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Because the conference serves as an open forum, opinions expressed and/or materials distributed do not necessarily reflect or imply advocacy or endorsement by the Arkansas Reading Association, its officers, or members. Also, the Arkansas Reading Association does not endorse any specific commercial products or services.
Welcome to the 2013 Arkansas Reading Association Literacy Conference. This year’s theme, Reading...How Sweet It Is!, was thoughtfully chosen to remind us that no matter how the recipe is mixed, the result is always SWEET! Some of us work with young children, and some with young adults. We teach learners of all ages, but at the end of the day, our goal is the same: to develop literate minds and to create a love of reading. What a sweet feeling we share with our students when we see them succeed at a task they thought was impossible!

This convention occurs because of the time and effort of many ARA volunteers. The Conference Planning Committee has worked hard in assembling a talented line-up of presenters that will educate and energize you on a wide variety of timely and relevant topics. For the next two days, you will have an opportunity to add to your recipe collection of teaching strategies and instructional practices. ARA continues the tradition of bringing national as well as Arkansas–based speakers to share the best that research and practice have to offer. This professional development opportunity abounds with sessions for teachers of our youngest literacy learners to our most experienced. Many sessions will provide new ideas that you can put to use in your classrooms on Monday.

In addition to attending sessions, browsing the exhibits, and networking, I hope you will continue to develop your expertise and share with your colleagues back home. Thank you for supporting our organization and have a SWEET conference!
It is my distinct honor and privilege to extend a heartfelt welcome to the 2013 Arkansas Reading Association Literacy Conference! Caroline Schenk, ARA conference chair, and an incredible slate of volunteers have planned a SWEET conference to enhance your knowledge and skills in developing literacy. The Arkansas Reading Association is an organization of which I am proud to be a part. Many dedicated servant leaders volunteer their time and efforts to promote literacy locally, in our state and internationally through a variety of service projects. For instance, President Kathy Carnahan, Jefferson County Reading Council (JCRC), reported that over 300 book bags were donated to ACCESS, a teen pregnancy program, and to the Jefferson County Health Department. JCRC also distributed books and popsicles at the Founders Day Celebration using the theme, “Reading is COOL!” SEARK President, Anita Skinner, reported involvement in the “Shot of Literacy” program where families were given literacy packets when they brought children to county health units for vaccinations. Over the course of SEARK’s five year investment in this program, they have distributed over 1,000 books across a five county area. President Sara Osment, Crowley’s Ridge Reading Association, described her council’s involvement in “Readers are Leaders,” where junior and senior high students were partnered with students on elementary and intermediate campuses to promote literacy. President Donna Owen, Northwest AR Reading Council, expressed sheer joy regarding her council’s involvement in Book Worthy Boutique, where numerous books and a very unique opportunity were offered to Jones Elementary in Springdale, AR. One final example was shared by President Sherri Steelman, South AR Reading Council (SARC). SARC was involved in “Rock and Read” where books were sent to all babies born in their area from birth until five years of age. SARC also provided magazines to their local Women’s Crisis Center. ARA begins each year with our Council Leadership Institute. In July, 2013, I encouraged our newly elected local council leaders to be models of servant leadership. I am so excited to have the opportunity to highlight the fine examples of servant leadership demonstrated by some of the literacy leaders of our state. Are YOU a servant leader? There is a place for YOU to serve as a literacy leader in our state, please visit our website at www.arareading.org for information regarding service opportunities, membership, awards, grants, scholarships, local council links and links to the International Reading Association. It is my sincere hope that you enjoy the ARA Literacy Conference and that you return to your school on Monday with at least one great idea to implement immediately.
Wednesday Evening, November 20
Statehouse Convention Center Rotunda

Registration – 6:00-9:00
Reception – 7:00-8:00

Listen to the music of **Rickey Pittman**

- Pick up registration materials
- Enjoy complimentary cake and punch
- Visit with friends
- Preview silent auction items

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<th>Sandra Dallas</th>
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<td>Denise Brennan-Nelson</td>
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**IRA State Coordinator’s Message**

**Krista Underwood**

*Let books be your dining table,*
*And you shall be full of delights*

**Ephrem the Syrian**

And this year’s ARA Literacy Conference is full of sweet delights! *Reading...How Sweet It Is!,* is this year’s conference theme, and Caroline Schenk, Conference Chair, Sarah Womble, Event Coordinator, and a myriad of volunteers have prepared a menu of “sweet” offerings for all conference attendees!

“How Sweet It Is”… to learn new strategies for teaching literacy … to discuss hot topics in education … to refine one’s instructional skills … to develop leadership skills … to be inspired by wonderful authors … to learn about great new books for the classroom … to have intense conversations with colleagues and friends … to learn about available grants and scholarships and last, but not least, … to develop new professional friendships!

As you taste the sweet fruits of the efforts of the conference committee, we hope your hunger for knowledge about literacy is sated!
**Reading... How Sweet It Is!**

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**Registration – Statehouse Rotunda**
- **Wednesday** 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- **Thursday** 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- **Friday** 7:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.

**Wednesday Evening Welcome Reception**
From 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. – Enjoy complimentary refreshments, book autographing, and entertainment in the Statehouse Rotunda as you pick up your registration materials.

**Sessions** – Sessions are held in the Statehouse Convention Center (SCC), the Marriott Hotel (MH), and the Marriott Conference Center (MCC). Maps of the meeting rooms are located in the back of the program. While every effort is made to match room size to the type of presentation, attendance is not always predictable. Seating is on a first-come basis. To be in compliance with local fire codes, participants are requested not to move chairs between rooms or block doorways.

**Professional Development Clock Hours** –
The Arkansas Reading Association is pleased to offer Arkansas educators the opportunity to receive Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) professional development clock hours.

- An ADE confirmation code will be given at the conclusion of each session. It is the responsibility of the attendee to record the confirmation codes on the form.
- Professional Development forms must be stamped prior to leaving the conference in order to be valid. The ‘ARA Approved’ stamps will be available at any time at the On-Site Registration booth and at other key locations at the end of each day.

**Exhibits** – Exhibits are in Governor’s Hall II. Admission will be restricted to those wearing conference name badges. Exhibit Hours are:
- **Thursday** 8:00 - 4:30
- **Friday** 8:00 - noon

**Autographing** – Autographing sessions will take place in the Exhibit Hall. Please refer to the autographing session times in the program and posted in the hall.

**Meal Functions** – All scheduled meal functions and the Arkansas Children’s Book Awards Celebration require a ticket. Tickets to special functions were offered in advance with conference registration.

**Evaluations** – Conference evaluations will be sent electronically following the conference. We appreciate your feedback and constructive comments. Your input will help with the planning of future conferences.

**Memberships** – For information about International Reading Association (IRA) or Arkansas Reading Association (ARA) membership, please visit the ARA membership booth. Address and/or name changes may be corrected there.

**Lost and Found** – Lost and Found is located at the Onsite Registration booth in the Statehouse Rotunda.

**First Aid** – A first aid kit is available in Quapaw located in the Statehouse Rotunda.
## ARKANSAS READING ASSOCIATION

### STATE COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2013-2014

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<th>COMMUNITY PROJECTS</th>
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<td>Michelle Howell</td>
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<td>Ronda Hughes</td>
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<td>Karen James</td>
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## WHAT IS THE ARKANSAS READING ASSOCIATION?

The Arkansas Reading Association (ARA) is a non-profit, professional organization whose members promote reading and literacy. There are approximately 1,200 members across Arkansas working to further literacy goals through local councils in communities all over Arkansas.

The Arkansas Reading Association is the state affiliate of the International Reading Association (IRA).

### PURPOSES OF ARA

- To improve the quality of reading instruction at all levels
- To provide a local and statewide network of teachers and administrators associated with literacy issues
- To support the activities of the local reading councils and provide a concentrated focus about literacy issues
- To sponsor conferences and meetings to implement the purposes of the council
- To stimulate/promote literacy research
- To disseminate knowledge helpful in the solution of problems related to reading
- To recognize and honor outstanding educators, authors, journalists, and others for significant contributions to reading and language arts
- To further all purposes of the International Reading Association
2013 - 2014 LOCAL COUNCIL PRESIDENTS

Arkadelphia Area – Clark County
Deborah McMillan

Arkansas River Valley – Logan (excluding Paris), Johnson, Pope, Yell Counties
Sandra Mitchell

Central Arkansas – Pulaski County
Jennifer White

Crowley's Ridge – Craighead and Poinsett Counties
Sara Osment

Grant County – Grant County and surrounding schools
Tara Derby

Jefferson County – Jefferson County
Kathy Carnahan

Mountain Home Area – Baxter County
Marjorie Rosenkotter

North Central Arkansas – Cleburne, Conway, Faulkner, Perry, Van Buren Counties
Leeann Howard

Northeast Arkansas – Clay, Crittenden, Jackson, Mississippi Counties
Susan McDonald

Northwest Arkansas – Benton, Washington, Carroll, Madison Counties
Donna Owen

Ozark – Boone, Marion Counties
Lynn Holmes

Pinnacle Reading Council – Serving private schools statewide
Francie Ross

Reading on the Ridge – Greene County, (Paragould/Walnut Ridge Area)
Krystal Hooten

SEARK – Bradley, Cleveland, Drew, Desha, Lincoln Counties
Anita Skinner

South Arkansas – Ouachita, Calhoun, Union Counties (except El Dorado School District)
Sherri Steelman

Southwest Arkansas – Hempstead, Hot Spring, Nevada, Dallas (except Magnet Cove and Bismark School Districts), Montgomery, Pike Counties
Stephanie Clark

Three Rivers – Prairie, Lonoke, White, Woodruff Counties
Leah Barber

Tri-Lakes – Garland County, Magnet Cove and Bismark School Districts
Ronda Hughes

White River – Independence County
Tammy Gilmore

Are you searching for a council in your area? Please contact Krista Underwood (krista@arareading.org) if you are interested in a leadership position for these inactive councils or if you would like to organize a council in your area:

Cossatot – Howard, Little River, Polk, Sevier Counties

El Dorado – El Dorado School District

Greater Texarkana – Miller County

Mid-Delta – Cross, Lee, Monroe, Phillips, St. Francis Counties

North Arkansas – Sharp, Lawrence, Fulton, Izard Counties

On the Border – Sebastian County and Mansfield in Scott County

Saline County – Saline County

Southeast Arkansas – Eudora and surrounding districts

Western – Crawford Counties
Arkansas Reading Association Award/Grant Recipients 2012-2013

Visit www.arareading.org for more information about ARA grants and awards.

IRA Award of Excellence
Arkansas Reading Association – 26 Years
Debbie Hardwick-Smith, ARA President

IRA Student Membership Gold Award

IRA Exemplary Reading Program Award
Willis Shaw Elementary, Springdale

Celebrate Literacy Awards

Community Leader Literacy Award (tie)
Sherry Griffin and Mark & Rebecca Spencer

Agency Literacy Award
Junior Auxiliary of Clarksville

Educator Literacy Award
Michelle Howell

IRA Honor Councils

Arkadelphia Area Reading .......................... 14
Arkansas River Valley Reading Council ........... 4
Central Arkansas Reading Council .................. 28
Grant County Reading Council ..................... 21
Jefferson County Reading Council .................. 19
North Central Arkansas Reading Council ............ 29
Northeast Arkansas ................................. 26
Northwest Arkansas Reading Council .............. 20
Pinnacle Special Interest Reading Council ........ 4
SEARK ................................................. 21
South Arkansas ................................. 17
Three Rivers ...................................... 21

Jo Flanigan Scholarship
Karla Jones

ARA Diamond Awards
Arkansas River Valley
Sandra Mitchell

Grant County
Tara Derby

Northwest
Donna Owen

Northeast
Viola Snow

Jefferson County
Kathy Carnahan

SEARK
Julie Workman

Crowley’s Ridge
Ginger West

Pinnacle Special
Francie Ross

ARA Council Literacy Grants
Arkadelphia
Arkansas River Valley
Grant County
Jefferson County
Pinnacle Special Interest
Reading on the Ridge
SEARK

ARA Local Council Membership Awards
Local Council Growth
1st – Crowley’s Ridge Reading Council
2nd – Three Rivers Reading Council
3rd – Jefferson County Reading Council

Growth in IRA Membership
Tri-Lakes Reading Council

Studies and Research Award
Dana Jones and Sara Osment “Priority Mail”
Crowley’s Ridge Reading Council
2013 LOCAL COUNCIL HONOREES
Honorees are chosen by each local reading council. They are given complimentary registration to the ARA conference where one of them will be chosen to receive $750 toward expenses to attend the 59th Annual IRA Convention in New Orleans May 9-14, 2014.

Arkadelphia .................. Jennifer Fielding
Arkansas River Valley ........ Barbara Kutko
Central Arkansas ............ Lauren Malm
Crowley’s Ridge .............. Dana Jones
Grant County .................. Jenny Venable
Jefferson County ............. Roxanne Harper
Mtn. Home ......................... Linda Arnold
North Central Arkansas ........ Dana Autry
Northeast Arkansas .......... Viola Snow
Northwest ......................... Cassie Sherrill
Ozark ............................... Heather Zaloudek
Pinnacle ......................... Annette Sterl
Reading on the Ridge ......... Sheila Monroe
SEARK ..................... Titiana Brown
South Arkansas ............... Jenny Louden
Southwest Arkansas .......... Kathleen Wicker
Three Rivers .................. Anita Hogue
Tri-Lakes ......................... Tara Lay
White River ...................... Codi Ribitzki

ARA Past Presidents
2012-2013 ........................ Debbie Hardwick-Smith
2011-2012 .......................... Paula Findley
2010-2011 ........................... Linda Eilers
2009-2010 ............................ Julie Huskey
2008-2009 ............................ Tina Montgomery
2007-2008 ............................ Glenda Nugent
2006-2007 ............................ Jernielynn Mapp
2005-2006 ............................ Wendy Ellis
2004-2005 ............................ Janis Gibson
2003-2004 ............................ Jernielynn Mapp
2002-2003 ............................ Trudy Jackson
2001-2002 ............................ Carolyn Schumacher
2000-2001 ............................ Martha Shirrell
1999-2000 ............................ Pam East
1998-1999 ............................ Jeanne Trawick
1997-1998 ............................ Billie Ann Dishongh
1996-1997 ............................ Krista Underwood
1995-1996 ............................ Martha Simpson
1994-1995 ............................ Mary Mosley
1993-1994 ............................ Tanna Clark
1992-1993 ............................ Cathy French
1991-1992 ............................ Susan Peterson
1990-1991 ............................ Alice Stovall
1989-1990 ............................ Bettye Wright
1988-1989 ............................ Martha Couch
1987-1988 ............................ Jo Flanigan
1986-1987 ............................ Kathy Shirron
1985-1986 ............................ Barbara Blalack
1984-1985 ............................ Janine Riggs
1983-1984 ............................ Bobbie Hodge
1982-1983 ............................ Sarah Womble
1981-1982 ............................ Marlene Reed
1980-1981 ............................ Anna Heathery
1979-1980 ............................ Pat Yick
1978-1979 ............................ Brownie Kimbrough
1977-1978 ............................ Dorothy McKinnon
1976-1977 ............................ Betty Morgans
1975-1976 ............................ Margaret Pope Hartley
1974-1975 ............................ Sybil Hill
1973-1974 ............................ June Smith
1972-1973 ............................ J. Kendall Hoggard

Past IRA State Coordinators
Tanna Clark  Betty Morgans
Susan Peterson Sara Wilf
Alice Stovall Vernice Hubbard
Sarah Womble Lowther Penn
Featured Speakers

“How Humanities Spotlight: Authors Patricia McCormick and Sandra Dallas”

Appearances by Patricia McCormick and Sandra Dallas are supported in part by a grant from the Arkansas Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Samantha Bennett is an instructional coach and educational consultant based in Denver, CO. She is the author of That Workshop Book: New Systems and Structures for Classrooms that Read, Write, and Think (2007), a contributing author to Comprehension Going Forward (2011), and the Heinemann Digital Campus Titles Adolescent Reading RX: What to Try When Teen Readers Can’t or Won’t with Cris Tovani and Kids with Grit with Debbie Miller.

America’s leading reading ambassador, Danny Brassell, is a professor in the Teacher Education Department at California State University-Dominguez Hills and founder of www.lazyreaders.com. He is the author of 11 books, including Comprehension That Works (with Tim Rasinski). His recent best-selling book Secrets for Successful Readers (2013) is based on his TEDx talk on YouTube called “The Reading Makeover,” which has been singled out as one of the funniest and most inspirational education speeches of the past five years. Danny helps parents and educators inspire kids to love reading and strive to achieve. He may be contacted at www.dannybrassell.com.

Denise Brennan-Nelson is a multi-award winning children’s book author. She is the author of My Teacher Likes to Say, My Momma Likes to Say, and My Grandma Likes to Say humorous books that examine the many idioms and clichés used by adults. She has published numerous other books including the touching story Someday Is Not a Day of the Week. Willow was chosen the Most Outstanding Children’s Book for 2009 by the Executive Committee of the Mom’s Choice Awards.

Becky Birtha is the Arkansas Diamond Primary Book Award Winner. Both of her picture books, Grandmama’s Pride and Lucky Beans, are historical fiction stories about African American families. Her books are set during difficult times in history and include historical notes at the end. The children and families of these stories find ways to triumph. Lucky Beans is based on events that really happened in her family. She has also written books for adults – two books of short stories and one book of poetry.

“Humanities spotlight: authors Patricia McCormick and Sandra Dallas”

Appearances by Patricia McCormick and Sandra Dallas are supported in part by a grant from the Arkansas Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities.
New York Times best-selling and award-winning author Sandra Dallas brings her much admired storytelling talent to middle grade readers in *The Quilt Walk*. Author of eleven adult novels, her themes of loyalty, friendship, and human dignity have been translated into a dozen foreign languages. *The Quilt Walk* is the winner of the 2013 Wrangler Award sponsored by the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. Sandra is the recipient of the Women Writing the West Willa Award and two-time winner of the Western Writers of America Spur Award.

Dianne de Las Casas is an award-winning author of more than 20 books, a celebrated storyteller, and founder of Picture Book Month. Her “revved-up storytelling” is full of energetic audience participation. Her children’s titles include, *The Cajun Cornbread Boy*, *Madame Poulet & Monsieur Roach*, *There’s a Dragon in the Library*, *The House That Witchy Built*, and *The Little “Read” Hen*. Visit her website at diannedelascasas.com. Visit Picture Book Month at PictureBookMonth.com.

Linda Dorn is a professor of reading education at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock where she is the director of the UALR Center for Literacy. She teaches graduate classes in literacy theory, research, classroom practice, and literacy leadership. Linda is the primary developer and lead trainer of the Partnerships in Comprehensive Literacy Model, a nationally recognized model that uses literacy coaches as agents of change. Her most recent publications are *Apprenticeship in Literacy*, (2012) and *Interventions that Work: A Comprehensive Intervention Model for Preventing Reading Failure* (2011).

Deborah Coffman is the Arkansas Department of Education’s current Chief of Staff. She was formerly the director of professional development and has served as ADE’s literacy program manager. She worked as an instructional facilitator for the Pocahontas School System, as a literacy specialist at the Northeast Education Service Cooperative, and as an elementary teacher at Hoxie Public Schools. She also has worked as an adjunct professor, a GED instructor, and a private school educator.

Crescent Dragonwagon is the author of 50 published books in multiple genres – novels, cookbook-memoirs, poetry, children’s books. She received the Coretta Scott King Award for her book *Half a Moon and One Whole Star*. She is the developer of Fearless Writing, a writing workshop she has taught all over the world. She is a former resident of Eureka Springs where she operated an inn and co-founded the Writers’ Colony at Dairy Hollow. She now makes Vermont her home, but also spends time in New York and Arkansas.
Katie Garner is a nationally recognized speaker, author, and educational consultant whose published work on the Reading Brain has gained national recognition. She provides cutting-edge strategy innovations for aligning core literacy instruction with current brain research to accelerate the momentum of reading and writing skill-acquisition across the elementary grade levels. Katie’s approach has become known for “teaching teachers a new way to teach,” and is the subject of an upcoming professional development book series.

Maureen McLaughlin, President of the International Reading Association, is a professor of reading education at East Stroudsburg University (PA).

Jim Johnson has been in education as a teacher or administrator for more than 40 years. He is now working as a consultant for the Arkansas Department of Education. He has worked with the Pathwise Mentoring Program and as a Praxis Assessor and is currently a trainer for TESS and LEAD and a Trainer of Trainers for the new mentoring system known as AIMM. Jim has worked with Charlotte Danielson, an internationally-recognized expert in the area of teacher effectiveness, since 1999.

Patricia McCormick is from New York. Her first novel for teens was Cut followed by My Brother’s Keeper, and Sold. Her latest book, Never Fall Down, based on the true story of an 11-year-old boy who survived the Khmer Rouge by playing music in the Killing Fields, was a National Book Award Finalist. Her awards include the American Library Association Best Book of the Year, New York Public Library Best Book for the Teen-aged and the Children’s Literature Council’s Choice.

Brenda Overturf co-authored The Common Core: Teaching Students in Grades 6-12 to Meet the Reading Standards and The Common Core: Teaching K-5 Students to Meet the Reading Standards, which explain the key points of CCSS and align each standard with appropriate research-based strategies.

Maureen McLaughlin served as an IRA volunteer professor in Estonia with the Reading and Writing for Critical Thinking Project (RWCT). McLaughlin has served on the editorial review board of The Thinking Classroom and chaired the Assessment and Evaluation Committee.

She has published numerous articles, chapters, and books throughout her career and is the author of two of IRA’s best-selling titles, Guided Comprehension in the Primary Grades and Guided Comprehension in Grades 3-8.

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Diane Z. Shore is the prize-winning author or co-author of six books for young readers including *This is the Dream* (2006), set during the Civil Rights Movement in America.

Diane writes in a variety of genres and her books have been translated into many languages. She travels across the U.S. with her widely popular school presentations inspiring the most reluctant kids to read and the most hesitant students to write.

Cris Tovani has taught grades 1-12 for the past twenty-nine years. In addition to teaching and coaching full time, she is a nationally known consultant focusing on content comprehension and assessment in secondary classrooms. She is the author of three books: *I Read It, but I Don’t Get It* (2000), *Do I Really Have to Teach Reading?* (2004), and *So What Do They Really Know?* (2011). In her latest work, *So What Do They Really Know?*, Cris investigates how teachers progress monitor, assess, and grade students’ thinking and performance with fairness and fidelity. This tall order begs the question, so what do they really know?

Local author Heather Suthrellin has written four novels, all fantasy, for middle grades, teens, or young adults, and is now working on a series for elementary readers. She makes optimal use of technology with her online newsletter, audio books, active web and Facebook pages, a webseries, promotional swag items, and a blog page, where she shares writing tips, tricks and exercises. She is a teacher, writer, and mom to her three homeschooled children.

Alexia “Ali” Weimer, a kindergarten teacher at Avondale Elementary in the Marion School District, is Arkansas’s 2013 Teacher of the Year. Weimer has been a teacher for seven years, all of them at Avondale Elementary. She holds degrees in early childhood education and educational leadership from Arkansas State University. She is working this year as a special advisor to the Arkansas Department of Education.

MH = Marriott Hotel
(Salons A,B,C; Hoffman and Manning on mezzanine level and Arkansas Ballroom on lobby level)

MCC = Marriott Conference Center
(Back of hotel, past Business Center, through double glass doors)

SCC = Statehouse Convention Center
(Meeting rooms west of Rotunda, near registration area)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 8:30-9:30</td>
<td>Take Home Literacy Activities</td>
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<td>Thursday 11:30-12:30</td>
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## Conference at a Glance

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<th>Thursday 3:15 - 4:15 (continued)</th>
<th>Friday 11:30 - 12:30</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sweet Ways to Facilitate Their Thinking  Miller (SCC)  Stephanie Vanderslice</td>
<td>Arkansas/DEAS – Out of the Box!  Caraway II &amp; III (SCC)  Lauren Faulk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tweaking the Twelve Twinkies  Harris Brake (MCC)  Rachel Poor</td>
<td>Building Students’ Knowledge of Informational Text Structure to Enhance Comprehension  Pope (SCC)  Kathleen Theodore</td>
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<tr>
<td>Using the Lexile Framework  Chicot (MCC)  Dominic Via</td>
<td>Florida Peppermint – A Sweet Addition to the Curriculum!  Hoffman (MH)  Regina Moore</td>
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<tr>
<td>Using Wikis: Technology’s WOW! Factor  Izard (SCC)  Tammy Gillimore</td>
<td>Jim and Me and Theo T. – Sweet Memories  Caraway I (SCC)  Vicky Morgan</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday 8:00 - 9:00 am</strong></td>
<td><strong>Friday 1:00 - 2:00</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Common Core: Teaching Students to Meet the Reading Standards  Salon B (MH)  Maureen McLaughlin and Brenda Overturf</td>
<td>AGOPP: A Simple Plan for Research  Chicot (MCC)  Lynn Holmes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Read Alouds That Rock Across the Curriculum!  Salon C (MH)  Diane Z. Shore</td>
<td>Biography Buddies  Harris Brake (MCC)  Olivia Dorman</td>
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<td>Common Core and the New Read to Feed  Grampas (MCC)  Lori Ducey</td>
<td>Cat’s Chat: “Unglued”  Neosho (MCC)  Cat French</td>
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<td>Engaging Parents in the Growth and Development of Their Children by Enhancing Their Reading Skills for Life  Neosho (MCC)  Willie Kimmons</td>
<td>Dare to Go Deskless  Manning (MH)  Jayme Dunlap</td>
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<td>Tackle Common Core Standards with Britannica  Chicot (MCC)  Darcy Carlson</td>
<td>The icing on the Cake: A Genre Study that Enhances Literacy Instruction  Ouachita (MCC)  Amy Simpson</td>
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<td><strong>Friday 8:30 - 9:30</strong></td>
<td>Integrating Reading/Writing/Language into a Literacy Block  Grampas (MCC)  Jennifer Vanaman</td>
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<td>Authentic Literacy Techniques: A Three Step Process  Riverview (MCC)  Tammy Gillmore</td>
<td>Pour Some Sugar on It: Sweet Strategies for Tackling Nonfiction  Izard (SCC)  Kary Shinkle</td>
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<td>Become a Researcher!  White Oak (MCC)  Margo Turner</td>
<td>Sweet iPad Apps for Enhancing Classroom Instruction  Miller (SCC)  Wendy Ellis</td>
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<td>Closing the Gender Gap in Reading  Caraway I (SCC)  Amanda Harris</td>
<td>When the Wind Stops – A Mother/Daughter Circle Unbroken  Arkansas Ballroom (MH)  Crescent Dragonwagon</td>
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<td>Learning to Love Learning Words: Building Vocabulary in a Caring Community  Caraway II &amp; III (SCC)  Jolynn Bernard</td>
<td>The Write Recipe for a Story  Conway (MCC)  Dianne de Las Casas</td>
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<td>Online Resources for Writing Instruction  Miller (SCC)  Heather Sutherlin</td>
<td><strong>Friday 1:00 - 2:30</strong></td>
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<td>Reading for Meaning – Fluently  Izard (SCC)  Sandra Strong</td>
<td>Common Core in the Classroom  Caraway I (SCC)  Heather Keefe</td>
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<td>Sweet Home Connections: Made Easy  Harris Brake (MCC)  Shara Fekens and Marilyn Muehler</td>
<td>Improving Student Comprehension Through Engaging Text Discussion  Pope (SCC)  Kathleen Theodore</td>
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<td>Take Your Teaching from Good to Great – Be a NBCT!  Pope (SCC)  Clara Carroll</td>
<td>Secret Stories: Breaking Through the Brain’s Backdoor!  Fulton (SCC)  Kate Garner</td>
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<td>A Teacher’s Cookbook: Recipes for a Balanced Literacy Program  Manning (MH)  Michael McManus</td>
<td>The Write Tool  Hoffman (MH)  Brandi McCarty</td>
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<td>“Wy kant thay spel?” Ensure All Students Become Lifelong, Strategic Spellers  Ouachita (MH)  Marisa Russo</td>
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Thursday, November 21 – 8:00 - 9:30

Izard (SCC)
The Nuts and Bolts of Content Literacy
Julie Joynt
National Literacy Consultant, Triumph Learning, Titusville, FL

Common Core is coming! Content teachers need to be ready, willing, and able to teach students strategies to help them navigate content texts with success. This session provides that knowledge!

PD Strand: Instructional Strategies
Level: Intermediate (4-6) - High School
Audience: All

Neosho (MCC)
The Write Tool
Brandi McCarty
4th grade Reading Teacher, Paragould School District, Paragould, AR

Enhance writing skills by creating a tool that students can use in all content areas. A Write Tool will be created during this workshop – use it Monday!

PD Strand: Instructional Strategies
Level: Primary (1-3), Intermediate (4-6)
Audience: Curriculum Specialists, Classroom Teachers

Miller (SCC)
Writing Games to Teach Descriptive Details
Heather Sutherlin*

Looking to freshen up your writing instruction while addressing the Common Core standards for writing? Learn how to encourage your students to use descriptive details in their writing while having a little fun in this interactive workshop.

PD Strand: Instructional Strategies
Level: Intermediate (4-6), Jr. High/Middle, High School
Audience: Classroom Teachers

Hoffman (MH)
Boys Are Readers Too!
Jason Campbell
Classroom Teacher, Conway Public Schools, Conway, AR

This teacher (a guy) will give several strategies to help motivate the boys in your classroom. A list of “guy approved” books will also be given.

PD Strand: Instructional Strategies
Level: Intermediate (4-6), Jr. High/Middle
Audience: Reading Teachers, Classroom Teachers, Media Specialists

Fulton (SCC)
Finding a Voice
Patricia McCormick*

Patricia McCormick, a two-time National Book Award finalist, will describe the process behind her book, Never Fall Down, the story of how a young Cambodian boy survived the Killing Fields of Cambodia.

PD Strand: Content
Level: All
Audience: All

Pope (SCC)
Helping Children Find and Love Their Voice
Jolynn Bernard
National Education Consultant, Developmental Studies Center, St. Augustine, FL

Participants in this interactive session will experience a writing lesson that incorporates best practices in writing instruction as well as a framework for creating an engaging and supportive classroom community.

PD Strand: Instructional Strategies
Level: Primary (1-3), Intermediate (4-6)
Audience: Curriculum Specialists, Classroom Teachers, Other

*Featured Speaker

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(Salons A,B,C; Hoffman and Manning on mezzanine level and Arkansas Ballroom on lobby level)

MCC = Marriott Conference Center
(Back of hotel, past Business Center, through double glass doors)

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(Meeting rooms west of Rotunda, near registration area)
Thursday, November 21 – 8:30 - 9:30
PD Credit = 1 hour

**Caraway II & III (SCC)**

**Using Manipulatives to Teach Comprehension**
Gaye Heath  
*Client Manager, 95 Percent Group Inc., Lincolnshire, IL*

Looking for engaging ways to teach comprehension? The presenter will model multisensory techniques for teaching questioning and inferring using tokens, a mat, and gestures. Participants will receive a lesson.

PD Strand: Instructional Strategies  
Level: Primary (1-3), Intermediate (4-6), Jr. High/Middle  
Audience: All

**Conway (MCC)**

**The Writer’s Challenge**
Sandra Dallas*  
*NYT best-selling author Sandra Dallas shares her experience as a writer of historical fiction and how the process varies when writing for a young audience. The session includes recommendations for incorporating historical fiction into classroom activities aligned with Common Core State Standards.*

PD Strand: Content  
Level: Intermediate (4-6)  
Audience: Teacher Educators, Classroom Teachers

*Featured Speaker

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**AR Ballroom (MH)**

**Stories & Songs of Arkansas**
Rickey Pittman*  
Arkansas has a long, rich history, and there are so many stories that need to be told! Hear author, musician, and storyteller Rickey Pittman bring these stories to life.

PD Strand: Building a Collaborative Learning Community  
Level: Intermediate (4-6), Jr. High/Middle  
Audience: All

*Featured Speaker

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**Harris Brake (MCC)**

**Jim and Me and Theo T. – Sweet Memories**
Vicky Morgan  
*Retired Elementary Teacher and Author, Monticello, AR*

This author, a former teacher, will share the process she used to turn her childhood memories and life experiences into a children’s book. Many Common Core State Standards will be covered.

PD Strand: Instructional Strategies  
Level: Preschool/K, Primary (1-3), Intermediate (4-6)  
Audience: Reading Teachers, Classroom Teachers, Title I

**Manning (MH)**

**Quirkles Plus Science Equals Fun!**
Lynn Hawking  
*Quirkles Representative, Creative 3 LLC Quirkles, Sherwood, AR*

Quirkles® offers a new way to integrate literacy and science. Gilbert Gas is one of the alphabet related scientists that will grab your attention and get you hooked on science.

PD Strand: Instructional Strategies  
Level: Preschool/K, Primary (1-3)  
Audience: All

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**FIRST GENERAL SESSION**

**Thursday – 9:45 - 11:00 • Statehouse Convention Center – Governor’s Hall IV**

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

Danny Brassell  
*The Reading Makeover*

**Welcome**
Caroline Schenk  
*ARA President-elect and Conference Chair*

**Presentation of the Colors and Pledge of Allegiance**
Beebe High School  
*R.O.T.C.*

**National Anthem**
Richie Williams  
*Paragould School District*

**Greetings from ADE**
Debbie Coffman  
*Chief of Staff at Arkansas Department of Education*

**Keynote Speaker Introduction**
Kay Calvert  
*ARA President*

**Closing Remarks**
Caroline Schenk  
*Conference Chair and President-Elect*

PD Strand: Instructional Strategy  
PD Credit = 1 hour
Ticketed Literacy Luncheons – 11:15 - 12:30

Salon A
Sweet Resources for Common Core State Standards
Presenters: Debbie Coffman, ADE Chief of Staff; Kevin Beaumont, Professional Development Coordinator; and Jane Dearworth, K-12 Literacy Program Manager
Host: Krista Underwood, IRA Coordinator

Salon B
Transitioning to the Teacher Excellence Support System (TESS)
Presenter: Jim Johnson, Consultant
Host: Caroline Schenk, ARA President-elect

Exhibits & Lunch – Meals will be served at the back of the Exhibit Hall.

Thursday, November 21 – 12:45 - 1:45

Caraway II & III (SCC)
ArkansasIDEAS – Out of the Box!
Lauren Faulk
Education Specialist, Arkansas Educational Television Network (AETN)
ArkansasIDEAS’ newest microsites support Common Core State Standards, STEM education, and the Teacher Excellence and Support Systems. Save time and money by accessing ADE-approved courses to meet specific professional development requirements.
PD Strand: Education Technology
Level: All
Audience: Classroom Teachers, Media Specialists

Ouachita (MCC)
Cat’s Chat: “Unglued”
Cat French
Humanitarian, Former Educator, Little Rock, AR
What happens in our brain when an emotional meltdown hits? How do our mind and gut affect the health of ourselves, our colleagues, and our fragile students. What we can do to stop the “whispers” about mental health moments, break vicious cycles and develop virtuous patterns of responsibility.
PD Strand: Cognitive Research
Level: All
Audience: All

Conway (MCC)
Creating Word Nerds: Vocabulary Instruction that Makes a Difference
Brenda J. Overturf*
Vocabulary is a key to reading comprehension – especially with more challenging texts across the curriculum. More than ever, educators need to work together to make vocabulary development relevant, active, interesting, and engaging. Explore ways your students can become Word Nerds!
PD Strand: Instructional Strategies
Level: Primary (1-3), Intermediate (4-6), Jr. High/Middle
Audience: All

Riverview (MCC)
Dare to Go Deskless
Jayme Dulaney
Third-grade teacher, Badger Elementary, Beebe, AR
Co-Presenters: Samantha Lynn and Courtney Wilson
Learn how to manage instruction, transitions, behavior, and collaborative work in a deskless environment that is supported by the Mayo Clinic. Discover the many benefits of this learner-friendly environment, including improved concentration and better posture.
PD Strand: Building a Collaborative Learning Community
Level: Primary (1-3)
Audience: All

*Featured Speaker
Reading... How Sweet It Is!

Thursday, November 21 – 12:45 - 1:45
PD Credit = 1 hour

Harris Brake (MCC)
**Differentiated Reading Strategies with Britannica**
Darcy Carlson  
*Manager Professional Development, Britannica Digital Learning, Chicago, IL*

Britannica resources address the many different needs of your students and provide rich, valuable content. Explore varying levels of text complexity, multi-media resources, reading and vocabulary support tools, and more.

PD Strand: Educational Technology  
Level: All  
Audience: All

Arkansas Ballroom (MH)
**Doing it “All” Through the “Love of Reading”**
Cynthia Voss, Stacey Dominguez, Missy Henry, and Sylvia Hernandez

Administrators and faculty from Willis D. Shaw Elementary School in Springdale (IRA Exemplary Reading Award Winner) discuss their literacy program. Students learn by personalized reading instruction through the use of guided reading groups, collaboratively created smart goals, a genre study, and the integration of literacy instruction throughout CCSS content instruction.

PD Strand: Standards/Frameworks/Curriculum  
Level: Primary (1-3), Intermediate (4-6)  
Audience: All

Miller (SCC)
**Fourth Down and Inches: Concussions and Football’s Make or Break Moment**
Carla Killough McClafferty*

For her latest book, award-winning author Carla Killough McClafferty interviewed America’s leading experts on concussions in football. She will share the delicate balance between the love of football and the reality of head injuries.

PD Strand: Content  
Level: Jr. High/Middle High School, High School, College/Adult  
Audience: All

*Featured Speaker

White Oak (MCC)
**Integrating Reading/Writing/Language into a Literacy Block**
Jennifer Vanaman  
*Literacy Coach, Beebe School District, Beebe, AR*

Co-Presenters: Allison Shuttleworth and Jessica Hazeslip

Using Linda Hoyt’s books, these teachers have integrated lessons to connect reading, writing, and language into units of study that correlate to the Common Core. They will share lesson plans and student work and show student tracking information on the Benchmark exam.

PD Strand: Standards/Frameworks/Curriculum  
Level: Primary (1-3), Intermediate (4-6)  
Audience: All

Manning (MH)
**Research is Possible in K-4!**
Michele Carroll  
*Forest Heights Elementary School, Harrison, AR*

With technology and the media specialist’s guidance, primary students can conduct research projects correlated with Common Core Standards and State Frameworks! Projects are limited only by your imagination and students’ creativity.

PD Strand: Education Technology  
Level: Preschool/K, Primary (1-3)  
Audience: Classroom Teachers, Media Specialists

Pope (SCC)
**Sit. Read. Good Girl**
Nikki Jolly  
*Counselor, Badger Elementary, Beebe, AR*

Meet Korie, the therapy dog at Badger Elementary that helps promote a love of reading by being a nonjudgemental audience for struggling readers. Korie also promotes the school’s character education program by “reading” books promoting positive character traits.

PD Strand: Building a Collaborative Learning Community  
Level: Preschool/K, Primary (1-3)  
Audience: All
Thursday, November 21 – 12:45 - 1:45

**PD Credit = 1 hour**

**Fulton (SCC)**

*Take Home Literacy Activities*

**Ali Weimer* **

*Host: Leah Barber, ARA Parents and Reading Chair*

The 2013 Arkansas Teacher of the Year will explain activities that increase parental involvement, such as take home reading tubs used in her kindergarten class. CCSS will be addressed.

**PD Strand: Parental Involvement**

**Level: Preschool/K, Primary (1-3)**

**Audience: Reading Teachers, Teacher Educators, Classroom Teachers**

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**Caraway I (SCC)**

*Sweet Success of Close Reading in the Mid-Level Classroom*

**Kelli Gordon**

*Instructional Facilitator, Conway Public Schools Conway, AR*

Prompt students to become the sophisticated readers, writers, and thinkers they need to be to achieve higher learning. Clearly defined strategies will drive discussion-based learning.

**PD Strand: Standards/Frameworks/ Curriculum**

**Level: Jr. High/Middle**

**Audience: All**

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**Neosho (MCC)**

*Using the Great Migration as an Integrated Literacy Lesson*

**Jennifer White**

*Teacher LRSD, Little Rock, AR*

**Co-Presenter: Rhonda Adams**

This session shows how teachers in grades 2-5 use resources in their community to extend student learning and bring African-American history to life while integrating Common Core literacy standards with content.

**PD Strand: Content**

**Level: Primary (1-3), Intermediate (4-6)**

**Audience: Classroom Teachers**

*Featured Speaker*

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**Izard (SCC)**

*Sparking Their Curiosity: Nonfiction Writing in the Primary Grades*

**Leeann Howard**

*Clinical Instructor, University of Central Arkansas, Conway, AR*

Come and explore project-based expository writing in the primary grades. Make nonfiction writing fun and engaging for our youngest writers, while meeting Common Core State Standards.

**PD Strand: Instructional Strategies**

**Level: Preschool/K, Primary (1-3)**

**Audience: Classroom Teachers, Title I**

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**COMPLIMENTARY COFFEE WILL BE SERVED**

Thursday 7:15 - 8:00 in the Statehouse Rotunda

Friday 9:30 - 10:00 in the Exhibit Hall
This special interest group (SIG), started and vigilantly maintained by former ARA President Mary Mosley, meets each year during the ARA Literacy Conference. The purpose is to give literacy teacher educators an opportunity to meet and provide a forum for their students to share research projects.

ALTE will hold a brief business meeting. Bill Morelan, ARA Publications Chair, will talk about *The Reader* and publication possibilities. The following research projects will be shared:

### Dana Autry – University of Arkansas Little Rock
**Writing to Read: A Small Group Intervention for Struggling Third Grade Readers**
Linda Dorn, Faculty Advisor

### Emily Carlton – University of Central Arkansas
**The Impact of Literature Circles on 7th Grade Students’ Comprehension and Higher Order Thinking**
Shoudong Feng, Faculty Advisor

### Jennifer Carter – University of Arkansas Fayetteville
**The Effects of Explicit Instruction using Storybooks on Vocabulary Knowledge in a First-Grade Classroom**
Linda Eilers, Faculty Advisor

### Susan Grogan – University of Arkansas Little Rock
**Reading, Argumentation, and Writing: Collaboration and Development of a Reading Comprehension Intervention for Struggling Adolescents**
Linda Dorn, Faculty Advisor

### Brianna Steffy – Harding University
**The Effects of Running Frequency on Academic Achievement**
Wendy Ellis, Faculty Advisor

### Emily Terrell – University of Arkansas Fayetteville
**The Effects of Robust Instruction Using Tableau on Vocabulary Knowledge**
Linda Eilers, Faculty Advisor

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### Thursday, November 21 – 2:00 - 3:00

**PD Credit = 1 hour**

### Harris Brake (MCC)
**Address the Common Core State Standards with Britannica**
Darcy Carlson
Professional Development Manager, Britannica Digital Learning, Chicago, IL

Use Britannica materials to help transition to the Common Core State Standards! Implement reading strategies and provide opportunities for exposure to content literacy with these resources, which are free to public schools through the ADE.

PD Strand: Educational Technology
Level: All
Audience: All

### Neosho (MCC)
**Biography Buddies**
Olivia Dorman
Teacher, Baldwin Elementary School, Paragould, AR
Co-Presenter: Judy Abbey

Presenters will show how to bring a biography study to life. Sample lessons and a culminating activity will be shared.

PD Strand: Content
Level: Primary (1-3), Intermediate (4-6)
Audience: Reading Teachers, Teacher Educators, Classroom Teachers