



### 2018 CONVENTION: OCT. 19

## Friday keynoter, Chris Lehman, to focus on literacy

**C**hristopher Lehman, Founding Director of The Educator Collaborative, kicks off our Friday convention with an exploration of next steps in developing literacy practices that support and sustain our students, their literacy development and their lives.

Filling our classrooms with more “diverse books” is an essential start, but going farther requires us to examine how our instructional practices silence or celebrate students and how our advocacy can connect with outside action. Chris will share practical strategies to infuse in your reading and writing practices that, not only create a more inclusive learning environment, but also raise student skills.

Student achievement is directly connected to responsive instruction. Ensuring learners feel seen and heard leads to learners who see and hear the world around them more critically and compassionately.



### ABOUT THE EDUCATOR COLLABORATIVE:

The Educator Collaborative is a think tank and educational consulting organization working to innovate the ways educators learn together. It provides K-12 literacy professional development to schools across the United States, Canada, and around the world. They provide expert support in areas like writing workshop, reading workshop, balanced literacy, digital literacy, and standards integration.

Whether you are seeking yearlong literacy consulting and staff development for your school as it moves toward independent reading practices; on-site summer institutes to engage your colleagues in workshop instruction; professional development day literacy training on writing instruction; or online professional development resources to share to deepen your pedagogy and content—we have the experience, passion, research-based practices, and engaging literacy consultants to support your professional growth.

Plan to attend the convention on Friday, Oct. 19, in Madison at UW Union South. Come a day early on Thursday, Oct. 18, for an afternoon of workshops with the Greater Madison Writing Project. Choose from the following:

#### 12:45 to 2:30

- A. Promoting Student-Centered Classrooms Through Increased Student Questioning  
or
- B. Moving Beyond Pro & Con with the National Writing Project’s College, Career and Community Writers Program (C3WP)

#### 2:45-4:30

- C. Aligning Assessment Practices with Our Values  
or
- D. Rise Up and Write: Civically Engaged Writing.

## IN THIS ISSUE

# 2018 WCTE Convention Breakout Sessions

Friday's convention will include 20 breakout sessions. The following 16 sessions have been confirmed so far.

**TOPIC CATEGORIES:** Diversity Poetry Reading/Literature Speaking/Discussion Teaching/Thinking Writing

**(T) Curiouser and Curiouser: Curiosity in the Classroom**

This session will discuss sparking curiosity in the classroom through teaching impossible problems and pushing back to push students forward.

~Shannon Lee Denney, UW-Milwaukee

**(R) Curriculum Design and Instructional Planning with Paired Texts**

This presentation will address and demystify the curriculum design and implementation of paired texts conceptually related in some way (theme, genre, etc.) as supported by the Common Core State Standards. Learn how to better support readers to make connections across multiple texts!

~Benjamin Boche, Oshkosh

**(W) Developing Confident Writers: The Writing Workshop Model in the High School Classroom**

This session will explore the challenges high school teachers encounter with getting students to be engaged in writing and how the writing workshop model and peer writing groups can be used to increase student engagement and help students become more confident with writing.

~Christine Trainor, Pius XI Catholic H.S., Milwaukee

**(T,W) Edit Less, Coach More**

What is the secret to teaching good writing skills? Learn how and why you should shift gears from being a fixer who makes changes to your students' writing to a coach who builds strong writers. The secret is coaching. By its very nature, coaching is personal. And that is what makes it powerful. Let's talk about this.

~Linda Barrington, Kettle Moraine Press Association

**(S,T) Empathy, Cultural Responsiveness, and Collaboration: The Power of the Round Table in Every Classroom**

All students need to actively explore and appreciate diverse ideas. Our method — built on years of collaboration, research, reflection, and iteration — does just that AND is distinctive, intense, fun, and student-centered. Come develop new strategies to develop a community of readers united through respect, intellectual curiosity, and empathy.

~Kate Gay, University School of Milwaukee

**(P,S) Fake News, Real Poetry**

Current political and social issues are more polarizing than ever. How do teachers allow for student-led discussions on controversial issues? This panel facilitates attendees practicing use of poetry as vehicles for students' voices while expressing arguments on current events.

~J. Scott Baker & undergrad students, UW-LaCrosse

**(S) Going Farther on Issues: Foster Deeper Thinking and Meaningful Listening and Speaking Through Debate**

Interscholastic debate simultaneously meets all ELA CCSS, while engaging students in all zones of literacy. This session will familiarize participants in the nation's most popular form of debate, which can be employed within a class period. Attendees also will personally practice tactics used to prepare debaters.

~Adam Jacobi, Wis. High School Forensic Assn.

**(R) Harness Culturally Relevant Literacy with Commonplace Books in Your Classroom**

The adage goes, "you don't know what you don't know," however, students also don't know what they know. Through journaling, teachers help students connect prior personal and cultural knowledge taken for granted. Attendees will practice use of commonplace books to improve culturally relevant literacy in essays, speeches, and argumentation.

~J. Scott Baker, UW-LaCrosse

**(T) How to F.R.A.M.E. (Focus, Reach, Achieve, Model and Encourage) the First Ten Minutes of Your Class**

During the first 10 minutes, relationships, engagement and motivation are necessary for student learning. In this interactive presentation, we will write Focused Learning Targets and Success Criteria, explore ways to Reach all students, show examples of Achievement and Modeling meant to lower student concern and model Encouragement toward all students!

~Peg Graffwallner, Reagan High School, Milwaukee

**(P,R,T) Poetry in Motion**

This session will demonstrate strategies for teaching Multi Disciplinary Literacy on Wisconsin's Ice Age Trail. I will discuss how I am using service and outdoor learning with Pre-service teachers to help them understand how they may develop a transformative curriculum.

~Kelly Hatch, UW-Whitewater

**(S,T) Redefining the Classroom**

Instructors can implement different pedagogical methods including technology to help students gain a better understanding of what is good research and how to obtain it. Accepting technology and expanding the way we use it by creating interactive lectures and group discussions, we can keep students' attention and teach them what makes sources pertinent and useful.

~Dolores Greenawalt, Bryant & Stratton College

**(R,T) Scavenger Hunting: A Way to Engage Students in Finding & Considering Texts**

A course-long scavenger hunt is a way to encourage students to seek out and consider various texts in thoughtful and meaningful ways while providing the voice and choice crucial to culturally relevant literacy. Successful approaches will be shared and participants will be able to adapt the task for their classrooms.

~Amy Menzel, Waukesha School District

**(T) Standards-Based Learning & Assessment ...a MUST for an Inclusionary Classroom!**

This session provides educators with the why and how standards-based learning is key in designing student-centered instruction. Educators will learn strategies to create learning objectives, assessments and rubrics that support students in their understanding of their personal progressions towards specific learning objectives, while continuing to engage student voice and choice.

~Kelly Thompson, D.C. Everest Area S.D. Schofield

**(R,T) The Holocaust through Literature: A Means for Student Growth**

We all want to impact students positively by helping them grow and become respectful, empathetic, independent thinkers. Amber and Josh have designed a quarter of their year-long English 10 classes that focuses on Holocaust literature, genocide, and human rights in order for students to read, think, write, and reflect. This process has allowed tremendous personal growth in their students. In this breakout session, they will share some of their tips and experiences in teaching the Holocaust through literature and give you some materials and ideas to take back to your students.

~Amber Tilley & Josh Olivotti, Northland Pines High School, Eagle River

**(R) The Penny Kittle Effect: Reigniting the Love of Reading in Your Students**

Frustrated by students who aren't reading? In this session, discover how the research of Penny Kittle helped one teacher completely change her classroom by making student choice books a foundation of the class. Get realistic tools and hear student testimonials about the power and success of choosing their own books.

~Emily VanDyne, Union Grove High School

**(W) Writing: Building Stamina and Confidence**

This session will provide specific, easy-to-replicate systematic writing exercises to be completed during class time that stretch students to write more — and better — within specific time constraints.

~Samantha Jayne & Cathy Kowalski, New Berlin S.D.

# 2018 WCTE Convention Registration Form

## 58<sup>TH</sup> Annual Convention

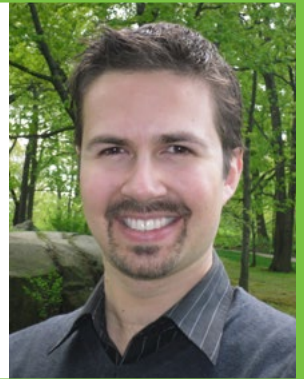
**Thursday afternoon:** choose two of four workshops with the **Greater Madison Writing Project**  
**Friday convention** will feature a keynote address and small-group workshops with Christopher Lehman, founding director of The Educator Collaborative.

**Keynote: *Going Farther: Keep Moving On Culturally Relevant Literacy***

Oct. 18-19 2018 / Union South, 1308 W. Dayton St., Madison, Wis.

**Pre-Registration Deadline:** Oct. 12, 2018

Register at [www.wcteonline.org](http://www.wcteonline.org) or mail in this two-page form.



# Hotel, Workshops and Membership

**Hotel Rooms:** A limited block of rooms has been reserved at the following:

**Double Tree by Hilton** 525 West Johnson, Madison  
Use identifying code **WTC** for \$169 per night which includes parking, Wi-Fi and local shuttle to the Union.  
To get this rate, you must reserve a room by Sept. 19, 2018. To make a reservation call 608.251.5511 or toll free 800.222.TREE

**Cambria Hotel & Suites** 5045 Eastpark Blvd., Madison  
For a rate of \$82 per night, you must reserve a room by Oct. 4, 2018. To make a reservation call 608-241-7070. Identify yourself as a WCTE State Convention Group or follow the link on the WCTE website.

## Finding Your Way To and Around the Convention

Visit the UW Union website for [driving directions to Union South](#). The Hilton DoubleTree has free parking for guests and a shuttle that will take you the few blocks to Union South. If you're in need of parking on campus, visitor spots in the Union South garage are limited, but more are available one block away on the Engineering campus. The [UW transportation website](#) provides ramp addresses and availability updates regarding parking. We recommend attendees carpool if possible.

Registration will be on the second floor outside Varsity Hall. The keynote and meal will also be on the second floor and all breakouts on the third.

## Thursday, Oct. 18 Workshops:

**12:30-12:45:** Check in with Tom Scott, the registrar. You will be able to choose between the following:

12:45 to 2:30	A. Promoting Student-Centered Classrooms Through Increased Student Questioning	2:30 to 2:45	Break
or	B. Moving Beyond Pro & Con with the National Writing Project's College, Career and Community Writers Program (C3WP)	2:45 to 4:30	C. Aligning Assessment Practices with Our Values
		or	D. Rise Up & Write: Civically Engaged Writing

## WCTE Membership Information

This form represents a ☐ New Membership ☐ Renewal

WCTE District (CESA): \_\_\_\_\_ (1-12 if you do not know your CESA, please check one of the options below)

☐ Please look up my CESA district for me based on my school address: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please look up my CESA district for me based on my home address: \_\_\_\_\_

What grades do you teach? ☐ Elementary ☐ Middle ☐ Secondary ☐ Post-secondary

Are you an administrator or specialist? *(Check all that apply.)*

☐ Dept. Chair ☐ Elem. Admin. ☐ Middle/Secondary Admin. ☐ Reading/Language Arts Specialist

What sort of membership would you like? \_\_\_\_\_

	One-year Membership	Two-year Membership
Standard	\$30.00	\$50.00
Contributing	\$40.00	\$70.00
Sustaining	\$50.00	\$90.00
New Teacher	\$20.00	\$30.00
(1-2 yrs. in profession)		
Retiree	\$15.00	\$25.00
Student	\$ 5.00	\$ 8.00



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT >> John Schad



“... every [WCTE] convention that I have attended ... has given me ... inspiration and realistic techniques for teaching in my classroom on a yearly basis.”

Dear Fellow WCTE Members,

Welcome back to a new school year! I hope that you all had a chance to read, relax, and reinvent yourselves as teachers for the upcoming year. I always find that the summer has a way of changing me as a person as well as an educator. Being a teacher gives us a unique chance to have a fresh start each and every year with our new classes. Not only do our students come to us with a new sense of curiosity, but we also feel a different sense of renewal and excitement.

WCTE hopes to help you continue all of this momentum throughout the entire school year, starting with our annual convention on October 18 and 19 in Madison. Our convention will feature Chris Lehman, founding Director of the Educator Collaborative, and provide many breakout sessions where you can get new ideas and resources from experts throughout the state.

Personally, I can say that every convention that I have attended through our organization has given me so much inspiration and realistic techniques for teaching in my classroom on a yearly basis. In some cases, I have come back from the convention and completely changed how my classroom looked and how my students experienced the world of reading and writing. This two-day investment allows me to stay fresh and invigorated for each and every school year!

Please strongly consider joining us for our annual convention! Hopefully, this will be a great way to continue all of the momentum that we are feeling right now as we start the year. I look forward to meeting you in October and WCTE looks forward to partnering with you to make 2018 the best year yet!

John Schad,  
WCTE President  
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## Teachers to be honored at state convention



Amy Richards

### NCTE Teacher of Excellence

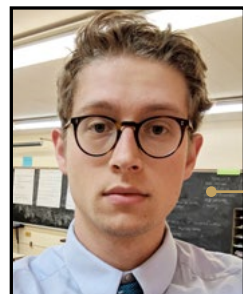
**WHO: AMY RICHARDS**, Bay Port High School, Green Bay

**WHAT:** Writing, Advanced Language Arts 3 (American Literature), British Literature, Remedial Language Arts, Modern World Studies Language Arts, English Language Arts 3, IB English HL Year I, IB English HL Year II, Summer Credit-Recovery

Language Arts 9, 10, 11

**WHAT OTHERS SAID:** "Amy is organized, efficient, and smart in juggling several tasks at once. ... She has brought vitality to the department with her charm and honesty. She is confident in sharing her ideas and opinions in discussions about curriculum and instruction. She has volunteered to work on curriculum teams and teach remedial courses during the summer and collaborate with her colleagues. She has added valuable insight... Amy is devoted to her profession. Her love of language and literature is genuine and passionate." ~Krista Greene, ELA dept. co-chair

**WHAT AMY SAID:** "I'm honored to represent the resilient educators of Wisconsin in this capacity! I'm surrounded by incredible ELA teammates at Bay Port High School, so what I am able to accomplish in my classroom is a direct reflection of the entire department's cooperation and innovation. My district has actually never before — at least in my eleven years here — sent educators to the NCTE Conference, so I'm especially excited to get to attend both the state and national conferences this year through the award. I've been enviously watching the Twitter thread for years."



Jesse Martin

### Nancy Hoefs Memorial Award for an Outstanding First-Year Teacher

**WHO: JESSE MARTIN**, James Madison High School, Milwaukee

**WHAT:** 10th grade English teacher

**WHAT OTHERS SAID:** "Jesse has consistently worked hard every day since the start and provides both his colleagues and students with cutting edge teaching practices. Jesse has also brought innovative ideas and leadership skills to the English department. He led many professional development meetings and showed great enthusiasm in trying to change school policies that were often flawed and ineffective. His resilience and patience as an educator is contagious to both me and other staff members." ~Matthew Reuter, teacher, James Madison High School

"Jesse has had a difficult, but rewarding first year, excelling in circumstances where even veteran teachers would struggle. [He] understands that building relationships with his students is one of the keys to his success this year. Jesse has impressed always impressed me. He is positive in all situations, has a wonderful sense of humor, is extremely reflective, and is steadfast in working to achieve his goal of being an outstanding teacher for every one of his students." ~Barbara Sonnenberg, director of English Education, UW-Milwaukee

**WHAT JESSE SAID:** "I feel humbled and grateful to receive this award. Thanks is due to the teachers in my building and throughout Milwaukee Public Schools for their consistent support and sound advice. This community showed me what it means to be a truly excellent educator. The success of any teacher should serve as a reminder of the indispensable role of community in this difficult, wonderful profession."

### ABOUT WCTE AWARDS

The winner of the Nancy Hoefs Memorial Award for an Outstanding First-Year Teacher Award receives free registration and one night accommodation at the fall WCTE convention as well as formal recognition at the convention.

The winner of the Outstanding Student Teacher Award will receive an expense-paid trip to the WCTE convention where she will be recognized, and she will receive a paid annual membership in WCTE.

The winner of the Lee Burrell Intellectual Freedom Award will also be recognized at the fall WCTE convention. (See story on next page.)



Marjorie Struck

### Outstanding Student Teacher Award

**WHO: MARJORIE STRUCK**, student teacher at Lynde and Harry Bradley Trade and Technology High School, Milwaukee; now teaching at Riverside University High School

**WHAT:** 9th grade student teacher

**WHAT OTHERS SAID:** "Marjorie's teaching performance in this challenging school setting has been superior in every way. An extraordinarily talented young teacher, Marjorie possesses many strengths — an infectious enthusiasm for learning, a creative approach to designing classroom activities and assignments, and a deep commitment to urban education, to name only a few.... Perhaps most importantly, Marjorie is deeply committed to her students' learning. In collaboration with her co-operating teacher and a special education teaching assistant, Marjorie has redesigned the curriculum for two of her ninth grade sections to accommodate the large number of students in these classes with special learning needs." ~Alice Gilliam, student teacher supervisor, UW-Milwaukee

"Marjorie creates engaging lessons for her students that teach and practice key skills. Her structured lessons also infuse current events so students make life connections to the curriculum while gaining proficiency in standards. Marjorie wants every student to succeed and knows that achievement will come through effective teaching. She is constantly striving to improve her own teaching practice, demonstrating the quality and passion of a true life-long learner." ~Tracy Borkin, English Dept. chair

**WHAT MARJORIE SAID:** "I am honored to be named the recipient of the WCTE "Student Teacher of the Year" award. My year as a student teacher was a year of personal growth, reflection, and joy. I was able to learn from some of the most influential, innovative, and inspiring teachers in the state of Wisconsin. The English department at Bradley Tech High School in Milwaukee Public Schools, under the leadership of Ms. Tracy Borkin, became a family to me. I would like to dedicate this award to each member of that department and thank them all, from the bottom of my heart for their guidance and support. I am now located at Riverside University High School, in Milwaukee, teaching 9th grade English, and the experiences I gained through student teaching have been a guiding light, a foundation that I am excited to build on, as I continue my career as an educator."

WCTE AWARD >> from John Schad, Intellectual Freedom chair

# Lee Burress Intellectual Freedom Award

And the winner is...

**Megan Schliesman** from the Cooperative Children's Book Center in Madison

Megan Schliesman, a librarian, and a member of the Cooperative Children's Book Center, has been awarded this year's Lee Burress Intellectual Freedom Award. Ms. Schliesman will receive this award at our upcoming convention where she will be thanked for the services she provides for all of the teachers in our state.

The CCBC Intellectual Freedom Information Services serves Wisconsin librarians, teachers, and administrators facing potential or concrete book censorship issues. CCBC librarians are passionate and knowledgeable about helping teachers and librarians understand the basics of intellectual freedom and supporting them in defending our students' right to read.

Not only is the CCBC steadfast and efficient in serving educators who reach out for support when facing a potential or actual book challenge, but they also provide expertise and confidential help, which they tailor based on the book and the situation. Megan Schliesman is the person behind the scenes who makes all of these things possible!

CCBC librarians also work to ensure that administrators and educators include and honor their local policies related to selection and reconsideration in districts who are facing a challenge. They travel throughout the state and the nation to share information related to intellectual freedom in the pursuit of making sure that educators know what their local policies are, how to best share that information, and what to do if there is a concern or complaint about a particular book.

This year, Ms. Schliesman has been selected as WCTE's top choice for this award, and we look forward to honoring her efforts to keep



intellectual freedom a top priority for our students and our state.

For more information about how CCBC can help with a potential challenge, please visit their website: <https://ccbc.education.wisc.edu/freedom/default.asp>

## ABOUT THIS AWARD

The Lee Burress Intellectual Freedom Award recognizes an educator or group who has been an advocate for expression free from censorship and for humane communication. It was begun in honor of Lee Burress, a long-time educator at UW-Stevens Point, who exemplified these attributes in his life as well as his teaching. The winners of the Lee Burress Intellectual Freedom Award are recognized at the fall WCTE convention.

## ADVERTISEMENT

# Facts. Alternative facts. Fake news.

Never has the **need** been more **urgent** to foster **information literacy**, **critical listening**, and **cogent speaking**. Yet, Wisconsin only has 40 high schools and five middle schools that participate in interscholastic debate.

**New debate formats are less cumbersome and readily accessible to all students, and can even fit in a 40-minute class period.** The **Wisconsin High School Forensic Association** can help a middle or high school implement debate as an in-class activity, with the ability to participate in just one interscholastic debate (unless the school would like to expose young people to more opportunities).



Visit [whsfa.org/implement-debate](https://whsfa.org/implement-debate).  
Or call Adam Jacobi at (920) 710-1895,  
or email [debate@whsfa.org](mailto:debate@whsfa.org).





## AWARDS >>from NCTE

# Wisconsin Council of Teachers of English honored with three 2018 NCTE Affiliate of Excellence Awards

The Wisconsin Council of Teachers of English, <http://www.wcteonline.org>, co-edited by Linda Barrington of Brookfield, Wisconsin and Lynn Aprill of Gillett, Wisconsin, has been named as a recipient of the **2018 NCTE Affiliate WEBSITE of Excellence Award**, given by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). Three other affiliates' websites will also be recognized.

Established in 2000, this award recognizes outstanding websites with high-quality content, easy navigation, size, speed, privacy, links, and interactive abilities (message boards, live chats, forums, blogs, mailing lists, etc.). In particular, the judges liked the innovative "Wisconsin Literary Map," collaborative networking opportunities, and opportunities for professional recognition through WCTE Awards.

The award winners will be announced at the 2018 NCTE Annual Convention in Houston, during the Affiliate Roundtable Breakfast on Sunday, Nov. 18.

Other winners include Michigan Council of Teachers of English Language, <https://mymcte.org>; New York State English Council, <https://www.nysecteach.org>; and Ohio Council of Teachers of English Language Arts website, <https://www.octela.org>.



Lynn Aprill, webmaster

WCTE Update, edited by Linda Barrington of Mount Mary University, published by the Wisconsin Council of Teachers of English, has been named as a recipient of the **2018 NCTE Affiliate NEWSLETTER of Excellence Award**, given by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE).

Established in 1992, this award recognizes outstanding newsletters of affiliates of NCTE that have published a minimum of three newsletters from May 2018 through the program deadline on May 1, 2018.

Newsletter submissions are judged on: content (particularly the inclusion of current, pertinent information with a good balance between theory, practice, and professional growth information), quality of writing, clear and accurately defined purpose for the publication, a format which aids the reader in locating information and is easy to read, and the use of graphics to aid the overall effectiveness of the newsletter.

The award winners will be announced at the 2018 NCTE Annual Convention in Houston, during the Affiliate Roundtable Breakfast on Sunday, Nov. 18. WCTE representatives will receive a certificate from NCTE.

The breakfast program will feature information on all the newsletters of excellence. And, as an additional national recognition of WCTE's work, information on the award will also appear in NCTE's Annual Convention Program and on the NCTE website.

Other winners include newsletters published by the Arkansas Council of Teachers of English Language Arts; the Georgia Council of Teachers of English; the Indiana Council of Teachers of English; the Montana Association of Teachers of English Language Arts; the New York State English Council; the Ohio Council of Teachers of English Language Arts; and the Texas Council of Teachers of English Language Arts.



Linda Barrington, editor

The Wisconsin Council of Teachers of English has been named as one of nine recipients of the **2018 NCTE AFFILIATE Excellence Award**, given by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE).

The affiliate, whose president is John Schad of Plymouth, Wisconsin, has won the award one time.

The Affiliate Excellence Award was established in 1996 to honor NCTE affiliates that meet high standards of performance for programming and promote improvement in English language arts teaching.

Qualifications for the award represent standards of excellence to which all NCTE affiliates should aspire. Award winners fulfilled at least eight different criteria for excellent affiliate programming during the school year of application. The required criteria include:

- increasing membership in the affiliate or NCTE;
- publishing an affiliate communications instrument at least twice a year;
- conducting at least one professional development program for members;
- completing the annual affiliate report to NCTE by the deadline; achieving accomplishments such as implementing and maintaining a cultural diversity plan;
- developing a program to encourage new teachers into the profession;
- participating in an NCTE Affiliate Leadership Meeting;
- participating in at least three affiliate-sponsored activities at the NCTE Annual Convention.

The award winners will be announced at the 2018 NCTE Annual Convention in Houston, during the Affiliate Roundtable Breakfast on Sunday, Nov. 18.

Other affiliates of excellence include Colorado Language Arts Society, Georgia Council of Teachers of English, Michigan Council of Teachers of English, New York State English Council, Ohio Council of Teachers of English Language Arts, Texas Council of Teachers of English Language Arts, Virginia Association of Teachers of English, and West Virginia Council of Teachers of English.







## Welcome to new ELA consultant

Bianca Williams-Griffin is the new English Language Arts Education consultant for DPI. She comes to DPI from Milwaukee Public Schools, where she taught Middle School English Language Arts for eleven years. She also served the district as a School Support Teacher/Instructional Coach for eight years. Bianca has a passion for diversity and inclusion in education and is well versed in culturally responsive teaching practices. She is also a teacher consultant for the UW Milwaukee Writing Project. Bianca is excited to continue her work in education at the state level.

People really enjoy reading about the things they *want* to know about. Just like our students, we're not as motivated to dig into those articles that tell us what we *need* to know, even when they cover information that we *should* know.

That's where we English teachers in Wisconsin are in luck. Our DPI liaison in Madison, Bianca Williams-Griffin, is right at the epicenter of education initiatives, education legislation and education policy. Even better, she lets us know how these affect us in our classrooms and our professional lives. You can reach Bianca at ✉ [bianca.williams-griffin@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:bianca.williams-griffin@dpi.wi.gov).

## Literacy Updates

- In August, English Language Arts educators from across the state played a significant role in Forward Exam item review providing valuable input to improve the quality of the assessment. For more information on state assessments visit the [Assessment and Accountability page](#).
- The American Indian Studies Program spotlighted a resource that is meant to support educators and librarians in identifying and collecting materials that promote and advocate for culturally relevant, authentic, and accurate depictions of Native nations in our classrooms and libraries, [A Tiered Purchasing Plan for Supporting Wisconsin Act 31 in your Classroom or Library](#).

## Teacher Education, Professional Development, Licensing

- The Department of Public Instruction conducted a hearing on Aug. 29, 2018, at department headquarters, to take public testimony on revisions to permanent rules related to educator licensing.
- **Reminder:** You can find the most up to date information about licensing on the [Teacher Education and Professional Development website](#).

## Wisconsin's Implementation of ESSA

- Districts that receive Title I money are in the process of submitting their district plans that must meet new ESSA requirements. Find ESSA information at <https://dpi.wi.gov/esea>.
- The new ESSA requires schools that will be identified under the new ESSA to spend their Title and school improvement dollars on practices or programs that meet [these evidence requirements](#).

*Continued on next page*

## Bilingual/ESL Program

- The Seal of Biliteracy is awarded to graduating high school students in districts with a Department of Public Instruction-approved program, who have demonstrated achievement in bilingualism, biliteracy, and sociocultural competence in two or more languages (English and a partner language) by successfully participating in the development of the languages through our schools, their families, and the community. ***The Department of Public Instruction is currently updating the Seal of Biliteracy application form and guidance document. During this time, we will not be processing new Seal of Biliteracy applications from June 25, 2018 - October 2018.*** Check the [Bilingual/ESL program](#) website for the application and guidance document in November 2018.
- [Title III and Bilingual-Bicultural Fall Meeting](#): Creating Positive Learning Environments for Multilingual Learning: Program Design, Implementation, and Measuring Program Effectiveness. Will be held on Friday, September 28, 2018, at the Madison Marriott West Hotel.

## Special Education

2019-21 State Budget Information: State Superintendent Tony Evers is rolling out four major budget requests for the 2019-2021 biennium. For more information visit the [2019-21 State Budget Information](#) webpage.

## Academic Standards

- [Theatre Standards](#) are being revised. A public hearing was held in July and open to the public for review. For further information on the theatre standard visit the [Fine Arts and Creativity: Theatre page](#).
- For more information on content area standards click this [link](#).
- English Language Arts Standards are scheduled for review, the review process will start in July, 2019.

## English/Language Arts Modes of Communication

For up-to-date information, resources, and helpful instructional ideas and resources, join our communities!

- Join DPI ELA Google+ Community: <http://bit.ly/1S7vUrL>
- Follow WI DPI Literacy Twitter: <https://twitter.com/WisDPILit>
- Join the Listserv: [englishk16@lists.dpi.wi.gov](mailto:englishk16@lists.dpi.wi.gov)

## TWITTER CHATS >> John Schad and the WCTE Board

# Join us for WCTE's new Twitter Chats @WCTEorg #wctechat on 4th Tuesdays



If you have not already joined us for our new Twitter chats, now is the time! At our next chat, the breakout presenters for our 2018 WCTE Convention will be joining us to discuss their presentations in greater detail.

Previous chats have discussed:

- Successes and Challenges of Being an English Teacher in Wisconsin
- Tips for Engaging Students
- Personal and Professional Reading Recommendations
- Lesson Recommendations
- Testimonials – Why Did You Become an English Teacher?

This is such a cool way to connect with English teachers around the state! Join the wave of teachers who are looking for practical advice to improve their teaching practice and share your thoughts and expertise in our next chat:

September 25 @ 8 p.m. – Thursday's WCTE Convention Workshop Preview

October 23 @ 8 p.m. – Review of WCTE Convention | Ideas for Improvement

November 27 @ 8 p.m. – Recap of NCTE Convention and CEL Convention

December 18 @ 8 p.m. – Holiday Break: Keeping Engaged, Reading over Break, Recharging

## ADVERTISEMENT

### KETTLE MORAINÉ PRESS ASSOCIATION

BRING YOUR STUDENTS.

JOIN US FOR OUR FALL JOURNALISM CONFERENCE

DETAILS & REGISTRATION LINK ONLINE at

<http://tinyurl.com/KEMPAfall2018>

#### 69 Sessions to choose from!

**Alternative Story Format**

**Build an Online Community through Blogging**

**Building a Literary Magazine from the Ground Up**

**Coaching Student Journalists**

**Facts, Opinions and Your Role in School**

**Fight for Your Right to Publish**

**Handling Controversial Topics**

**If You Can Review a Movie, You Can Review Anything!**

**Judging Your Literary Magazine**

**Media Ethics**

**Podcasting to Engage Your Readers**

**We All Have Stories to Tell**



**Be extraordinary**

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - WHITEWATER

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2018**

Dozens of presentations in each of three sessions





## PUBLICATIONS >> John Pruitt, WEJ editor

# Wisconsin English Journal calls for articles, board members

### ANNOUNCEMENT 1

The Fall 2018 issue will showcase approaches to teaching English in rural school districts.

Rural schools face difficulties recruiting and retaining a qualified teacher workforce. Potential contributing factors include social and collegial isolation, lower salaries, multiple grade or subject teaching assignments, and lack of familiarity with rural schools and communities. Together, these challenges can discourage teachers from accepting rural positions or cause them to leave rural settings after teaching there for only a short time.

We welcome personal narratives, lesson plans, critical reflections on teaching, vignettes from the classroom, anything you'd like to share with a broader readership.

Deadline Sept. 1, 2018. See our website at <https://wisconsinenglishjournal.org/> for submission details!

### ANNOUNCEMENT 2

Wisconsin English Journal is seeking high school and middle school teachers to serve on the editorial board. We turn to these volunteers to 1) read and critique articles submitted to the journal and give advice to the editor concerning acceptance, rejection, and/or work that needs to be completed before acceptance, 2) submit articles concerning policy of the WCTE to the WEJ and also concerns that the WCTE wishes to highlight to its members, and 3) advise the editor on the journal's direction.

Those interested should email the editor, John Pruitt, at [john.pruitt@uwc.edu](mailto:john.pruitt@uwc.edu). See the [reviewer profile form](#) at the WEJ website.

## EDITORIAL BOARD

### Editor

John Pruitt  
UW-Rock County

### Assistant Editors

Vacant

### Editorial Board

Heather Carroll

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Sauk Prairie High  
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UW-Oshkosh

Wendy Kropid

UW-Superior

Kristine Lize

Cardinal Stritch

University

Donna Pasternak

UW-Milwaukee

## Opinion | Should Teachers Share Their Political Views With Students?

[This recent article in the Huffington Post](#) ponders the propriety of teachers sharing their political views with their students.

**What do you think?** If you have a story or thoughts to share about this subject, send it to the editor, John Pruitt, at [wi.english.journal@gmail.com](mailto:wi.english.journal@gmail.com).



There's no such thing as a politically neutral schoolteacher.

## Visit Wisconsin English Journal's Facebook page

Please take time to like/follow it and encourage your colleagues to do so as well: <https://www.facebook.com/wisconsinenglishjournal/>

## Interesting things you'll find on the Wisconsin English Journal website

- 🌸 Current issue
- 📖 Archives back to the 1960s
- 📄 Submission guidelines
- ☂ How to become a reviewer
- 📀 Recent book titles available for review
- 🐱 Call for papers





## WCTE BOARD MEMBER PROFILE

# Meet District 2 director, Sarah Rowse-Borelli

**P**assion is a force that drives you. My driving force is creating a caring, quality and engaging environment for all students that will support their individual needs in education. My name is Sarah Rowse-Borelli and I am a WCTE Board member. I joined WCTE after attending my first conference and based on the suggestion from our leaders, John and Kelly. I currently live in Milwaukee with my husband and our two-year old daughter, Collette. I am beginning my 13th year of teaching and my sixth year at New Berlin Eisenhower, after moving here from Nebraska. (Go Huskers!)

My passion for education goes beyond the classroom. I have taught many various classes these past 13 years. Each new year I hope to inspire people and build a foundation for students and produce considerate, positive, and insightful individuals that communities would be proud of. As a teacher, I am dedicated to sharing my passion with my students every day. I work to challenge them, assist them and drive them to see the potential within themselves. I believe that I am a facilitator in their educational path. The effort I put forth to ask the right questions, create engaging activities and shift their thinking and learning beyond what they have done in the past is visible in my classroom daily. I also enjoy sharing this passion through the work and efforts of WCTE.

Prior to becoming a “cheesehead,” I taught and coached theater in Nebraska and I firmly engage in the idea that I am an English Language Arts teacher. I love teaching speech, film, theater, and most importantly, reading. As a WCTE member and a Wisconsin State Reading Association member, I am empowered by the brilliant educators that I have encountered that share my beliefs and also continue to improve my passion for education. I appreciate the challenges that ebb and flow in this occupation and the value that exists in education is not lost on me. I also greatly appreciate the resources available from WCTE through Twitter chats, engaging with the website and, most importantly, the conferences and workshops. I find it all rewarding and pertinent to our roles as educators.

Rewards in Education can seem like a silly thing, but I try to look at the positive aspects in education. I have found that the joys of being a teacher truly come from the students and individuals I am able to work with daily. The creativity and innovation students bring to my classroom make my job fun and ever-changing. I enjoy working most days and on those days that I don't, I seek out my colleagues to bring me back to the goal. The positive energy we all share when students become excited about learning or make a gain in reading or reach any goal they set out for, is what makes being a teacher so rewarding.

Since students and the world of education is constantly changing, there is never a dull moment. These moments of greatness come from the students, but they also come from the outstanding teachers in the profession. The increased passion for creating real leaders outside the classroom and collaborating through various activities such as WCTE, Professional Learning Networks on Twitter, Facebook groups, or our own learning communities within the school have allowed me to see the interesting and innovative work my colleagues do and create something awesome together.

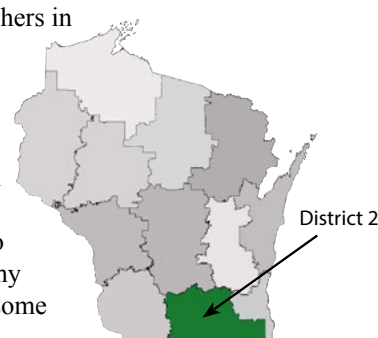
I believe that through collaboration and communication we all can work together, and create positive and successful citizens that will revolutionize the world. I love that these goals are echoed through WCTE and look forward to our continued push to revitalize learning together. I look forward to engaging with you through WCTE.



### Contact Info

#### Sarah Rowse-Borelli

New Berlin Eisenhower High School  
sarah.rowse-borelli@nbexcellence.org



“I love teaching speech, film, theater, and most importantly, reading. As a WCTE member and a Wisconsin State Reading Association member, I am empowered by the brilliant educators that I have encountered that share my beliefs and also continue to improve my passion for education.”

Two of the many reasons I do what I do. Jeff, Collette and me celebrating summer.



## THREE WAYS TO VOTE

- 1) - Go to [pbs.org/greatamericanread](http://pbs.org/greatamericanread)  
- Click on "Vote"  
- Choose your favorite book
- 2) - Select your favorite book's hashtag below  
- Post the hashtag on Facebook, or  
- Tweet the hashtag on Twitter
- 3) - Select your favorite book(s)' hashtag below  
- Text it to 97979.

Vote once a day, every day for every one of your favorite novels on the list.

100 books... 1 winner!

### The Great American Read on Wisconsin PBS stations

Have you voted yet? *The Great American Read* is searching the country for the best-loved novel, and you can help choose the winner. Based on a nationwide survey of thousands of Americans, an advisory panel chose 100 novels. The voting began last spring when the top 100 were announced.

The Wisconsin PBS *Fall Kickoff*, hosted by Meredith Vieira, investigates how writers create their fictional worlds, how we are affected by their stories, and what these books say about our shared human experience.

The series continues with five themed episodes and a *Grand Finale*.

- *Who am I?* explores the ways novels attempt to answer this age-old question. From life lessons to spiritual journeys, these books help us understand our own identities.
- *Heroes* examines the trials and tribulations of our favorite literary heroes — how they find inner strength and overcome challenges.
- *Villains & Monsters* delves into the way fictional characters become evil and what these villains can tell us about our own dark impulses.
- *What We Do for Love* reflects on the many types of love and how we search for love.
- *Other Worlds* takes us on a magical journey to the fictional worlds in some of these novels.
- *Grand Finale* reveals America's best-loved novel.

Start reading...voting...watching *The Great American Read*!

Check <https://wpt.org/> for schedule and program times.

1984 George Orwell

**A Confederacy of Dunces** John Kennedy Toole

**A Prayer for Owen Meany** John Irving

**A Separate Peace** John Knowles

**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** Betty Smith

**The Adventures of Tom Sawyer** Mark Twain

**The Alchemist** Paulo Coelho

**Alex Cross Mysteries** (series) Jim Patterson

**Alice's Adventures in Wonderland** Lewis Carroll

**Americanah** Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

**And Then There Were None** Agatha Christie

**Anne of Green Gables** Lucy Maud Montgomery

**Another Country** James Baldwin

**Atlas Shrugged** Ayn Rand

**Beloved** Toni Morrison

**Bless Me, Ultima** Rudolfo Anaya

**The Book Thief** Markus Zusak

**The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao** Junot Díaz

**The Call of the Wild** Jack London

**Catch-22** Joseph Heller

**The Catcher in the Rye** J.D. Salinger

**Charlotte's Web** E.B. White

**The Chronicles of Narnia** (series) C.S. Lewis

**The Clan of the Cave Bear** Jean M. Auel

**The Coldest Winter Ever** Sister Souljah

**The Color Purple** Alice Walker

**The Count of Monte Cristo** Alexandre Dumas

**Crime and Punishment** Fyodor Dostoyevsky

**The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time**  
Mark Haddon

The list continues on the next page >>>

**The Da Vinci Code** Dan Brown  
**Don Quixote** Miguel de Cervantes  
**Doña Bárbara** Rómulo Gallegos  
**Dune** Frank Herbert  
**Fifty Shades of Grey** (series) E.L. James  
**Flowers in the Attic** V.C. Andrews  
**Foundation** (series) Isaac Asimov  
**Frankenstein** Mary Shelley  
**A Game of Thrones** (series) George R.R. Martin  
**Ghost** Jason Reynolds  
**Gilead** Marilynne Robinson  
**The Giver** Lois Lowry  
**The Godfather** Mario Puzo  
**Gone Girl** Gillian Flynn  
**Gone with the Wind** Margaret Mitchell  
**The Grapes of Wrath** John Steinbeck  
**Great Expectations** Charles Dickens  
**The Great Gatsby** F. Scott Fitzgerald  
**Gulliver's Travels** Jonathan Swift  
**The Handmaid's Tale** Margaret Atwood  
**Harry Potter** (series) J.K. Rowling  
**Hatchet** (series) Gary Paulsen  
**Heart of Darkness** Joseph Conrad  
**The Help** Kathryn Stockett  
**The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy** Douglas Adams  
**The Hunger Games** (series) Suzanne Collins  
**The Hunt for Red October** Tom Clancy  
**The Intuitionist** Colson Whitehead  
**Invisible Man** Ralph Ellison  
**Jane Eyre** Charlotte Brontë  
**The Joy Luck Club** Amy Tan  
**Jurassic Park** Michael Crichton  
**Left Behind** (series) Tim LaHaye and Jerry B. Jenkins  
**The Little Prince** Antoine de Saint-Exupéry  
**Little Women** Louisa May Alcott  
**Lonesome Dove** Larry McMurtry  
**Looking for Alaska** John Green  
**The Lord of the Rings** (series) J.R.R. Tolkien  
**The Lovely Bones** Alice Sebold  
**The Martian** Andy Weir  
**Memoirs of a Geisha** Arthur Golden  
**Mind Invaders** Dave Hunt  
**Moby-Dick** Herman Melville  
**The Notebook** Nicholas Sparks  
**One Hundred Years of Solitude** Gabriel García Márquez  
**Outlander** (series) Diana Gabaldon  
**The Outsiders** S.E. Hinton  
**The Picture of Dorian Gray** Oscar Wilde  
**The Pilgrim's Progress** John Bunyan  
**The Pillars of the Earth** Ken Follett  
**Pride and Prejudice** Jane Austen  
**Ready Player One** Ernest Cline  
**Rebecca** Daphne du Maurier  
**The Shack** William P. Young  
**Siddhartha** Hermann Hesse  
**The Sirens of Titan** Kurt Vonnegut  
**The Stand** Stephen King  
**The Sun Also Rises** Ernest Hemingway  
**Swan Song** Robert R. McCammon  
**Tales of the City** (series) Armistead Maupin  
**Their Eyes Were Watching God** Zora Neale Hurston  
**Things Fall Apart** Chinua Achebe  
**This Present Darkness** Frank E. Peretti  
**To Kill a Mockingbird** Harper Lee  
**The Twilight Saga** (series) Stephenie Meyer  
**War and Peace** Leo Tolstoy  
**Watchers** Dean Koontz  
**The Wheel of Time** (series) Robert Jordan and Brandon Sanderson  
**Where the Red Fern Grows** Wilson Rawls  
**White Teeth** Zadie Smith  
**Wuthering Heights** Emily Brontë

**READ. VOTE. SHARE.**

[pbs.org/greatamericanread](https://pbs.org/greatamericanread) | [#GreatReadPBS](https://twitter.com/GreatReadPBS)

Detailed information about voting rules and conditions are available on the website.





# FOR YOUR STUDENTS >> Anti-Defamation League Contest, Scholarships and Free Curriculum

## Our First Amendment Freedoms Art & Essay Contest for Grades 6 – 11

For over 200 years, the First Amendment has been the cornerstone of freedom in the United States. Commonly referred to as the “five freedoms,” the First Amendment has helped people in the U.S. exercise their rights to work for a more free and just society and impacts every aspect of our lives.

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) is now accepting submissions for the 2018 “Our First Amendment Freedoms Art & Essay Contest.” Students grades of grades 6-11 in Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Minnesota, North Dakota and

South Dakota can apply by Sept. 28, 2018. First Place winners in each grade category will receive college scholarships for \$5,000. Second Place winners will receive \$1,000.

As a part of the contest, teachers are invited to use ADL’s completely free curriculum guides on the First Amendment! A recent poll found nearly 75% of students took the First Amendment and its protections for granted. Help teach the next generation the importance of the First Amendment freedoms!

“It’s time that we start listening to each other, because only then will the First Amendment regain the potency that was gifted to this country. Only then will we be truly free.”

Madison, Grade 11  
First Place Essay Winner

ADL

**LEARN MORE & GET STARTED**



Dear Wisconsin Teachers,  
We know it's sometimes harder for students in states outside Illinois to get to our dinner in Chicago (where the awards are presented), but that does not disqualify them. They are absolutely welcome to enter the contest and teachers should most definitely utilize our free curriculum, lesson plans and other resources. Contact me with any questions.

Stephanie L. Seweryn  
Assistant Director of Development  
sseweryn@adl.org

### Did you know...

- The classroom teacher with the most entries will be invited to the awards dinner and will receive \$1,000. The school with the most entries will receive an Anti-Defamation League A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE® Institute educational workshop.
- All art entries will be eligible for submission to local festivals thanks to Amdur Productions. The winning students will be invited to present their work at the 2018 Freedom Award Dinner in Chicago.
- Scholarships are provided by a generous anonymous donor, the Harold R. Burnstein Future Leaders Merit Award Endowment Fund, and the Kathleen Hart Solovy Scholarship Endowment Fund.



## WHAT WE'RE READING >> the WCTE Board

### Looking for a good book?

### Check out these titles, shared by the WCTE Board



**Tanya Sponholz**  
Prescott High School

#### **Girls Burn Brighter** by Shobha Rao

A searing, electrifying debut novel set in India and America, about a once-in-a-lifetime friendship between two girls who are driven apart but never stop trying to find one another again.

When Poomima first meets Savitha, she feels something she thought she lost for good when her mother died: hope. Poomima's father hires Savitha to work one of their sari looms, and the two girls are quickly drawn to one another. Savitha is

even more impoverished than Poomima, but she is full of passion and energy. She shows Poomima how to find beauty in a bolt of indigo cloth, a bowl of yogurt rice and bananas, the warmth of friendship. Suddenly their Indian village doesn't feel quite so claustrophobic, and Poomima begins to imagine a life beyond the arranged marriage her father is desperate to lock down for her. But when a devastating act of cruelty drives Savitha away, Poomima leaves behind everything she has ever known to find her friend again.

In breathtaking prose, Shobha Rao tackles the most urgent issues facing women today: domestic abuse, human trafficking, immigration, and feminism. At once a propulsive page-turner and a heart-wrenching meditation on friendship, Rao's debut novel is a literary tour de force. ~Goodreads



**Jennifer Kieren**  
Ellsworth Community H.S.

#### **Shadow of the Wind** by Carlos Ruiz Zafón

The international literary sensation, about a boy's quest through the secrets and shadows of postwar Barcelona for a mysterious author whose book has proved as dangerous to own as it is impossible to forget.

Barcelona, 1945 - just after the war, a great world city lies in shadow, nursing its wounds, and a boy named Daniel awakes on his eleventh birthday to find that he can no longer remember his mother's face. To console his only child, Daniel's widowed father, an antiquarian book dealer, initiates him into the secret of the Cemetery of Forgotten Books, a library tended by Barcelona's guild of rare-book dealers as a repository for books forgotten by the world, waiting for someone who will care about them again. Daniel's father coaxes him to choose a volume from the spiraling labyrinth of shelves, one that, it is said, will have a special meaning for him. And Daniel so loves the novel he selects, "The Shadow of the Wind" by one Julian Carax, that he sets out to find the rest of Carax's work. To his shock, he discovers that someone has been systematically destroying every copy of every book this author has written. In fact, he may have the last one in existence. Before Daniel knows it his seemingly innocent quest has opened a door into one of Barcelona's darkest secrets, an epic story of murder, magic, madness and doomed love. And before long he realizes that if he doesn't find out the truth about Julian Carax, he and those closest to him will suffer horribly.

An uncannily absorbing historical mystery, a heart-piercing romance, and a moving homage to the mystical power of books, "The Shadow of the Wind" is a triumph of the storyteller's art. ~Goodreads



**Holly Caudill**  
Lakeland Union High School, Minocqua

#### **180 Days: Two Teachers and the Quest to Engage and Empower Adolescents** by Kelly Gallagher and Penny Kittle

Two teachers. Two classrooms.  
One school year.

"180 Days" represents the collaboration of two master teachers—Kelly Gallagher and Penny Kittle—over an entire school year: planning, teaching, and reflecting within their own and each other's classrooms in California and New Hampshire. Inspired by a teacher's question, "How do you fit it all in?" they identified and prioritized the daily, essential, belief-based practices that are worth spending time on. They asked, "Who will these students be as readers and writers after a year under our care?"

What we make time for matters: what we plan, how we revise our plans while teaching, and how we reflect and decide what's next. The decision-making in the moment is the most essential work of teaching, and it's the ongoing study of the adolescents in front of us that has the greatest impact on our thinking. With both the demands of time and the complexity of diverse students in mind, Kelly and Penny mapped out a year of engaging literacy practices aligned to their core beliefs about what matters

most. They share their insights on managing time and tasks and offer teaching strategies for engaging students in both whole class and independent work. Video clips of Kelly and Penny teaching in each other's classrooms bring this year to life and show you what a steadfast commitment to belief-based instruction looks like in action. 180 Days. Make every moment matter. Teach fearlessly. Empower all students to live literate lives. ~Goodreads



**Linda Barrington**  
Mount Mary University,  
Milwaukee

#### **Endurance: A Year in Space, A Lifetime of Discovery** by Scott Kelly

The veteran of four space flights and the American record holder for consecutive days spent in space, Scott Kelly has experienced things very few have. Now, he takes us inside a sphere utterly inimical to human life. He describes navigating the extreme challenge of long-term spaceflight, both existential and banal: the devastating effects on the body; the isolation from everyone he loves and the comforts of Earth; the pressures of constant close cohabitation; the catastrophic risks of depressurization

or colliding with space junk, and the still more haunting threat of being unable to help should tragedy strike at home—an agonizing situation Kelly faced when, on another mission, his twin brother's wife, Gabrielle Giffords, was shot while he still had two months in space. Kelly's humanity, compassion, humor, and passion resonate throughout, as he recalls his rough-and-tumble New Jersey childhood and the youthful inspiration that sparked his astounding career, and as he makes clear his belief that Mars will be the next, ultimately challenging step in American spaceflight.

~Goodreads

Look for more good  
book recommendations  
in the next WCTE  
Update in December

# Wisconsin English Teachers' Calendar of Events, Deadlines



## September

- Sept. 15** Deadline for NCTE's Doublespeak Award, an ironic tribute to public speakers who have perpetuated language that is grossly deceptive, evasive, euphemistic, confusing, or self-centered. More information: <http://www.ncte.org/volunteer/groups/publiclangcom/doublespeakaward>
- Sept. 15** Deadline for NCTE's George Orwell Award, which recognizes writers who have made outstanding contributions to the critical analysis of public discourse. More information: <http://www.ncte.org/volunteer/groups/publiclangcom/orwellaward>
- Sept. 19** Deadline for reserving reduced priced guest rooms for the WCTE convention at the Double Tree by Hilton in Madison: 608-251-5511.
- Sept. 23-29** Banned Books Week: Celebrating the Freedom to Read <https://bannedbooksweek.org/>
- Sept. 30** Deadline for advance registration for the Kettle Moraine Press Association Fall Scholastic Journalism Conference. More information at [www.KEMPAjournalism.org](http://www.KEMPAjournalism.org).

## October

- Oct. 4** Deadline for reserving reduced priced guest rooms for the WCTE convention at the Cambria Hotel and Suites in northeast Madison: 608-241-7070.
- Oct. 12** **Pre-registration deadline for WCTE convention**
- Oct. 12** Fall Scholastic Journalism Convention sponsored by the Kettle Moraine Press Association at UW-Whitewater  
**Theme: Be Extraordinary**
- Oct. 18** Afternoon WCTE pre-convention workshops at Union South in Madison
- Oct. 18** WCTE Executive Board meeting, 5:30-8 p.m.
- Oct. 19** WCTE Fall convention at Union South in Madison, featuring Chris Lehman  
**Keynote: Going Farther: Keep Moving On Culturally Relevant Literacy**

## November

- Nov. 1-4** Journalism Education Association/National Scholastic Press Association High School Journalism Convention, Chicago
- Nov. 6** Last day for online or mail-in registration for NCTE/CEL conventions in Houston  
<http://convention.ncte.org/2018-convention/registration/>
- Nov. 16-19** NCTE Convention in Houston, **Theme: Raising Student Voice**
- Nov. 18-21** CEL Convention in Houston, **Theme: CELebrating the Vision, Voice, and Momentum of Leadership**

### WCTE Update September 2018

President John Schad	Secretary Jennifer Kieren
1st Vice-President Kelly Seefeldt	Treasurer Tom Scott
Past President Marianne Potter	Update Editor Linda Barrington

## CHOICE READING

For the last three years in my department, we have implemented choice reading. We dedicate 15 minutes every day at the start of class to allow the students to read a book of their own choosing.

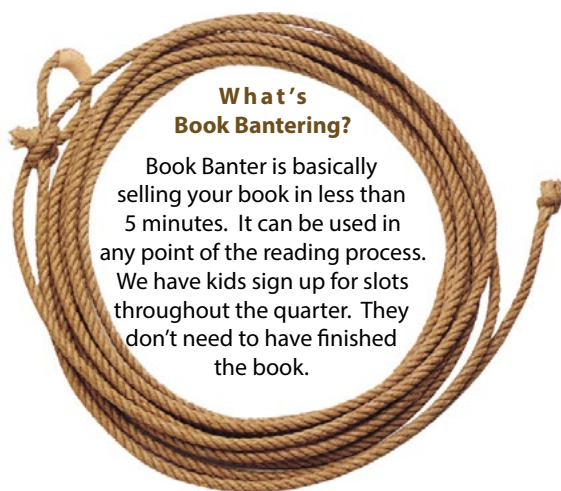
I spend a lot of time on the front end setting them up for success. I do a Book Tasting at the beginning of the quarter which allows them to be exposed to a variety of books, look over cover art, flap descriptions, and even to smell them. I have them rotate through different tables, each time picking up a new book, recording it on their “menu” as to their initial interest level, until at the end they decide which one they would MOST like to read. I supply them with a To Be Read (TBR) list (on last page) where they can record different titles so when they finish one, they already have a title ready to read next, so there’s no wandering aimlessly around the library. I do book talks twice a week, and on Friday I show book trailer videos. All of these could potentially go into their TBR sheet.

Some classes are required to do a book project of their choosing at the end of the quarter. There is a list of 70+ options for them to choose. Some classes will be required to do Book Banters in front of their class. In all of the classes, I make sure I talk to the students about their reading. I wander the room during some reading times doing a status of the class. This way I can see if they are really reading, if they are struggling with their book, or talk to them about what they’re thinking of reading next. It’s a great way to keep them accountable for their reading and make connections to the students. Several days, I just model good reading with them and sit somewhere in the room reading with them.

**We have seen standardized test scores rise over the last two years after this implementation.** Other content area teachers tell us they have students come into their rooms with their choice book, and there are times they have to tell students to put them away so they can focus on their class. That’s a good problem to have. If you have any questions or would like more information about what I do with choice reading, please email me at [kierenj@ellsworth.k12.wi.us](mailto:kierenj@ellsworth.k12.wi.us).



Jennifer Kiernen teaches at Ellsworth Community High School. This year she teaches Reading Intervention, English 10, English 11, AP Literature and Composition, and Literature and Film. [✉ kierenj@ellsworth.k12.wi.us](mailto:kierenj@ellsworth.k12.wi.us)



### What's Book Bantering?

Book Banter is basically selling your book in less than 5 minutes. It can be used in any point of the reading process. We have kids sign up for slots throughout the quarter. They don't need to have finished the book.

## All about Book Bantering

### Book Banter Rubric

Title/Author mentioned \_\_\_\_\_ / 2 pts.

Summary \_\_\_\_\_ / 10 pts.  
(shows an obvious understanding of the book; includes character description, conflict, theme, and plot; creates interest)

2 Passages \_\_\_\_\_ / 10 pts.  
(provides 2 selected passages with reasons for inclusion; example reasons: character description/explanation, important message, theme identification, etc.)

Reflection \_\_\_\_\_ / 5 pts.  
(reflects on lessons learned and/or feelings/thoughts provoked during the reading)

Question/Answer Session \_\_\_\_\_ / 3 pts.  
(responds accurately and appropriately to questions from peers and/or the teacher about the content of the book)

Time requirement \_\_\_\_\_ / 5 pts.  
(5 minute minimum)

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_ / 35 pts.

# Book Tasting Menu

Book Title	Author	Book Cart	1-2 Sentence Reflection	What Would You Rate This Book On a Scale of 1-5? (1 worst, 5 best)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Romance <input type="checkbox"/> Action/Adventure <input type="checkbox"/> Realistic/Gritty <input type="checkbox"/> Sports Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Mystery <input type="checkbox"/> Comedy Humor <input type="checkbox"/> Hot/Popular Reads <input type="checkbox"/> Nonfiction <input type="checkbox"/> Dystopian		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Romance <input type="checkbox"/> Action/Adventure <input type="checkbox"/> Realistic/Gritty <input type="checkbox"/> Sports Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Mystery <input type="checkbox"/> Comedy Humor <input type="checkbox"/> Hot/Popular Reads <input type="checkbox"/> Nonfiction <input type="checkbox"/> Dystopian		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Romance <input type="checkbox"/> Action/Adventure <input type="checkbox"/> Realistic/Gritty <input type="checkbox"/> Sports Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Mystery <input type="checkbox"/> Comedy Humor <input type="checkbox"/> Hot/Popular Reads <input type="checkbox"/> Nonfiction <input type="checkbox"/> Dystopian		



# BOOKS TO READ

[illegible]