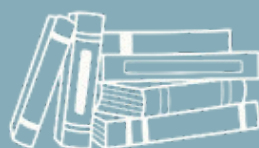


2023 LAT Conference Journal 52nd Annual Conference

Experience the Adventure



Literacy Association of Tennessee

December 10th-12th

Franklin, Tennessee

Cool Springs Marriott

Welcome

The 52nd Annual Literacy Association of Tennessee Literacy Conference

Experience the Adventure – isn't that what we all love about reading? Breaking out from our everyday life to read about snow monkeys in Japan, wizards at Hogwarts, and life in the Big Woods with Laura takes us on magical adventures in our imagination. Every literacy teacher wants to share the love of reading with students and spark their passion for learning, but how do we engage and motivate them? One of the goals for this conference is to bring back the excitement of books for our attendees. We want this conference to be a time of learning, sharing, and discovering. We want everyone to experience a renewed love for books and the places they can take us.

For this conference, there are five, color-coded program strands to guide you in selecting sessions that are designed with your specific interests in mind:

1. Diversity/Equity/Inclusion
2. Elementary Education
3. Elementary Leadership
4. Leadership
5. Secondary Education

To explore the conference sessions, please go to [Sched.com](https://www.sched.com) and search for 2023 Literacy Association of Tennessee 52nd Annual Conference. All sessions are color-coded and listed by day.

To offer a state-wide conference requires a collaborative team dedicated to the mission of the Literacy Association of Tennessee. We appreciate everyone who helped plan and organize the 2023 conference and want to especially recognize the conference steering committee of Randy Kincaid, Gale Collett, Ann Manginelli, Amber Spears, and Lindsay Braisted. No team has ever enjoyed each other's ideas and thoughts more.

With much gratitude



Susan Price and Sandy Smith
Conference Co Chairs

Schedule

Sunday, December 10

Registration begins at 11:00

Keynote – 1:00

Blogger Sessions – 2:40 and 3:40

Monday, December 11

Registration at 8:00

Keynote – 9:00

Sessions at 10:10 and 11:20

Author's Luncheon 12:30
(included in registration)

Sessions at 2:15 and 3:25

Tuesday, December 12

Registration at 8:00

Keynote - 9:00

Tuesday Institute – 10:15-3:15
(with a break for lunch on your own)

Sessions at 10:10 and 11:20



Tuesday Morning Keynote

COY BOWLES

Connect to Your Calling

Musician, author, educator, and advocate, Coy Bowles, takes his audience on a journey to connect back to their calling. Utilizing information and experience gathered from his 15+ years as a touring musician and advocate for early education, literacy, and teacher appreciation, Coy dives deep into why and what we do this all for. The keynote provides a unique perspective and solutions for staying connected to yourself, those around you, and your classroom.



Coy Bowles Musician, Author, Educator, Advocate

<https://shopcoybowles.com>

Coy Bowles is best known as a guitarist, keyboardist, songwriter and singer for the 3x Grammy Award-winning Zac Brown Band, but off-stage Coy Bowles is blazing trails in the world of early education. Coy is the author of 5 children's books, most notably his "Behind the Little Red Door" series, which was also developed into a social-emotional learning kit with Lakeshore Learning. His new children's album, Music for Tiny Humans, won a Gold Award from the Parents' Choice Foundation. Coy has been a sought-after keynote speaker with his unique ability to inspire his audience with music, storytelling, humor and his heartfelt and passionate approach to genuinely connect with people. "I'm trying to dive as deep as I can inside to create content that's going to better our education system, give kids a further understanding of confidence and self-worth and give teachers something unique and creative to work with."-Coy Bowles

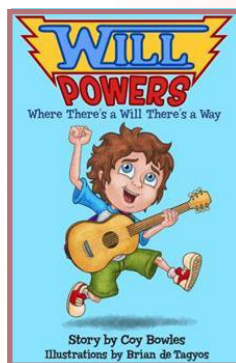
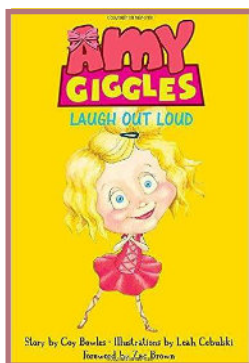
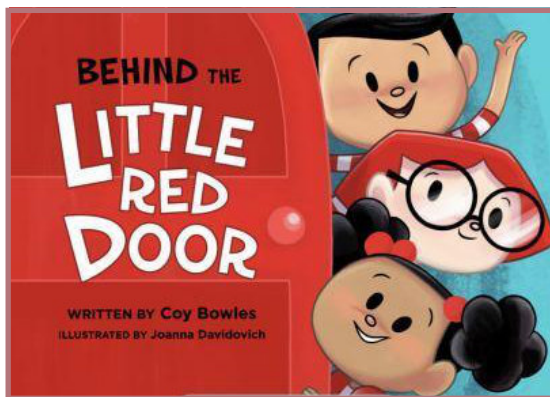
Coy Bowles is a Georgia native. He was born in the small town of Thomaston where he was raised on love, support, and the idea that he could do anything he put his heart and soul into. Coy began his creative journey at a very young age when he started playing guitar at 11.

"My parents instilled in me a foundation of confidence and hard work that I think is the main reason I've been successful," says Coy. "I wasn't allowed to be lazy or negative. If there is anything that I would like to give back, it is instilling the power of confidence and a strong work ethic in young people."

Coy went to West Georgia University out of high school. There his focus was Biology and Environmental Science until he was about six months away from graduation. That's when he decided to change his major to music. Coy took six months off from school to practice for an audition for Georgia State University's Jazz Studies program and taught himself how to read music at 21 years old. Coy spent every waking hour practicing guitar, studying for exams, listening to the music of American jazz and blues legends, or in the clubs of Atlanta

soaking up live music. He found a home at the famous Atlanta Blues Bar, Northside Tavern. Northside is where Coy found his roots in music and met some of his biggest influences, such as Donnie McCormick, Oliver Wood, and Sean Costello.

After graduating from Georgia State University, Coy formed his own band, Coy Bowles and the Fellowship. In 2006, the band released its first album and opened for the Zac Brown Band at the Sky Bar in Auburn, Alabama. A week later, Coy got a call from Zac, who he had met at West Georgia University, offering Coy's band the full-time opening gig and offering Coy a spot playing keyboards for the Zac Brown Band. Now he plays guitar, organ and writes songs for the Zac Brown Band. The Zac Brown Band has won three Grammys and since 2009, the band has earned 55 award nominations from the [Grammys](#), [Academy of Country Music](#), [American Music Awards](#), [Country Music Association](#) and [Country Music Television](#).



Sunday Keynote

COLBY SHARP

What My Students Taught Me About Falling in Love with Reading

In this session, Colby will share stories about his students falling in love through the lenses of book talks, classroom libraries, reading communities, and more! He will also be sharing the latest and greatest in children's literature. Colby's session is sponsored by Scholastic.



Colby Sharp

Colby Sharp is a husband and father of five. He teaches fifth grade in Parma, Michigan. Colby is the co-founder of Nerdy Book Club. He co-hosts The Yarn podcast with Travis Jonker. Colby co-authored *Game Changer! Book Access for All Kids* with Donalyn Miller, and he is the editor of *The Creativity Project: An Awesometastic Story Collection*. His latest book, with Donalyn Miller, *A Commonsense Guide to Your Classroom Library* is now available.

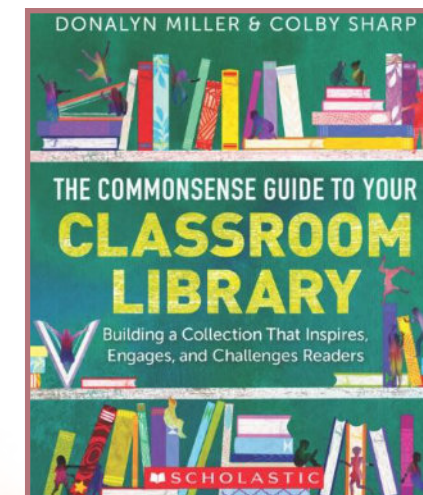
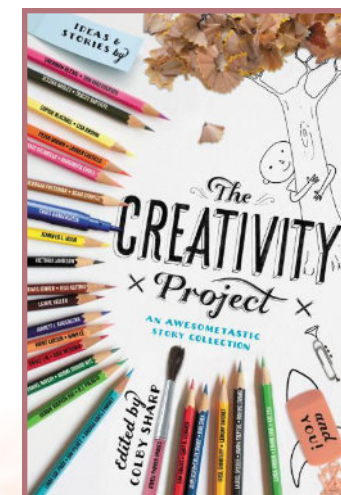
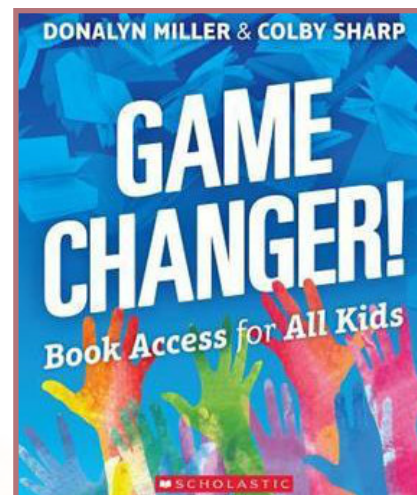
PUBLIC LINKS FOR COLBY SHARP

WEBSITE

<https://nerdybookclub.wordpress.com/>

PODCASTS

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/the-yarn/id1028877816>



Monday Morning Keynote

DR. JOHN SPENCER

Helping K-12 teachers unleash the power of creativity through project-based learning and design thinking

John Spencer is a former middle school teacher and current full-time professor who is passionate about seeing kids reach their creative potential. He is the co-author of the bestselling books Launch, Empower, and Vintage Innovation. In 2013, he spoke at the White House, sharing a vision for how to empower students to be future-ready through creativity and design thinking.



Monday Keynote:

Empower Your Students with Voice and Choice

For years, we were taught a formula. Go to school, get good grades, graduate from a university, and climb a corporate ladder. But the ladder is gone and our students will instead navigate a complex maze. We are in the midst of an AI revolution and we can't predict what this maze will look like. In this keynote, we explore what vital skills students will need to become self-directed learners who can thrive in the maze. We'll examine how creativity and curiosity can help develop the adaptability students will need as they navigate a complex and unpredictable world. We focus on how to move beyond engagement toward deeper empowerment so that students can be self-starters and self-managers. This includes ownership of the processes, the assessment, the strategies, and the metacognition needed to be adaptable in a changing world.

Breakout Session: Divergent Thinking for Deeper Learning

School systems tend to place a high value in getting the right answers and getting them quickly. However, creative work often involves discovering problems, working through iterations, and imagining new possibilities. It involves using materials in unusual ways and combining unrelated ideas. It involves thinking outside the box by repurposing the box. In other words, it requires divergent thinking. In this hands-on and minds-on session, we explore three protocols you can use to incorporate divergent thinking in both the classroom setting and in your own professional learning.

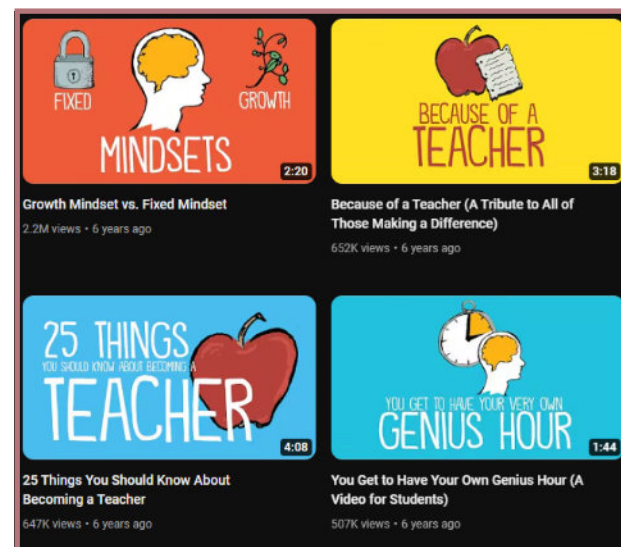
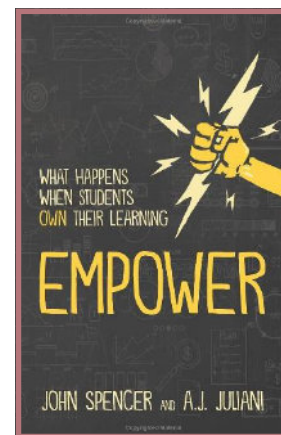
PUBLIC LINKS FOR DR. JOHN SPENCER

WEBSITE

<https://spencerauthor.com/>



<https://www.youtube.com/@spencereducation>



Tuesday Institute

LORI OCZKUS

ADD-ON TICKET IS REQUIRED

Literacy Strategies That Work:
Backed by Research, Fueled by
Classroom Success

All students can read on grade level and beyond when you teach them to comprehend using the evidence-based, reciprocal teaching strategies- predict, question, clarify, and summarize. Join Lori Oczkus, best-selling author and literacy consultant, as she demonstrates “Fab Four” or reciprocal teaching lessons that dramatically improve comprehension using any text at any grade level! Learn to use short and sharp mini-lessons with the whole class, intervention groups, and book clubs for fast results of .74 or two years in one year. Students often make these rapid gains in just a few months! When you add in a dash of scaffolded summary writing, comprehension soars. Learn engaging ways to scaffold writing across the curriculum to deepen student understanding. Lori will share her “go to” lessons for reading and writing, coaching tips, and successful implementation models from her schools around the globe. Don't miss this lively session loaded with engaging low-prep ideas to use immediately for dramatic results in your classroom and school!

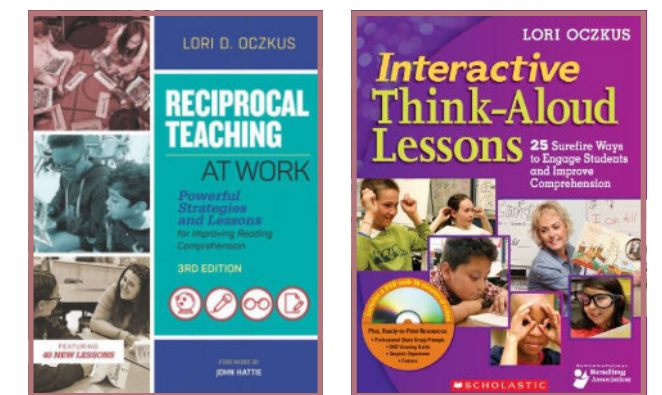


Participants will learn...

- How to guide students in accountable discussions for a rapid gain of .74 or two years growth
- Four coaching foundations for successful lessons with any text at any grade level to yield results
- How reciprocal teaching fits into the science of reading comprehension instruction
- To teach low prep impactful lessons when using your district adopted series
- To use scaffolds-bookmarks, charts, and foldables to guide student discussions and monitor progress
- How to create short and sharp mini lessons for each strategy-predict, question, clarify, summarize
- How to incorporate scaffolded summary writing for improved literacy
- To use proven literacy ideas with ELL students and struggling readers in interventions
- How to start immediately in any grade level K-8th grade with very little prep!

Lori Oczkus is a literacy coach, author, and popular speaker across the United States. Tens of thousands of teachers have attended her motivating, fast paced workshops and read her practical, research-based professional books. Lori has extensive experience as a bilingual elementary teacher, intervention specialist working with struggling readers, and staff developer and literacy coach. She works with students every week in classrooms and really knows the challenges that teachers face in teaching students to read!

Lori's two best selling books on comprehension have been featured in the Reading Teacher journal. (IRA, 2003 book of



the month, Oct.) and is endorsed by noted reading expert, Tim Rasinski. Her video/DVD (IRA, 2005) won the prestigious Association of Educational publishers (AEP) Video of the Year award in 2006.

P. David Pearson says Lori's second book, *"Super Six Comprehension Strategies: 35 Lessons and More for Reading Success."* (Christopher Gordon, 2004) is "a marvelous book for teachers.. . the right book at the right time." (from the forward)

Lori's latest book on comprehension, *"Interactive Think Alouds: 25 Ways to Engage Students and Improve Comprehension"* (released in Feb. 09) provides teachers with exciting NEW lessons and tools including gestures, props, posters, and a DVD for helping students comprehend.

Researcher Cathy Collins Block says, "Lori Oczkus is the master at translating the latest, research-based practices into daily lessons that every teacher can immediately implement!"

Lori's book, *Guided Writing: Practical Lessons, Powerful Results* (Heinemann, 07) focuses on bringing voice and personality to student writing while scaffolding writing for success.

Lori resides in Northern California with her husband, Mark and their three children. She enjoys spending time with her family, traveling anywhere by any means, reading historical fiction, walking with friends, and occasionally scuba diving!

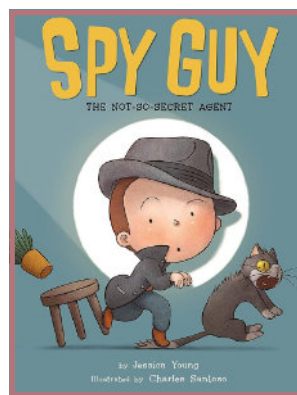
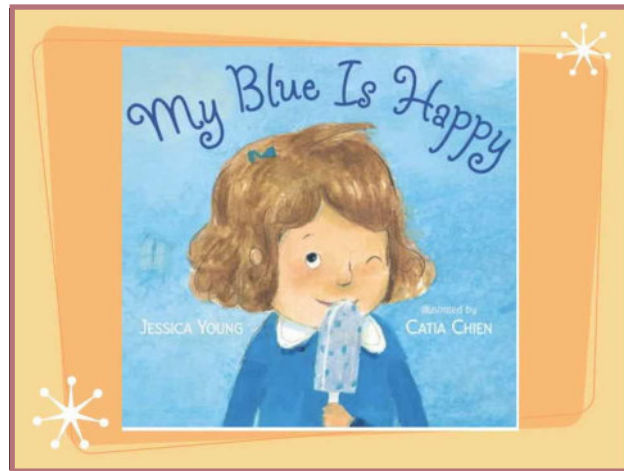
Author's Luncheon JESSICA YOUNG

Join us for a fun and interactive author's luncheon featuring author Jessica Young and local educational consultant Susan Frizzell (of FabFriz Education) as they share engaging and creative ideas for turning your classroom into a reading adventure!

The cost of the luncheon is included in your registration, so join us for food and fellowship as we all come together to hear Jessica and Susan share some of their fun and fabulous ideas to make reading fun again while also meeting your standards.

Jessica Young grew up in Ontario, Canada. The same things make her happy now as when she was a kid: dancing, painting, music, digging in the dirt, picnics, reading, and writing. When she was little, she wanted to be a tap-dancing flight attendant/ veterinarian, but she's changed her mind! Jessica is the author of the award-winning *My Blue Is Happy* (Candlewick Press, 2013), *Play This Book* and *Pet This Book* (Bloomsbury, 2018), the *Haggis And Tank Unleashed* early chapter book series (Scholastic Branches, 2016), the *Finley Flowers* chapter book series (Capstone Young Readers, 2015), *Spy Guy The Not-So-Secret Agent* (Harcourt Children's Books, 2015), *A Wish Is A Seed* (Creative Editions, 2020), the *Fairylight Friends* early reader series (Scholastic Acorn, 2020), and *I'll Meet You In Your Dreams* (Little, Brown, 2021).

Connect with Jessica on social media:
Twitter: @happybluejess



Susan Frizzell



Susan Frizzell's years of teaching experience with preschool, elementary, middle school art (when she was awarded NC Teacher of the Year for Region 8) and Curriculum Coordinator for Nashville Public Library motivated her to create creative and engaging lessons to keep student's attention while teaching state standards. Now she has her own business, Fabfriz Education, offering interactive Story Play Times for school visits, entertaining professional development for adults and fun educational videos that focus on teaching early literacy skills.

"I found my love of teaching ever since being a camp counselor with the YMCA in my 20's. Watching the kids discover new things (and learning with them) is the best, and even better is creating different ways to help them learn. Education is a privilege, something to be excited about, and it is my goal now to help educators bring back the excitement and fun of discovery. I love the challenge of taking what might be considered a boring lesson and making an adventure out of it!"

[Fabfriz.com](http://fabfriz.com)

Blogger Day KLEM-MARI CAJIGAS

NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY CHILDREN'S BLOG

The Global Literature in Libraries Initiative strives to raise the visibility of world literature for adults and children at the local, national and international levels.

We want to increase the visibility of international works in English translation so that more readers can enjoy the amazing diversity in these books and the perspectives they present. And we would like to do this by increasing cooperation between literary translators, international literature advocates, and librarians, who are already experts at guiding readers to new titles. Whether you are a children's librarian or a YA literature blogger, a rural library director or a teacher at a large urban school with a diverse student population, we would welcome your insights as we explore collaborative opportunities to encourage readers to explore beyond the boundaries of their own culture and language.

Klem-Marí Cajigas has been with Nashville Public Library since 2012, after more than a decade of academic training in Religious Studies and Ministry, including doctoral work at Vanderbilt University. As the Family Literacy Coordinator for Bringing Books to Life!, Nashville Public Library's award-winning early literacy outreach program, she delivers family literacy workshops to a diverse range of local communities.



She writes book reviews and other articles for the public library's Children's Blog, and since September 2020, has been a regular contributor to Global Literatures in Libraries Initiative. She has also presented for several national organizations, including National Center for Families Learning, the Public Library Association, and Bank Street College of Education. In recognition of her work, she was named a 2021 Library Journal "Mover and Shaker." Born in Puerto Rico, Klem-Marí is bilingual, bicultural, and proudly Boricua.

SAVANNAH CAMPBELL

CAMPBELL CREATES READERS

Morphology 101: The Key to Unlocking Multisyllabic Words

Your children can decode single-syllable words, but what's next? The answer lies in morphology. Our language is a morphophonemic language, meaning we have to think about both sound-symbol correspondences and the meaning level of words. In this presentation, Savannah will take participants through the 4 layers of English, including Anglo-Saxon, Greek, Latin, and French. She will then lead participants through understanding how to teach different morphemes to their students. Not sure where to start with morphology? You will leave this session with both knowledge of the English language and how to teach it to your students. All participants will receive Anglo-Saxon fluency grids to start them on their journey!

Savannah Campbell is a K-5 reading specialist. She has taught her entire 12-year teaching career at the school she went to as a child. In 2022, she was named Teacher of the Year for both her elementary school and all elementary schools in her district. She holds two master's degrees in education from the College of William and Mary. Savannah is both OrtonGillingham and LETRS trained. She has worked through transitioning from a balanced literacy mindset to structured literacy. Her greatest hope in life is to allow all children to live the life they want by helping them to become literate individuals.



Blogger Day

DR. SARAH COOPER

A ROCKY TOP TEACHER, BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Igniting a Passion for Literacy

Are you interested in helping your students foster a love for learning through literacy? Learn how to ignite that passion through favorite classroom activities, resources, and routines that will help you develop a positive classroom community that promotes student engagement and learning through books! We will talk about how to create a classroom culture that is supportive of student choice, model how to talk about books, and explore successful ways to bring reading into your classroom. This session is for both classroom teachers and administrators hoping to support their teachers in the literacy journey.

Dr. Sarah Cooper is principal of Russellville Elementary School. Before beginning her journey in administration, she taught both second and fifth grade. In addition to classroom teaching, Sarah believes strongly in the power of teacher collaboration and the creation of a sustainable, positive classroom and school community. She loves connecting with other educators and sharing her passion for teaching. Sarah was awarded the 2017 Teacher of the Year at her school and the 2017 District Teacher of the Year for grades 5-8.

"I'm a principal whose heart and soul will forever remain in the classroom and with classroom teachers. Before moving to administration, I was a 5th grade ELA and Social Studies

teacher in East Tennessee. I also previously taught 2nd grade in a self-contained classroom. I have a Doctoral degree in Curriculum and Instruction and am looking forward to continuing the work that I started with my dissertation research.

I truly believe in our education profession, enjoy helping young learners on their educational journeys, and collaborating with educators from all over the world. From technology/social media to classroom best practices-teaching is my passion, and I am honored to share and spread this passion with other educators. It has become my mission to help motivate, encourage, lead and inspire educators."



CHRISTINA DECARBO

MISS DECARBO

Phonemic Awareness and Phonics Fun!

In this jam-packed session, Christina shares her favorite phonemic awareness and phonics activities for your small group reading lessons and whole-group instruction. Discover research-aligned activities that will help students become skilled and confident decoders. Leave with tons of tried-and-true ideas, strategies, and tips that you can implement right away. You and your students will love these hands-on, multisensory activities that will make decoding and encoding FUN!

Christina (Miss DeCarbo) is a literacy coach, national presenter, and curriculum author from Northeast, Ohio. Her research-based sessions are packed with engaging lessons and creative tools to help students become successful readers, writers, and critical thinkers. Christina is the curriculum author of best-selling literacy intervention materials, and loves collaborating with educators on Instagram @missdecarbo. As a mom of two, she enjoys spending time with her family and is an avid coffee lover. You can learn more about Christina's resources and find tons of teaching tips and ideas by visiting her website at www.missdecarbo.com.



Blogger Day

JULIE FAULKNER

FAULKNER'S FAST FIVE

Your Students Have Entered the Chat: Strategies for Classroom Discussions

If your students are like mine, they are glued to their screens 99% of the time. What's grabbing their attention? That would be apps that survive on trendy video clips, silly captions of selfies, or short chats with nonsensical abbreviations and emojis that are lost on me. What students really need is the ability to communicate in person effectively and fluently - and this much-needed skill can start in your classroom with an old-fashioned face-to-face discussion. In this session, I'll share the benefits of hosting classroom discussions on any topic as well as some strategies to make your future classroom discussion a success.

I have taught English and journalism for over 15 years at the secondary level, and I'm still in the classroom! I have presented at numerous teaching conferences, have had several articles published in national journals, and have self-published teaching resources online. My teaching style and resources are engaging, student-centered, critical-thinking inducing, innovative, and standards-driven. I look forward to teaching the students who walk into my classroom every day, and I am passionate about fostering classroom success stories through the lessons, materials, and resources I create - but most importantly through the relationships that I am fortunate enough to develop.

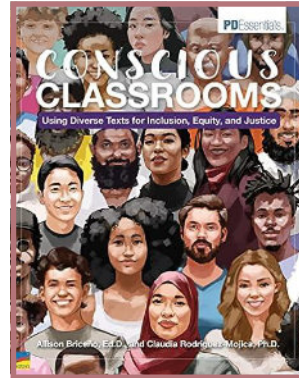


Invited Speakers

ALLISON BRICEÑO

Co-Author of *Conscious Classrooms: Using Diverse Texts for Inclusion, Equity, and Justice*

Allison Briceño, Ed.D., is an Associate Professor in the Teacher Education Department at San Jose State University, where she coordinates the Multilingual and Multicultural Literacy Education MA program. She is an editor for the International Literacy Association's journal, *The Reading Teacher*. Her research explores the rich literacy practices of multilingual students and culturally and linguistically sustaining pedagogies. Dr. Briceño's recent book, *Conscious Classrooms: Using Diverse Texts for Inclusion, Equity and Justice*, shows teachers how to center their students in the curriculum using books with diverse perspectives. *Conscious Classrooms* highlights the transformational impact of diverse books and guides teachers through powerful practices for the literacy block and beyond. Allison's session is sponsored by Benchmark.

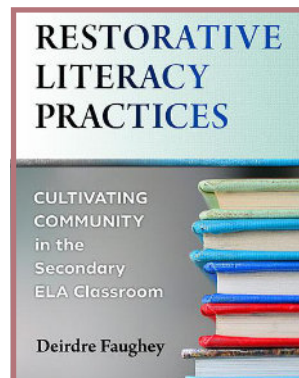


DEIRDRE FAUGHEY

Restorative Literacy Practices: Cultivating Community in the Secondary ELA Classroom

In this session, a veteran secondary classroom teacher will share how she developed restorative literacy practices that helped develop students' social-emotional skills and build relationships between students. She will share classroom examples, descriptions of unit and lesson plans, samples of student work, and strategies that can be used in any classroom. Examples will highlight the need to build student relationships across cultural and language differences, as well as in our post-pandemic environment.

Deirdre Faughey, Ed.D., is a veteran classroom teacher from New York. Since 2005, she has approached her role as one of a classroom researcher, searching for approaches to literacy teaching that prioritize student learning and well-being. Her recent book, *Restorative Literacy Practices: Cultivating Community in the Secondary ELA Classroom*, is published by Teachers College Press.



Cultivating Community in the Secondary ELA Classroom, is published by Teachers College Press.

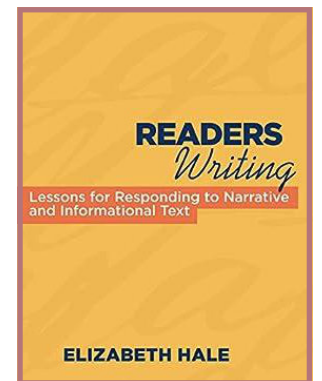
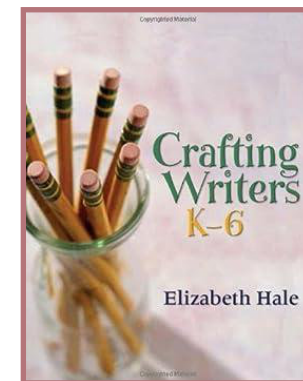
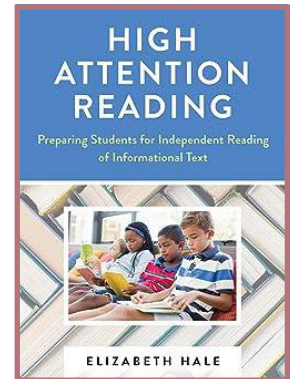
Invited Speakers

ELIZABETH HALE

Supporting Student Engagement and Stamina with Nonfiction Text (2 hour extended session)

This session will present highly practical strategies for increasing student engagement and proficiency with independent reading of nonfiction texts for all levels of readers in grade 3-8. Participants will learn and practice a reading format called High Attention Reading through Talking (HART) that is designed to increase students' attention to text while reading independently. HART creates an authentic setting for students to synthesize information learned and attend to and actively engage with vocabulary. HART reading strategies can be used with a variety of texts including nonfiction text sets, science textbooks, magazine articles and basal readers from more structured curricula. This session will make connections between this "high attention" reading and the ability to write well about informational text. Throughout the session, Elizabeth will also spend time highlighting the human nature of the classroom; that is, how and why student talk can play a powerful role in the affective side of reading comprehension and student motivation.

Elizabeth Hale is an assistant professor of literacy at the University of North Florida. She received her Ed.D. from the Harvard Graduate School of Education and her M.A. from Teachers College at Columbia University. She previously worked for nine years as a teacher and literacy coach in the Boston Public Schools and as an instructor of literacy at Emmanuel College. Elizabeth is the author of *Crafting Writers, K-6* (Stenhouse, 2008), *Readers Writing: Lessons for Responding to Narrative and Informational Text* (Stenhouse,



2014), and *High Attention Reading: Preparing Students for Independent Reading of Informational Text* (Teachers College Press, 2022). She lives in Atlantic Beach, Florida with her husband and three children.

BLAKE HOPPER

THE TRAVELING GUYBRARIAN - [TRAVELINGGUYBRARIAN.COM](https://travellingguybrarian.com)

Utilizing Your School Library and Librarian

Have you ever wondered what a school librarian does? Hint, it is more than shh'ing and checking out books. Attend this session to find out all the ways you can utilize your school librarian and build a reading culture in your school. You will walk away with several great ideas!

Blake Hopper is a primary school librarian in Claiborne County, TN. He is a past president of TASL and past chair of AASL Chapter Assembly. He is currently serving on several TASL and AASL committees. He is also currently serving as Social Media Co-Chair for AASL National Conference. He has been in the library for 9 years. This is his 10th year in education. He loves to collaborate, advocate, and talk library talk. Follow him on Instagram and Facebook @travellingguybrarian and Twitter @travguybrarian



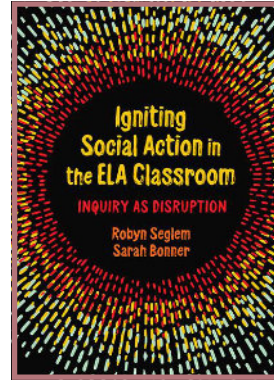
Invited Speakers

ROBYN SEGLEM

Igniting Social Action in the ELA Classroom through Inquiry

Curiosity can spark interest, invite conversation, and even motivate many to take action. But, what happens when we pair literature with curiosity in efforts to disrupt student poses to think critically about the world? Great stories can change the questions we ask ourselves and others. They can also help us change the way we view and interact with the world. This session will unpack a framework that encourages students to interrogate such stories by adopting an inquiry stance that makes use of multiple texts, including nonfiction and digital compositions. The presenter will demonstrate how students are able to find their voices and gain the confidence to engage in meaningful dialogue with adults outside the classroom.

Dr. Robyn Seglem is a Professor in the School of Teaching and Learning at Illinois State University. Currently serving as a co-editor of *Voices from the Middle*, Robyn has been active in the National Council of Teachers of English throughout her career. She previously served as a member of the NCTE Middle Level Section Steering Committee and co-founded the Studies in Literacies and Multimedia Assembly with Antero



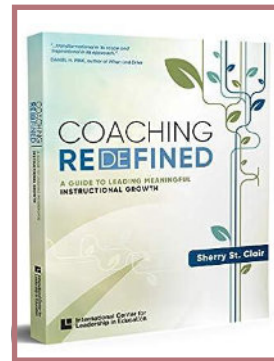
Garcia. In addition to her books *Decolonizing Middle Level Literacy Instruction: A Culturally Proactive Approach to Literacy Methods* (with Michael Domínguez) and *Igniting Social Action in the ELA Classroom: Inquiry as Disruption* (with Sarah Bonner), her work has been published in venues such as *Teachers College Record*, *Theory Into Practice*, *The Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy*, *English Journal*, *Voices from the Middle*, and *The Journal of Language and Literacy Education*. She taught middle and high school ELA for nine years.

SHERRY ST. CLAIR

Impactful Literacy Leadership

Instructional leaders understand the critical importance of developing a school culture where there is expectation of continuous improvement in literacy. This session is designed to help school leaders reflect on key elements of effective literacy instruction. Time will be spent on identifying elements of evidence-based literacy, classroom “look-for” tools for instructional leadership in the area of literacy and techniques to create a culture where literacy is celebrated. Participants will walk away with tools and strategies to implement immediately.

Sherry St. Clair is the founder of Reflective Learning LLC, an educational consulting agency based in Kentucky. Her organization works with schools around the world, creating specialized training and coaching services for school administrators and educators. She holds a master's degree in Instructional Leadership, as well as a Rank I in Instructional Supervision. Sherry has served as a Senior Consultant for the International Center for Leadership in Education and Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. As an international consultant, Sherry draws from her rich experience at various levels of public education—teaching elementary school, being an administrator in a high school of 1,300 students, working as a state consultant, and creating and facilitating virtual courses. Sherry is a highly regarded national speaker and consultant, providing educational agencies with expertise in the areas of instructional leadership, effective classroom practices, classroom walkthroughs, effective use of data and guidance on how to create structures for successful classroom coaching. Coaching schools to best meet the



needs of all students is Sherry's passion. Sherry is a contributing author to *Effective Instructional Strategies Volume 2* published by the International Center for Leadership in Education and *100 No-Nonsense Things that All Teachers Should Stop Doing*. She has published numerous professional learning activity guides and facilitated webinar series focused on leadership and effective instructional practices. Additionally, Sherry developed virtual instructional workshops for the CTE Technical Assistance Center of New York. In partnership with the Successful Practices Network, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, and The School Superintendent Association (AASA), Sherry has recently been a part of bringing innovative practices to scale. Her publication, *Coaching Redefined: A Guide to Leading Meaningful Instructional Growth* was released in June of 2019. Her forthcoming book on instructional leadership will be released fall of 2023.

Special Presentations

DR. SIMYKA CARLTON

Walking Libraries and SEL: Not Something Extra, Something Essential

During this session participants will engage and explore proactive and practical strategies that support the infusing of SEL into ELA. This session will also allow participants to reflect on how they already integrate SEL into their academic content and create next steps that create conditions for adults and students to use SEL and a lever equity and inclusion.

Dr. Simyka Carlton began at Cumberland University in the Summer of 2014 and teaches courses in The College of Education. Within the COE program, she primarily teaches Classroom Management courses. Currently, Dr. Carlton is the Social-Emotional Learning Coordinator for Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools. Besides experience in classroom management, social-emotional learning, and health education, Dr. Carlton's 24 years of experience and expertise in reflective practices, physical education, adult learning theory, and social-emotional learning have allowed her to



serve as a Doctoral Content Expert at Grand Canyon University and Concordia University. Dr. Carlton holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education, a Master's in Education and Educational Leadership, and a doctorate in Educational Leadership. Dr. Carlton is a published author, enjoys cooking and spending time with her family.

SUSAN FRIZSELL

Jungle Adventure: The Search for the Lost Treasure of Literacy

Citizens of Boredin Techland need you to find the lost treasure of amazing literature! Elements of a great story have been scattered and lost deep in the jungle and YOUR talents as a Storyologist have been requested to collect them all and put them back together to create an exciting tale, with intriguing characters, interesting vocabulary, and exotic settings. Experience a creative, yet flexible method to teach a variety of skills depending upon grade level objectives. Discover how to lead students to learn writing and literacy skills by participating in this jungle adventure!

I found my love of teaching ever since being a camp counselor with the YMCA in my 20's. Watching the kids discover new things (and learning with them) is the best, and even better is creating different ways to help them learn. Education is a privilege, something to be excited about, and it is my goal now to help educators bring back the excitement and fun of discovery. I love the challenge of taking what might be considered a boring lesson and making an adventure out of it!

Susan Frizsell's years of teaching experience with preschool, elementary, middle school art (when she was awarded NC Teacher of the Year for Region 8) and Curriculum Coordinator for Nashville Public Library motivated her to create creative and engaging lessons to keep student's attention while



teaching state standards. Now she has her own business, Fabriz Education, offering interactive Story Play Times for school visits, entertaining professional development for adults and fun educational videos that focus on teaching early literacy skills.

Special Presentations

NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY



Extended 2-hour Breakout Session: STEAM and Literacy

Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math are important in the educational world for teaching critical thinking skills. This is a hands-on, experiment-filled workshop with ways to get students problem solving. And, of course, we offer plenty of fantastic book suggestions.

Marie Preptit - Marie Preptit has over a decade of experience as a teacher and administrator in early childhood education settings. Marie Preptit currently serves as the Program Coordinator for Nashville Public Library's award-winning early literacy outreach program Bringing Books to Life. Marie coordinates day-to-day programming, partner relations, data collection, and outcome reporting. She also conducts story times, teacher training, and workshops for parents, all while supervising part-time outreach assistants. In her spare time, she enjoys reading and cooking. She possesses a degree in Psychology from Belmont University.



Special Session: Limitless Libraries

In this session, you will learn about the Limitless Libraries program and its functionality. You will also learn about Middle School Battle of the Books and how you can replicate it.

I am the Program Manager of Limitless Libraries and am often tasked with sharing insight about building partnerships and maintaining them with public schools. Limitless Libraries is a department within Nashville Public Library that sustains the partnership with Metro Nashville Public Schools, and we provide access to students and educators through in-school delivery of public library materials, in house collection development strategies that are cost efficient, and outreach. We are in the business of breaking barriers through access



physically and digitally. Want to learn more about us, visit our website at www.limitlesslibraries.org

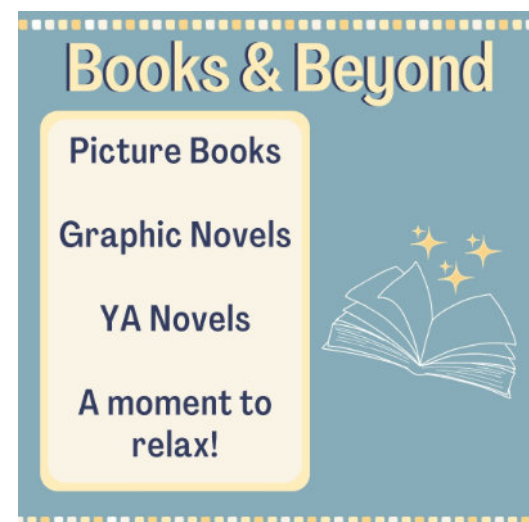
Syreeta Butler - Born and raised Memphian, product of Overton High School in Memphis, TN, alum of The University of Memphis with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Management Information Systems, former employee of Memphis Public Library and Information Center, graduate of Florida State University with a Master of Science in Library and Information Studies and Certificate in Leadership and Management, former Adult Services Librarian at the Edmondson Pike Branch Library in Nashville and Branch Manager of the Thompson Lane Branch Library in Nashville, NOW the proud Program Manager of Limitless Libraries - a partnership between Nashville Public Library and Metro Nashville Public Schools.



BOOKS AND BEYOND

HOSTED BY LAT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

A special room for conference attendees to sit back and browse through the newest award-winning children's books in a comfortable and relaxing environment. These books aren't for sale - they are for enjoying in that comfortable space.



Special Presentations

CLARA TALLEY AND STEVE REDDICK

Facing History: Supporting a Culture of Inquiry in Your Classroom to Empower Student Voice and Agency

In order to internalize what they are learning, students need to participate in intellectual communities that value speaking and listening as much as reading and writing. In this session, educators will use lessons and strategies from Facing History's Fostering Civil Discourse and Coming of Age in a Complex World resources to explore ways they can facilitate text-based, student-led discussions. Educators will have the opportunity to engage with strategies such as "Creating Classroom Contracts," "Text-to-Text, Text-to-Self, Text-to-World," and "3-2-1" that prepare students to read critically, ask compelling questions, and participate in reflective conversations with their peers.

Clara taught English, social studies, and gifted education classes for over 15 years in both private and public schools in Tennessee. She is currently a fellow with the nonprofit organization Facing History and Ourselves (FHAO). Since 2007, she has implemented Facing History's resources and lessons in her elementary and middle school classrooms, where she created project-based programs and developed curriculum for grades 1-8. As a member of Facing History's



ELA Advisory Board, she reviewed and piloted new ELA content and served to expand outreach and mentorship to new Facing History teachers. She was named Teacher of the Year by the former Memphis City Schools Department of Exceptional Children and Health Services. Clara is part of the West Tennessee Writing Project and has served as a juror for the Scholastic Writing Awards for nine years.

Steve Reddick is a veteran social studies educator who retired from the classroom in 2019 after a distinguished career with the Oak Ridge Schools in Oak Ridge, TN. As a young teacher, he was introduced to Facing History and Ourselves through Jinx Watson and Martha Deaderick, two dynamic FHAO-trained educators who continue to inspire him to this day. He used Facing History resources throughout his teaching career and since his retirement has continued to work as a Teacher Fellow for Facing History's New Communities Project and as a Holocaust educator in Oak Ridge and with the Tennessee Holocaust Commission.

Dr. Cyndy Stone Allen GROW YOUR GLOW!

Grow Your Glow "An empty lantern provides no light. Self-care is the fuel that allows your light to shine brightly." While taking care of students, teachers overlook how to take care of themselves. Learn some simple self-care tips to help your "Teacher Glow" grow from dim to bright!

Dr. Cyndy Stone Allen is an assistant professor and Director of Child Growth and Learning at Cumberland University. She is a 30 year veteran of teaching elementary school. These impactful years of experience allow her to guide future teachers into the teaching profession.

Erica Chick STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

High yield instructional strategies and classroom routines are key to student engagement. Learn ways to be mindful of the tone of your classroom, maintain a brisk pace, and motivate your students all while using instructional strategies that engage students in their learning.

I am currently a 3rd grade teacher. I attended Middle Tennessee State University where I received my bachelor's degree. I also attended Freed-Hardeman University where I received my Master of Education in Literacy with endorsements in ELL and Reading

Specialist. I was recently voted Teacher of the Year at my school as well as K-4 District Teacher of the Year for Lebanon Special School District. As a teacher, my mission is to provide a learning environment that enables all of my students to feel important, safe, and successful in my classroom. I believe it is important for educators to inspire lifelong learning. Our opportunity for growth is endless. I am very passionate about student engagement. I make it my mission to be more engaging each day than I was the day before. I love to learn, and I love to teach!

Sandra Austin SO MANY CHOICES! WHAT'S A TEACHER TO DO?

Each year the LAT Diversity Committee creates book sets that match the theme or topic for the year. In the past topics have included: Family Diversity, Ability Diversity, Economic Diversity, etc. A variety of books are selected that are appropriate for either elementary or secondary students. Grants are available to receive a set of books for your classroom. In our session, reviewers will share books from the 2022 theme "Navigating Trauma." You will hear a summary of several books, review them yourself as well as ask questions. You don't want to miss this opportunity!

Sandra W. Austin, Assistant Professor/edTPA Coordinator, Carson-Newman University; Chair, LAT Diversity Committee.

Special Presentations

Dr. Becky Clark and Lauren Hawks IMPROVING ORF OUTCOMES BY USING THE SIX-MINUTE SOLUTION

Literacy educators are challenged daily to find engaging strategies that provide opportunities for their students to improve oral reading fluency outcomes, thus supporting comprehension and motivation in elementary classrooms. This session provides a research-based strategy that teachers can easily incorporate into their literacy block in as little as 6 minutes a day! Further, this session details the results of an action research study conducted utilizing the Six Minute Solution strategy in two Middle Tennessee elementary schools. Resources and materials will be shared and discussed. We hope to see you there!

Dr. Becky Clark has over 23 years of educational experience. Throughout her career, she has served as a classroom teacher, interventionist, instructional coach, student teacher supervisor, and adjunct professor. She has helped train educators and educational leaders at Liberty University, Middle Tennessee State University, Lipscomb University, and Grand Canyon University. In the fall of 2023, she will join the faculty and staff of Grace Christian Academy in Franklin, TN, where she will serve as the Director of Student Support. This position will allow her to combine her two greatest passions- supporting students and teachers. She also serves as the Chair of the Williamson County Literacy Association.

Mrs. Lauren Hawks has most recently served as a 2nd grade teacher in Williamson County Schools. She teaches at Mill Creek Elementary School in beautiful Nolensville, Tennessee. Next year she will be transitioning to the role of instructional math coach for her school. She holds an M.S. in Theory and practice in Teacher Education from The University of Tennessee in Knoxville. This is her 7th year in WCS. She has been able to teach both upper and lower grades throughout her career. Most recently Lauren Hawks was awarded the Literacy Association of Tennessee's 2022 Reading Teacher of the Year award. Additionally, Mrs. Hawks was nominated and named Teacher of the Year for her school during the 2020- 21 school year. Mrs. Hawks has a passion for instructional leadership and exploring all effective instructional strategies. She believes that all students can learn and is dedicated to helping children achieve any and all goals!

Randall Kincaid and Hans Ballew FOSTERING A CULTURE OF LITERACY LEADERSHIP

Fostering a Culture of Literacy Leadership through 1) Creating a plan for literacy in the classroom and the school, 2) Giving students a choice and a voice, 3) Techniques to scale differentiated instruction for students to provide the most effective and meaning learning experience, 4) using evidence based strategies and tools, 5) implement curriculum with fidelity, and finally 6) Motivate, Motivate!!

Randall Kincaid graduated from University of Tennessee in 1984 with a Master of Science degree in Administration and Supervision, continuing on to Lincoln Memorial University where upon graduation in August 1996 he received his Educational Specialist Degree in Administration. For fourteen years, Randall taught seventh grade, fifth grade, and served as Assistant Principal with Bill Smith at Seymour Primary School. Since 1990, Randall has worked as both Secondary Education Supervisor of Instruction and Elementary Education Supervisor of Instruction. Just finishing 48 years of teaching in Sevier County Schools, Randall will now have the opportunity to serve as the English/Language Arts Specialist for grades K-8, along with supervising Pre K-2 Programming and Staff Development. For 6 years Randall served on Governor Bredeson's

TDOE Reading Panel, served as Chair, Conference Chair, Membership Chair, and for 12 years served as ILA State Coordinator (2 terms of 6 years).

Dr. Hans C. Ballew is the principal at Northview Primary STEM School. He was recently the recipient of the Excellence in STEM Leadership Award presented by TSIN. Dr. Ballew has been recognized by ILA for his outstanding work in the literacy field with the Northview Community.

Dr. Angela Shelton and Brittany Gray LITERACY WORKSTATIONS: UNLEASH THE ADVENTURE

Students in our classrooms vary greatly in their literacy needs and ability levels. As a result, it is necessary to provide multiple opportunities for students to read, write, participate in meaningful experiences, and collaborate with others so that they can develop their ability to read and comprehend text(s). One structure that can support these varied needs is the use of effective literacy workstations. This can sometimes be an overwhelming task for educators with everything else we are expected to do in our daily teaching lives. This session will share tried and true practices from two educators who love literacy workstations and the opportunities they provide for students. Participants will leave this session with a set of online resources to use right away. Our secret? The adventure of workstations is in the details- organization, management, and authentic tasks that do not require hours of prep time or empty your wallet.

As a former Kindergarten and 1st grade classroom teacher, instructional coach, and a PK-4th grade literacy coordinator for a large district, Dr. Shelton has experienced a variety of classroom environments. With a Master's degree in Reading Education and an Educational Specialist degree in Instructional Leadership, she currently serves as a clinical instructor and field supervisor in a university setting, working closely with teacher candidates and mentor teachers in early childhood classrooms. These collaborations allow for a deeper exploration of classroom environments and literacy practices. Angela loves to share ideas and resources to support literacy instruction and learning!

Brittany Gray has 11 years teaching experience in Washington County school system. She has a bachelors in Early Childhood, a masters in Reading, and Ed.S in Educational Leadership. Brittany serves on the Gilbreath Literacy Association. She is also going through the Niswonger Leadership academy. Watching kids not only grow but THRIVE is what makes our job worth it.

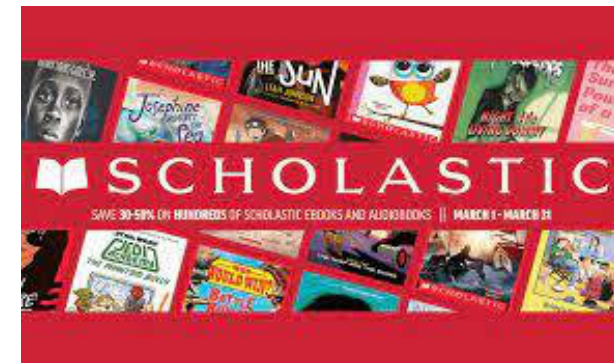
Sally R. Helton MUST READ BOOKS AS RECOMMENDED BY TEENS

I interviewed students to ask about their favorite authors, books, and series. I also asked students to tell me what motivates (and DOESN'T motivate) them to read.

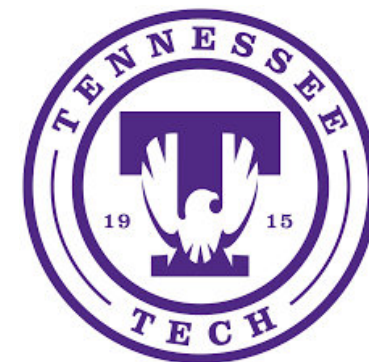
I am a former high school English teacher turned school librarian. I have been a librarian for the past six years. Three of those were at Pi Beta Phi Elementary, and I am currently the librarian at Gatlinburg-Pittman Junior High School. Much like my students, I go through periods of reading obsession interspersed with reading droughts. Finding a book I cannot put down is the cure every time. My favorite genres are historical fiction, realistic fiction, and mystery. I'm still in love with picture books and believe that students are never too old for them (or to be read aloud to).

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