

ILLINOIS READING COUNCIL JOURNAL



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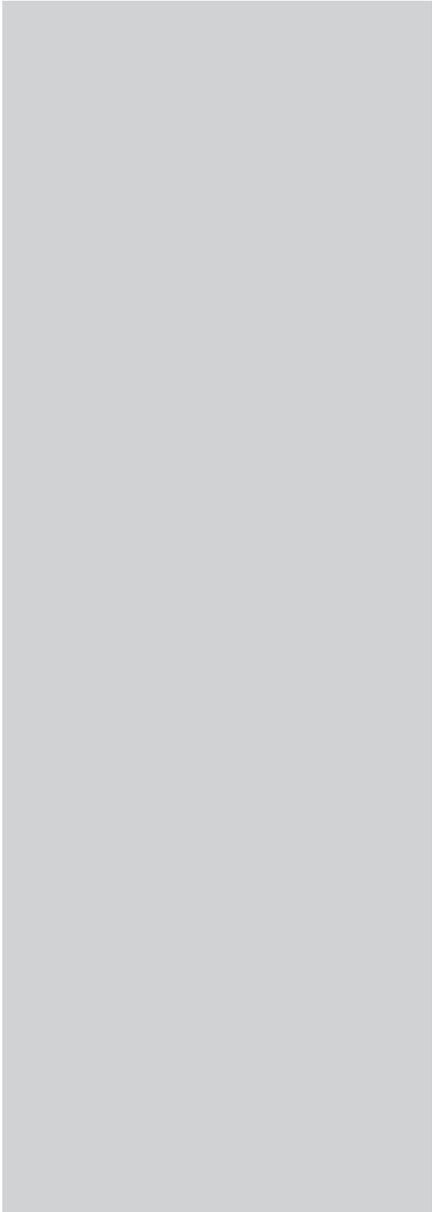
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Spring 2024



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The *Illinois Reading Council Journal (IRCJ)* is published quarterly and is distributed as a service to all members of the Illinois Reading Council. Membership in the Illinois Reading Council can be obtained through local and special interest reading councils in Illinois. For information, contact the Illinois Reading Council at 1100 Beech Street, Building 8, Suite 2, Normal, IL 61761. IRC staff may also be reached by telephone at (309) 454-1341. Libraries and educational institutions can subscribe to *IRCJ* at an annual rate of \$50.00; address inquiries to the Executive Director at the IRC office. Because the *IRCJ* serves as an open forum, its contents do not necessarily reflect or imply endorsement or advocacy by the Illinois Reading Council, its officers, or its members.

Photocopies: Individuals may photocopy articles from the journal without written permission for nonprofit educational use, or may make five copies of a single article for library reserve use in an educational institution. Consent to photocopy does not extend to photos or items reprinted by permission from other publishers. Members of the Illinois Reading Council who wish to use copies of an article in a handout or coursepack and for repeated use may do so without a fee. Nonmembers must obtain photocopying permission from the Illinois Reading Council, 1100 Beech Street, Building 8, Suite 2, Normal, IL 61761.

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Publication services for the *IRCJ* are provided by Sandra K. Larimer, Copy Editor, and Shanee J. Plate, Layout/Design. Morgan Kail-Ackerman and Kate Quick are graduate assistants to Editor Roxanne Owens.

About the Artists in This Issue

Misericordia

Misericordia is a national leader in serving children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Located on the Northside of Chicago, it provides a full continuum of care to more than 600 residents, as well as offering employment opportunities, therapy programs, and recreational activities. They strive to provide the highest quality of care, ensuring that their residents live the most independent lives possible.

The Misericordia Heart Studios provide exceptional opportunities for participants to express their individuality through a variety of mediums. Choosing which program to participate in is the hardest part! Misericordia artists work alongside our dedicated staff and volunteers to create beautiful pieces of art from paintings to ceramics to photography and more! The Heart Studios are comprised of several different art studios. Each studio focuses on a different skill, medium, or challenge. Participants also have the opportunity to have their work exhibited at art auctions and art exhibitions, and they are frequently highlighted at Misericordia's fundraising events.



www.misericordia.com

Front Cover: "Bluebird," acrylic on canvas, by Shawn H.

Back Cover: "Moonlight Lake," acrylic on canvas, by Kevin Z.

Other artwork by artists from the Misericordia Heart Studios can be found on pages 47, 53, 57, 68, and 74.



Shawn H.



Kevin Z.

Additional Art Provided by Vivian Caniglia

Vivian Caniglia (they/them) is an artist originating from Omaha, Nebraska, and currently residing in Chicago, Illinois, where they are studying to be an art educator. They are currently completing a yearlong residency in the Chicago Public Schools. They create work predominantly using oil paint or mixed media. Their work seeks to explore topics that include nostalgia, place, and interpersonal relationships.

Their artwork can be found on page 20.

ILLINOIS READS

A READING STATE OF MIND



Join the statewide literacy initiative! Six books in each age band, birth to adult, with fun activities, book clubs, author events, and more! Order bookmarks and posters today!

*Visit our website for more information
www.illinoisreads.org*

Birth-4

- My Hair Is Like the Sun*
by St. Clair Detrick-Jules and
illustrated by Tabitha Brown
- Mine!*
by Candace Fleming and
illustrated by Eric Rohmann
- No Fair!*
by Jacob Grant
- You Are New*
by Lucy Knisley
- A Book About You and All the World Too*
by Jean Reidy
- Ethan and the Strays*
by John Sullivan

K-2

- Lila Greer, Teacher of the Year*
by Andrea Beaty
- 3x4: TOON Level 1*
by Ivan Brunetti
- The New Bicycle*
by Darcy Day Zoells
- Not a Monster*
by Claudia Guadalupe Martínez
- You Are A Story*
by Bob Raczka
- How to Explain Coding to a Grown-Up*
by Ruth Spiro

3-5

- Cornbread & Poppy at the Museum*
by Matthew Cordell
- The Enchanted Bridge*
by Zetta Elliott
- Etta Invincible*
by Reese Eschmann
- Josephine and Her Dishwashing Machine*
by Kate Hannigan
- Mayor Good Boy Turns Bad*
by Dave Scheidt and Miranda Harmon
- The Stupendous Switcheroo: New Powers*
Every 24 Hours
by Mary Winn Heider and Chad Sell

6-8

- The Bravest Warrior in Nefaria*
by Adi Alsaid
- It Found Us*
by Lindsay Currie
- Restoring Prairie, Woods, and Pond: How a
Small Trail Can Make a Big Difference*
by Laurie Lawlor
- Lo & Behold*
by Wendy Mass and
illustrated by Gabi Mendez
- World Made of Glass*
by Ami Polonsky
- The Lost Ryū*
by Emi Watanabe Cohen

9-12

- Messenger: The Legend of Muhammad Ali*
by Marc Bernardin
- Wolfpack: A Novel*
by Amelia Brunskill
- Saint Juniper's Folly*
by Alex Crespo
- Whalefall: A Novel*
by Daniel Kraus
- Graceland Cemetery: Chicago Stories,
Symbols, and Secrets*
by Adam Selzer
- If I Have To Be Haunted*
by Miranda Sun

Adult

- Good Night, Irene: A Novel*
by Luis Alberto Urrea
- A Taste for Poison: Eleven Deadly Molecules
and the Killers Who Used Them*
by Neil Bradbury, Ph.D.
- King: A Life*
by Jonathan Eig
- I Have Some Questions for You: A Novel*
by Rebecca Makkai
- Ghostly: A Collection of Ghost Stories*
by Audrey Niffenegger
- On Rotation: A Novel*
by Shirlene Obuobi

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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 the IRC website at 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.

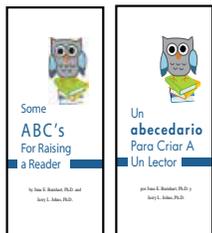
Prairie State Award for Excellence in Writing for Children. This award recognizes an Illinois Children's Young Adult Author whose body of work demonstrates excellence, engenders a love of literature, and embraces an important part of the mission of the Illinois Reading Council—to promote lifelong literacy. 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 PUBLICATIONS ORDER FORM

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 by fax at 309-454-3512, by returning the form by mail, or online at www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org.

BROCHURES:



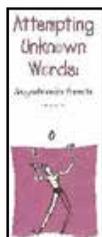
Some ABC's for Raising a Reader (*In English*)

Un abecedario Para Criar A Un Lector (*In Spanish*)

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. *Also available in Spanish.*

QUANTITY PRICE

One brochure - \$.50
 25 brochures - \$ 8.00
 50 brochures - \$15.00
 100 brochures - \$25.00

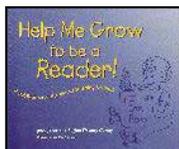


Attempting Unknown Words: Suggestions for Parents

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 they attempt unknown words.

One brochure - \$.50
 25 brochures - \$ 8.00
 50 brochures - \$15.00
 100 brochures - \$25.00

BOOKLETS:



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.

One booklet - \$1.00
 25 booklets - \$15.00
 50 booklets - \$25.00
 100 booklets - \$50.00

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED:

\$ _____

SHIP TO:

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Make checks payable to IRC and return this form and payment to:

Illinois Reading Council
 1100 Beech Street, Building 8, Suite 2
 Normal, IL 61761

Method of Payment: Check to IRC Visa Mastercard Discover American Express
 (Sorry, no P.O.'s accepted.)

Cardholder's Name _____ Credit Card Expiration Date
 Cardholder's Address _____ CVV Code _____

Paying by credit card? A \$2 service charge is added.
 Order by Fax: 309-454-3512
 Or order online at www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org

Calls for Contributions for Future Issues of the Illinois Reading Council Journal

The *Illinois Reading Council Journal* seeks manuscripts dealing with topics, issues, and events of interest to educators involved in literacy programs at all levels of education.

About The Review Process

The complete review process takes approximately 10 to 16 weeks. Upon receipt of a manuscript, an initial review will be conducted and feedback sent to the author. Manuscripts accepted for peer review will be evaluated by at least two reviewers who are uninformed as to the identity of the author. The editor will compile notes from the reviewers and send feedback to the author, including whether the article has been accepted for publication and any requests for revision. Manuscripts are evaluated in terms of interest, quality of writing, appropriate documentation of ideas, uniqueness, and needs of the journal. Research articles should include a clear description of the methodology and should be written in a style that will be readable by classroom teachers. The final decision for acceptance of manuscripts resides with the editor. Please review articles in the journal before submitting manuscripts for consideration. Any questions about the submission process should be directed to Roxanne Owens, *IRCJ* Editor, by e-mail at ircjournal@illinoisreadingcouncil.org.

Short Submissions

For each issue, short items such as original poems, cartoons, artwork, or personal anecdotes may appear throughout the journal. Such submissions should be one-half page to one page in length, double-spaced, and word-processed. Front and back cover art is also accepted. The editor selects these items.

If you have questions about the submission process, please e-mail Roxanne Owens, *IRCJ* Editor, at IRCJournal@illinoisreadingcouncil.org.

***IRCJ* Submission Guidelines**

Article submissions should be eight to 25 double-spaced pages, including references. Please prepare and submit your manuscript consistent with the following guidelines.

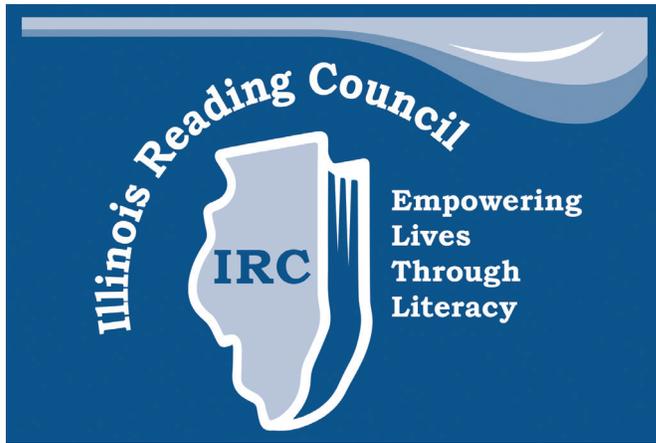
Manuscript Submission Guidelines

NEW! You can now submit your article online at <http://illinoisreadingcouncil.org/ircjournalsubmission.html>:

- *Anonymize the Manuscript Text:* Remove any names or references to the author(s) and affiliated institutions (clearly marked placeholders may be employed, e.g., [Author Name]; [Name of Institution]).
- *Text Formatting:* In general, apply APA style guidelines (7th ed.) to your text (e.g., Times New Roman 12 point or a similar serif font, double spaced, 1-inch margins, etc.).
- *File Type:* Save the manuscript as a MS *Word* document .doc or docx. (MS *Word* is used to provide in-text comments and revisions, so please do not submit pdf., .pages or .rtf.)
- *File Name:* This should conform to the following format:
article v1_{title of article}_mm-dd-yy
Example: article v1_Reading is essential_5-10-20
- Download the cover letter template from the submission webpage and fill it out.
- Rename the cover letter file name as follows:
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- Example: cover_Reading is essential_5-10-20

Additional questions can be sent to

IRCJournal@illinoisreadingcouncil.org



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presidentelect@illinoisreadingcouncil.org

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vicepresident@illinoisreadingcouncil.org

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pastpresident@illinoisreadingcouncil.org

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treasurer@illinoisreadingcouncil.org

ILA State Coordinator

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912 A Street
Charleston, IL 61920
ilastatecoordinator@illinoisreadingcouncil.org

Director of Membership

Donna Herman
13630 W. Dublin Drive
Homer Glen, IL 60491
membershipdirector@illinoisreadingcouncil.org

Executive Director

Carrie Sheridan
1100 Beech Street
Building 8, Suite 2
Normal, IL 61761
carrie@illinoisreadingcouncil.org

Editor of *Illinois Reading Council Journal*

Roxanne Owens
5038 W. Berteau
Chicago, IL 60641
ircjournal@illinoisreadingcouncil.org



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1100 Beech Street, Building 8, Suite 2
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Fax: 309-454-3512

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Web: www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org

1 Please print or complete the form online.

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle Initial _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ County _____

Home Phone () _____ Bus. Phone () _____

School Name _____ District _____ City _____
or
Business/Institution _____ City _____

Are you a Preservice Teacher? ____ yes ____ no College/University _____

2 List the council(s) you wish to join.

When you join, you receive membership in the IRC, as well as membership in a local or special interest council. You must select at least one of the councils listed on the back.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

3 List the dues amount of each council you are joining.

\$50 - One year membership for IRC and one council. If you join more than one council, each additional council is \$15.
\$30 - Preservice Teacher membership and \$5 for each additional council.

4 Option to Purchase Print Journals.

IRC Membership comes with online access to the *IRC Journal*. Current issues will also be sent by email quarterly to you. If you wish to purchase a print journal, it is an additional \$20 per year.

Total Before Optional Print Journal _____

Add \$20 Fee for Print Journal _____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE _____

5 Return this form with payment to:
Illinois Reading Council

ATTN: Membership Dept.
1100 Beech St, Building 8, Suite 2
Normal, IL 61761

Paying by credit card? A \$2 service charge is added.
Join Online or Fax: 309-454-3512

Method of Payment:

(Sorry, no P.O.'s accepted.)

Check to IRC Visa Mastercard Discover American Express

_____|_____|_____|_____|_____|_____|_____|_____|_____|_____|

Cardholder's Name _____ Credit Card _____

Expiration Date Mo. Yr.

Cardholder's Address _____ CVV Code _____

6 In our continuing effort to provide meaningful services to our members, IRC requests the following information.

Are you a member of the International Literacy Association (ILA)?

a. ____ yes membership # _____ expiration date _____
b. ____ no

Professional Areas of Interest (Check 3)

- a. ____ administration
- b. ____ adult literacy
- c. ____ affective reading
- d. ____ assessment
- e. ____ children's literature
- f. ____ comprehension
- g. ____ content area reading
- h. ____ family literacy
- i. ____ holistic reading
- j. ____ multilingual/multicultural
- k. ____ newspapers in education
- l. ____ parents and reading
- m. ____ reading for gifted students
- n. ____ research
- o. ____ study skills
- p. ____ teacher education
- q. ____ technology in reading
- r. ____ Title I/remedial reading
- s. ____ young adult literature
- t. ____ young authors/writing

Age

- a. ____ 18-24
- b. ____ 25-39
- c. ____ 40-54
- d. ____ 55 and over

Years in Education Profession

- a. ____ 0-4
- b. ____ 5-14
- c. ____ 15-29
- d. ____ 30 and over

Highest Degree Earned

- a. ____ Bachelors
- b. ____ Masters
- c. ____ Doctorate

Present Position

Classroom Teacher:

- a. ____ preschool
- b. ____ K-3
- c. ____ 4-6
- d. ____ middle school/jr. high
- e. ____ high school
- f. ____ post Secondary

Administrator:

- a. ____ curriculum/reading supervisor
- b. ____ building principal
- c. ____ superintendent
- d. ____ other _____

Other:

- a. ____ librarian
- b. ____ parent
- c. ____ special ed. teacher
- d. ____ gifted/talented teacher
- e. ____ Title I/remedial
- f. ____ reading specialist
- g. ____ retired

Illinois Reading Council Membership
Locations of IRC Local & Special Interest Council Regions by Counties

The annual membership of \$50 includes membership in the Illinois Reading Council **and** a local or special interest council. The annual preservice teacher membership is \$30 for one who has not been certified in the teaching profession and is working toward an initial teaching certificate. Please select the council(s) you wish to join from the list below. Residence in any of the designated council counties you join is not required. If you join more than one local or special interest council at this time, each additional council is \$15. Preservice teachers pay \$5 for each additional council. IRC Membership comes with online access to the webinars, book clubs, *IRC Journal*, and more. The *IRC Journal* and other membership benefits will also be sent by email to you. If you wish to purchase a print journal, it is an additional \$20 per year. Follow the steps on the front of this form.

REGION 1	REGION 4	REGION 7
<p>___ Northern Illinois Reading Council - (Boone, DeKalb, Winnebago, Eastern Lee & Ogle)</p> <p>___ Northwestern Illinois Reading Council - (Jo Daviess, Stephenson, Carroll)</p> <p>___ Sauk Valley Reading Council - (Eastern Whiteside & Henry, Western Lee, Ogle, & Bureau)</p> <p>___ Starved Rock Reading Council - (LaSalle, Grundy, Kendall, Livingston, Eastern Bureau)</p>	<p>___ Black Hawk Reading Council - (Rock Island, Mercer, Western Henry & Whiteside)</p> <p>___ Illinois Valley Reading Council - (Stark, Putnam, Marshall, Peoria, Woodford, Tazewell, Eastern Fulton, Mason)</p> <p>___ Mississippi Valley Reading Council - (Adams, Brown, Pike, Scott, Greene, Calhoun)</p> <p>___ Western Illinois Reading Council - (Henderson, Warren, Knox, McDonough, Hancock, Schuyler, Western Fulton)</p>	<p>___ East Central-EIU Reading Council - (Moultrie, Shelby, Cumberland, Coles, Clark, Edgar, Douglas)</p> <p>___ Illini Reading Council - (Champaign, Piatt, Southern Ford)</p> <p>___ Vermilion Valley Reading Council - (Vermilion)</p>
REGION 2	REGION 5	REGION 8
<p>___ Chicago Area Reading Association (CARA) - (Chicago Area - Cook County within the Chicago city limits)</p> <p>___ Lake Area Reading Council - (Western Lake, McHenry, Northwestern Cook)</p> <p>___ Suburban Council of IRA (SCIRA) - (Eastern Lake, Northern Cook)</p>	<p>___ South Suburban Reading Council - (Those parts of Cook Co. bounded on west by Will-Cook Rd., north by 115th St., and/or Chicago City limits)</p> <p>___ Two Rivers Reading Council - (Kankakee, Iroquois, Northern Ford)</p> <p>___ Will County Reading Council - (Will)</p>	<p>___ Lewis and Clark Reading Council - (Macoupin, Jersey, Madison, St. Clair, Monroe, Washington, Clinton)</p> <p>___ National Road Reading Council - (Bond, Effingham, Fayette, Marion)</p>
REGION 3	REGION 6	REGION 9
<p>___ Fox Valley Reading Council - (Kane)</p> <p>___ Prairie Area Reading Council - (Western DuPage County)</p> <p>___ West Suburban Reading Council - (DuPage County east of Route 83 and those parts of Cook County west of Austin Boulevard excluding all areas within the Chicago city limits)</p>	<p>___ Central Illinois Reading Council - (Logan, Menard, Cass, Morgan, Sangamon, Christian, Montgomery)</p> <p>___ Macon County Reading Council - (Macon)</p> <p>___ MID-State Reading Council - (McLean, DeWitt)</p>	<p>___ South Eastern Reading Council - (Lawrence, Richland, Crawford, Jasper, Edwards, Clay, Wabash, Wayne, White)</p> <p>___ Southern Illinois Reading Council - (Jefferson, Randolph, Perry, Franklin, Williamson, Saline, Gallatin, Union, Johnson, Pope, Alexander, Hardin, Pulaski, Massac, Jackson, Hamilton)</p>
		REGION 10
		<p>___ CIRP - (College Instructors of Reading Professionals)</p> <p>___ ICARE - (Illinois Council for Affective Reading Education)</p> <p>___ ILLC - (Illinois Language and Literacy Council)</p> <p>___ SRL - (Secondary Reading League)</p>

IRC

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