

## Look Who's Coming to Little Rock!

## Arkansas Reading Association 2015 Literacy Conference

November 19-20, 2015 Little Rock, AR

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Keynote Speaker **Ruth Culham** is the president of the Culham Writing Company. She is the recognized expert in the traits of writing field and author of many professional resources. Ruth conducts teacher workshops to provide professional development at local, district, and state levels; at state and national conferences she's a featured speaker on teaching writing using the traits. She was named English Teacher of the Year in Montana. But most recently, she's proudest of authoring *Traits Writing*, a revolutionary writing program for grades K–8 available from Scholastic.

**Linda Dorn** is a Professor of Literacy Education at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and is Director of the UALR Center for Literacy. She teaches graduate classes in theory, research, practice, and literacy leadership. Her publications include 7 books, book chapters, media publications, journal articles, and teaching materials. Her latest publications are *Apprenticeship in Literacy*, 2nd edition, co-authored with Tammy Jones, and *Interventions that Work: A Comprehensive Intervention Model for Preventing Reading Failure*, co-authored with Carla Soffos. Linda will be a Thursday luncheon speaker.





**Andrea Pinkney** – Friday's breakfast speaker is Andrea Davis Pinkney, the New York Times bestselling and award-winning author of many books for children and young adults, including picture books, novels, works of historical fiction and non-fiction. Her novels include *With the Might of Angels*, a book in the *Dear America* series, and *Bird in a Box*, hailed by the New York Times as "a powerful middle grade novel." Her picture books include the award-winning *Sit-In: How Four Friends Stood Up By Sitting Down. Sojourner Truth's Step-Stomp Stride* was a School Library Journal Best Book of the Year.



**Trinka Hakes Noble** grew up as one of seven children on a small farm in Southern Michigan, where animals were a huge part of her childhood. She authored and illustrated *The King's Tea, Hansy's Mermaid* 

and Apple Tree Christmas. The Day Jimmy's Boa Ate the Wash is a favorite.



**Brian Pinkney** – Acclaimed artist Brian Pinkney is the illustrator of several highly-praised picture books including The Faithful Friend, In the Time of the Drums, and Duke Ellington. He's won

numerous awards including two Caldecott Honors, four Coretta Scott King Honors and a Coretta Scott King Award.



Maria Walther has taught first grade since 1986 and currently teaches in Illinois' Indian Prairie District 204.

Maria inspires other professionals with her customized professional development experiences



**Katherine McKnight** is an author, educator and consultant who is passionate about creating curricula that engage all students in the regular education classroom. She serves as a Distinguished Professor of Research at National Louis University.



**Terri Beeler** -- Terri's mission is to support educators with information on best practices in literacy instruction.

She is the author/co-author of I Can Read, I Can Write and Phonemic

Awareness in Young Children: A Classroom Curriculum.



**Carol Rasco** is President and CEO of Reading is Fundamental. Throughout her life, she has been a devoted advocate for children, youth, and families, as a professional and as a volunteer.

**Matthew Gollub** is an award-winning children's author who combines story- telling, interactive drumming, and valuable reading and writing tips. What's more, he does this while speaking four languages: English, Spanish, Japanese and jazz!



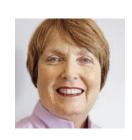
**Judy Young** is an award-winning author of children's fiction, poetry and nonfiction books. Judy is a frequent speaker at schools nationwide where she does author visits and teacher workshops. Her books include *The Lucky Star* and *Digger and Daisy*.



**Donald Bear** is co-director of the Duffelmeyer Reading Clinic, and is a professor in the School of Education at Iowa State University. He is an author and co-author of numerous articles, book chapters, and books, including Words Their Way, 4th edition; Words Their Way with English Learners, Vocabulary Their Way, and Words Their Way with Struggling Readers, 4 – 12.



**Lydia Stack** is an English Language Teacher Educator who provides teacher training on Teaching English to Young Learners (K–12). She is a former President of TESOL and is co-author of Rigby's *On Our Way to English* and *Holt McDougal Literature*.



**Brenda Overturf** coordinated K-12 reading for Jefferson County Public Schools in Louisville. She also served as chair of the M.Ed. in Reading program at the University of Louisville and is a former member of the International Reading Association Board of Directors where she chaired



a Common Core State Standards Task Force.

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Membership - \$20 (Members receive conference discount.)