

IRC Webinar Series

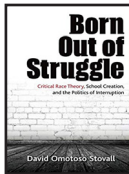
All webinars will begin at 7:00 p.m.

IRC will be offering the Webinar Series for members only in 2021-2022. 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 1, 2021 ~ David Stovall Reconsidering “Three R’s”: Reading, Race, and Reckoning



Stovall’s presentation seeks to shed light on the current attacks on Critical Race Theory, historical accuracy, LGBTQ+ concerns and anything not perceived to be in concert with the sanitizing of curriculum and myth-making. As classrooms become more diverse, the push to erase the stories and contributions of people of color is akin to the historical moments where books were burned because authorities didn’t approve of their content. As some seek to return to the days of Jim Crow and “don’t ask don’t tell”, the racial reckoning of the



Summer of 2021 reminds us that literacy is critical in developing a justice condition, understanding that it is impossible to move forward without recognition of where we’ve been.

October 6, 2021 ~ Sara K. Ahmed When the World Hands you a Curriculum



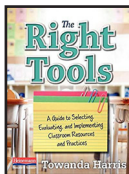
Participants will spend time unpacking social comprehension principles: exploring personal identities, listening actively, being candid, becoming better informed, finding humanity in ourselves, and facing crisis together. And together, we will look outward. We will explore strategies for bringing current events into the classroom. Come prepared to engage in a thoughtful examination of identity and what’s in your news through writing, reading, and discussion.



November 3, 2021 ~ Towanda Harris Every Child Deserves #TheRightTools: Equitable Practices that Meet Students’ Needs



In this session, we will establish a rationale for determining and evaluating quality resources and practices for your learners’ varied needs. Participants will learn how to determine students’ strengths and needs to make equitable instructional decisions that place students at the center of the learning. Towanda will share strategies and tools that will help to ensure that the learner, not the resource, is driving the daily instruction. Informed decisions based on the unique needs of your students, striving for equitable learning experience and outcomes.



December 1, 2021 ~ Chad Everett The Evidence of Things Not Seen: Using Literature as a Lens and Tool for Transformation



In this session, participants will explore how to use literature as a tool for the cultivation of a democratic society. Together, we will step beyond thinking of texts in the binary of diverse or non-diverse to instead critically examine the texts we place in our schools and the way identity acts as a lens for reading. Participants will leave equipped to begin or continue the journey of ensuring all students’ lives are authentically represented on our shelves and in our curriculum.



January 5, 2022 ~ Liz Kleinrock Concretizing Antibias and Antiracism in our Schools



Within KIPP’s vision for a future without limits, how can we dream beyond the socially constructed barriers within education to truly center our students? Once we’ve read the books and done the research, how can we move forward and put theory into practice? In this session, participants will explore proactively applying an antibias and antiracist lens to their craft, and reflect on dismantling systems of oppression while building and reimagining intentional and sustainable practices.



February 2, 2022 ~ Becky Anderson Discovering the 2022 Illinois Reads Books



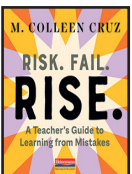
Join Becky Anderson as she presents the Illinois Reads books for 2022. Learn more about the Illinois Reads statewide literacy initiative that promotes reading for all Illinois citizens. Six books in six age bands from Birth to Adult will be shared. A variety of book topics and themes are chosen for each age band, highlighting the work of Illinois Authors.



March 2, 2022 ~ M. Colleen Cruz Common Mistakes Writing Teachers and Students Make and How Tapping Them Can Transform Student Writing



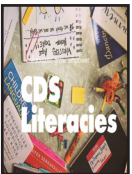
Writing is one of the most crucial subjects we teach. Yet, many of us have the sneaking suspicion we are doing it wrong when we see students not develop into the strong writers we know they can be. Beginning with common instructional practices and beliefs, participants will explore curriculum and teaching methods that might contain mistakes as well as the ways in which we protect these mistakes as well as the ways in which we protect these mistakes from critique. Participants will then try a framework to help identify mistakes in their practice before moving on to exploring ways that student mistakes in writing can provide windows into knowledge and skill.



April 6, 2022 ~ Clare Donovan-Scane Visual Literacies: A Vehicle for Deepening Comprehension, Prompting Empowerment, & Cultivating Joy!



Visual literacy tools are access points for readers as they make meaning of texts and images. Our ability to see and to imbue meaning from those observations begins to develop before we speak, and well before we compose. Research, and our lived experiences, have shown that even our youngest learners become unwitting consumers of harmful images both in and out of schooled spaces. Our daily lives are saturated with ableist, racist, sexist, and otherwise bias images without critique. Understanding metaphors within a visual text can support deeper comprehension and empower readers as they work across texts. This session will invite our community to explore ways visual literacies can elucidate texts and empower communities.



May 4, 2022 ~ Joelle Charbonneau Changing the World One Word, One Book and One Reader at a Time



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.



June 1, 2022 ~ Aeriale N. Johnson Using Text Sets to Nurture Thinkers, Speakers, Readers, Writers, and Tiny Human Beings



Reading is both an individual and collective act. Just as human beings are apt to experience joy in community, reading is a more joyful experience when educators and children bring texts into communion with one another. When we curate text sets as a ritual, children learn that being a broad and critical reader is not just something we do; it is a way of being. In this session we will consider how to use text sets to nurture the kind of readers who read broadly to pursue their passions and seek answers to questions they have about themselves and the world.

