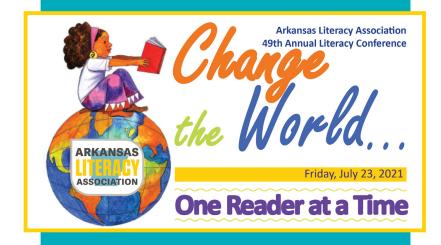
49th Annual LTEPACY CONFERENCE



alaliteracy.org - #alaonline2021

WHAT IS THE

ARKANSAS LITERACY ASSOCIATION?

The Arkansas Literacy Association (ALA) is a non-profit, professional organization whose members promote reading and literacy. The Arkansas Literacy Association is the state affiliate of the International Literacy Association (ILA).

PURPOSES OF ALA

- To improve the quality of literacy 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 recognize and honor outstanding educators, authors, journalists, and others for significant literary contributions
- To further purposes of the International Literacy Association

Welcome to ALA's 49th Annual Literacy Conference



Change the World One Reader at a Time

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 - 2021-2022 and ALA 18-19

| | elcome | For More Info See Page | |
|-------|----------------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| 8:30 | Welcome | Chair Kacy Barden | See 1 age |
| | ILA Greetings | Kenneth Kunz, ILA Board Member | |
| 9:00 | Session 1 | Keynote 1: Ruben Perez | 7 |
| 10:15 | Session 2 | Keynote 2: Kenneth Kunz | 8 |
| 11:15 | Session 3 | Book Awards | 9 |
| 12:15 | Lunch/Break | | |
| 12:45 | Session 4 | Breakout Sessions | 10-11 |
| 2:00 | Session 5 | Keynote 2: Pernille Ripp | 13 |
| 3:00 | Closing | Chair Kacy Barden | |
| | #alaonline2021 | alaliteracy.org | |

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Arkansas Literacy Association

State Officers 2021-2022

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Chair-Elect
Tammy Gillmore

Immediate Past-Chair Kelly Hogan

Secretary
Ashley Ziegler

Treasurer
Karen Robinson

Historian
Rochelle Dalton

Membership Director
Jill Fields

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ILA State Coordinator
Jeanne Trawick

University Liaison

Amy Thompson

Dept. of Education Liaison

Ivy Pfeffer

At Large Board Member
Tara Derby
Rose Estes
Shelby Tedford

A Message from the ALA Chair

Greetings, Literacy Leaders!

Welcome to the 49th Annual Arkansas Literacy Association Conference! I am so glad you have joined us for this eventful day! I wish we could all be together, but when decisions had to be made for the conference, COVID restrictions were still in place. I hope and pray that 2022 will finally be the year we get to meet face-to-face, again! I have missed the fellowship and



camaraderie of being together. Even though we are not physically together, we are together in spirit and in our mission to be excellent educators.

This year's conference theme is "Change the World... One Reader at a Time." In a world where many changes have taken place, literacy is a constant in our lives. Literacy grounds us, restores us, speaks to us, challenges us, teaches us, molds us. We, as educators, know the value of literacy and how it impacts our lives, which is why we are such advocates of all things literacy! Thank you for all you do to better the lives of your students and the people of your community by encouraging a love of literacy. By your efforts, you are truly changing the world one reader at a time!

You are in for quite a treat today! Between Ruben Perez addressing the ever-important issue of social-emotional learning and Pernille Ripp educating us on how to influence every student to be a reader, it will be a wonderfully rewarding day. The fantastic breakout sessions and book awards recognitions will be the icing on the cake! At the end of the sessions today, I hope you feel renewed, encouraged, and excited for all the possibilities of a new school year!

Kacy Barden, ALA Chair

ALA/ARA PAST PRESIDENTS

| 2020-2021 – Kelly Hogan | 2003-2004 – Jerrielynn Mapp | 1987-1988 – Jo Flanigan | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2019-2020 – Deborah McMillan | 2002-2003 – Trudy Jackson | 1986-1987 – Kathy Shirron | | | | | | | |
| 2018-2019 – Tara Derby | 2001-2002 – Carolyn Schumacher | 1985-1986 – Barbara Blalack | | | | | | | |
| 2017-2018 – Kaila Murphy | 2000-2001 – Martha Shirrell | 1984-1985 – Jannine Riggs | | | | | | | |
| 2016-2017 – Dorothy Pollett | 1999-2000 – Pam East | 1983-1984 – Bobbie Hodge | | | | | | | |
| 2015-2016 – Melisa Rutherford | 1998-1999 – Jeanne Trawick | 1982-1983 – Sarah Womble | | | | | | | |
| 2014-2015 – Caroline Schenk | 1997-1998 – Billie Ann Dishongh | 1981-1982 – Marlene Reed | | | | | | | |
| 2013-2014 – Kay Calvert | 1996-1997 – Krista Underwood | 1980-1981 – Anna Heatherly | | | | | | | |
| 2012-2013 – Debbie Hardwick-Smith | 1995-1996 – Martha Simpson | 1979-1980 – Pat Yick | | | | | | | |
| 2011-2012 – Paula Findley | 1994-1995 – Mary Mosley | 1978-1979 – Brownie Kimbrough | | | | | | | |
| 2010-2011 – Linda Eilers | 1993-1994 – Tanna Clark | 1977-1978 – Dorothy McKinnon | | | | | | | |
| 2009-2010 – Julie Reardon | 1992-1993 – Cathy French | 1976-1977 – Betty Morgans | | | | | | | |
| 2008-2009 – Tina Montgomery | 1991-1992 – Susan Peterson | 1975-1976 – Margaret Pope Hartley | | | | | | | |
| 2007-2008 – Glenda Nugent | 1990-1991 – Alice Stovall | 1974-1975 – Sybil Hill | | | | | | | |
| 2006-2007 – Jerrielynn Mapp | 1989-1990 – Bettye Wright | 1973-1974 – June Smith | | | | | | | |
| 2005-2006 – Wendy Ellis | 1988-1989 – Martha Couch | 1972-1973 – J. Kendall Hoggard | | | | | | | |
| 2004-2005 – Janis Gibson | | | | | | | | | |
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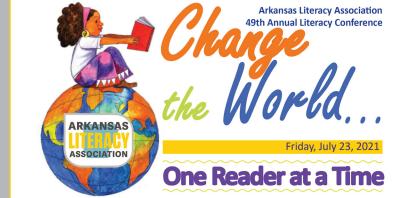
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American College of Education

Speaker Sponsor

Wilson ---

Ruben Perez





Thank you, ILA!

One of today's attendees will receive a free ILA membership!



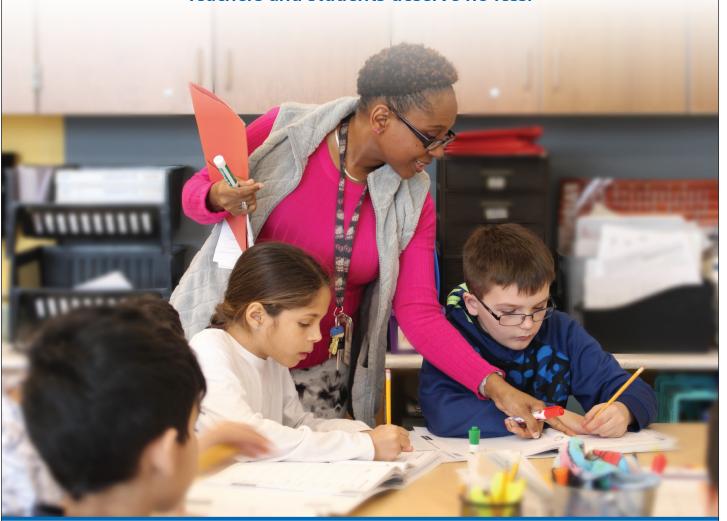
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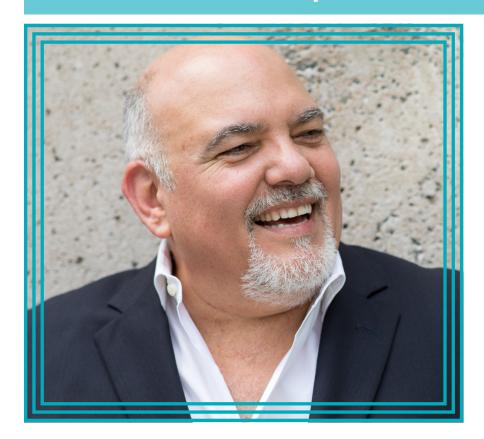
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Proud Speaker Sponsor of Ruben Perez!

Session 1: Keynote 1 - 9:00-10:00



Ruben Perez

Motto

"To be educated is to be liberated."

Websites

ahaprocess.com rubenspeaking.com

LITERACY AND IDENTITY

Being educated helps one feel liberated cognitively and emotionally. Language has always had the power of influence over others and, more importantly, our own self-esteem. Literacy empowers us to better manage daily challenges, build positive relationships, and make informed decisions.

Ruben Perez of Houston, Texas, has been in education since 1988. His firsthand experience with students considered at-risk (school dependent) comes from various positions. In K–8 he taught general education, English language learners, and performing arts. As a district administrator for K–12, he focused on closing the achievement gap, teacher retention, economic and cultural diversity, and district-wide dropout interventions. He specialized in working with students who felt disenfranchised with school and the community around them.

Perez was the director and supervisor of an off-campus tutoring program for a Section 8 apartment complex where he wrote curriculum and managed both teachers and students. He also served as an advisor on professional development, economic/cultural diversity, classroom management, gender differences, forming school culture/climate, and he served on a board for various in-district and out-of-district committees.

Perez is the creator of *Welcome to U.S. Schools: A Guide for Spanish-Speaking Immigrant Parents*. This video is in Spanish with English subtitles targeting Spanish-speaking parents. It aids in their transition to a new environment by highlighting cultural and academic differences that are often the source of conflict and confusion. The video helps to educate and empower monolingual parents to advocate for their children's education. He also gives presentations to parents in Spanish on transitioning between cultures.

Perez's motivational talks for students center on how to stay out of trouble, the benefits of self-reflection, cultural diversity, importance of parental/staff relationships, and the value they themselves add to this world.

Session 2: Keynote 2 - 10:15-11:15



Kenneth Kunz

Assistant Professor of Language Arts/Literacy
Monmouth University, NJ

Founder & Director - For the Love of Literacy

President, New Jersey Literacy Association
Board Member

International Literacy Association/Little Free Library

Co-Author of Breaking Through the Language Arts Block and Literacy Changemakers

LITERACY CHANGEMAKERS: BRI READING AND WRITING

BRING BACK THE JOY OF

K–12 teachers, literacy specialists and coaches, and school- and district-level administrators can work together to make needed instructional improvements while fostering a lifelong love of reading and writing. Collaborative leadership strategies and research-based best practices for creating joyful, effective learning environments will be presented. Learn about ways to evaluate and recalibrate literacy programs for sustainable change, provide students with a wide variety of engaging reading opportunities, meet the needs of English learners and adolescent learners, partner with families, and enhance professional learning and development.

Kenneth Kunz has served as a classroom teacher, literacy coach, administrator, and teacher-educator. An accomplished educator and author, Ken currently serves as the Founder/Director of For the Love of Literacy and works with his team of literacy changemakers by providing professional development and coaching around comprehensive literacy/ELA practices in school communities across New Jersey and the surrounding New York metropolitan area.

Ken received his bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and English from Kean University and holds a master's degree in Reading Specialization and a doctorate in Teacher Leadership from Rutgers University. He received recognition as an outstanding teacher through the New Jersey Governor's Teacher Recognition Program and was a recipient of the Edward Fry Endowed Fellowship in Literacy at Rutgers University. He currently serves as vice president of the Board of Directors for the International Literacy Association. Ken also serves as a board member for Little Free Library and the New Jersey Literacy Association. He has presented professional development centered on literacy instruction in classrooms across New Jersey and at both state and national conferences and is coauthor of *Breaking Through the Language Arts Block: Organizing and Managing an Exemplary Literacy Day* and *Literacy Changemakers: Bringing the Joy of Reading and Writing Into Focus for Students and Teachers*.

Ken actively contributes to initiatives around inclusive curriculum as evidenced by both his creation of "Bienvenidos Book Club," a K–3 literacy program for immigrant students and their families and his work to develop New Jersey's first LGBTQ+-inclusive set of curriculum resources for English language arts.

Session 3: Book Awards - 11:15-12:15

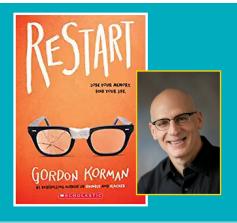




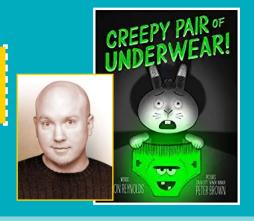
Hosts Craig O'Neill and Jeanne Trawick

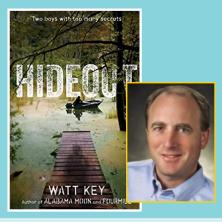




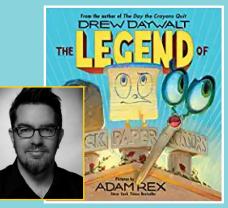


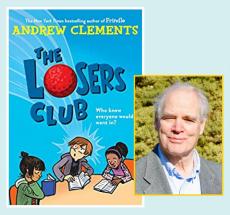
Winner



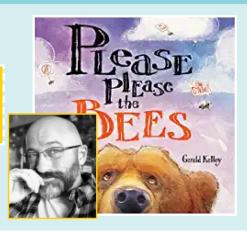


2nd Place





3rd Place



Session 4: Breakouts - 12:45-1:45

Level: Lower/Middle

Proceed With Confidence: Serving the Science of Reading Through the Science of Instruction

Elizabeth Bassford, Associate Vice President, Curriculum Associates

The pillars of education research direct us to seek to know the child well and act in specific ways to accelerate learning. This session will provide a blueprint to transform the sizable challenges ahead into opportunities for sustained impact based on the science of good instruction.

Bookshelf Full of Teaching Tools

Tricia Daniels, Fifth Grade Literacy Teacher, Greenbrier School District

Do you want to hook and engage your students in writing? Introduce them to Incredible stories, along with fascinating characters and get your students writing. Picture books are compact texts that capture and inspire children to write.

Structured Literacy for All

Katie Hodgkins, Director of Instruction, Brainspring Educator Academy

This presentation will give educators a better understanding of what Structured Literacy is, how it is applied through the Science of Reading, and the principles of instruction which are deemed "essential" for remediating mild to severe reading difficulties, including dyslexia, along with promoting strong reading instruction for ALL students.

Tinkering with Tales: Using Children's Literature to Bring Science to Life

Lisa Oden, Ed.D, Associate Professor of Education, Southern Arkansas University Angela Stanford Ed.D, NBCT, Director Middle School Education Programs Julie Quast, Ed.D, NBCT, Assistant Professor of Education, HSU

The authors of *Tinkering with Tales* have developed a book that explores STEM through children's literature. Using this step-by-step process, this interactive session will help teachers choose the appropriate literature to create engaging learning and promote an interest in science.

Decodable Books: The Basics

Susan Perry, Assistant Professor, University of Central Arkansas

Amy Thompson, Assistant Professor, College of Education, University of Central Arkansas

In this presentation, the presenters will examine the importance and purpose of using decodable text with struggling readers and explore how teachers can support students by appropriately matching readers with texts and utilizing the "textual scaffolds" found in decodable readers to increase automatic word recognition.

Arkansas Book Awards

Amy Thompson, Assistant Professor, College of Education, University of Central Arkansas Margie Nanak, Pine Bluff Schools

In this presentation, these state committee members will preview books for both the Arkansas Diamond and the Charlie May Simon Awards, as well as, discuss voting deadlines.

Session 4: Breakouts - 12:45-1:45

Level: Middle/Upper

Three Critical Elements of Critical Reading

Lisa Bailey, Reading Interventionist, Harrison High

Today's students must be discerning readers in order to make inferences and decisions based on information. This session shares three important components of critical reading instruction to help middle and high school students do just that.

Level: All

Teach to Their Strengths:

Case Studies of Children and Adults with Dyslexia

Susan Grogan, Associate Professor of Reading, Harding University

After testing 88 students for dyslexia, ages 6 to 50 years, I learned they all had interesting and amazing skills and talents which, if applied in the classroom, could make a possible impact in their literacy learning and an improvement in their self-image. Join this session to learn more.

The Progression of Writing

Diann Skelton, Little Rock School District

This presentation will demonstrate a logical progression for teaching writing from K-12. The presentation will also provide research to show that positive results are gained when all teachers are trained in one writing system for all students in the system.

Building Reading and Listening Skills

Monica Brady-Myerov, CEO, Listenwise

Listening comprehension skills are a crucial part of literacy. Learn how to build purposeful listening activities into your content areas and help students build background knowledge, vocabulary and fluency.

Breakout Room links will be provided. Choose your session!

Share you conference insights on social media! #alaonline2021



Benchmark Education Is Proud to Offer K-5 Arkansas-Approved Science of Reading Programs



Benchmark Workshop is a flexible resource to meet your district needs. Choose one or all of the modules. When the modules are used together, they connect within and strategically across the modules for a complete core solution.





K-1 Approved Decodable Readers can be used alongside any program—fiction and nonfiction full-color texts!



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Session 5 - Keynote 3 - 2:00-3:00



Pernille Ripp

Her Goal
helping educators
empower students

Website pernillesripp.com

BUT THEY STILL HATE READING

The message is clear among literacy communities; we want to help our students become readers for life, we want them to love reading, but we need more ideas. When we believe in choice, when we believe in inclusive access, when we believe we are ready, and yet, we are not sure how to start or how to continue to create thriving reading communities. How do we know they are reading if we don't quiz them? What do we do with our readers who are not where they should be? What do we do not just on the first day of school but every single day after when those kids who hate reading just grow in their hatred rather than change their mind? Focusing on creating authentic conversations, building reading community, and establishing positive reading identity, this session is meant for the educator looking for practical ideas in their quest to help students become passionate readers.

Pernille Ripp is an expert in literacy and technology integration and dedicates her research and practice to developing engaged and empowered students and communities. She is a teacher, speaker, author, blogger, and passionate advocate for education. She is a Skype Master Teacher; recipient of the 2015 WEMTA Making IT Happen Award; and the 2015 ISTE Award for Innovation in Global Collaboration.

In 2010, Pernille founded The Global Read Aloud, a global literacy initiative that began with a simple goal in mind: one book to connect the world. From its humble beginnings, the GRA has grown to connect millions of students in around the world.

She is the author of *Passionate Readers -The Art of Reaching and Engaging Every Child and Passionate Learners – How to Engage and Empower Your Students*, now in its second edition, and *Empowered Schools, Empowered Students*, both focusing on creating learning spaces and communities where students thrive and all stakeholders are empowered and passionate about learning. She has also authored *Reimagining Literacy Through Global Collaboration* published in 2016 by Solution Tree. Her work has also been featured in many print and online journals including *Edutopia, The New York Times, School Library Journal, The Guardian*, and *MiddleWeb*.

You can follow Pernille's work on Blogging Through The Fourth Dimension, her personal blog and a frequent Teach100 top-rated education blog.

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| Contact your Arkansas consultant to find the Superkids solution right for your school. | Recommended Setting(s) | | | Recommended Funding Source(s) | | Recommended Combinations | | | | | |
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| Carol Q. Bradford SALES CONSULTANT – READING 281.415.0836 carol.bradford@zaner-bloser.com | | Tier 2 Intervention | Summer School | Before/Affer School Tutoring | ESSA Evidence | Federal/ESSER | State/Local | The Superkids Reading Program | The Superkids Foundational Skills Kit | The Superkids Phonemic Awareness | The Superkids Reading Resources |
| The Superkids Reading Program | • | | | | Moderate | • | • | | | • | |
| The Superkids Foundational Skills Kit | • | • | • | | Moderate* | • | • | | | • | • |
| The Superkids Phonemic Awareness | • | • | • | • | | | • | • | • | | • |
| The Superkids Reading Resources | • | | • | • | | | • | | • | • | |

^{*} Based on parent program effectiveness



ILA State Coordinator's Message

Precious partner,

Welcome to our 49th annual Literacy Conference: Change the World - One Reader at a Time.

Everywhere I go, I experience relationships and see evidence of the fact that TEACHERS - EDUCATORS - JUST LIKE YOU - are changing the world. Our WORLD has changed. Thank YOU for running TOWARDS our students, families, colleagues, and challenges during this time of great change rather than running AWAY from them. We know YOU have taken huge risks in order to meet the needs of children and families, and we, the Arkansas Literacy Association and the International Literacy Association, are



so grateful for you. We have always known that TEACHERS are the most powerful influence in student learning. This last year has proven that.

I ran into a parent of former students at the nail salon today. Her son and her nephew both attended the elementary school where I served as an administrator. Both young men were college freshmen this year. One of the students always had to work harder to learn. For the other, an honor student, learning came more easily. This year changed that - with COVID, online courses only, self teaching, no hands on and limited social learning - it did not take long before the student who had to work harder knew he was not cut out for this. He knew he needed live "teaching" support to be able to continue. He quit and eventually enrolled in a trade program. The other student, the honor student, worked hard. He has spent hours retaking a required math class while working full time this summer in order to stay on track in the engineering program he has chosen. He has taught himself pretty much all year long. Fellow study students, his parents, and a tutoring session here and there helped him get through the year. However, he has stated that he KNOWS he has reached his capacity of "self-teaching." He is so ready to be able to have hands on, teacher-guided "live" learning. I am sure you could tell me many similar stories. Students, parents, and teachers alike share their stories with strong emotion. The historically unprecedented events of the year have taken their toll on all of us emotionally, socially, mentally, and physically, as well as academically.

We at the Arkansas Literacy Association value providing relevant and helpful professional development. That is why we invited Ruben Perez, known for his expertise in social emotional teaching strategies, to help us prepare for this recovery year. Also, ILA Board member Kenneth Kunz will be addressing social-emotional learning and literacy leadership in his breakout session. We are delighted to have both of these experts along with author and teacher Pernille Ripp, our Arkansas Children's Book Award winning authors, and other guest presenters. We are in for an exceptional conference day thanks to the conference committee under the leadership of Tammy Gillmore, Kacy Barden, Lyndsey Laster, and Tara Derby.

Please follow us on all social media fronts and on our website at www.alaliteracy.org. Watch for and join in our webinars and online Book Club events throughout the year. The ALA Board works very hard to choose the best opportunities for you to meet relevant/current needs.

We would love to have you join a local council (state membership comes in sync with that). The International Literacy Association is a wealth of resources for educators, as well.

We are with you in spirit as you continue to provide excellence in learning and literacy for your students and families. Thank you for giving of your best. We know your time is valuable and we truly hope we can be of inspiration, hope, and help to you as together we begin the recovery process with our students and families.

Yours for changing the world - together - one reader at a time!

Jeanne Trawick Arkansas Literacy Association State ILA Coordinator along with the ALA Board

Past State Coordinators

Krista Underwood

Tanna Clark

Susan Peterson

Alice Stovall

Sarah Womble

Betty Morgans

Sara Wilf

Vernice Hubbard

Lowther Penn

Join us for fall ALA events!

Go to alaliteracy.org for more information!

the
World...
One
Reader
at a
Time!

2021 ALA Awards and Recognitions

Diamond Award

Jodie Daniell, Arkadelphia
Jill Fields, Arkansas River Valley
Sarah Caudle, Arkansas River Valley
Danna Williams, Crowley's Ridge
Lyndsey Laster, Grant County
Angie Betancourt, North Central
Donna Owen, Northwest
Karen Robinson, SEARK
Kacy Barden, Three Rivers
Kathy Walter, White River

School-Based Literacy Grant

Ashley Ziegler Library Media Specialist Riverside High School Crowley's Ridge Reading Council

ALA Literacy Grant

Arkadelphia Area
Arkansas River Valley
Crowley's Ridge
Grant County
Jefferson County
North Central
Northwest Arkansas
Reading on the Ridge
SEARK
Three Rivers
White River

ILA Honor Council

Arkadelphia Area
Arkansas River Valley
Crowley's Ridge
Grant County
Jefferson County
North Central Arkansas
Northwest Arkansas
SEARK
Three Rivers

Celebrate Literacy Awards

Agency

Southeast Arkansas Regional Library Dumas Branch

Educator

Anna Fulmer District ESL Administrator Clarksville School District

Community Leader

Debra Strickland Allen Dumas, AR

Administrator in Reading

Ashley Hammett Springhill Elementary School

2021-2022 State Committee Chairs

Community Projects
Rose Estes

Exemplary Reading ProgramAngie Betancourt

Intellectual Freedom Sarah Caudle

International Projects
Susan Perry

Nominations Kelly Hogan

LegislativeCrystal Parillon

Celebrate Literacy Awards Krista Underwood

> Family Literacy Kristen Bowman

School-based Literacy Grant Suzanne Rogers

AR Children's Book Award

Arkansas Diamond Primary Book Award Committee Amy Thompson

Charlie May Simon Reading Committee Margie Nanak

Local Council Presidents

Arkadelphia Area Kaila Murphy

Arkansas River Valley Jill Fields/Sarah Caudle

> **Central Arkansas** Rachel Armstrong

Crowley's Ridge Danna Williams

Grant County Tara Derby

Jefferson County Elizabeth Wall

North Central Angie Betancourt

> Northwest Donna Owen

Reading on the Ridge Jennifer Austin

> **SEARK** Karen Robinson

Three Rivers Krista Underwood

White River Kristie Rounds

Local Council Honorees

Arkadelphia - Amanda Klein

Arkansas River Valley - Anna Fulmer

Central Arkansas - Courtney Brown

Crowley's Ridge - Chelsey Smith

Grant County - Lou Arnold

Jefferson County - Shelly Peyton

North Central - Bryce Bennett

Northwest - Teresa Martinez

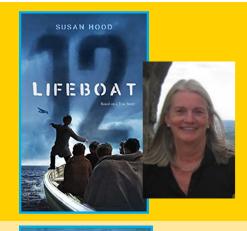
SEARK - Amanda Smith

Three Rivers - Amanda Klein

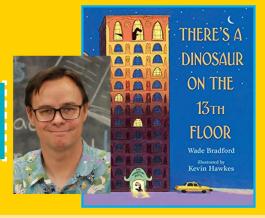
White River - Abby Barker

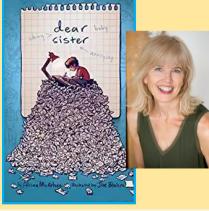
Honorees received complimentary registration to the ALA conference.

Congratulations, 2020-2021 Vinners



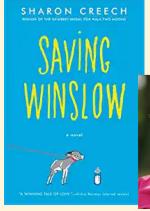
Winner





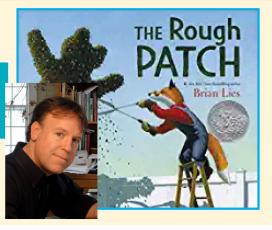
2nd Place



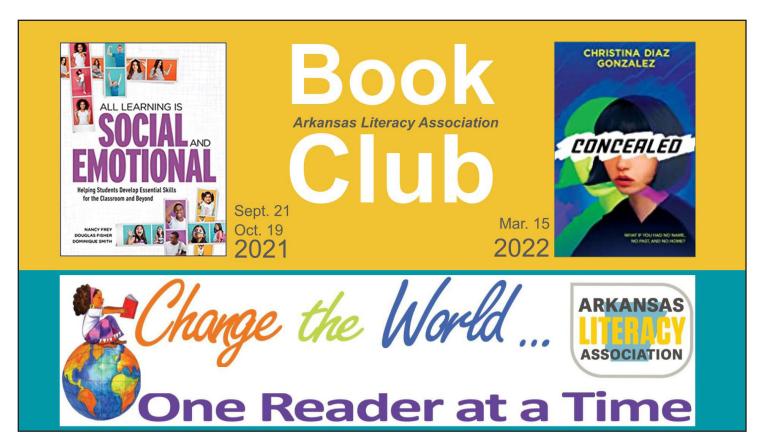




3rd Place



Upcoming ALA Events





Shavon Jackson *November 16, 2021*

Webinars

Arkansas Literacy Association

Zoom - 7:00 PM - 1 Hour PD Credit per Webinar Principal, Speaker

Crawford Elementary
Blue Ribbon School
Terrell H. Bell Awardee

Speaker Author Every Kid a Writer Write This Way

ALA Members = Free
Non-ALA Members \$20 per Webinar
or Join ALA/Free Webinars = \$20



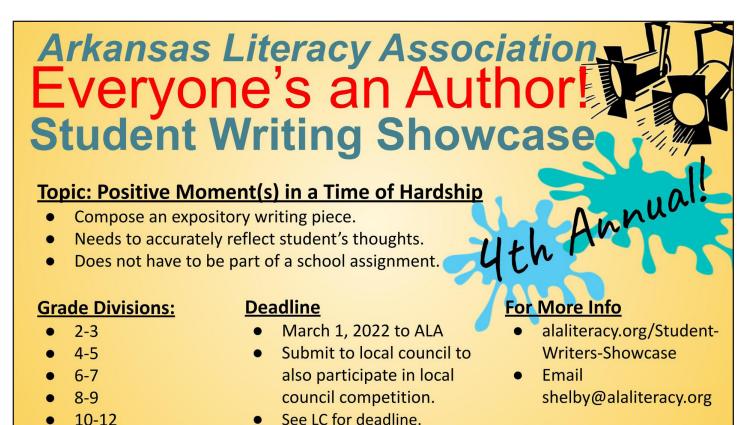
Kelly Boswell February 15, 2022





One Reader at a Time

Upcoming ALA Events



Thank You!

Arkansas Literacy Association appreciates your attending this year's conference!

Be sure and complete the form at the conclusion of the conference to receive PD credit.