOS Center B-8
*Sponsored by Read Right Systems, Inc.*

77. 1:00 - 2:00
Notable Decodables
Elisa Brente
Custom Education Solutions, Bolingbrook
Myth! Decodable books are boring. Myth! Decodable books are silly. Fact! Decodable books increase students learning of the reading process. What is all the buzz about new decodable texts? Learn the 3 key components to a great decodable and best practices for using them to help students build necessary skills to becoming proficient readers.
**Audience:** K-3, ELL, Spec
**Strand:** Reluctant Readers
**Location:** BOS Center B-9
*Sponsored by Custom Education Solutions*

78. 1:00 - 2:00
Shifting from Word Walls to Sound Walls: Benefits for Dyslexic Learners
Keegan Wilson
hand2mind, Camden, SC
Are you hearing about sound walls and ready to make the transition in your classroom? Do you know the differences between sound walls and word walls? Sound walls focus on 44 sounds vs. 26 letters. After this session, you’ll recognize the differences between sound walls and traditional word walls, and decide which one is best for your classroom.
**Audience:** PreK-6, ELL, Spec
**Strand:** Coaching
**Location:** BOS Center B-10
*Sponsored by hand2mind*

79. 2:15 – 3:15
New and Notable Books for Grades 4-8
Becky Anderson Wilkins
Anderson’s Bookshops
Naperville, Illinois
This is a presentation of new and notable books recommended for classroom reading. A variety of genres, including picture books, poetry, fiction, and informational books will be presented, and books will be available for inspection.
**Audience:** 4-9
**Location:** BOS Center B-11A

80. 2:15 – 3:15
Writing Books or Plagiarizing the World
Matt de la Peña
Author
San Diego, California
Matt will talk about the inspiration for his diverse stories and characters and his fascination with the real world. “Sometimes, I explain to students, I’m not sure if I’m writing books or just plagiarizing the world.” He talks about what that means and how small moments in his own life have grown into books. He also talks about how each of us owns an important story and how to access it.
**Audience:** All
**Location:** BOS Center B-11BC
81.  2:15 – 3:15
My Journey to Writing

Tiffany D. Jackson
Author
New York, New York

Join Tiffany D. Jackson as she shares her journey to writing. It will be a discussion on the beauty of storytelling, the process, and how, through books, the possibilities to create meaningful change in our world are endless for students, parents, and educators alike.

Audience: All
Location: BOS Center B-11D

82.  2:15 – 3:15
Using Children’s/Young Adult Books to Excite Young Writers

Steven L. Layne
Educator/Author
Wheaton College
Wheaton, Illinois

Teachers are always in need of a good response to kids who say, “I can’t think of anything to write about.” After this energizing presentation, you’ll have several great answers! Join award-winning author Steven Layne as he uses a wide-range of children’s picture books and middle grade novels to introduce five key arenas from which authors draw story ideas. Come and discover how easily this information translates into practice in any K-12 classroom where literacy development is a top priority. It’s time to get your students’ pencils moving with excitement!

Audience: All
Location: Wyndham Plaza 3

83.  2:15 – 3:15
Bring Heart and Humor to the Classroom
Sarah Aronson
Illinois Author, Chicago
Carolyn Crimi
Illinois Author, Evanston
A discussion of funny books and even funnier activities, from your very funny friends, Sarah and Carolyn!

Audience: All
Location: BOS Center B-2

84.  2:15 – 3:15
Exploring Pedagogical Advantages Using Culturally and Linguistically Related Texts
Adelfio Garcia
Chicago Public Schools, Chicago
Centering instruction of Latinx students using authentic culturally written literature, exploring how Spanish literature enhances literacy and language learning, and experiencing how students’ culture and language are equally important to strengthen their identity in fun and interactive ways.

Audience: PreK-9
Strand: English Language Learners
Location: BOS Center B-3
Sponsored by Vista Higher Learning

85.  2:15 – 3:15
Improving Speech, Vocabulary, Reading Comprehension, Fluency, and Building a Joy for Learning – All Through Storytelling
Michael Lockett
Heritage Schoolhouse Press, Normal
Fun-Filled session – using stories and story play to demonstrate how to use storytelling effectively in the classroom. A variety of strategies will be used to show how storytelling can positively impact student learning across age levels and for different learning styles.

Audience: All
Strand: English Language Learners
Location: BOS Center B-4
Sponsored by Mike Lockett/Storyteller and Author
86. 2:15 – 3:15
We Can’t Help Pollen in Love: Helping Students Cultivate a Passion for Pollinators Through Literature
Chris Wyant
Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom, Bloomington
Learn about connecting pollinator-themed literature to real-world actions students can do that can improve conditions for pollinators to thrive. Lessons, activities, background information on pollinators, and a hive full of book recommendations will be shared in this interactive presentation.
Audience: PreK-9
Location: BOS Center B-6
Sponsored by Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom

87. 2:15 – 3:15
The Multicultural Read-Aloud Project
Amy Davis
Eastern Illinois University, Charleston
The proposed presentation will share the survey results from students enrolled in an ESL Instructional Methods course of how the read-aloud assignment impacted their planning and implementing a read-aloud to ESL students.
Audience: K-6
Strand: English Language Learners
Location: BOS Center B-7

88. 2:15 – 3:15
Navigating the Narrative: What Does “Science of Reading” Really Mean?
Bert Crossland
Crossland Literacy, West Dundee
Amy Huftalin
Crossland Literacy, West Dundee
In the current educational climate, teachers must look beyond headlines and social media posts for the research behind effective literacy practices. We will explore the many meanings of “science of reading,” wade through common misconceptions, and search for common ground.
Audience: All
Location: BOS Center B-8
Sponsored by Crossland Literacy

89. 2:15 – 3:15
CANCELED
Young Readers Must Write! Expect Textual Evidence Communicated in Pictures, Labels, Lists, & Simple Sentences
Kristina Smekens
Smekens Education Solutions, Inc., Warren, IN
The same ingredients required in a traditional constructed response must be taught in K-2. This session reveals how ANY inference can be supported with evidence at EVERY developmental writing stage – and it provides MANY lessons and strategies to achieve it.
Audience: K-3, ELL, Spec
Strand: Writing
Location: BOS Center B-9
Sponsored by Smekens Education Solutions

90. 2:15 – 3:15
Children’s and Young Adult Literature as Instructional Disrupters: Targeting Hate, Bias, and Anti-Semitism
Melanie Koss
Northern Illinois University, DeKalb
Deborah Greenblatt
Medgar Evers College, The City University of New York
Taking a critical literacy stance in examining texts can supply agency to students and teach them to disrupt the status quo and promote positive social change. This session will provide examples of titles and implications for instruction.
Audience: K-12
Location: BOS Center B-10

91. 2:15 – 3:15
CANCELED
Elementary Reading Essentials: You Can’t TEACH Them Everything ... So Focus on What They Need To LEARN!
Steve Oertle
Roxana CUSD #1, Roxana
This session will focus on the core elements of both “learning to read” and “reading to learn” and how to ensure a curriculum that takes students deep into the core essentials while also minimizing the “reading noise” that steals time.
Audience: K-6, Admin
Strand: Administration
Location: PAL Ottawa A
92. 2:15 – 3:15
Meet the MVPs of the Early Literacy Game: Developmental Approach and Mastery Learning
Tracy Beling
DeKalb SD #428, DeKalb
David Paige
Northern Illinois University, DeKalb
Jill Springer
DeKalb SD #428, DeKalb
Mary Gardner
Northern Illinois University, DeKalb
In this session we will present a schematic designed to help early elementary reading teachers conceptualize the various reading processes and how they work interactively to result in effective reading. We will emphasize the instructional implications associated with the schematic.
Audience: PreK-6
Location: PAL Ottawa B

93. 2:15 – 3:15
Using Culturally and Linguistically Inclusive Picture Books for Biliterate and Bilingual Readers and Writers
Dora Guzman
Bensenville SD 2, Bensenville
Participants will engage with recent titles of picture books that are inclusive of culture and language of bi-literate students, especially students who read and write in Spanish and English. Resources will be shared on how to incorporate recent titles as mentor texts in reading, writing, and student independent reading.
Audience: K-6, ELL, Lib
Strand: Equity & Diversity
Location: PAL Bond

94. 2:15 – 3:15
Sharing the Chalk: Co-Teaching Strategies and Techniques to Teach 21st Century Skills
Erin Metaxas
Lake Zurich Middle School North Campus, Hawthorn Woods
Jennifer Lippert
Lake Zurich Middle School North Campus, Hawthorn Woods
Focus will be on how to utilize strategies and techniques for co-teaching in content area classrooms. Additionally, discussion on how to utilize the teachers in the room to help specific groups of students (EL, SPED, Striving & Reluctant Readers, and honors students) grow as readers, writers, and thinkers.
Audience: 4-12, ELL
Strand: SRL
Location: PAL Freeport A

95. 2:15 – 3:15
Practice What We Preach: Let’s Look at Educator Self-Care
Jennifer Jacknewitz
SD #118, Belleville
We tell our students when they leave our classrooms, “Take care; have a good night.” However, do we follow our own advice? This presentation will examine ways that educators can build more self-care into their routines.
Audience: All
Strand: Social Emotional Learning (SEL)
Location: PAL Freeport B

96. 2:15 – 3:15
Achieving Equity in Assessment for Multilingual Learners (MLs)
Sarah Urbanc
Bradley University, Peoria
Learn how to help MLs become competent & productive English communicators that can showcase what they know and have learned by adding accommodations and modifications to your assessment practices. We will discuss the difference between them, their application at various English proficiency levels, as well as authentic and alternative assessments.
Audience: PreK-12, ELL
Strand: English Language Learners
Location: PAL Freeport C

97. 2:15 – 3:15
The Spanish Reading Tapestry: A Linguistically Authentic Framework for Emerging Multilinguals
Julia Cloat
SD 145, Freeport
Rocio del Castillo
Huntley SD 158, Algonquin
Teachers in dual language or bilingual classrooms will be introduced to the Spanish Reading Tapestry. They will learn how this research-based and culturally-relevant approach can be successfully applied in the classroom to provide systematic and explicit reading instruction in Spanish.
Audience: PreK-12, ELL, Spec, Admin
Strand: English Language Learners
Location: Wyndham Plaza 1
Each of the 22 I Survived books explores iconic events from history, from natural disasters like Hurricane Katrina to world-changing events like the Revolutionary War and 9/11. The books are widely used in classrooms for reading instruction, read-alouds, and independent reading. But a growing number of districts are building the books into social studies and science curriculum as well. In this session, author Lauren Tarshis will share her process of creating her I Survived books as she presents models for transforming her engaging books into powerful cross-content instructional units that will delight students, build critical content-area background knowledge and skills, and connect to key standards in science and social studies.

**Audience:** All  
**Location:** BOS Center B-11A

Jerry Craft shares his journey from a kid who hated to read books, and was told that reading comics would rot his brain, to the creator of the first graphic novel to win the prestigious Newbery Medal.

**Audience:** All  
**Location:** BOS Center B-11BC
101. 3:30 – 4:30
PASS Meetings/ Providing All Students Success
Judy Rothermich
Bunker Hill CUSD, Bunker Hill
I will be demonstrating and discussing how my school district uses data from STAR testing to set up PASS meetings. PASS meetings are used to discuss students in need of academic and social emotional help. We work together to assure success for all students.
**Audience:** PreK-9, Spec, Admin
**Strand:** ITA - Title I
**Location:** BOS Center B-1

102. 3:30 – 4:30
Break It Down and Build It Up: Interactive Vocabulary K-3
Andrea Mear
CUSD #300, Algonquin
Kari Zeid Brandstedt
CUSD #300, Algonquin
This intensive vocabulary workshop will help you cultivate a vocabulary routine that can be adapted to fit any curriculum. Explore how the science of reading and oracy can help any student unlock the reading code through interactive daily practice.
**Audience:** K-3, ELL, Spec, Admin
**Strand:** Reluctant Readers
**Location:** BOS Center B-2

103. 3:30 – 4:30
Multi-Linguistic Conversations with Multi-Generational promoting SEL and Parent Engagement with Latinx Families
Adelfio Garcia
Chicago Public Schools
The success of two urban schools with a high concentration of Latinx families experienced increased participants of Latinx families after the COVID 19 pandemic. The use of Spanish-written Children’s texts read with Latinx Parents during school meetings to promote SEL learning, language development, and cultivating language, culture, and traditions.
**Audience:** All
**Strand:** Equity & Diversity
**Location:** BOS Center B-3

104. 3:30 – 4:30
Implementing Quick Writes
Vicki Kay
May Whitney School, Lake Zurich
Carrie Werner
Seth Paine School, Lake Zurich
Learn how upper elementary teachers implement quick writes in the classroom.
**Audience:** K-9
**Strand:** Writing
**Location:** BOS Center B-4

105. 3:30 – 4:30
The Writing Rainbow – Coding for Clarity and Comprehension
Sarah Giffin
Marquette Academy, Ottawa
Cassandra Rosencrans
Shepherd Middle School, Ottawa
A writing model will be presented that promotes scaffolding and aligns to common-core and college-readiness standards. This model appeals to multiple learning styles and teachers of all content areas.
**Audience:** 6-12
**Strand:** Writing
**Location:** BOS Center B-6

106. 3:30 – 4:30
Teaching Empathy with Read Alouds
Meg Billhartz
New Baden Elementary, New Baden
Shari Tockstein
New Baden Elementary, New Baden
Let’s get into their heads! Read Alouds are such a great way to address the many emotions students experience. Their own emotions change so frequently throughout each day. This session will provide activities targeting academic learning as well as emotional growth.
**Audience:** K-3, ELL, Spec,
**Strand:** Social Emotional Learning (SEL)
**Location:** BOS Center B-7
107. 3:30 – 4:30
Literacy & Learning Centers: The Intersection of Content Knowledge and Literacy Skills for 6-12th Graders
Katherine McKnight
Educational Consultant, Antioch
Explore the research that prompted the creation of the LLC model for big kids, and learn how to use it in your own classroom.
**Audience:** 6-12
**Location:** BOS Center B-8

108. 3:30 – 4:30
High School Literacy Intervention: Pathways to Student Success
Laura Johnson
Glenbard SD 87, Lombard
This presentation will discuss the organization and implementation of literacy intervention at the high school level. Topics include universal screening, the development of an MTSS flow chart, the role of a high school literacy specialist, secondary diagnostic assessments, explicit intervention instruction, progress monitoring, and literacy support courses.
**Audience:** 6-12, Admin
**Strand:** SRL
**Location:** BOS Center B-9

109. 3:30 – 4:30
Revolutionizing Relationships in the Classroom
Melissa Wheeler
Mattoon CUSD 2
Pat Braun
Concordia University Chicago, River Forest
Our students need to be engaged in a learning community, so we will share ways to encourage student voices and engage them in literacy. Our work is based on current professional books such as Stamped and Textured Teaching, and Being the Change.
**Audience:** All
**Strand:** Equity & Diversity
**Location:** PAL Ottawa A

110. 3:30 – 4:30
More Hope than Anything
Kristin Richey
Jefferson Middle School, Villa Park
This presentation is designed to inspire teachers as we navigate through an ever-changing world. It includes powerful literature as motivation, humorous anecdotes, and positivity abound. Facts: teaching is challenging, students can be reluctant, and yet we still push-on together.
**Audience:** 4-9, ELL, Spec
**Strand:** Reluctant Readers
**Location:** PAL Ottawa B

111. 3:30 – 4:30
They Won’t Read! Classroom Practices and Routines That Make Independent Choice Reading Work In the Secondary Classroom
Jennifer Connolly
Granite City High School, Granite City
You can develop practices and routines that will get kids reading. From book talks and trailers, to designated reading time, individual conferring, general check-ins, and building a great class library, this session helps you improve your own pedagogy in regards to guided choice reading even in the middle or high school classroom.
**Audience:** 6-12, Admin
**Location:** PAL Altgeld

112. 3:30 – 4:30
Fluency For Real
Rhonda Russell-Henderson
Powerful Foundations, Hazel Crest
This presentation will examine the link of fluency and comprehension, and those two are key to a student’s success in reading. The presenter will share strategies to help build fluency in the classroom, through center activities and classroom activities.
**Audience:** K-6
**Strand:** Reluctant Readers
**Location:** PAL Bond

---

CANCELED
113.  3:30 – 4:30
Literacy and Culturally Responsive Teaching Using the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals
   Traci Johnson
   Rochester Jr/Sr High School
Learn how to promote literacy skills, empower students, and promote student advocacy using a project-based, inquiry project surrounding the Sustainable Development Goals created by The UN. Several literacy ideas will be shared that can be used in multiple contexts.
   Audience:  9-12
   Strand:  Equity & Diversity
   Location:  PAL Freeport B

114.  3:30 – 4:30
Inspiring a Love of Literacy
   Demetra Disotuar
   University of Illinois, Chicago
   Mary List
   Children’s Literacy Initiative, Chicago
The read aloud is a central part of the classroom ecology. It’s a space for all members of the classroom community to gather and experience the joy and possibilities of growing a shared and meaningful understanding of a piece of literature. Read alouds are important practice, and why read aloud is essential for equity.
   Audience:  All
   Strand:  Equity & Diversity
   Location:  PAL Freeport C

115.  3:30 – 4:30
Shake Up Shared Reading: Texts, Tips, and Teaching Strategies
   Maria Walther
   Educational Consultant, Aurora
Join Maria to discover sensible strategies for engaging learners in short bursts of shared reading. Hear about picture books that will help build your students’ reading power. Leave with a list of texts and actionable ideas.
   Audience:  PreK-3
   Strand:  Reluctant Readers
   Location:  Wyndham Plaza 3

116.  3:30 – 4:30
Using Young Adult Fiction in a High School Health Class
   Nichole Miller
   Brown County High School, Mt. Sterling
Young adult literature isn’t just for English class! Come learn how students in high school health classes can use high interest independent book studies as springboards for research into real life physical and/mental health issues.
   Audience:  9-12
   Location:  Wyndham Plaza 1

IRC AWARDS

Family Literacy Award
   Wendy Streit
   Thursday Luncheon at the Wyndham Ballroom
   with Donalyn Miller

Obama Literacy Fund Award
   Rachel Heckman
   Thursday Luncheon at the PAL Ballroom
   with Jerry Craft

Prairie State Award for Excellence in Children’s Writing
   Steven L. Layne
   Friday Luncheon at the Wyndham Ballroom
   with Steven L. Layne

Prairie State Award for Excellence in Children’s Writing
   Blue Balliett
   Joelle Charbonneau
   Thursday PSA Banquet at the PAL Ballroom
   with Tiffany D. Jackson

IRC Hall of Fame Award
   Kathleen Sweeney
   Thursday PSA Banquet at the PAL Ballroom
   with Tiffany D. Jackson

IRC Service Award
   Stephanie Benson
   Friday Breakfast at the PAL Ballroom
   with Sara K. Ahmed

Jerry Johns Reading Educator of the Year Award
   Elizabeth Goldsmith-Conley
   Friday Luncheon at the Wyndham Ballroom
   with Steven L. Layne

Static Sticker Decal Contest Winner
   Ana-Elisa Scheick, Leland Elementary
   Friday Luncheon at the PAL Ballroom
   with Derrick Barnes and Gordon C. James
Let the IRC Professional Learning & Development Team be your PD Partner!

The Illinois Reading Council is a premier professional reading organization that offers a Professional Learning Cadre of educators available for on-site and technical assistance with tools and resources to match your school professional learning needs.

IRC PL&D utilizes the educational professionalism, understanding the adult learner, and blends that with research-based teaching and student learning strategies. The professional learning and development service providers are informed by years of experience and subject matter expertise.

IRC PL&D offers custom programs, exceptional engaging speakers, timely topics, and informative programs to assist you and your school and district faculty in reaching all your educational goals.

Sessions communicate a range of topics including but not limited to:

- Common Core State Standards (CCSS)
- Vocabulary Development
- Questioning Techniques
- Process and On Demand Writing
- Literacy Curriculum Support
- Technology and Digital Learning
- Literacy Intervention
- Gifted and Accelerated Literacy Learners

For information about bringing high-quality professional development to your district, school, or community at a very reasonable cost, visit IRC’s website at www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org. You can also contact us by phone at 309-454-1341 or by email at pd@illinoisreadingcouncil.org.

Thursday Banquet

118. 6:15 – 8:15
The Possibilities are Endless

Tiffany D. Jackson
Author
New York, New York

A talk on the beauty of storytelling, the process, and how, through books, the possibilities to create meaningful change in our world are endless for students, parents, and educators alike.

Audience: Ticket Required
Location: PAL Ballroom

Prairie State Award for Excellence in Children’s Writing will be presented to

Blue Balliett
Joelle Charbonneau
Award will be presented by Cindy Wilson, Chair

Hall of Fame Award will be presented to

Kathleen Sweeney
Award will be presented by Katie Russell, Past President

119. 8:30 – 10:30 PM
Hear the Authors Read
Audience: All
Location: Wyndham Grand Ballroom

Sponsored by

Springfield Illinois

DOWNLOAD CONFERENCE APP FOR ABSTRACTS AND MORE
Hear the Authors Read
and Late-Night Autograph Session

Thursday, March 9, 2023
8:30 – 10:30 p.m.
Wyndham Grand Ballroom

Sponsored by Anderson’s Bookshops

Blue Balliett
Derrick Barnes
David Biedrzycki
Joelle Charbonneau

Jerry Craft
Matt de la Peña
Jacob Grant

Tiffany Jackson
Gordon James
Steven Layne
Lauren Tarshis
The Prairie State Award for Excellence in Writing for Children honors an Illinois author whose body of work demonstrates excellence, engenders a love of literature, and embraces an important part of the Illinois Reading Council Mission – to promote lifelong literacy.

Congratulations!

BLUE BALLIETT

Blue Balliett grew up in New York City, where she often visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Guggenheim Museum, and the Frick Collection. She took public transportation to school around the city, and discovered early that every crowded bus or train is packed with mystery and drama and that stories are everywhere. Balliett studied art history at Brown University. She and her family lived year-round on Nantucket Island for many years, and now live in Chicago. Before becoming a full-time writer, she taught at the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools. Balliett is a recipient of the Chicago Public Library’s 21st Century Award, the first time the award was given to a children’s book writer. She has appeared on NBC’s Today Show and has been featured in various national and international publications. At the conference, IRC is thrilled to award Blue as the 2021 recipient of the Prairie State Award for Excellence in Writing for Children.
The Prairie State Award for Excellence in Writing for Children honors an Illinois author whose body of work demonstrates excellence, engenders a love of literature, and embraces an important part of the Illinois Reading Council Mission – to promote lifelong literacy.

Congratulations!

JOELLE CHARBONNEAU

Joelle Charbonneau has performed in opera and musical theatre productions across Chicagoland. Joelle is the author of the New York Times and USA Today best selling The Testing trilogy (The Testing, Independent Study, and Graduation Day), the fantasy duology Dividing Eden and Eden Conquered as well as the YA thrillers, Need and Time Bomb. Her books have appeared on the Indie Next List, on the YALSA Top 10 books as well as the YALSA Quick Picks for reluctant readers as well as dozens of state reading lists across the country. The conclusion to the Verify thriller series, Disclose, which explores the power of words to shape our world, was released in September of 2020. To learn more, visit Joelle at her website: www.joellecharbonneau.com. At the conference, IRC is thrilled to award Joelle as the 2022 recipient of the Prairie State Award for Excellence in Writing for Children.
IRC Awards & Grants

Are you interested in learning how to nominate individuals from your area for IRC awards or how to benefit from grant money that is available each year for various educational activities? To find out more about these IRC Awards and Grants, please visit www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org.

Barack Obama Library Award. This award is a classroom library, valued at over $1000, which was created in 2006 through a generous gift to the IRC from (then) Senator Obama. This collection is comprised of carefully selected literature that is “culturally relevant” for African-American readers and targets students in the middle-school (5th-8th) grade range. The award will go to a teacher in a predetermined IRC Region. Each year, the region will be announced on the IRC Website. Nominations are due by November 1st.

Family Literacy Award. This award recognizes an IRC member who promotes and supports parent involvement in children’s reading. Proposals should be postmarked by November 1st.

Gene Cramer ICARE for Reading Award. The Illinois Council for Affective Reading Education recognizes an educator who has performed in an outstanding manner to show concern for the affective domain and who has performed lifelong reading habits among students. The Nomination Form is due by November 1st.

Hall of Fame Award. The IRC has designed the Hall of Fame to recognize significant contributions to reading or reading education. The award will be given at the annual conference. The immediate Past President shall receive the nomination forms and final determination will be made by the Executive Committee no later than 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting. Deadline: All Nomination Forms must be received by November 1st.

International Grant. The International Committee of the Illinois Reading Council has created a grant to promote literacy projects internationally. The maximum amount per grant is $1,000. The application deadline is May 1st.

IRC Service Award. The IRC will present the IRC Service Award (formerly known as the Certificate of Recognition) at the annual statewide conference. Certificates are awarded to the most deserving individuals who meet the criteria listed. Deadline: All Nomination Forms must be received by November 1st.

Jerry Johns Reading Educator of the Year Award. This award recognizes outstanding teachers who make contributions in promoting literacy among students, colleagues, and school communities. Application Form, letters of recommendation, and your philosophy statement are due by November 1st.

Literacy Support Grant. The Illinois Reading Council will award financial grants to local and special interest councils and individual council members for the purpose of promoting literacy development in the school and community, and/or providing professional development opportunities related to the improvement of reading and writing instruction. Application deadline will be May 1st.

Prairie State Award for Excellence in Writing for Children. This award recognizes an Illinois Children's Young Adult Author whose body of work demonstrates excellence, engenders a love of literature, and embraces an important part of the mission of the Illinois Reading Council—to promote lifelong literacy. All Nomination Packets must be postmarked by June 15th.

Static Stick Decal Design Contest. Students in grades 4, 5, or 6 are encouraged to create an original design promoting reading. The winning design is printed on static stick decals. Entries must be postmarked no later than January 15th.
IRC Webinar Series
All webinars will begin at 7:00 p.m.

IRC will be offering the Webinar Series for members only in 2022-2023. All webinars will begin at 7:00 p.m. Members who watch the live or recorded webinars can earn professional development clock hours. Mark your calendars and register to take part in this convenient, free IRC membership benefit. Members will receive monthly emails with links to register. Nonmembers can join online and email for the registration link.

September 7, 2022 ~ Ralph Fletcher
How Photography Enhances the Teaching of Writing
Language arts teachers tend to be text-oriented—comfortable in the world of reading and writing. However, the world in which our students live is increasingly visual. They are bombarded by images. We ignore that world at our peril. We’ll look at the interplay between photography and writing, and the uncanny parallels between them. We may find out that our students already know a great deal about images. We will look at how we can tap into their understanding of the visual world to help them become stronger writers.

October 5, 2022 ~ Melissa Stewart
Creating Passionate Nonfiction Readers
After learning simple ways to increase your classroom or library nonfiction circulation by two or three times, discover how tools like book match surveys, preview stacks, and reading ladders can help students identify the kinds of nonfiction books they enjoy reading most. Melissa will also share a wide range engaging, innovative ideas and activities for nurturing a love of nonfiction in ALL students.

November 2, 2022 ~ Lisa Fipps
Starfishing
Lisa tells the story of how she went from a little girl reading books under the shade of a Rose of Sharon tree in her backyard to a journalist to an award-winning author. She talks about the inspiration for Starfish, a book she needed as a child—a book that’s a mirror for fat children and a window into their understanding of the visual world to help them become stronger writers.

December 7, 2022 ~ Candace Fleming
Writing Great Nonfiction With Kids
Can kids write engaging nonfiction? Absolutely! In this fast-paced presentation, award-winning author Candace Fleming will share her secrets for creating fascinating nonfiction. Participants will not only discover strategies for effective research and directed inquiry, but they will also leave with tips to help students create exciting "true stories" rather than dull, encyclopedic accounts.

January 4, 2023 ~ Aimee Ellis
Using Inclusive Texts in the K-6 Classroom
In this one hour session, we will explore a four-part framework from Inclusive Texts in Elementary Classrooms (Heineke & Papola-Ellis, 2022) on selecting, using, and engaging students with texts that promote students’ identity, literacy engagement, and learning across disciplines. Various examples from teachers’ classrooms will be shared, as well as suggested book titles to use across literacy and content area instruction.

February 1, 2023 ~ Becky Anderson
Discovering the 2023 Illinois Reads Books
Join Becky Anderson as she presents the Illinois Reads books for 2023. Learn more about the Illinois Reads statewide literacy initiative that promotes reading for all Illinois citizens. Six books in six age bands from Birth to Adult will be shared. A variety of book topics and themes are chosen for each age band, highlighting the work of Illinois Authors.

March 1, 2023 ~ Jasmine Warga
Stories As Connectors, Stories as Community Builders, and Stories as Conversation-Starters
A discussion about how stories are perfect vehicles for connecting us to one another, building community, and asking big questions about our world and the human experience. There will be a specific focus on the power stories have to shape our understanding of people and cultures that are often misrepresented or not represented at all. Jasmine will talk about the way she approaches her own writing—from a place of asking questions. She will explore the idea that books for young people should be viewed as conversation-starters—that we should always be most invested in helping young people to find and exercise their own voices.

April 5, 2023 ~ Beverley Holden Johns
The Impact of Anxiety on Children’s Literacy: Practical Strategies That Support Children
Anxiety disorders are recognized as the most prevalent mental health disorder among children and adolescents. Prior to the pandemic, twenty five percent of children between the ages of 13-18 had an anxiety disorder. Now there are estimates that this percentage may have doubled. Anxiety can negatively affect a child’s academic success in the area of literacy. Teachers are often the first to notice signs. This session provides educators a basic understanding of the characteristics of anxiety in its various forms, guiding principles regarding positive interventions. Participants will also gain some basic strategies to support and build resiliency within their students.

May 3, 2023 ~ Josh Carlson
Trauma 101
Trauma 101 will provide a brief overview of trauma, developmental trauma and adverse childhood experiences and their impact on children and youth. Participants will develop an understanding of the impact of trauma on brain development and how this manifests in behaviors. Participants will also gain some basic strategies to support and build resiliency within their students.

June 7, 2023 ~ Blue Balliett
Reading as a Secret Tool
Blue will share the many ways in which reading books has quietly made her the person she is today, and the deceptively invisible ways in which reading can be used to build life-changing strengths. Readers can engage in an activity that looks quiet to the outside world but in which thrilling, wild changes to their own thinking can occur... The right book at the right moment can definitely change a life! And with Q & A throughout the webinar, it can lead to unpredictable sharing and insights.

To register, sign into your IRC Membership Account at www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Registration</strong></td>
<td>Bank of Springfield Center Exhibit Hall</td>
<td>7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday Breakfast</strong></td>
<td>PAL Hotel Ballroom - Sara K. Ahmed</td>
<td>7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Exhibits</strong></td>
<td>Bank of Springfield Center Exhibit Hall</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hall of Councils</strong></td>
<td>Bank of Springfield Center Lowever Level</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sessions/Featured Speakers/Workshops</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Administrators Academy</strong></td>
<td>PAL Hotel Lincoln Room - Alison Gordon</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Refreshments in Exhibit Area</strong></td>
<td>Bank of Springfield Center Exhibit Hall</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday Luncheon</strong></td>
<td>Wyndham Hotel Ballroom - Steven L. Layne</td>
<td>12:15 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday Luncheon</strong></td>
<td>PAL Hotel Ballroom - Derrick Barnes and Gordon C. James</td>
<td>12:15 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday Lunch Sessions</strong></td>
<td>Bank of Springfield Center Lowever Level</td>
<td>1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sessions/Featured Speakers/Workshops</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>2:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Refreshments in Exhibit Area</strong></td>
<td>Bank of Springfield Center Exhibit Hall</td>
<td>3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IRC Annual Membership Meeting</strong></td>
<td>PAL Hotel Lincoln Room</td>
<td>4:45 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Preservice Teachers’ Pizza Party</strong></td>
<td>PAL Hotel Ballroom</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Conference Sessions

### Friday, March 10, 2023

#### 7:00 – 8:30

**Friday Breakfast**

120. 7:00 – 8:30
What Gets Us to a High-Functioning Democracy?
Leveraging Our Reading and Teaching Lives to Build Social Comprehension

Sara K. Ahmed  
Educator/Author  
Chicago, Illinois

I’ve been thinking a lot about the ways we gather and our society’s ability to talk (and listen!) to one another. Join us to explore the ways we gather in schools, around the table, and in our broader communities. How are our gatherings co-created? We will examine the implications on our ability to converse, build common ground, and ultimately, participate in our democracy as co-architects of belonging in our schools.

**Audience:** Ticket Required  
**Location:** PAL Ballroom

---

#### 8:30 – 3:30

121. 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Administrators Academy: Understanding and Supporting Instructional Coaching: A Toolkit for Administrators

Alison Gordon  
Northwestern University’s School of Education and Social Policy  
Evanston, Illinois

Instructional coaches are all over education and many schools have recently acquired them or grown their program. How do you as a leader help them and the program increase the instructional capacity of your faculty? This session will hone in on those practices that build up your tool box and understanding of the supportive actions administrators can take and how to avoid fragmentation with your evaluation and coaching processes. Coaching can be a major leadership lever for you to drive performance so our hope is for you to learn actual steps you can take to increase the skill of your coaches, teachers, and you!

**Audience:** Ticket Required  
**Location:** PAL Lincoln Room

---

**IRC Service Award**

**Stephanie Benson**

Award will be presented by  
Cindi Koudelka, IRC State Coordinator

---

**Not Yet... That’s OK**

Create resilient learners

Visit capstonepub.com to learn more

---

DOWNLOAD CONFERENCE APP FOR ABSTRACTS AND MORE
COFFEE BREAK
FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 2023
8:30 to 9:30 a.m.
Sponsored by
in the Exhibit Hall
Refreshment Area

VISIT THE EXHIBITS
FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 2023
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Refreshments will be served from 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. in the Exhibit Hall

8:30 – 9:30

122. 8:30 – 9:30
The Making of the Most Decorated Picture Book

Derrick Barnes
Author
Charlotte, North Carolina

Derrick Barnes discusses the long road (14 years) that it took for his writing career to finally take off and how an unlikely topic became the theme for the book that catapulted his career.

Audience: All
Location: BOS Center B-11A

123. 8:30 – 9:30
An Authorator’s Story

David Biedrzycki
Author
Taylor, Pennsylvania

Do you ever wish you could go behind the scenes of a published children’s book and be able to relate to your students the crazy process it takes to make one? From idea seed to finished story, Monarch Award winning Authorator (50% Author 50% Illustrator) David Biedrzycki takes you on that journey, highlighting his newest books “Invasion of the Unicorns” and “SumoKitty” with humor, videos and writing suggestions you could take back with you to your students. So, you could answer the question: “What the heck was the author thinking?” David creates his art digitally will be doing some live demonstrations along with videos. After visiting hundreds of elementary schools over the past decade I started to understand the importance of sharing with students the way a story is taken from idea seed to finished book. We all get ideas for stories, but the process sometimes gets in the way of actually writing it. I plan to show the attendees how with persistence and time an idea that starts out with just a simple drawing morphs into a story. My stories start out that way. But each idea’s challenge is finding out the best way to share it in a story.

Audience: All
Location: BOS Center B-11BC
124. 8:30 – 9:30
Hidden Meanings: Easter Eggs and Details that Support Big Ideas

Gordon C. James
Author
Charlotte, North Carolina

In children’s books, there are primary, secondary and even tertiary messages. Some of these are conveyed through the writing, others through big things in the illustrations like the setting, what the person is wearing. Sometimes there are big things happening in the illustration, but Gordon really loves how little things like what a person is wearing, or their body position, or the colors in the scene, communicate things like mood, intent, or even a commentary on an issue in the news. Some of these things are deep and important, others are fun for parents, like jokes in kids movies that are just for mom and dad. Come see where these elements are in Gordon’s books and find out how he uses them to support the stories he works on.

Audience: All
Location: BOS Center B-11D

125. 8:30 – 9:30
Instructional Practices that Support Linguistically Diverse Learners

Karen Blaha
University of St. Francis, Joliet

This interactive session will explore collaborative instructional practices aimed to engage and support reading, writing, speaking, and listening language acquisition of linguistically diverse students in a classroom environment. Participants will also reflect on their current and future practices.

Audience: 4-12, ELL, Adults
Strand: English Language Learners
Location: BOS Center B-1

126. 8:30 – 9:30
The Data Will Be Visualized: How Data Interrogation Energizes Relationships, Outcomes, and School Improvement

Jerry Michel
Chute Middle School, Evanston
Heather Cella
NWEA, Palatine

An exploration of how educator curiosity fuels data interrogation for goal-oriented outcomes. Using structured protocols with a revolutionary mindset, we will explore how to critically examine relationships across data sources to energize goal-setting for students and schools alike.

Audience: K-9, Univ, Admin
Strand: Coaching
Location: BOS Center B-2

127. 8:30 – 9:30
Strength-Based Responsive Teaching and Learning

Suzanne Creer
SD 205, Elmhurst

As an educator, the best gift you can give your students is a well-rounded reading education based on strength. Many students have lost their belief in themselves as readers, thinkers, and writers. In this session, we will learn about easy-to-implement instructional strategies that will bring back the joy of reading to every child.

Audience: 6-12, ELL, Spec
Strand: Social Emotional Learning (SEL)
Location: BOS Center B-3

128. 8:30 – 9:30
Integrating SEL and Academic Skills in the Middle School Classroom

Jennifer Henderson
Springman Middle School, Glenview
Amy K. Cooley
Reinberg Elementary School, Chicago

Students need SEL supports now more than ever. We will share how we use picture books and novels to not only teach literacy skills but also to support their social-emotional needs. Resources will be provided.

Audience: 6-9, ELL, Spec
Strand: Social Emotional Learning (SEL)
Location: BOS Center B-4
129. 8:30 – 9:30
Building Students’ Vocabulary: Implementing Explicit Vocabulary Instruction in the English Classroom
Adam Whitaker
Irving Independent School District, Irving
In this session, participants will learn how to employ explicit vocabulary instruction in the English classroom. This session will (1) discuss research on effective vocabulary instruction, and (2) highlight three strategies participants can implement in their own classrooms.
Audience: 6-12, ELL
Strand: Writing
Location: BOS Center B-6

130. 8:30 – 9:30
Encouraging Intellectual Curiosity, Using Picture Books with Young Advanced and Gifted Readers
Laura Betchenko
ELA, Assessment and Gifted Education Consultant, Libertyville
In this text rich presentation, we will explore picture books, appropriate novels selections for curious young advanced, accelerated and gifted literacy learners. Educators will leave this session with text selection ideas, and a wealth of new ideas to add depth, complexity and enjoyment to young advanced readers experiences.
Audience: PreK-3, ELL, Adults, Univ, Admin, Lib
Strand: Equity & Diversity
Location: BOS Center B-7

131. 8:30 – 9:30
Celebrating Students’ Cultures While Improving Writing with Poetry
Diana Brannon
Elmhurst University, Elmhurst
Learn how poetry can be used to increase the vocabulary, writing, and fluency skills of English Language Learners in the primary grades. Easy ways to utilize poetry to help students learn about and share about their cultural heritage will be shared.
Audience: K-3, ELL
Strand: English Language Learners
Location: BOS Center B-8

132. 8:30 – 9:30
The Gems of Multicultural Children’s Literature
Amy Davis
Eastern Illinois University, Charleston
Multicultural children’s literature offers a lens into different cultural traditions and symbolism that unless otherwise noted, teachers may overlook the opportunity to share with their students. This presentation will feature these cultural “gems” from such ethnic groups as African American, Arabic, Asian, Hispanic, and Indigenous.
Audience: K-6
Strand: Equity & Diversity
Location: BOS Center B-9

133. 8:30 – 9:30
Terrific Text Sets to Energize Content Area Instruction: Sparking Interest and Inquiry
Karen Biggs-Tucker
Wild Rose Elementary School, St. Charles
Brian Tucker
Wild Rose Elementary School, St. Charles
Discover classroom-tested strategies for engaging learners with informational texts throughout your instructional day, including science and social studies.
Audience: K-6
Strand: Writing
Location: BOS Center B-10

134. 8:30 – 9:30
How to Match Students With Books
Dawn Taylor
Carbondale Community High School, Carbondale
Through my many years as a middle school reading teacher and as a high school librarian, I have perfected the art of matching students with “the” book that will turn them into a lifelong reader. In this presentation, I will share the method to my madness!
Audience: 6-12, Lib
Strand: Reluctant Readers
Location: PAL Ottawa A
135. 8:30 – 9:30
Building Resilient Adolescents: Infusing Social Emotional Learning Into Middle School Instruction
Tina Scruggs
Judson University, Elgin
Adolescents today struggle with common tasks – working through a math problem, reading an entire book, sitting through a 45-minute class, etc. In this session, SEL research and strategies will be shared, along with simulation ideas to help our adolescents develop stronger self-awareness skills.
Audience: 6-9
Strand: Social Emotional Learning (SEL)
Location: PAL Ottawa B

136. 8:30 – 9:30
Doing it All in Middle School ELA
Marissa Stratton
Riverton Middle School
Jill Mutzbauer
Riverton Middle School
Reading, Writing, Grammar, Vocabulary ... In just 1-2 classes/day, how is one teacher supposed to meet ALL the standards and do ALL the things? Learn how we have used data driven planning to pare down our focus, increase our scores, and save our sanity, all while maintaining our love of teaching.
Audience: 4-9
Strand: Coaching
Location: PAL Altgeld

137. 8:30 – 9:30
Bilingual Literacy Practices with Biliterate Readers
Dora Guzman
Bensenville SD 2, Bensenville
Yuridia Zepeda
Tioga Elementary School, Bensenville
Practitioners and researchers will become familiar with current holistic data analysis practices that will then inform appropriate literacy practices for bilingual readers and writers in small groups.
Audience: K-3
Strand: English Language Learners
Location: PAL Bond

138. 8:30 – 9:30
Growing Readers: Books and Resources for the Young Gardener
Christina Edmonds-Beihrend
Eastern Illinois University, Charleston
Michele McDaniel
Eastern Illinois University, Charleston
Cultivating an interest in horticulture can be interdisciplinary, increase partnerships between the school and community, and promote healthy habits. Presenters partnered with the local extension office to create a list of quality books and resources for master gardeners and teachers.
Audience: K-6, Spec, Lib
Strand: Early Career
Location: PAL Freeport A

139. 8:30 – 9:30
Korean Poetry Competition Provides Opportunity for American Students
Elizabeth Jorgensen
Arrowhead Union High School, Hartland, WI
Teachers will be introduced to a Korean poetic form, known as SIJO. Throughout the interactive presentation, instructors will learn how to teach SIJO to students and about the benefits and logistics of entering students into the national SIJO writing competition sponsored by Harvard’s Sejong Cultural Society.
Audience: All
Strand: Writing
Location: PAL Freeport B

140. 8:30 – 9:30
How to Increase the Vigor of Your Writing Tasks
Peg Grafwallner
Ronald Reagan College Preparatory High School, Milwaukee, WI
I will explain authentic writing and how to write for an authentic Audience. I will demonstrate how to give students opportunities that move beyond the basic writing format and focus on writing goals that demonstrate how to think critically, creatively and credibly. Finally, I will offer writing scaffolding tools meant to engage all writers.
Audience: 4-12, Spec
Strand: Writing
Location: PAL Freeport C
IRC Publications

The Illinois Reading Council offers many resources to their members. Take advantage of these great materials to share with organizations, parents, or teachers! The items listed below can be ordered from the IRC Office by phone at 309-454-1341. Prices and order forms are available on the IRC website.

Some ABC’s for Raising a Reader
Parents are their child’s first teachers, and it’s never too soon to introduce your child to books. By reading aloud to your child, you provide the sounds of written language, demonstrate book handling skills, develop your child’s expectation that the print and pictures carry a message and build positive attitudes toward reading. Use this ABC listing of ways that you can encourage a love of reading and make reading fun for your child.

Attempting Unknown Words: Suggestions for Parents
As the parent of a young child, you are a very important person for your child’s reading and language development. You are your child’s first teacher! This tri-fold brochure will provide strategies to aid your child as s/he attempts unknown words.

Help Me Grow To Be A Reader
This little 16-page booklet helps parents understand how children grow to be readers, as told from the child’s point of view. Strategies for helping young readers develop their reading skills are outlined in a fun format.

141. 9:45 – 10:45
Ready to Reign: How the King of Kindergarten Earned His Crown
Derrick Barnes
Author
Charlotte, North Carolina

Derrick Barnes shares the creation of “Daddy Summer Get Right Summer Camp!” He details how he prepared his four sons for kindergarten.

Audience: All
Location: BOS Center B-11A

142. 9:45 – 10:45
Being the Change: Leveraging Identity and Social Comprehension in the Classroom
Sara K. Ahmed
Educator/Author
Chicago, Illinois

Drawing from Sara’s books, Being the Change: Lessons and Strategies to Teach Social Comprehension and Upstanders: How to Engage Middle School Hearts and Minds with Inquiry (co-authored with Harvey “Smokey” Daniels), participants will learn to center identity, and leverage the social skills and habits necessary to examine real issues by participating in relevant, transparent conversations. In this session, we will focus specifically on social identities and how they impact the way we see our students. Sara will lead participants through literacy workshop style exercises that can be taken back into the classroom or professional growth meeting. We will also discuss how being candid with students and inquiring into biases and perspectives help us consider the ways we respond to our respective worlds— the classroom or playing field, social media, or our own dinner tables. Come prepared to consider your own identities, your students’ identities and how social comprehension has a direct impact on all that we do as educators and human beings.

Audience: All
Location: BOS Center B-11BC
143. 9:45 – 10:45
Hidden Meanings: Easter Eggs and Details that Support Big Ideas

Gordon C. James
Author
Charlotte, North Carolina

In children’s books, there are primary, secondary and even tertiary messages. Some of these are conveyed through the writing, others through big things in the illustrations like the setting, what the person is wearing. Sometimes there are big things happening in the illustration, but Gordon really loves how little things like what a person is wearing, or their body position, or the colors in the scene, communicate things like mood, intent, or even a commentary on an issue in the news. Some of these things are deep and important, others are fun for parents, like jokes in kids movies that are just for mom and dad. Come see where these elements are in Gordon’s books and find out how he uses them to support the stories he works on.

Audience: All
Location: BOS Center B-11D

144. 9:45 – 10:45
A Move Towards Excellent Literature: The 2024 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers’ Book Award Nominees
Ruth Gheysen
Frederick School, Grayslake

The 2024 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers’ Book Award nominees will be presented and discussed. Presenters and participants will share how the books are promoted, celebrated, and used in their classroom libraries.

Audience: 4-9, Admin, Lib
Strand: Early Career
Location: BOS Center B-1

145. 9:45 – 10:45
STEM to STREAM: Using STEM Picture Books to Stimulate Intellectual Curiosity, Critical Thinking, and Creative Writing
Alice McGinty
Illinois Author – SCBWI
Sarah Aronson
Illinois Author – SCBWI

Intellectual curiosity is key to academic success, and picture books are ideal platforms to stimulate curiosity. Two acclaimed picture book authors empower teachers to facilitate deep-level questioning, prompt non-conventional problem solving, use language to explore ideas, and ignite hungry minds.

Audience: PreK-6, Lib
Strand: STEAM
Location: BOS Center B-2
Sponsored by SCBWI

146. 9:45 – 10:45
The Science of Reading: What Teachers & Leaders Need to Know About Brain Development and Literacy
Martha Burns
Carnegie Learning, Pittsburgh, PA
John Rocco
Carnegie Learning, Pittsburgh, PA

The human brain is an experience-dependent organ - changing dramatically during childhood and adolescence with any new learning and structured practice. This presentation will summarize research on how reading builds multiple complex brain systems important for other learning and life skills.

Audience: K-9, Univ, Admin
Strand: Administration
Location: BOS Center B-3
Sponsored by Carnegie Learning Corporation
147. 9:45 – 10:45
Students Bloom Through Literacy Arts Infusion by Engaging and Empowering Collaboration of Teachers, Families and Communities
Laura Mudd
Program Director, ARTSiE, Hanover Park
Eleni Vrettos
Spring Wood Middle School, Hanover Park
Brianna Eggebrecht
Spring Wood Middle School, Hanover Park
Corinne Schultz
Spring Wood Middle School, Hanover Park
How to expand and deepen literacy by integrating poetry and reading strategies with the arts to strengthen student engagement, reading comprehension and family involvement. Educator highlights include a family field trip, author visit, artist collaboration leading up to a final student co-created performance.
**Audience:** K-9, ELL, Spec, Univ, Admin, Lib
**Strand:** Reluctant Readers
**Location:** BOS Center B-4

148. 9:45 – 10:45
Implementing Culturally Responsive Teaching Practices into Math and Reading Interventions
Jaclyn Turner
Edison Middle School, Champaign
Teneka Richardson
Edison Middle School, Champaign
Ryan O’Connor
Novak Academy, Champaign
When an opportunity gap exists, it leads to large disparities in educational attainment between culturally and linguistically diverse groups of students. This presents a significant problem; however, intervention is underutilized, yet it meets its fullest potential through the culturally responsive teaching framework.
**Audience:** PreK-12, ELL, Spec, Adults, Univ, Admin
**Strand:** Coaching
**Location:** BOS Center B-6

149. 9:45 – 10:45
Blending ELA Reading Informational Standards and the Revised Illinois Social Studies Standards – Revolutionize your Instruction
Laura Beltchenko
ELA, Assessment and Gifted Education Consultant, Libertyville
This information rich session will share how to blend the newly revised Illinois Social Science Standards with the ELA Reading Information Standards to create a rewarding integration of standards based instruction and student literacy learning. Resources will be shared!
**Audience:** K-9, ELL, Spec, Univ, Admin, Lib
**Strand:** Equity & Diversity
**Location:** BOS Center B-7

150. 9:45 – 10:45
Enhancing the Literacy Experience With Apps
Melanie Koss
Northern Illinois University, DeKalb
Donna Wakefield
National Louis University, Chicago
Come and learn about various apps, extensions, and websites that can be used to enhance the ways students interact with literature. This session will share ideas for increasing access for all students to participate and progress in their literacy development.
**Audience:** PreK-12, ELL, Spec
**Strand:** Reluctant Readers
**Location:** BOS Center B-8

151. 9:45 – 10:45
Content Area Literacy: Toolkit of Disciplinary Strategies for Middle and High School
Rachel Lesinski-Roscoe
Grayslake Central High School, Grayslake
Paula Di Domenico
Leyden High School, Franklin Park
Jenni Clesen
Grayslake Central High School, Grayslake
Jerry Johns
Northern Illinois University, DeKalb
This workshop-style session teaches disciplinary literacy strategies that: support students’ development of academic vocabulary; enhance their ability to comprehend, analyze, and synthesize text; foster growth of academic writing; and develop effective collaboration and communication skills.
**Audience:** 6-12, ELL, Adults, Univ, Admin
**Strand:** SRL
**Location:** BOS Center B-9
152. 9:45 – 10:45
Envision This! An Integrated Reading-Writing Workshop
   Maria Walther
   Educational Consultant, Aurora
   Karen Biggs-Tucker
   Wild Rose Elementary, St. Charles
In this idea-packed hour, see how a slight perspective shift can lead to student-focused learning opportunities in an integrated literacy workshop. Leave with a list of mentor texts that spotlight the habits and behaviors of literate citizens.
Audience: K-6
Location: BOS Center B-10

153. 9:45 – 10:45
CANCELED
Be the Sorting Hat: Using Personality Typology to Grow Exceptional Classroom Community
   Laura McConkey
   CUSD # 303, Saint Charles
SEL has become even more important over the past few years and we all know we need to up our game. But is a box program or PBIS structure the best we can do? Grouping students according to personality type grows classroom community and builds student identity and responsibility as well.
Audience: K-12, Adults, Univ, Admin
Strand: Social Emotional Learning (SEL)
Location: PAL Ottawa A

154. 9:45 – 10:45
CANCELED
Culturally Responsive Standards for Teachers
   Melissa Wheeler
   Mattoon CUSD 2
Did you know that ISBE adopted a set of standards for all Illinois Educators and Leaders in 2021 in an effort to help shape the profession into being more culturally responsive? The standards encompass A LOT! We will break them down, dive deeply into them together, and share resources to help us on our journey to meeting these standards!
Audience: All
Strand: Equity & Diversity
Location: PAL Ottawa B

155. 9:45 – 10:45
Book Banning in 21st Century America: Is this Dystopian YA Fiction?
   Jennifer Brooks
   Illinois State University, Bloomington
   Jennifer Martin
   University of Illinois at Springfield
We reflect on the current state of education by sharing recent attacks on the teaching of race and the banning of books in various US states. We share the implications of such restrictions and strategies for teachers to combat them.
Audience: All
Strand: Librarians
Location: PAL Altgeld

156. 9:45 – 10:45
Looking for Palestine – Resources for Teachers
   Kristin Lems
   National Louis University, Chicago
   Linda Kateeb
   Galileo Scholastic Academy, Chicago
A sizable number of Illinois school children are of Palestinian descent, but they rarely find themselves in children’s books and classroom resources. The rich history and culture of Palestinians deserves attention. Author Naomi Shihab Nye is one author; we’ll share others.
Audience: All
Strand: Equity & Diversity
Location: PAL Bond

157. 9:45 – 10:45
Disability Representation in Your Library
   Michele McDaniel
   Eastern Illinois University, Charleston
   Christina Edmonds-Behrend
   Eastern Illinois University, Charleston
Finding quality disability representation in children’s and young adult literature can be a challenge. Presenters will share their experiences writing a grant centered on disability representation in children’s literature and teaching manipulatives, share collection development tools, and provide programming ideas.
Audience: PreK-12, Spec, Univ, Admin, Lib
Strand: Early Career
Location: PAL Freeport A
158.  9:45 – 10:45  
Teens Love To Argue; Let’s Develop Their Ability to Do So!  
Katherine McKnight  
  Educational Consultant, Antoich  
Alan Sitomer  
  California Teacher of the Year, Thousand Oaks, CA  
When student writers comprehend and craft written arguments, they can explore challenging topics and be a powerful voice. This session will showcase writing activities that take the ambiguity out of teaching disengaged students to become powerful writers.  
**Audience:** 6-12, ELL  
**Strand:** Writing  
**Location:** PAL Freeport B  
**Sponsored by Short, BIG!**

159.  9:45 – 10:45  
Back to the Basics – Time to Regroup and Re-Energize  
Terri Colyer  
  CUSD 10, Auburn  
This professional learning seminar helps educators improve upon themselves driving positive changes in the daily classroom and interactions with peers and administrators. The seminar focuses on teacher communication, mindset, expectations, teamwork, and style including roundtable discussions.  
**Audience:** All  
**Location:** PAL Freeport C

160.  11:00 – 12:00  
New and Notable Books for Grades K-8  
Becky Anderson Wilkins  
Anderson’s Bookshops  
Naperville, Illinois  
This is a presentation of new and notable books recommended for classroom reading. A variety of genres, including picture books, poetry, fiction, and informational books will be presented, and books will be available for inspection.  
**Audience:** PreK-9  
**Location:** BOS Center B-11A

161.  11:00 – 12:00  
When the World Hands you a Curriculum  
Sara K. Ahmed  
Educator/Author  
Chicago, Illinois  
How do we teach students to comprehend the news, while holding what they know about their own identities and their classmates in mind? In what ways does the news affect us? We will explore strategies for bringing current events into the classroom. We will then engage in conversations about what to do when current events affect our classroom and co-create an understanding of how to be proactive with norms for discussions that can arise at any time. Come prepared to engage in a thoughtful examination of identity and what’s in your news (a phrase coined by one of Sara’s former students) through writing, reading, and discussion.  
**Audience:** All  
**Location:** BOS Center B-11BC
162.  11:00 – 12:00
An Authorator’s Story

David Biedrzycki
Author
Taylor, Pennsylvania

Do you ever wish you could go behind the scenes of a published children’s book and be able to relate to your students the crazy process it takes to make one? From idea seed to finished story, Monarch Award winning Authorator (50% Author 50% Illustrator) David Biedrzycki takes you on that journey, highlighting his newest books “Invasion of the Unicorns” and “SumoKitty” with humor, videos and writing suggestions you could take back with you to your students. So, you could answer the question: “What the heck was the author thinking?” David creates his art digitally will be doing some live demonstrations along with videos. After visiting hundreds of elementary schools over the past decade I started to understand the importance of sharing with students the way a story is taken from idea seed to finished book. We all get ideas for stories, but the process sometimes gets in the way of actually writing it. I plan to show the attendees how with persistence and time an idea that starts out with just a simple drawing morphs into a story. My stories start out that way. But each idea’s challenge is finding out the best way to share it in a story.

Audience: All
Location: BOS Center B-11D

163.  11:00 – 12:00
Grumpy Cats, Anxious Bears & The Debate on Pants – Books by Jacob Grant

Jacob Grant
Author
Oak Park, Illinois

Jacob Grant is the author and Illustrator of No Pants, Bear’s Scare, and Cat Knit, among other picture books featuring characters not having a great day. Join Jacob for an inspiring talk about his process of making stories and art, in which he’ll share a few books, discuss his background and influences, and create some live drawings with the attendees. The grumpiest of cats is guaranteed to find something to brighten their mood.

Audience: All
Location: BOS Center B-3

164.  11:00 – 12:00
It’s Tradition!

Kimberly Gow
Chicago Public Schools, Chicago

Traditions are not just a source of enjoyment but also have been known to reduce stress and increase mental well-being. Learn how to create unity and build community through the concept of creating traditions.

Audience: 4-12, Admin
Strand: Social Emotional Learning (SEL)
Location: BOS Center B-1

165.  11:00 – 12:00
How to Conduct a GREAT School Visit

Alice McGinty
Illinois Author – SCBWI
Sarah Aronson
Illinois Author – SCBWI
Reese Eschmann
Illinois Author – SCBWI

Interested in bringing authors and illustrators to your school? School visits are inspirational - and shouldn’t be hard or expensive. SCBWI Read Local coordinators introduce the ins-and-outs of hosting school visits and the Illinois authors and illustrators who do them.

Audience: PreK-12, Lib
Strand: Librarians
Location: BOS Center B-2
Sponsored by SCBWI

166.  11:00 – 12:00
Interactive Read Alouds for our Culturally Diverse World

Carrie Molinero
Madison School, Hinsdale

In our ever-changing world, providing reading experiences with culturally diverse literature fosters empathy, appreciation, and respect for those around us.

Audience: PreK-9, Admin, Lib
Strand: Social Emotional Learning (SEL)
Location: BOS Center B-4

Heinemann Books are in Booth 328
167. 11:00 – 12:00
Midwest Books 2 Prisoners ... Everyone Deserves the Freedom to Read
Michelle Alfano
Midwest Books 2 Prisoners, Chicago
Jacqueline Spreadbury
Midwest Books 2 Prisoners, Chicago
At Midwest Books 2 Prisoners, we support incarcerated people in all 50 states at the federal, state and local level by sending them books which are donated to us. Book banning is a serious issue in American prisons and we are fighting, on a daily basis, for people’s right to read.
**Audience:** 9-12, ELL, Spec, Adults, Univ, Lib
**Strand:** Librarians
**Location:** BOS Center B-6

168. 11:00 – 12:00
Poetics of Piracy: Creative Writing with Mentor Texts
Meg Davis
Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY
This session explores imitation and mentor texts as generative tools for fostering creative student expression. In addition to providing concrete resources – such as prompts, poetry and vignette texts – this session will give space for attendees to experiment with craft.
**Audience:** 9-12
**Strand:** Writing
**Location:** BOS Center B-7

169. 11:00 – 12:00
Google Slides: Tips, Tricks, Turns, and Twists
Donna Wakefield
National Louis University, Chicago
Melanie Koss
Northern Illinois University, DeKalb
Google Slides is a popular educational tool. We will share extensions, add-ons, and additional options and demonstrate uses in different settings. Make the most of Google Slides with these resources, regardless of whether you’re a beginner or an expert.
**Audience:** PreK-12, ELL, Spec, Adults
**Strand:** Technology
**Location:** BOS Center B-8

170. 11:00 – 12:00
Calling all Teachers of Writing: Locating the Most Effective Resources for Professional Growth
Alma Vera
Chicago Public Schools, Chicago
Without proper preparation, teachers of writing are left searching for their own professional learning to be more effective for their students. This session offers a research-based list of professional learning resources for teachers of writing at all levels.
**Audience:** K-12, Adults, Admin
**Strand:** Writing
**Location:** BOS Center B-9

171. 11:00 – 12:00
Extending the Read-Aloud Experience: Exciting Ideas to Cultivate Curiosity and Promote Creative Communication
Maria Walther
Educational Consultant, Aurora
How do you artfully engage readers and help them clearly communicate their thoughts and ideas? In this energetic session, Rhonda and Maria will share innovative ways to connect classroom read alouds to experiences that fuel inquiry and spark creative expression.
**Audience:** K-6, Lib
**Strand:** Librarians
**Location:** BOS Center B-10

172. 11:00 – 12:00
Libraries, Languages, and Changing Community Needs
Jill Hallett
University of Illinois Chicago
How does the literacy landscape of a public library support the home languages of students and families in one linguistically-diverse community, particularly as it receives immigrants and refugees? This research uncovers how the library meets, privileges, and erases community languages.
**Audience:** ELL, Admin, Lib
**Strand:** Librarians
**Location:** PAL Ottawa A
173. 11:00 – 12:00
Rethinking Reader Response
Kristy Piebenga
Judson University, Elgin
We want students to be active readers and thinkers! But typical Reader Response requirements often limit student response and engagement. We will explore a variety of strategies that meet standards while also meeting students’ needs, interests, and learning styles. Your students will be excited about reading AND thinking.
**Audience:** K-9
**Strand:** Reluctant Readers
**Location:** PAL Ottawa B

174. 11:00 – 12:00
Novels! Novels! Novels!
Jill Mutzbauer
Riverton Middle School
Marissa Stratton
Riverton Middle School
Learn how we’ve continued to successfully use novels in our standards driven classroom. When many schools are throwing novels out, we’ve found a way to continue using novels, incorporate nonfiction texts, teach to the standards, and grow our scores.
**Audience:** 4-9
**Strand:** Coaching
**Location:** PAL Altgeld

175. 11:00 – 12:00
Inclusive Texts Across Instruction
Aimee Ellis
Loyola University Chicago
The focus of this session will be the importance of inclusive texts in the classroom, with examples of books as well as ways teachers have used the books with elementary students. We will talk about using the texts across literacy instruction and content areas.
**Audience:** K-6, Univ, Admin, Lib
**Strand:** Equity & Diversity
**Location:** PAL Bond

176. 11:00 – 12:00
Centering Students’ Lives in the Texts They Read: Writing Culturally Relevant Texts for Emerging and Uninspired Readers
Gabriella M. Diaz
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School, Galesburg
Mary E. Lyons
Knox College, Galesburg
Participants will learn about one teacher’s writing process – prewriting to publishing – as she developed culturally relevant texts for emerging and uninspired “reluctant” readers, including many ELs. Participants will brainstorm ideas and discuss tools for writing culturally relevant texts for their students.
**Audience:** K-3, ELL, Univ, Admin, Lib
**Strand:** Equity & Diversity
**Location:** PAL Freeport A

177. 11:00 – 12:00
Scaffolding Up for Multilingual Learners
Carly Spina
Illinois Resource Center, Arlington Heights
In this session, participants will examine appropriate scaffolds and supports for supporting multilingual learners in reading across various proficiency levels. Educators & leaders will leave feeling equipped with tools that do not water skills down, but instead elevate and lift language!
**Audience:** K-9, ELL, Admin
**Strand:** English Language Learners
**Location:** PAL Freeport B

178. 11:00 – 12:00
Lead the Literacy Work or Get Out of the Way – A Real Conversation
Tinaya York
Network for College Success, Chicago
Education leaders will be given practical and effective tips to create schools and classrooms where Black children learn how to read and socialize the best approaches for teaching children how to read; this is equity.
**Audience:** K-12, Admin
**Strand:** Administration
**Location:** PAL Freeport C
The Prairie State Award for Excellence in Writing for Children honors an Illinois author whose body of work demonstrates excellence, engenders a love of literature, and embraces an important part of the Illinois Reading Council Mission – to promote lifelong literacy.

Congratulations!

STEVEN L. LAYNE

Steven L. Layne has written more than 25 books in a wide range of genres. Among his most celebrated and award-winning titles are *The Teachers’ Night Before Christmas*, *My Brother Dan’s Delicious*, *Love the Baby*, *Verses for Dad’s Heart*, *Life’s Literacy Lessons*, *This Side of Paradise*, *Igniting a Passion for Reading*, and *In Defense of Read-Alouds*. He currently serves as Professor and Chair of the Department of Education at Wheaton College. His vast array of experience working at multiple grade levels in the public schools allows him a unique camaraderie with teachers and librarians and his award-winning books for children and young adults add another appealing element to his dynamic presentations. Steven has been honored with numerous awards for his work as an educator and researcher. At the conference, IRC is thrilled to announce that Steven will be the 2023 recipient of the Prairie State Award for Excellence in Writing for Children. Please join IRC is congratulating him!
179. Luncheon 12:15 – 2:00  
From Hallmark to Drew Barrymore – Our Path to Collaborate

Derrick Barnes  
Author  
Charlotte, North Carolina

Gordon C. James  
Author  
Charlotte, North Carolina

Multi award winner picture book creators have a candid conversation about the years leading up to them creating the two picture books that changed their lives.

Audience: Ticket Required  
Location: PAL Ballroom

180. Luncheon 12:15 – 2:00  
If You Only Knew

Steven L. Layne  
Educator/Author  
Wheaton College  
Wheaton, Illinois

In this engaging keynote address, Dr. Layne focuses on his work as a writer of award-winning texts from multiple genres to educate the Audience, in a highly entertaining manner, about his life as a published writer. For years Steven’s work as a teacher and researcher has been at the forefront of his addresses throughout the world. With nearly a million books sold and with accolades, awards, and recognition in every genre of writing, he has, until now, kept the writing portion of his career rather quiet. Lots of laughter and a few tears are guaranteed as the arc of this master storyteller’s plotline swings from ridiculous to resonant—inspiring the Audience from beginning to end.

Audience: Ticket Required  
Location: Wyndham Grand Ballroom

Prairie State Award for Excellence in Children’s Writing  
will be presented to

Steven L. Layne  
Award will be presented by Cindy Wilson, Chair

Jerry Johns Reading Educator of the Year Award  
will be presented at the Friday Luncheon to

Elizabeth Goldsmith-Conley  
Award will be presented by Melissa Wheeler, Chair

Static Sticker Decal Contest Winner  
Ana-Elisa Scheick  
Leland Elementary CUSD #1

Award will be presented by Kathleen Sweeney, ICARE
181.  1:00 – 2:00  
Book Gossip  
Becky Anderson Wilkins  
Anderson’s Bookshops  
Naperville, Illinois  
What are the hottest new adult titles for your reading pleasure? Come to the Book Gossip to hear about great reads for grown ups!  
Audience: All  
Location: BOS Center B-11A

182.  1:00 - 2:00  
Let’s Talk About Sketch  
Stefanie Crawford  
Illinois Digital Educators Alliance, Peoria  
Sketchnotes allow for information synthesis and retention. Go through an introductory lesson that can be used, or adapted, to bring visual literacy in the form of sketchnotes to students from elementary to high school in a non-threatening and engaging manner.  
Audience: 4-12, ELL, Spec, Adults, Univ  
Location: BOS Center B-1  
Sponsored by Illinois Digital Educators Alliance (IDEA)

183.  1:00 - 2:00  
Connecting the Art of Teaching with the Science of Reading  
Eileen Townsend  
Curriculum Associates, St. Louis, MO  
Chris Burgess  
Curriculum Associates, St. Louis, MO  
Come learn how to incorporate strategies to shift your foundational instructional practices. This session will focus on embedded strategic routines, content-rich decodable texts, and targeted assessments to teach foundational skills efficiently and effectively.  
Audience: K-3, Admin  
Location: BOS Center B-2  
Sponsored by Curriculum Associates

184.  1:00 - 2:00  
What Does Structured Literacy Look Like in Practice?  
Morgynne Hicks  
95 Percent Group, Lincolnshire  
This Structured Literacy presentation focuses on HOW to teach in alignment with the principles of Structured Literacy. In this practical session, participants will see examples of instructional routines for teaching PA, phonics, and word study that aligns with the Science of Reading research.  
Audience: K-9  
Strand: Coaching  
Location: BOS Center B-4  
Sponsored by 95 Percent Group LLC

HUNGRY?  
The BOS Center Concession Stand is Open!  
Purchase lunch and take it to one of the lunch time sessions planned from 1:00-2:00 p.m. in the BOS Center  
Concessions are Open:  
Thursday  8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Friday    8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
185. 1:00 - 2:00
A Prairie State Perspective: Learning to Love Agriculture through the Eyes of Illinois Authors
Stephanie Hospelhorn
Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom, Bloomington
Lee Deal
Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom, Bloomington
Do you know where your food comes from? Illinois authors do! Ignite a passion for agriculture through children’s literature written right here in the Prairie State. Join us for more on these a-maize-ing books and activities to go with each!

Audience: PreK-6, Lib
Location: BOS Center B-6
Sponsored by Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom

186. 1:00 - 2:00
Blossoming with Phonological and Phonemic Awareness
Emily Larsen
Zaner-Bloser, Columbus, Ohio
Phonemic proficiency is critical for literacy development. Students with well-developed sensitivity to the sound structure of language are better prepared to make connections between spoken and written language. Engaging and interactive instruction in phonological and phonemic awareness will be explored.

Audience: PreK-3, ELL, Spec, Admin
Location: BOS Center B-7
Sponsored by Zaner-Bloser

187. 1:00 - 2:00
Craft Polished Constructed Responses that Pass the Test
Kristina Smekens
Smekens Education Solutions, Inc., Warren, IN
Readers are assessed through writing. Knowing the answer isn’t enough; students must articulate it with evidence and explanation. This session reveals MANY strategies to achieve the test-essential ingredients that fit any formula – RACE, RAP, CER, Yes, MA’AM, and more.

Audience: 4-12, ELL, Spec, Admin
Strand: Writing
Location: BOS Center B-9
Sponsored by Smekens Education Solutions

188. 2:15 – 3:15
New and Notable Books for Young Adults
Becky Anderson Wilkins
Anderson’s Bookshops
Naperville, Illinois
This is a presentation of new and notable books recommended for classroom reading. A variety of genres, including picture books, poetry, fiction, and informational books will be presented, and books will be available for inspection.

Audience: All
Location: BOS Center B-11A

189. 2:15 – 3:15
An Authorator’s Story
David Biedrzycki
Author
Taylor, Pennsylvania
Do you ever wish you could go behind the scenes of a published children’s book and be able to relate to your students the crazy process it takes to make one? From idea seed to finished story, Monarch Award winning Authorator (50% Author 50% Illustrator) David Biedrzycki takes you on that journey, highlighting his newest books “Invasion of the Unicorns” and “SumoKitty” with humor, videos and writing suggestions you could take back with you to your students. So, you could answer the question: “What the heck was the author thinking?” David creates his art digitally will be doing some live demonstrations along with videos. After visiting hundreds of elementary schools over the past decade I started to understand the importance of sharing with students the way a story is taken from idea seed to finished book. We all get ideas for stories, but the process sometimes gets in the way of actually writing it. I plan to show the attendees how with persistence and time an idea that starts out with just a simple drawing morphs into a story. My stories start out that way. But each idea’s challenge is finding out the best way to share it in a story.

Audience: All
Location: BOS Center B-11D
190. 2:15 – 3:15
Children’s Literature as a Tool or Weapon: The Role of Media in the Politics of Teacher Curricular Freedom
Kathleen Paciga
Columbia College Chicago, Chicago
Melanie Koss
Northern Illinois University, DeKalb
Attendees will explore the politicizing of children’s literature selection, use, and inclusion in classrooms. Presenters will share news media headlines, and invite attendees to reflect on their curricular freedom, biases, and the resources that shape their stances about children’s literature.
Audience: PreK-9
Location: BOS Center B-1

191. 2:15 – 3:15
The Biography Clearinghouse; Where Curiosity, Craft, Content, and Creativity Converge
Amina Chaudhri
Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago
Ready to deepen and extend your use of diverse biographies? In this interactive session participants will learn about the Biography Clearinghouse Framework, explore newly created and curated resources, and brainstorm how to transform the role of biography in classrooms and schools.
Audience: K-9, Adults
Strand: Equity & Diversity
Location: BOS Center B-2

192. 2:15 – 3:15
Food and Identity in Children’s Books: The Case For Too Many Tamales
Antonio Causarano
Illinois State University, Normal
This study analyzes and assess the importance of food and identity in children’s books. It is an initial research on how food is part of children’s books as core texts in the literacy curriculum for diverse students. A tool to support students literacy development via culturally relevant teaching.
Audience: K-3
Strand: Equity & Diversity
Location: BOS Center B-3

193. 2:15 – 3:15
Choose Students: Unearth Your Teaching Autonomy to Discover Golden Readers
Nichole Woodruff
Batavia SD #101, Batavia
Kathryn Hoving
CUSD 300, Hampshire
Feel your teaching autonomy dwindling away? Ready to choose students over cookie-cutter curriculum requirements? Try collaborative teaching positions based on teacher-student relationships and Student Voice and Choice (SVC) literacy practices. Choose to make the whole child a priority.
Audience: 4-12
Strand: Equity & Diversity
Location: BOS Center B-4

194. 2:15 – 3:15
Digital Libraries for Spanish Bilingual Families
Samina Hadi-Tabassum
Erikson Institute, Chicago
Crystasany Turner
Erikson Institute, Chicago
Kristen Walter
Worldreader, Glen Ellyn
Our mixed method study analyzed a global literacy organization branching into the United States and offering an online book collection of Spanish bilingual books for elementary school age children and their families. We interviewed and surveyed 20 families on the ecology of literacy in the home and how they integrated books in their lives.
Audience: PreK-9, ELL, Admin, Lib
Strand: English Language Learners
Location: BOS Center B-6

195. 2:15 – 3:15
Picture Books to Inspire Readers and Writers to be Change Makers
Karen Biggs-Tucker
Wild Rose Elementary School, St. Charles
Learn how to inspire your students to understand themselves, others, and to be change makers through the use of picture books! Engaging learners through text, talk, and engaging experiences will help them understand that they can change the world!
Audience: K-6
Strand: Equity & Diversity
Location: BOS Center B-7
196.  2:15 – 3:15  
**Google Tools for Differentiation**  
Donna Wakefield  
National Louis University, Chicago  
Learn how to differentiate content, product, product, and process utilizing Docs, Slides, Sheets, Forms, Drawing, Sites, Calendar, Classroom, Chrome Apps, and Extensions.  
**Audience:**  K-12, ELL, Spec  
**Strand:**  Reluctant Readers  
**Location:**  BOS Center B-8

197.  2:15 – 3:15  
**Creating a Culture of Literacy**  
Christine Lewis  
Carthage Middle School, Carthage  
Jennifer White  
Carthage Middle School, Carthage  
Amy Shirey  
Carthage Middle School, Carthage  
Sarah Roberts  
Carthage Middle School, Carthage  
We will present an explanation of our class titled Literature Workshop and how that class led to Battle of the Books and the CMS Inklings Book Club as well as other literacy activities.  
**Audience:**  PreK-3, Admin  
**Location:**  PAL Ottawa B

198.  2:15 – 3:15  
**How To Turn Your School Library Into The Most Valued Space In Your School**  
Dawn Taylor  
Carbondale Community High School, Carbondale  
In this session, I will detail how I turned our high school library from an afterthought to the most sought out space in our school by both students and teachers.  
**Audience:**  6-12, Admin, Lib  
**Strand:**  Administration  
**Location:**  PAL Ottawa A

199.  2:15 – 3:15  
**Teaching Early Reading in the Wake of COVID**  
Tracy Beling  
DeKalb SD #428, DeKalb  
David Paige  
Northern Illinois University, DeKalb  
Jill Springer  
DeKalb SD #428, DeKalb  
Mary Gardner  
Northern Illinois University, DeKalb  
In the aftermath of the instructional devastation wrought by COVID-19, this presentation will discuss the importance of assessing critical reading skills and then adapting instruction from a developmental perspective to meet the learner where they are, regardless of grade level.  
**Audience:**  PreK-3, Admin  
**Location:**  PAL Ottawa A

200.  2:15 – 3:15  
**Challenging Advanced Learners with Discussion in the ELA Classroom**  
Kimberly Koehler-Freitag  
Educational Consultant, Elgin  
Participants will gain: (1.) information about the research-based rationale for using discussion to challenge advanced learners; (2.) experience with specific discussion strategies; (3.) strategies to facilitate discussion in the ELA classroom; (4.) resources to use in the classroom.  
**Audience:**  4-12  
**Location:**  PAL Altgeld

201.  2:15 – 3:15  
**Structuring Learning Environments to Promote Both Student-Directed Literacy Learning and Teacher-Directed Instruction**  
Allana N. Blankenship  
Silas Willard Elementary, Galesburg  
Mary E. Lyons  
Knox College, Galesburg  
Participants will learn about the approaches that four teachers took when organizing time, materials, and the physical environment for the “literacy block” in their classrooms. Participants will consider the benefits of ensuring both student-directed and teacher-directed literacy learning opportunities.  
**Audience:**  PreK-3, Univ, Admin  
**Strand:**  Equity & Diversity  
**Location:**  PAL Freeport A
202. 2:15 – 3:15
Building Students’ Cultural Competence through Writing
Elizabeth Jorgensen
Arrowhead Union High School,
Hartland, WI
Build cultural competence through creative writing exercises with authentic purposes! In this presentation, teachers will learn about how students can use poetry to connect global issues to their local and personal context, and as a response to under reported stories and current events.
Audience: 4-12
Strand: Equity & Diversity
Location: PAL Freeport B

203. 2:15 – 3:15
Talk, Play, and Legos, Oh My! Co-Constructed Meaning-Making in an Elementary Classroom
Demetra Disotuar
University of Illinois, Chicago
How do children engage in the comprehension process? This single case study investigated processes and interactions of one class of 4th grade students as they engaged with peers and LEGOs to co-construct meaning of text. Analysis and implications are shared.
Audience: 4-6, ELL, Spec, Univ
Strand: Equity & Diversity
Location: PAL Freeport C

204. 3:30 – 4:30
Nurturing Student Learning Autonomy – Learning How to Learn
Mary Beth Cunat
Spectrum School, Rockford
Jacque Lind
Spectrum School, Rockford
Utilizing two key learning frameworks, High Scope’s Plan-Do-Review and Learning One-to-One Relational Learning, the Spectrum team will share how it nurtures student ownership learning and supports children learning to learn.
Audience: PreK-9, Spec
Location: BOS Center B-1

205. 3:30 – 4:30
The Science of Reading: What It Looks Like and Sounds Like
Heather Cella
NWEA, Palatine
This presentation will discuss how to support early learners and build strong readers in the wake of the pandemic. This is an instruction-focused presentation centered on specific practices related to the Science of Reading with additional guidance for unfinished learning.
Audience: K-6, Univ, Admin
Strand: Coaching
Location: BOS Center B-2

206. 3:30 – 4:30
A Modified Pre-Bi-Literacy Block in Pre-Kindergarten Ensuring Academic Success: An Urban Admin Efforts Paid Off
Javier Arriola-Lopez
Chicago Public Schools, Chicago
Adelfio Garcia
Chicago Public Schools, Chicago
Engaging teachers in teaching and learning about their bi-literacy powers to impact Pre-kindergarteners in pre-bi-literacy and language skills to effectively use time, instruction, and resources in their urban classrooms.
Audience: PreK-9, ELL, Spec, Adults, Admin
Strand: Coaching
Location: BOS Center B-3
207. 3:30 – 4:30
High School Student Reading Engagement in Online and Hybrid Learning
Cindy Rousseau
Marian Catholic High School, Chicago Heights
A presentation of my dissertation research focused on high school student and teacher experiences with reading engagement in English language arts classes during COVID-19 with important implications for instruction and policy.
**Audience:** 6-12, Admin
**Strand:** Technology
**Location:** BOS Center B-4

208. 3:30 – 4:30
Planning, Implementing, and Engaging Effective Literacy Practices
Courtney Raschk
Butler 53, Oak Brook
The purpose of this presentation is to provide participants in planning and implementing effective literacy strategies in whole group and small group instruction. This presentation will also cover how to engage students in content.
**Audience:** K-9, ELL, Spec, Univ, Admin
**Strand:** Reluctant Readers
**Location:** BOS Center B-6

209. 3:30 – 4:30
Integrating Executive Functioning Skills into the Adult Basic Education Curriculum
Claudia Gates
Elgin Community College, Elgin
The presentation will describe how instructors can integrate executive functioning skills into a literacy class in an adult education program. The presenter will share a program rationale, methods of instruction, and tips for overcoming obstacles to implementation.
**Audience:** All
**Strand:** Reluctant Readers
**Location:** BOS Center B-7

210. 3:30 – 4:30
CANCELED
The Art of Reading Assessment: An Organic Connection Between Teaching and Learning Processes
Chyrese Wolf
Chicago State University, Chicago
Assessment is a natural part of the teaching and learning process. Similar skills are shared between the artist/author and consumer/reader. This presentation intends to address strategies to effectively facilitate the relationship between teaching, learning, and the art and science of reading assessment.
**Audience:** K-12
**Strand:** Early Career
**Location:** BOS Center B-8

211. 3:30 – 4:30
An Abraham Lincoln for the 21st Century
Jan Jacobi
The St. Michael School of Clayton, St. Louis, MO
Jan Jacobi’s Nautilus award-winning young adult novels, Young Lincoln and Lincoln in Springfield, give readers a new portrait of Lincoln. In this session the author speaks of his unique way of making Abraham Lincoln approachable for a new generation of readers.
**Audience:** 6-12, Adults, Admin, Lib
**Strand:** Reluctant Readers
**Location:** BOS Center B-9

212. 3:30 – 4:30
Language Comprehension for All
Alyssa Kocher
CCSD 59, Elk Grove Village
Anne Fleming
CCSD 59, Elk Grove Village
Andrea Cohn
CCSD 59, Elk Grove Village
All teachers are teachers of language and all students are learners of language. Building language comprehension is an ongoing process that never ends. The session’s focus will be on building oracy and vocabulary by using grade level texts on any topic.
**Audience:** K-9, ELL, Spec, Admin
**Strand:** English Language Learners
**Location:** BOS Center B-10
213.  3:30 – 4:30
New YA Titles to Booktalk: AISLE’s Lincoln Book Award

   Brianna Keane
   Wilmington High School
Lincoln Award committee members will book talk the 2023 master list of nominees. We’ll give you keys to participating and promoting the program in your school, plus unlock ways for you and your students to help in the selection process.

   Audience: 9-12, Lib
   Strand: Librarians
   Location: PAL Ottawa A

214.  3:30 – 4:30
Why Reading Still Matters in the Secondary Writing Classroom

   Renee Stites Krup
   University of Missouri, Columbia, MO
   Lauren Popov Muniz
   O’Fallon Township High School, O’Fallon
   Madison Johnson
   O’Fallon Township High School, O’Fallon
In this session, we will share how we balance independent reading into our writing course to build classroom community and more confident writers. We rely on student choice and low-stakes reading and writing opportunities to build their literacy skills.

   Audience: 6-12, Lib
   Strand: Writing
   Location: PAL Altgeld

215.  3:30 – 4:30
SIJO Workshop: Learning and Writing Korea’s Poetry

   Elizabeth Jorgensen
   Arrowhead Union High School, Hartland, WI
Teachers will learn about SIJO and then compose and workshop their poems. Teachers will learn about a SIJO competition, sponsored by Harvard University, with a $1,000 first place prize as well as how to use this competition in the classroom. Teachers will leave this presentation with a complementary copy of Linda Sue Park’s Tap Dancing on the Roof.

   Audience: K-12, Spec, Adults, Univ
   Strand: Writing
   Location: PAL Freeport B

216.  4:45 – 5:15 PM
Annual Membership Meeting

   Presiding: Leslie Forsman, IRC President
   Audience: IRC Members
   Location: PAL Lincoln Room

217.  5:30 – 7:30 PM
Preservice Teachers’ Pizza Party

   Audience: Tickets Required
   Location: PAL Ballroom

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING THE 2023 IRC CONFERENCE!

Don’t forget to submit your PD Clock Hour Evaluation Form online or turn in printed form at the Registration Desk.

REMEMBERING BOOMER CROTTY

The Illinois Reading Council is sad to share that Boomer Crotty, a long-time member of IRC, passed away on January 9, 2023. At the Conference, Boomer shared many engaging presentation about incorporating children’s books in the classroom, And, many of us may also remember Boomer as he led the Orientation Session each year at the conference. Boomer brought joy to so many lives and will be greatly missed!
VISIT THE EXHIBITS

Thursday, March 9, 2023
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Complimentary Refreshments
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friday, March 10, 2023
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Complimentary Refreshments
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Hungry?
The BOS Center Concession Stand will be open in the Exhibit Hall.
Grab lunch and head to one of the lunch time sessions planned from 1:00-2:00 p.m. in the BOS Center.
EXHIBITORS

95 Percent Group
Rebecca Hughes
475 Half Day Road, Suite 350
Lincolnshire, IL  60069
847-849-5338
https://www.95percentgroup.com
Booth 209-210

AISLE – Association of Illinois School Library Educators
Caroline Campbell
PO Box 110
Seneca, IL  61360
815-357-6023
www.aisled.org
Booth 312

Accessorized by Ann
Ann Steinmetz
Steve Steinmetz
2313 Grass Lake Road
Lindenhurst, IL  60046
847-205-9632
Booth 428

American College of Education
Shari Nordstrom
101 West Ohio Street, Suite 1200
Indianapolis, IN  46204
844-823-0652
ace.edu
Booth 604

Amplify Education
Justin Boyter
Erin Williams
55 Washington Street #800
Brooklyn, NY  43021
614-352-4740
https://amplify.com/
Booth 623-624

Anderson’s Bookshops
Becky Anderson
Laura Evans
123 W. Jefferson Avenue
Naperville, IL  60540
630-820-0044
www.andersonsbookshop.com
Booth 409-414 & 419-424

Benchmarked Education
Stephanie Seemann
149 Huguenot Street
New Rochelle, NY  10801
877-236-2465
www.benchmarkeducation.com
Booth 510

Blackjack Wordsmithing & Publishing LLC
Jillian Duchnowski
44 Ventnor Avenue
Bloomington, IL  61701
815-529-1300
https://blackjack-wordsmithing-publishing-inc.square.site/
Booth 514

Booksource
Bert Crossland
665 S. 8th Street
West Dundee, IL  60118
847-767-4822
www.crosslandliteracy.com
Booth 300

Bound To Stay Bound Books
Theresa Prier
1880 West Morton Avenue
Jacksonville, IL  62650
800-637-6586
www.btsb.com
Booth 228

Capstone Classroom
Kori Kubitz
1710 Roe Crest Drive
North Mankato, MN  56003
800-747-4992
www.capstoneclassroom.com
Booth 405

Carnegie Learning
John Rocco
Marty Burns
Cory Armes
Union Trust Building, 501 Grant St #1075
Pittsburgh, PA  15219
708-955-3001
www.carnegielearning.com
Booth 503

Children’s Plus, Inc.
Kathy Tiffany
1387 Dutch American Way
Beecher, IL  60401
800-230-1279
www.hellopci.com
Booth 614

College of Education - Illinois State University
Kelli Appel
250 S. University St, Campus Box 5300
Normal, IL  617905300
309-438-5415
https://education.illinoisstate.edu/
Booth 430

Cornucopia Books of Michigan
Janice Smith
2050 Breton Road, Suite 101
Grand Rapids, MI  49546
800-778-2665
248-627-2626
cbooks4u.com
Booth 631-633

Crossland Literacy
Bert Crossland
665 S. 8th Street
West Dundee, IL  60118
847-767-4822
www.crosslandlit.com
Booth 302-305

Thank you to the exhibitors for being an important part of the Illinois Reading Council Conference.
EXHIBITORS

Curriculum Associates
Eileen Townsend
Julie Quirk
153 Rangeway Road
N. Billerica, MA 1862
800-225-0248
www.curriculumassociates.com
Booth 309

Custom Education Solutions
Elisa Brent
Kidada Robinson
Jim Knutyh
235 Remington Road, Suite A
Bolingbrook, IL 60440
331-318-4422
customedu.com
Booth 605

Facts4Me, Inc.
Theresa Fix
339 N Warwick Avenue
Westmont, IL 60559
630-515-0928
www.facts4me.com
Booth 533

Great Minds
Nancy Waldschmidt
Marc Blue
55 M Street SE, Suite 340
Washington, DC 20003
202-223-1854
www.greatminds.org
Booth 232

hand2mind
Katie Leff
Jason Venturi
Amy Strong
500 Greenview Court
Vernon Hills, IL 60061
800-445-5985
www.hand2mind.com
Booth 223-224

Heinemann
Bert Crossland
665 S. 8th Street
West Dundee, IL 60118
847-767-4822
www.crosslandliteracy.com
Booth 328-333

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
Nikki Lindroth
Peggy McCarthy
Amy Waller
125 High Street; Suite 900
Boston, MA 21102777
617-351-5128
hmhco.com
Booth 205

Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom
Kevin Daugherty, Chris Wyant
Stephanie Hospelhorn, Lee Deal
1701 Towanda Avenue
Bloomington, IL 61701
309-557-3334
www.aginthe classroom.org
Booth 313-314

Illinois Association of Regional Superintendents of Schools
Deanna Oliver
Jeff Ekena
Dave Demler
28 North 1st Street
Geneva, IL 60134
www.iarss.org
Booth 610

Illinois ASCD
Ryan Nevius
133 S. 4th Street, Suite 203
Springfield, IL 62701
IllinoisASCD.org
Booth 322

Illinois Digital Educators Alliance (IDEA)
Heather Woomer
2735 Hassett Blvd., Suite 135 PMB 304
Naperville, IL 60564
630-628-1088
https://ideaillinois.org
Booth 600

Illinois Reads
1100 Beech Street, Building 8-2
Normal, IL 61761
309-454-1341
www.illinoisreads.org
Booth 202

Imagine Learning
Marla Bormann
Tracey Milhouse
8860 E. Chapparral Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85250
201-577-2514
www.imaginelearning.com
Booth 319

IRC Membership & Treasure Chest
1100 Beech Street, Building 8-2
Normal, IL 61761
309-454-1341
www.IllinoisReadingCouncil.org
Booth 203-204

Istaton
Julie Ellis
8150 North Central Expressway,
Suite 2000
Dallas, TX 75206
214-292-4923
www.istation.com
Booth 628

IXL Learning
Christine Albano
Andy O’Connor
Idella Morris
777 Mariners Island Blvd
San Mateo, CA 94404
855-255-8800
https://www.ixl.com/
Booth 233

Kendall Hunt Publishing Company
Angelica Willenbring
4050 Westmark Drive
Dubuque, IA 52002
563-589-1075
https://the.kendallhunt.com/
Booth 402

Thank you to the exhibitors for being an important part of the Illinois Reading Council Conference.
EXHIBITORS

Learning A-Z
Shawna Drager
Andrea Cervantes
Nicole Nelson
1840 E River Road, Suite 220
Tucson, AZ  85718
520-232-5000
https://www.learninga-z.com/
Booth 403

Learning Without Tears
806 W. Diamond Avenue, Suite 230
Gaithersburg, MD  20878
301-263-2700
www.lwtears.com
Booth 524

Mike Lockett/Storyteller and Author
Mike Lockett
Jan Lockett
Tim Calhoun
Heritage Schoolhouse Press
1401 Heritage Road West
Normal, IL  61761
309-310-2299
www.mikelockett.com
Booth 528

National Louis University
Lisa Wolf
1000 Capitol Drive
Wheeling, IL  60090
630-874-4322
https://nl.edu/
Booth 323

National University
Nick Giacchina
9388 Lightwave Avenue
San Diego, CA  92123
858-642-8600
https://www.nu.edu/
Booth 603

Northern Illinois University
David Paige
Corrine Wickens
1425 W. Lincoln Hwy, Gabel Hall 147
DeKalb, IL  60115
901-734-9962
https://www.cedu.niu.edu/c-and-i/index.shtml
Booth 301

Okapi Educational Publishing
Bert Crossland
665 S. 8th Street
West Dundee, IL  60118
847-767-4822
Crosslandliteracy.com
Booth 629

Olivet Nazarene University
Tiffany Holohan
Laura Dryer
One University Avenue
Bourbonnais, IL  60914
815-928-5515
olivet.edu
Booth 602

Paper Pie with Kathy (previously Usborne Books & More)
Kathy Cooney
217-370-9570
kathycbooks@outlook.com
Booth 324

Penguin Random House Publishing
Cheryl Westberg
Charles Head
1745 Broadway
New York, NY  10013
212-940-7512
penguinrandomhouseeducation.com
Booth 602

Perfection Learning
Kori Kubitz
1000 North Second Avenue
Logan, IA  51546
800-831-4190
www.perfectionlearning.com
Booth 404

Read Right Systems
Dee Tadlock
310 West Birch Street
Shelton, WA  98584
360-427-9440
www.readright.com
Booth 601

Reading Horizons
Julian Brown
Ethan Lynn
Jacob Gregory
1194 West Flint Meadow Drive
Kaysville, UT  84037
801-295-7088
https://www.readinghorizons.com/
Booth 523

Renaissance
Jennifer Stoever
Max Ferguson
2911 Peach Street
Wisconsin Rapids, WI  54494
843-323-2349
renaissance.com
Booth 509

Roxy & Lola, LLC
Erica Schrock
8756 Hickory Hills Drive
Argenta, IL  62501
217-620-9964
roxyandlola.com
Booth 400

Sadlier School
Michael Brosseau
Dave Bremer
25 Broadway
New York, NY  100041010
800-221-5175
https://www.sadlier.com/school
Booth 401

Thank you to the exhibitors for being an important part of the Illinois Reading Council Conference.
EXHIBITORS

Savvas Learning Company
www.savvas.com/Find-My-Rep
3075 W. Ray Road
Chandler, AZ  85226
www.savvas.com
Booth 500-502

Scholastic Education
Valerie Coffman
Bernie Grant-Hill
965 Randall Court
Marengo, IL  60152
800-387-1437
www.scholastic.com
Booth 609

School Specialty Curriculum
Jeff Alman
Carolyn Meyer
80 Northwest Blvd
Nashua, NH  3063
800-225-5750
https://eps.schoolspecialty.com
Booth 231

Short, Short, BIG!
Mike Infantino
Kellee Infantino
780 Long Beach Blvd
Long Beach, NY  11561
888-661-7071
www.shortshortbig.com
Booth 531

SLANT System for Structured Language Training
Beth Hatlen
Karla O’Brien
Downers Grove, IL  60516
630-687-8962
www.slantsystem.com
Booth 200

Smekens Education Solutions
Brady Smekens
123 E. 1st Street
Warren, IN  46792
888-376-0448
www.SmekensEducation.com
Booth 433

Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators
Louann Brown
Alice McGinty
Jennifer Wagh
224-595-6821
illinois.scbwi.org
Booth 519

Stenhouse Publishers
Jim Burnette
Rasche Himalaya
6530 N. Greenview Avenue
Chicago, IL  60626
312-961-5718
GraceEd.com
Booth 311

Steps to Literacy
Jim Burnette
Rasche Himalaya
6530 N. Greenview Avenue
Chicago, IL  60626
312-961-5718
Booth 310

Sundance Newbridge
Jim Jenkins
Rich Elliott
33 Boston Post Road West, Suite 440
Marlborough, MA  1752
800-343-8204
www.sundancenewbridge.com
Booth 429

Teachers’ Retirement System of the State of Illinois
Nicholas Stabler
2815 W. Washington, PO Box 19253
Springfield, IL  62794
217-814-2161
trsil.org
Booth 230

University of St. Francis
Amy Mihelich
500 Wilcox Street
Joliet, IL  60435
815-740-3699
www.stfrancis.edu
Booth 630

Vista Higher Learning
Adelio Garcia
500 Boylston Street, Suite 620
Boston, MA  02116
787-529-8035
https://vistahigherlearning.com
Booth 229

Wilson Language Training
Misty Castillo
Susan Frank
47 Old Webster Road
Oxford, MA  01540
800-899-8454
https://www.wilsonlanguage.com/
Booth 529-530

Wisdom Works, LLC
Fenyx Blue
Lovie Gordon
Khadijah Washington
Tiffany Washington
20650 S. Cicero Avenue, PO Box 1093
Matteson, IL  604439998
779-232-9704
https://fenyxblueink.wixsite.com/
website
Booth 201

Worldreader
Kristen Walter
Lisa McManus
428 S. Windsor Drive
Arlington Heights, IL  60004
828-674-2724
www.worldreader.org
www.bebooksmart.org
Booth 504

Zaner-Bloser
Leslye Moraski Erickson, PhD
Consultant, Superkids Reading Program
920-204-1748
Chris Mills   614-842-3924
Justin C Marlo
PO Box 18360
Columbus, OH  43121
Zaner-Bloser.com
Booth 431-432

Thank you to the exhibitors for being an important part of the Illinois Reading Council Conference.
## Index of Program Presenters by Session Number

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>Crossland, Bert</th>
<th>88</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ahmed, Sara K.</td>
<td>Cunat, Mary Beth</td>
<td>204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfano, Michelle</td>
<td>Curley, Christa</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Almodovar, Jorge</td>
<td>Curry, Tina</td>
<td>8, 33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arndt, Allison</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aronson, Sarah</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arriola-Lopez, Javier</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Augsburger, Deb</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auguste, Camille</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Balliett, Blue</td>
<td>49, 119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barnes, Derrick</td>
<td></td>
<td>119, 122, 141, 179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barts, Lindsay</td>
<td></td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beling, Tracy</td>
<td></td>
<td>92, 199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beltchenko, Laura</td>
<td></td>
<td>35, 56, 130, 149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biedrzycki, David</td>
<td></td>
<td>119, 123, 162, 189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biggs-Tucker, Karen</td>
<td></td>
<td>133, 152, 195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billhartz, Meg</td>
<td></td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blaha, Karen</td>
<td></td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blankenship, Allana N.</td>
<td></td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bramley, Elizabeth</td>
<td></td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brannon, Diana</td>
<td></td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Braun, Patricia</td>
<td></td>
<td>45, 109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brent, Elisa</td>
<td></td>
<td>53, 77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooks, Jennifer</td>
<td></td>
<td>39, 155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burgess, Chris</td>
<td></td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burns, Martha</td>
<td></td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caliper, Jewels</td>
<td></td>
<td>17, 38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cangro, Sue</td>
<td></td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causarano, Antonio</td>
<td></td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cella, Heather</td>
<td></td>
<td>126, 205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Champeau, Kathryn</td>
<td></td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charbonneau, Joelle</td>
<td></td>
<td>5, 48, 119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaudhri, Amina</td>
<td></td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ciupinski, Theresa</td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clesen, Jenni</td>
<td></td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cloat, Julia</td>
<td></td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cohn, Andrea</td>
<td></td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coleman, Philinda</td>
<td></td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colyer, Terri</td>
<td></td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connolly, Jennifer</td>
<td></td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cook, Heather</td>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooley, Amy K.</td>
<td></td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craft, Jerry</td>
<td></td>
<td>26, 68, 100, 119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crawford, Stefanie</td>
<td></td>
<td>70, 182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creer, Suzanne</td>
<td></td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crimi, Carolyn</td>
<td></td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Dagres, Kathryn</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daugherty, Kevin</td>
<td></td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis, Amy</td>
<td></td>
<td>87, 132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis, Lyndi</td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis, Meg</td>
<td></td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>de la Peña, Matt</td>
<td></td>
<td>3, 47, 80, 119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deal, Lee</td>
<td></td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degener, Sophie</td>
<td></td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>del Castillo, Rocio</td>
<td></td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demus, Daune</td>
<td></td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Di Domenico, Paula</td>
<td></td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diaz, Gabriella M.</td>
<td></td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disotuar, Demetra</td>
<td></td>
<td>114, 203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edmonds-Behrend, Christina</td>
<td></td>
<td>138, 157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eggebrecht, Brianna</td>
<td></td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellis, Aimee</td>
<td></td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellis, Julie</td>
<td></td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engelhardt, Brenda</td>
<td></td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eschmann, Reese</td>
<td></td>
<td>165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evans, Sarah</td>
<td></td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Findlay, Amber</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fleming, Anne</td>
<td></td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foltz, Keta</td>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forsman, Leslie</td>
<td></td>
<td>40, 62, 216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin, Carolyn</td>
<td></td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garcia, Adelfio</td>
<td></td>
<td>84, 103, 206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardner, Mary</td>
<td></td>
<td>92, 199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gates, Claudia</td>
<td></td>
<td>209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gheysen, Ruth</td>
<td></td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giffin, Sarah</td>
<td></td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goldsmith-Conley, Elizabeth</td>
<td></td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gordon, Alison</td>
<td></td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gow, Kimberly</td>
<td></td>
<td>9, 164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grafwallner, Peg</td>
<td></td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant, Jacob</td>
<td></td>
<td>98, 119, 163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenblatt, Deborah</td>
<td></td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gruper, Anastasia</td>
<td></td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guzman, Dora</td>
<td></td>
<td>93, 137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Hadi-Tabassum, Samina</td>
<td>194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haley, Teresa</td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hallett, Jill</td>
<td></td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hatlen, Beth</td>
<td></td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helset, Mandy</td>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson, Jennifer</td>
<td></td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hendrickson, Laurie</td>
<td></td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herron, Jaime</td>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hicks, Morgynne</td>
<td></td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoffman, Julie</td>
<td></td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hollis, Kim</td>
<td></td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospelhorn, Stephanie</td>
<td></td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoving, Kathryn</td>
<td></td>
<td>12, 54, 193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huftalin, Amy</td>
<td></td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>Jacknewitz, Jennifer</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson, Tiffany D.</td>
<td></td>
<td>27, 81, 118, 119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacobi, Jan</td>
<td></td>
<td>211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jago, Carol</td>
<td></td>
<td>6, 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jakubowski, Anna</td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James, Gordon C.</td>
<td></td>
<td>119, 124, 143, 179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johns, Jerry</td>
<td></td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson, Laura</td>
<td></td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson, Madison</td>
<td></td>
<td>214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson, Traci</td>
<td></td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnston, Peter</td>
<td></td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jones, Jacqueline</td>
<td></td>
<td>17, 38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jorgensen, Elizabeth</td>
<td></td>
<td>139, 202, 215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Kateeb, Linda</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kay, Vicki</td>
<td></td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keane, Brianna</td>
<td></td>
<td>213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirch, Bess</td>
<td></td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kocher, Alyssa</td>
<td></td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Koehler-Freitag, Kimberly</td>
<td></td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kosier, Naomi</td>
<td></td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Koss, Melanie</td>
<td></td>
<td>90, 150, 169, 190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Koudelka, Cindi</td>
<td></td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krouse, Tambree</td>
<td></td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>Lancaster, Jennifer</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larsen, Emily</td>
<td></td>
<td>186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larsen, Erica</td>
<td></td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Layne, Steven L.</td>
<td></td>
<td>50, 82, 119, 180</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Index of Program Presenters by Session Number

Lems, Kristin 61, 156
Lenci, Jan 24
Lesinski-Roscoe, Rachel 151
Lewis, Christine 197
Lewis, Gena 51
Lind, Jacque 204
Lippert, Jennifer 94
List, Mary 114
Lockett, Michael 85
Lynn, Ethan 74
Lyons, Mary E. 176, 201
Majsak, Stephen 41, 98
Martin, Jennifer 155
McConkey, Laura 153
McDaniel, Michele 138, 157
McGee, Raquel 60
McIntyce, Alice 71, 145, 165
McKnight, Katherine 107, 158
McTague, Becky 35
Mear, Andrea 52, 102
Metaxas, Erin 94
Michel, Jerry 126
Miller, Donalyn 7, 29, 69
Miller, Nichole 116
Molina, Carrie 166
Moore, Christy 65
Msengi, Shadrack 117
Mudd, Laura 147
Mutzbauer, Jill 136, 174
O’Brien, Karla 75
O’Connor, Ryan 148
Oertle, Steve 91
Paciga, Kathleen 190
Paige, David 92, 199
Pawl, Kari 44
Piebenga, Kristy 18, 173
Pigozzi, Grace 36
Pollicastro, Margaret 21, 64
Popov Muniz, Lauren 214
Primrose, Elizabeth 66
Rasch, Courtney 208
Raskie, Andrea 23
Reinke, Jamie 15
Richardson, Teneka 148
Richey, Kristin 110
Roach, Brian 11
Roberts, Sarah 197
Rocco, John 146
Rosencrans, Cassandra 105
Rothermich, Judy 101
Rousseau, Cindy 207
Ruh, Sheila 2, 59
Russell-Henderson, Rhonda 112
Scheffer, Tina 24
Schultz, Corinne 147
Scruggs, Tina 42, 135
Sebeny, Janel 31
Sejnost, Sherry 2, 59
Shirey, Amy 197
Silva, Sherri 170
Sitomer, Alan 158
Smekens, Kristina 57, 89, 187
Smith, Frosoini 24
Smith, Katy 8
Spina, Carly 177
Spreadbury, Jacqueline 167
Springer, Jill 92, 199
Stephens, Beth 19
Stites Kruep, Renee 214
Stratton, Marissa 136, 174
Streit, Wendy 19
Stremsterfer, Marianne 45
Tadlock, Dee 76
Tarshis, Lauren 4, 25, 99, 119
Taylor, Dawn 134, 198
Tockstein, Shari 106
Townsend, Eileen 183
Tucker, Brian 133
Turner, Crystasany 194
Turner, Jaclyn 148
Urbane, Sarah 96
Van Aken, Annette 44, 51
Vera, Alma 170
Vrettos, Eleni 147
Wach, Noreen 21
Wakefield, Donna 150, 169, 196
Walsh, Kristen 10
Walter, Kristen 194
Walther, Maria 115, 152, 171
Werner, Carrie 104
Wheeler, Melissa 39, 109, 154
Whitaker, Adam 129
White, Jennifer 197
Wickens, Corrine 66
Wilkins, Becky Anderson 46, 79, 160, 181, 188
Wilson, Keegan 78
Wolf, Chyrese 210
Woodruff, Nichole 12, 54, 193
Wyant, Chris 86
York, Tinaya 178
Zeid Brandstedt, Kari 102
Zemelman, Steven 8
Zepeda, Yuridia 137
President Abraham Lincoln Springfield, A Doubletree Hotel
Wyndham Hotel

MEZZANINE LEVEL

GRAND BALLROOM
CAPITOL
ILLINOIS
PRAIRE

MEZZANINE & EXHIBITION AREA

TO PARKING GARAGE

PLAZA CONFERENCE CENTER
PLAZA 1
PLAZA 2
PLAZA 3

CONF C1
CONF C2
CONF C3
CONF C4

RENEZVOUS ROOM

BEATNIK BAR

CONCOURSE LEVEL

CONCOURSE

(LOWER LEVEL)

EMBASSY ROOM

29TH FLOOR

AMBASSADOR BALLROOM

1
2
3
4
5
6
Bank of Springfield Center

Meeting Rooms in Lower Level
The Illinois Reading Council is an approved Illinois State Board of Education Professional Development Provider. While attending the conference, you may earn one PD CLOCK HOUR per hour of attendance and participation. For meal functions, you may also earn one (1) PD CLOCK HOUR for the presentation only. Sessions attended must be logged, and the ISBE Evaluation and IRC Record of Clock Hours Forms must be completed at the end of the conference. The ISBE Evidence of Completion Form will be sent after the conference.

The Illinois Principals Association will also be providing AA Credit for the Administrator Academy at the IRC Conference.

Please review your Personal License Renewal Plan to determine which sessions fit. Be sure that your goals are broad enough to include a variety of literacy topics. The Illinois Reading Council is merely the provider. The responsibility for determining which sessions agree with your plan and are granted credits by your school district is yours.

The ISSB Evidence of Completion Form will be sent after the conference. You can print off the forms that are available at the end of this program or submit via the online form available from the APP. The evidence of completion must be logged, and the ISBE Evaluation and IRC Record of Clock Hours Forms must be completed at the end of the conference. You may earn one PD CLOCK HOUR for the presentation only. For meal functions, you may also earn one PD CLOCK HOUR per hour of attendance and participation. While attending the conference, you may earn one PD CLOCK HOUR for the presentation only. The Illinois Reading Council is an approved Illinois State Board of Education Professional Development Provider.
To obtain CLOCK HOURS, complete both sides of this form and place in the evaluation box.

2023 Illinois Reading Council Conference            March 9-10, 2023

BOS Center, PAL Hotel, and Wyndham Hotel, Springfield, Illinois

Illinois Reading Council
**IRC Record of Clock Hours Earned Form**

*You must complete both sides of this form and place in an evaluation box.*

**Instructions:** Each registered participant must complete both sides of this form. This form must be signed and placed in an evaluation box prior to leaving the conference. Failure to complete this form or failure to turn it in may result in loss of professional development credit. For each session attended, you must list the session number, the title of the session, and the presenter(s) name. As a presenter, you may also earn additional clock hours. Other activities may also be listed. **Participants earn one (1) PD hour per hour of participation at the conference. For meal functions and special events, only one (1) PD hour is earned for the presentation and not the meal or autographing. Following the conference, the ISBE Evidence of Completion Form with your verified clock hours will be mailed to registered participants.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session #</th>
<th>Title of Presentation</th>
<th>Name of Presenter(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:15 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 2023</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL NUMBER OF PROFESSIONAL HOURS EARNED:**

________________________________________

I state, to the best of my knowledge, that this form is true, correct and complete.

Signature of participant __________________________ IEIN #_____________________

Name of participant *(Must be registered to earn PD hours)*

Address ________________________________ City __________________ State________ Zip ________

Email _________________________________________________________ Phone ____________
HELP US PLAN FOR 2024

Please use this form to evaluate this year’s conference. Your reactions and suggestions are valued and will help us plan subsequent conferences with your preferences in mind.

Drop this in one of the evaluation boxes located at the Registration Desk (Thursday and Friday) OR complete the online form on the Conference App OR return to: Illinois Reading Council, 1100 Beech Street, Building 8-2, Normal, IL 61761.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Somewhat Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Overall, I was satisfied with the 2023 Conference.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Conference offered a wide variety of speakers/activities.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Author/illustrator presentations were enjoyable.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Featured educational speakers were valuable &amp; relevant.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Teachers sharing their classroom practices were valuable.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Research-based presentations were valuable &amp; relevant.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Who would you like to see present at a future IRC Conference?

Name: ____________________________ Topic/Area: ____________________________ Contact info (if available): ____________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________

8. I attended the Conference on (circle all that apply): Wed. Thurs. Fri.

9. I especially enjoyed this special event/program:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Somewhat Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Wednesday evening Welcome Reception</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Thursday afternoon Illinois Reads Event</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Thursday evening Hear the Authors Read</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Other</td>
<td>____________________________</td>
<td>____________________________</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In the Exhibit Hall, I would like the following products and services to be available: 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Somewhat Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A. Overall, the exhibits were helpful and informative. 4 3 2 1 N/A
B. The Technology on Call was a useful service. 4 3 2 1 N/A
C. The complimentary refreshments were good. 4 3 2 1 N/A
D. How much time did you spend in the exhibit hall? 1 hour or less 1-3 hours 3-6 hours N/A

11. Additional comments or suggestions about presentations, special events and/or the conference:
(Please remember that IRC has limited control over issues such as parking, hotel accommodations & service.)

_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

12. Please tell us about yourself.

Age Range: Years in Education: Distance Traveled:

| 18-24 | 0-4 | less than 100 miles |
| 25-39 | 5-14| 101-200 miles |
| 40-54 | 15-29| 201-300 miles |
| 55 and over | 30 and over | 300 + miles |

Current Position (Select One)

Administrator: Classroom Teacher: Other:

__ Principal __ Preschool __ Pre-service Teacher
__ Superintendent __ K – 3 __ Title I/Remedial Teacher
__ Curriculum Supervisor __ 4 – 6 __ Reading Spec./ Lit. Coach
__ Other: ____________ __ Middle/Jr. High __ Gifted Teacher

District Type:

__ Urban __ Substitute Teacher
__ Suburban __ Spec. Ed. Teacher
__ Small City __ Librarian/Media Specialist
__ Rural/Small Town __ Speech/Language Pathologist
__ __ Teacher Aide/ Paraprofessional
__ __ Teacher __ Other __________________
The Illinois Reading Council invites you to join us for the 55th Annual Conference

March 14-15, 2024
Springfield, Illinois

Interested in Presenting?
Program Proposals are being accepted online until September 1st!

Registration and Housing will open by October 1st!

For more information, visit the IRC Website at www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org