28th Annual Conference on Literature for Children and Young Adults
New Horizons in Children’s and Young Adult Literature

March 18 - March 19, 2019
KSU Center
Kennesaw, GA

Artwork by Jill Gough (@jgough)
AMERICAN BOOK COMPANY AD
Welcome to the 28th edition of what has become one of the premiere literature conferences in the country. Our mission is to provide teachers, preservice teachers, school and public librarians, and media specialists with a two-day experience in which participants have the opportunity to learn from and interact with several highly acclaimed children's and young adult authors and attend presentations from master teachers and experts in the field of literacy instruction. We truly hope you enjoy your experience. And please, tell your friends!

**Co-Directors**
Dr. Natasha Thornton  
Dr. Sanjuana Rodriguez  
Dr. Megan Adams

**Conference Committee Members**
Dr. Erin Adams  
Ms. Katy Basch  
Dr. Debra Coffey  
Dr. Roberta Gardner  
A. Carey Huddlestun  
Dr. Virginie Jackson  
Dr. Nora Schlesinger

A special thanks to Jennifer Costen, Belinda Edwards, Andrea Douglas, and Natalie Rovetto for their help with the conference.
# 2019 KSU Literature Conference

## Schedule at a Glance

### Monday, March 18  
**Young Adult Literature Day**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Registration and Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:50 a.m. - 9:05 a.m.</td>
<td>Welcome and Announcements</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:05 a.m. - 10:55 a.m.</td>
<td>Keynote ~ Matt de la Peña</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:55 a.m. - 10:10 a.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:10 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Breakout Session #1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.</td>
<td>Breakout Session #2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch ~ Georgia Peach Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:25 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Breakout Session #3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 p.m. - 3:20 p.m.</td>
<td>Keynote ~ Courtney Stevens</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Book Signings</td>
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### Tuesday, March 19  
**Children's Literature Day**

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Keynote Author
Children’s and Young Adult Day
Matt de la Peña

Matt de la Peña is the New York Times Bestselling, Newbery Medal-winning author of six young adult novels (including Mexican WhiteBoy, We Were Here, and The Living) and four picture books (including Love and Last Stop on Market Street). In 2016 he was awarded the NCTE Intellectual Freedom Award. Matt received his MFA in creative writing from San Diego State University and his BA from the University of the Pacific where he attended school on a full basketball scholarship. de la Peña currently lives in Brooklyn NY. He teaches creative writing and visits high schools and colleges throughout the country.
Courtney “Court” Stevens grew up among rivers, cornfields, churches, and gossip in the small town south. She is a former adjunct professor, youth minister, and Olympic torchbearer. These days she writes coming-of-truth fiction and is a bookseller at Parnassus Books in Nashville, TN. She has a pet whale named Herman, a bandsaw named Rex, and several novels with her name on the spine: Faking Normal, The Lies About Truth, the e-novella The Blue-Haired Boy, Dress Codes for Small Towns, and Four Three Two One. As an educator and author, she visits schools, designs retreats, and teaches workshops on marketing, revision, character development, and Channeling Your Brave.
Natasha Tarpley is the author of the best-selling picture book, *I Love My Hair!*, as well as other acclaimed titles for children and adults. She is the recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship among other awards. When she is not writing books, Ms. Tarpley can usually be found reading them. She has also taken up the cruel and unusual hobby of running marathons. Ms. Tarpley is the co-founder of Voonderbar! Media, a multicultural children’s book media company. She lives with her husband and the ghosts of two cats on the south side of Chicago.
Children’s Day
New Author Bios

Chelesse Edwards

Chelesse Edwards is a native of Brooklyn, NY who currently resides in Georgia. She is the mother of three children, Ava, Autumn and Aiden. She is an educator for the Dekalb County School system.

Chelesse is also the author of seven books to date. *Brown Butterfly: a book of poetry*, *Word is Born*, *Pasta the Rasta Snowman*, *Slim Santa*, *For our daughters*, *Girl, Let the Sunshine in*, and *Magic*.

Teresa Hensley

Teresa Hensley has been writing all her life, but published her first children’s book, *Pretty Birds*, in 2017. The book is a memoir about a childhood friend who survived the Vietnam War. Teresa has worked in public education for more than 21 years. She is currently a literacy/instructional coach.

One of Teresa’s greatest pleasures and passions is helping teachers and students think about how literacy can change their lives. *Pretty Birds* is the first in a series of seven about young survivors of wars. *Pretty Birds* is a great literary and content addition to classroom curriculum, especially Georgia 5th grades where the Vietnam War is explored in through Georgia Standards of Excellence.
Robert Gibbs

Robert Hosea Gibbs, known to most as Hosea, is a successful business owner and entrepreneur. He has been barbering since the age of sixteen. Originally from Elberton, Georgia, Hosea moved to Atlanta after graduating high school. True to his entrepreneurial spirit, Hosea started barbering in a barbershop in South Dekalb Mall and ultimately went on to own a barbershop and a hair salon by the age of 24. He currently owns and operates Details Barbershop in Decatur, Georgia.

Hosea has always had an interest in literature that develops the whole person. In addition to writing books, his other interests include real estate ownership and development, public speaking and golfing. He lives in metro Atlanta with his wife, Whitney and his two children Kennedy and Robert Gibbs, II.

Felicia Johnson

Felicia Napier Johnson is a retired educator. She is the founder of the company A Shining Light that focuses on teaching children to become virtuous people through storybooks and apparel. Her goal is to provide knowledge and guidance for children to make good decisions as they practice and demonstrate life virtues. She believes if children have this character trait, it will have an extraordinary impact on their lives and the lives of people around them. To make this world a better place, we must start with teaching our children what matters the most; life virtues!
Corinthia Myrick

Corinthia Myrick is a lover of all forms of literary expression, especially poetry and written stories. She discovered her hidden talent for writing at a young age, writing poetry and short stories for personal pleasure. While a student at Florida A&M University, Corinthia received an assignment which birthed the chapter book, “Mr. Seven Seasonings”. Coupled with her passion for writing, she received the motivation needed to pursue being a published author. Myrick is an Elementary Educator in Decatur, Georgia where she emphasizes hard work in an effort to instill positive, powerful memories of education from a young age.

The New Authors are in the lobby sharing information about their books and their love for literature. Visit their tables to learn about new and exciting books that you can share with students and families!
Breakout Session #1  10:10-11:00 a.m.

Room 174
*Diversify Your Summer Reading Lists---The How and the Why.*
Presenter(s): Paige Garrison, The Alfred & Adele Davis Academy

This program is designed to help school media specialists develop reading lists to assist their students into broadening their reading horizons and exposure to books featuring diversity of gender, race, religion, and sexuality. The program will also discuss the importance of focusing on these books vs. the literary canon/status quo.

*Topic Strands: ELA, Diversity*
*Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists*

Room 221
*Making Book Reports Fun*
Presenter(s): Patrice Tealer, Rockdale County Schools

This presentation will focus on assisting educators with incorporating book reports and novel units to aid in independent reading, but with a focus on technology integration and differentiated instruction to reach all learners.

*Topic Strands: ELA, Technology*
*Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists*

Room 225
*Mathematizing Children's Literature*
Presenter(s): Jill Gough, Trinity School

What happens when we connect mathematics with reading and writing? How might we deepen understanding of numeracy using children’s literature? What if we mathematize our read-aloud books to use them in math as well as Readers and Writers Workshop? What opportunities will teachers have to learn more about their readers, writers, and mathematicians?

*Topic Strands: Math, ELA*

*Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists*
**Room 244**

*Morphological Instruction and Content Areas in Middle Grades*

Presenter(s): Nora Schlesinger, Kennesaw State University  
Briana Davis, University of Illinois at Chicago

Student’s word knowledge is strongly linked to academic success. Morphological instruction is a beneficial tool that helps students build a strong lexicon. This session will use content literature to support educators in implementing morphological analysis to strengthen their own and students’ morphological understandings and vocabulary across content areas.

*Topic Strands: ELA, Word Study, Content areas*  
*Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists*

**Room 460**

*Using Afrofuturistic Texts to Engage Diverse Audiences*

Presenter(s): Erin Berry-McCrea, Saint Augustine’s University  
Tiffany A. Flowers, Georgia State University Perimeter College

The purpose of this presentation is to focus on Afrofuturistic texts which can be used within the classroom. Texts from authors such as Butler to Adeyemi will be presented. Attendees for this session should include teachers, media specialists, librarians, and reading enthusiasts interested in learning about diverse futuristic texts.

*Topic Strands: ELA, Multicultural, Diversity*  
*Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists*

**Room 461**

*Delving Deeper into Reading*

Presenter(s): Amanda Thomas and Laura McRae, Trinity School

Participants will learn different strategies which allow students to read deeper into fiction and nonfiction texts.

*Topic Strands: ELA*  
*Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists*

**Room 462**

*Let’s Talk About Young Adult books! What are you reading? What are you doing with those titles in your learning space?*

Presenter(s): Kelli Sowerbrower, Northgate High School  
Sarah Klein, East Coweta Middle School

In this book club like session, we want to start a group conversation that will continue throughout the year about what great things we are reading, how we find titles to read and share with our students, and what we do with these texts in our classrooms and media centers.

*Topic Strands: ELA*  
*Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists*
Room 248
*Podcasts as Technological Integration in the Literature Classroom*
Presenter(s): Ashley Miller, Cobb county Public Library System

This session will teach educators techniques for introducing students to free or inexpensive ways to use podcasting as a presentation tool in the classroom.

*Topic Strands: ELA, Content areas, Technology*  
*Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists*

Room 182
*Changing Lives Through Fiction: How novels can promote kindness among young adults*
Presenter(s): Amalie Jahn, Light Messages Publishing

Words go beyond the pages of books, affecting how readers interact with the world—especially teen and young adult readers. USA TODAY bestselling author Amalie Jahn discusses how positive themes in novels can shape young readers into empowered promoters of kindness.

*Topic Strands: ELA, Content areas*  
*Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists*

Room 300
Courtney Stevens

** Special session for mentor teachers and student teachers

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**Breakout Session #2 11:15a.m. – 12:05p.m.**

Room 182
*GALILEO: Resources for Children’s Literature*
Presenter(s): Russell Palmer and Karen Minton, GALILEO

GALILEO, Georgia’s Virtual Library, provides access to thousands of e-books for children and review and evaluation resources like NoveList. Join us to learn more about accessing and evaluating children’s literature with GALILEO.

*Topic Strands: ELA, Technology*  
*Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists*
Room 460

*Way to Promote Creative Writing for All Ages*

Presenter(s): Ge-Anne Bolhuis, Whitfield County Schools

Digital tools can be used to promote creative writing as well as innovative non-tech-based tools. This session will focus on using tools like Creative Commons images, online authoring tools and analog tools like word dice to promote creativity in writing.

*Topic Strands: ELA reading and writing, Technology
Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists*

Room 221

*New Favorites: Hot Off the Presses Picture Books for Integrating Social Studies and ELA, Grades 6-12*

Presenter(s): Joy Hatcher and JoAnn Wood, GaDOE Social Studies Program Specialist

Explore some fresh titles and how they can spark powerful learning across the curriculum in this interactive session. Be prepared to be wowed and to share your own recent treasures!

*Topic Strands: ELA, Content areas
Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists*

Room 300

*No-Low-High Tech Storytelling*

Presenter(s): Helen M Maddox, Kennesaw State University

In this session learn ways to bring in No-Low-High Tech options for Storytelling into the classroom. From puppets to green screen, learn how to get your students or teams to move from author to screenplay creator to director and producer of a final product.

*Topic Strands: ELA, Technology
Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists*

Room 244

*Using Sketch Notes To Make Thinking Visible*

Presenter(s): Jill Gough, Trinity School

How might we creatively check for comprehension when young learners are reading? What if we embrace creativity and color to illustrate what resonates as we read? Come learn about sketch noting to enhance reading and note taking.

*Topic Strands: ELA, Art
Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists*
Room 174  
**Getting of the Way: Stepping Aside for More Engagement (SAME)**  
Presenter(s): David Bryson, Carrollton City Schools  
Tami Ogletree, University of West Georgia

Literacy is not a spectator sport. Two educators share their journey of getting out of the way and listening to the voices of students. Their discovery/implementation of Stepping Aside for More Engagement (SAME) teaching strategy can be used to empower any level of engaged learning.

*Topic Strands: ELA, Content areas*  
*Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists*

Room 462  
**Welcome to Choice Reading Where It Is Okay to Be Different**  
Presenter(s): Whitney Beem and Heather Wilkens, Hopewell Middle School

From start to finish, learn how to implement choice reading through Book Clubs or Literature Circles by being introduced the process that includes how to create student buy-in, parent buy-in, and overall, how to help create readers.

*Topic Strands: ELA, Content Areas*  
*Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists*

Room 225  
**Write On!: Tacking Anxiety and Depression in Your Classroom Through Journaling**  
Presenter(s): Jillian Bradfield, JilleyBean Books

Today children are faced with self image issues, anxiety, depression and bullying. Many of these occurrences take place in the classroom. Guided Journaling is a tool that can be used to aid in getting children to positively express their feelings about these issues.

*Topic Strands: ELA reading and writing, Motivation*  
*Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists*

Room 248  
**Incorporating Culture using Young Adult Literature**  
Presenter(s): Hannah Stokes and Ashley Yates

We will be diving into what it means to manageably incorporate culture within the classroom. This will include providing resources regarding current young adolescent literature for both teachers and media specialists. We will also discuss different methods to create learning experiences from the texts and instill engagement within the students.

*Topic Strands: ELA, Diversity and Culture*  
*Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists*
Today’s classrooms need teachers who are responsive to the learning, emotional and social needs of ethnically and linguistically diverse students with and without disabilities. The strategies presented in this session provide numerous examples of diverse young adult literature that is both culturally responsive and engaging. This session demonstrates ways to use books, short stories, poems and song lyrics to comprehend fictional portrayals of a time and a historical account of the same period (Georgia Standards of Excellence).

Strands: ELA, Diversity and Equity
Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists
Breakout Session #3 1:25 p.m. – 2:15p.m.

Room 225
March, Maus, and Persepolis Walk Into a Library: Building Historical Graphic Novel Collections
Presenter(s): Jennie Law, Georgia State University

This presentation is comprised of a series of book talks on recommended historical graphic novels (with particular emphasis on lesser known titles), a showcase of various online sources for quality reviews to use in collection development, and information on how to build within your institution’s existing collection policies.

Topic Strands: ELA, History, Social Studies
Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists

Room 221
Creating Spaces for Young Adult Literature in the Curriculum
Presenter(s): Angelyne Collins, Brookwood High School, University of Georgia

Discover ways to create new and exciting spaces that delve into inquiry, curriculum development, and choice reading with students and teachers. Participants will explore the benefits of being deliberate in the integration of young adult books in the secondary classroom to engage reluctant, busy, voracious, and indifferent readers.

Topic Strands: ELA, Content areas
Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists

Room 244
Bon Appetit: Host a Book Tasting in Your Classroom!
Presenter(s): Pamela Mather, Teasley Middle Schools

Offer your students a creative and engaging opportunity to expand their reading horizons by "tasting" a variety of books, and independently choosing high-interest literature to read in the classroom. Just add a chef's hat and apron, and voila! You have your very own "Book Bistro!"

Topic Strands: ELA, Multicultural
Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists

Room 460
Differentiating in Literacy Using "Thinking Hats"
Presenter(s): Mirette Carpenter, Lindsey Thompson and Lauren Palace, Georgia College & State University

We've heard it before... "put on your thinking hat!" These thinking hats are different: green top hat, red sombrero, yellow cowboy hat, and more! "Thinking Hats" are a unique take on task cards: the colorful hats provide an effective literacy strategy that focuses on differentiation and fosters collaboration among students.

Topic Strands: ELA, Diversity, Multicultural
Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists
Room 462
Social Justice Pedagogy in the High School Classroom.
Presenter(s): Diana Bishop and George Seaman, Cobb County School District

Using Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson as a foundational text, we will provide ELA teachers with texts and techniques to engage students in critical literacy designed to heighten students' awareness of social justice so that they might “read the word and the world” fostering a better world for all (Freire, 1970).

Topic Strands: ELA, Social Justice
Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists

Room 182
Using Reader's Theater to Inspire Readers
Presenter(s): Donna Malone, Rockdale County Public Schools

Reader's Theater in the classroom serves as a vehicle for comprehension, fluency, the richness of language and provides the building blocks for language arts. Research shows the value of presenting stories through Reader's Theater and using this tool to motivate non-readers and give all readers a reason to reread.

Topic Strands: ELA, Drama
Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists

Room 174
Student Voice Through the Use of Technology.
Presenter(s): DaMeka Whitehead, Memorial Middle School

An explanation of how to best connect Literature (novel studies/writing topics) and the program Flipgrip, which is a digital tool that allows teachers to create a “Topic” (question) and have students respond with video.

Topic Strands: ELA, Technology
Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists

Room 248
Expanding the View of Literacy: The Benefits of Incorporating the Arts
Presenter(s): Lydia Blair and Lucy Clay, John H. Lounsbury College of Education at Georgia College

We will be examining the benefits of incorporating arts (nature, paintings, and music) into literacy. We will discuss the value of incorporating these topics as a helpful tool in assisting with students’ development. Our presentation with exemplify relevant methods for incorporating these studies into everyday class time.

Topic Strands: ELA, Art, Music
Targeted Audience: Teachers, administrators, media specialists

Room Number: 300
Matt de la Peña
** Special Session for mentor teachers and student teachers
Teachers, Tutors, Coaches, Media Specialists, Administrators, Instructors, Professors

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GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF LITERACY ADVOCATES

State Affiliate with the International Literacy Association

Advancing Literacy Growth in Georgia

Sign Up for Membership Now at https://georgialiteracyadv.wixsite.com/georgialiteracy/shop
Breakout Session #1   10:10-11:00 a.m.

Room 242  
*The Power of Using Culturally Relevant Texts to Engage Readers and Writers.*
Presenter(s): Tanya Bradley and Emma Kyker, Marietta City Schools

Making literacy experiences more relevant to students' interests and everyday life by using current events improves proficiency in reading. The nature of reading and writing instruction is changing. We will look at how to use current events as an opportunity to bridge activities outside and inside the classroom, tune into the lives of students to find out what they think is relevant and why, and then use this information to design instruction and learning opportunities that will be more relevant to students.

*Topic Strands: reading strategies/comprehension, diversity and equity, elementary, middle grades, writing*
*Targeted Audience: classroom teachers*

Room 174  
*“Just A Picture Book??” Using Diverse Picture Books to Teach MORE Than Reading*
Presenter(s): Stephanie Johnson, Dorsett Shoals Elementary-Douglas County Schools Kimberly Haile, Burnett Elementary-Douglas County Schools

This instructional session uses diverse picture books to incorporate character education into the curriculum. Educators will be able to ensure students receive an integrated, coherent learning experience that contributes to their personal and academic learning and growth.

*Topic Strands: reading strategies/comprehension, diversity and equity, elementary, digital literacy*
*Targeted Audience: classroom teachers, school librarians/media specialists*

Room 462  
*Exploring Gender Representations and Gender Stereotypes in Children’s Literature*
Presenter(s): Stephanie Branson, University of South Florida Tori Damjanovic, USF Preschool for Creative Learning Aimee Frier, University of South Florida

This session will focus on gender identity and representation in children’s literature, specifically picture books, and ideas on how to introduce and reinforce the concepts of gender identity and gender expression through stories and embodied reading responses.

*Topic Strands: early childhood, diversity and inclusion, elementary*
*Targeted Audience: early childhood, diversity and inclusion, elementary*
Room 248
**No-Low-High Tech Storytelling**  
Presenter(s): Helen Maddox, Kennesaw State University

In this session learn ways to bring in No-Low-High Tech options for Storytelling into the classroom. From puppets to green screen, learn how to get your students or teams to move from author to screenplay creator to director and producer of a final product.

**Topic Strands:** reading strategies/comprehension, diversity and equity, writing, vocabulary, digital literacy  
**Targeted Audience:** classroom teachers, public librarians, school librarians/media specialists

Room 221
**Mathematizing Our Read Alouds**  
Presenter(s): Becky Holden, Trinity School

Contexts, through literature, let students know what numbers represent and how they relate to each other. In this session, we will discover how read alouds can provide that context and use anticipation and note and noting to differentiate and for next steps planning.

**Topic Strands:** early childhood, elementary  
**Targeted Audience:** classroom teachers

Room 461
**GALA presents "I Did It, So Can You!" - My Journey Through Self-Publication**  
Presenter(s): Davetta Grisby, Georgia Association of Literacy Advocates  
Shannon Howrey, Kennesaw State University  
Dale Loannides, Georgia Association of Literacy Advocates

Georgia Association of Literacy Advocates (GALA) will sponsor Stephanie Chadwick, a local Georgia author, who will discuss the process of topic selection, self-publishing and how it relates to her students' writing. GALA will introduce teachers to their services and projects that benefit educators and promote literacy.

**Topic Strands:** early childhood, elementary, writing  
**Targeted Audience:** classroom teachers, public libraries, school librarians/media specialists

Room 182
**Check Out STEM Stacker Curriculum Kits at Your Public Library**  
Presenter(s): Deborah Feanny, Cobb County Public Library System  
Chinita Allen, Georgia Science Teachers Association

Educators can check out more than just books with their Cobb County Public Library System educator library card. Developed in partnership with the Georgia Science Teacher Association and UGA Extension Office, STEM Stacker kits feature literacy focused STEM lesson plans along with manipulatives needed to conduct a STEM class for K-5 students.

**Topic Strands:** early childhood, reading strategies/comprehension, elementary, writing, vocabulary  
**Targeted Audience:** classroom teachers, public librarians/ school librarians/media specialists
Room 460

Using Graphic Text to Write a Personal Narrative
Presenter(s): Amy Judd

Come write a personal narrative comic book style! Writing a personal narrative can be engaging for students when we incorporate graphic text features. In this session, participants will learn the structure of comics, gather ideas for quality graphic text to use with students, and create their own small moment comic.

Topic Strands: elementary, middle grades, writing
Targeted Audience: classroom teachers, school librarians/media specialists

Room 225

The Read Aloud Experience: Engagement via Enhancement
Presenter(s): Trey Veazey, The Walker School

Research tells us that reading aloud to any level audience can improve reading success, but the time for simply being a face behind a book has passed. In seeking to boost literacy development, educators need to enhance the read aloud experience; this session will help build a plan for doing so.

Topic Strands: early childhood, reading strategies/comprehension, elementary, middle grades
Targeted Audience: classroom teachers, public librarians, school librarians/media specialists

Room 300

Natasha Tarpley
** Special session for mentor teachers and student teachers

*ROUNDTABLE PRESENTATIONS*

Room 400

SQ3R: An Effective Reading Method to Help Upper Elementary Students Interact with Informational Text
Presenter(s): Angela Jones-Pringle, Gwinnett County Schools

SQ3R has been used by many college students over the years, but it is an effective comprehension and writing method that can help upper elementary school students build self-efficacy, self-regulation, and critical-thinking skills. The presenter's adapted method for upper elementary students is relevant and aligned to the GSE standards.

Topic Strands: reading strategies/comprehension, elementary
Targeted Audience: classroom teachers
Teaching Kids About the World Through Picture Books
Presenter: Sucheta Rawal

Picture books based on true stories can have a long-term impact on young readers when it comes to how they perceive themselves in relation to the world. Discover books on diversity, culture and travel that can be integrated into your reading and global learning programs.

*Topic Strands: Reading strategies/comprehension, Elementary, Diversity and Equity*
*Targeted Audience: classroom teachers, school librarians/media specialists*

Making Read Alouds Come Alive
Presenters: Katy Basch and Terri Koch, Kennesaw State University

This session will explore engaging literature selections and interactive experiences for primary classrooms. A focus on diverse, high-quality texts will be incorporated into this session. Pre-K-2nd grade teachers who want to add to their familiarity of children's literature and enhance their engagement in reading should attend this session.

*Topic Strands: early childhood, reading strategies/comprehension,*
*Targeted Audience: classroom teachers,*

Bon Appetit: Host a Book Tasting in Your Classroom!
Presenters: Pamela Mather

Offer your students a creative and engaging opportunity to expand their reading horizons by "tasting" a variety of books, and independently choosing high-interest literature to read in the classroom. Just add a chef's hat and apron, and voila! You have your very own "Book Bistro!"

*Topic Strands: early childhood, elementary*
*Targeted Audience: classroom teachers, school librarians/media specialists, public librarians*

Sentence Detectives: Using mentor texts to teach grammar
Presenters: Andrea Moon and Jessica Nalbandian, Cobb County School District

In this workshop, teachers will learn how to teach their students to become sentence detectives by discovering patterns of conventions when studying mentor texts. Participants will explore how to teach grammar through mentor texts. In this session, examples from picture books, videos and student examples will be featured as an authentic way to teach grammar.

*Topic Strands: Early Childhood, Reading Strategies/Comprehension, Elementary, Writing*
*Targeted Audience: classroom teachers*

Breakout Session #2  11:15 a.m. – 12:05 p.m.

Inte weaving Technology into Literacy
Presenter(s): Jen Shiers and Claudia Daniels, Cobb County School District

Participants will engage in juicy chatter around award-winning children’s literature to foster teaching and learning. In addition, using instructional strategies, participants will take a hands-on dive into sequel narrative writing by using various collaborative tech tools.

*Topic Strands: reading strategies/comprehension, elementary, writing, digital literacy*
*Targeted Audience: classroom teachers*
Room 300

**Differentiating in Literacy Using "Thinking Hats"**

Presenter(s): Mirette Carpenter, Lindsey Thompson, and Lauren Palace, Georgia College & State University

We've heard it before... "put on your thinking hat!" These thinking hats are different: green top hat, red sombrero, yellow cowboy hat, and more! "Thinking Hats" are a unique take on task cards: the colorful hats provide an effective literacy strategy that focuses on differentiation and fosters collaboration among students.

*Topic Strands:* reading strategies/comprehension, diversity and equity, middle grades  
*Targeted Audience:* classroom teachers

Room 460

**Expanding Our Horizons: Including Black American Children's books into our Libraries and Book Lists**

Presenter(s): Wendy Harris and Raynice Jean-Sigur, Kennesaw State University

This interactive workshop will help classroom teachers, libraries, and school media personnel with better understanding the importance of including Black and African American Children's books into their classroom and learning environments. The presenters will share some important information about the availability and impact Black and African American Children's books have on child development and learning.

*Topic Strands:* early childhood, reading strategies/comprehension, diversity and equity, elementary  
*Targeted Audience:* classroom teachers, public libraries, school librarians/media specialists

Room 462

**Good-Bye Book Reports: Multimodal Response to Children’s Literature Exploring Difficult and Challenging Topics**

Presenter(s): Aimee Frier and Stephanie Branson, University of South Florida

Reading responses are traditionally paper-based, written responses. We advocate for the use of multimodal approaches to ensure students have the opportunity to express their understanding in multiple ways that mirror their out of school lives. We will demonstrate multimodal responses that encourage students to critically think about and respond to literature.

*Topic Strands:* Reading Strategies/Comprehension, Diversity and Equity, Elementary, Digital Literacy  
*Targeted Audience:* classroom teachers, public libraries, school librarians/media specialists
Room 248
Teaching Literacy Through Inquiry in a Personalized Learning Classroom
Presenter(s): Dr. Jerri Potts, Monica Hendricks, and Shoni Pittman, Katlysator Educational Solutions

Teachers have a difficult time personalizing reading curriculum and/or guided reading program. Teaching literacy through inquiry blends a personalized learning classroom with traditional guided reading practices. Instead of leveled readers, students could use inquiry to explore topics using valuable reading strategies.

Topic Strands: Reading Strategies/Comprehension, Writing, Vocabulary, Digital Literacy
Targeted Audience: classroom teachers, school librarians/media

Room 174
Using Literacy to Inspire and Spark Coding with Young Learners
Presenter(s): Marsha Harris, Trinity School

Coding is the new literacy of the 21st century. How might we be more intentional with our planning of content, task, and time to support our young learners in meaningful ways in the classroom? Literacy is the launching point for all that we do, including coding with children as young as Pre-K.

Topic Strands: early childhood, elementary
Targeted Audience: classroom teachers, school librarians/media specialists

Room 182
Mathematizing Children's Literature
Presenter(s): Jill Gough, Trinity School

What happens when we connect mathematics with reading and writing? How might we deepen understanding of numeracy using children’s literature? What if we mathematize our read-aloud books to use them in math as well as Readers and Writers Workshop? What opportunities will teachers have to learn more about their readers, writers, and mathematicians?

Topic Strands: early childhood, elementary
Targeted Audience: classroom teachers

Room 461
Agency and Annotation: Close Reading in the Primary Grades
Presenter(s): Veronica Vital, Park Creek Elementary, Dalton Public Schools
Courtney Hitchens, Brookwood Elementary, Dalton Public Schools

Close reading is a strategy that can help young students read complex texts. This presentation will discuss research on vocabulary acquisition and comprehension. The presenters will outline a process for teaching close reading that can be implemented in primary classrooms. Instructional videos and student work samples will be included.

Topic Strands: early childhood, reading strategies/comprehension, elementary, vocabulary
Targeted Audience: classroom teachers
*ROUNDTABLE PRESENTATIONS*
Room 400

How do you “Picture” the Pictures in a Book?
Presenters: Stephanie Lindstrom and Krystal Richter, Henry County Schools
Natasha Cain, DeKalb County Schools

Our session will focus on interactive read alouds using picture books to build literacy development while using the arts to showcase student learning. We will share strategies for engaging students in text by relating it to their knowledge and experiences, making predictions, asking questions, and understanding characters’ feelings and thoughts. Attendees will engage in activities for integrating the arts in literacy development for K-2 learners.

*Topic Strands: early childhood, reading strategies/comprehension, elementary, vocabulary*
*Targeted Audience: classroom teachers*

Do You See Me? - Embracing Diversity in Children’s Books
Presenter: Felicia Lee

This session will focus on the importance of diversity and representation in children’s literature. During this time, we will have an interactive discussion about the benefits children gain from seeing images that they can identify with and what happens when diversity is not represented in the books children read.

*Topic Strands: early childhood, elementary, diversity and equity, writing*
*Targeted Audience: classroom teachers, school librarians/media specialists, public librarians*

STEAM Starts from the Stacks
Presenters: Kate Burton, Trinity School

Understanding the importance of exposing young readers to STEAM concepts and experiences does not always mean we know where to start. This session will expose STEAM-y starters in books we know, love, and probably have on our shelves. Discover titles and ideas, and we’d love to hear your ideas, too!

*Topic Strands: early childhood, elementary*
*Targeted Audience: classroom teachers, school librarians/media specialists, public librarians*

Innovations for Creating and Sharing Digital Stories
Presenters: Helen Maddox, Debra Coffey, Kennesaw State University

Our presentation will open with a story and provide innovative ideas for storytelling. We will present creative options for storytelling that promote learning. We will demonstrate the use of a green screen, shadow puppets, and other innovations. Then we will provide opportunities to explore ideas for creating digital stories.

*Topic Strands: early childhood, reading strategies/comprehension, elementary, digital literacy*
*Targeted Audience: classroom teachers, school librarians/media specialists*
The Power of a Good Read Aloud book
Presenters: Alice Henry

When you find a book that transforms busy young learners into active learners, it is powerful. In my 30 plus years of teaching PreK-8, I was always amazed at the power of a good book.

*Topic Strands: early childhood, diversity and equity, elementary, vocabulary*
*Targeted Audience: classroom teachers, school librarians/media specialists*

Breakout Session #3 1:25 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Room 182
*Beyond Mandated Screeners for Dyslexia: The Diagnostic and Prescriptive Teacher within a Framework of Literature*
Presenter(s): Nora Schlesinger, Kennesaw State University
Briana Davis, University of Illinois at Chicago

The Senate Resolution 761 committee made three recommendations which will affect initial and post teacher certification. One recommendation is mandated school screening for all K students. Learn how to be diagnostic and prescriptive about phonological awareness and phonics instruction using children’s literature.

*Topic Strands: early childhood, reading strategies/comprehension, elementary*
*Targeted Audience: classroom teachers, public librarians, school librarians/media specialists*

Room 174
*Is This a Good Book for me? Answering the Oldest Question in the Library!*
Presenter(s): Marla Hilburn, W.C. Abney Elementary
Angie Clower, Hiram Elementary School

We will look at a way to organize school library books and classroom library books so that students know right away if a book is a "good one" for them. Using the Lexile leveling system, we will show how we labeled and organized our elementary school libraries so that Pre-K-5th students and staff could find a book on their reading level all by themselves!

*Topic Strands: early childhood, elementary, reading strategies/comprehension*
*Targeted Audience: classroom teachers, public libraries, school librarians/media specialists*

Room 460
*Sparking Students’ Love for Science with Storybooks*
Presenter(s): Lauren Kane and Kate Burton, Trinity School

Want to spark interest in science? Looking for a great way to launch science lessons? Come to this session and learn how picture books can be used to ignite student curiosity and build background knowledge for science exploration.

*Topic Strands: early childhood, elementary*
*Targeted Audience: classroom teachers, public librarians, school librarians/media specialists*
Room 221
*Using Technology to Increase Reading Comprehension and Fluency*
Presenter(s): Ashiya Glover-Hart, Erin Prince, Piedmont College

Technology, Reading Comprehension, and Reading Fluency! This presentation will highlight research-based strategies. Presenters will provide a list of free digital sites and programs to help increase your students reading fluency and comprehension.

*Topic Strands: early childhood, reading strategies/comprehension, elementary, digital literacy*
*Targeted Audience: classroom teachers*

Room 248
*New Horizons for Innovative Digital Storytelling*
Presenter(s): Debra Coffey, Helen Maddox, Valicia Winfrey-Shearod, Kristen Kurth, Taylor Heath, Morgan Burkitt, Whitney Lott, Alaah Myers, Cheyenne House, Gracie Kelly, Isabel Adams, and Kristina Plummer, Kennesaw State University

We will share digital stories created during a children's literature class. Students who collaborated to design digital stories will share their stories and their tips for digital storytelling.

*Topic Strands: early childhood, reading strategies/comprehension, elementary, digital literacy*
*Targeted Audience: classroom teachers*

Room 462
*New Favorites: Hot Off the Presses Picture Books for Integrating Social Studies and ELA, Grades K-5*
Presenter(s): JoAnn Wood and Joy Hatcher, Georgia Department of Education

Explore some fresh titles and how they can spark powerful learning across the curriculum in this interactive session. Be prepared to be wowed and to share your own recent treasures!

*Topic Strands: reading strategies/comprehension, diversity and equity, elementary, writing*
*Targeted Audience: classroom teachers, public librarians, school librarians/media specialists*

Room 242
*GALA presents "I Did It, So Can You!" – How to Publish Your Own Children’s Book*
Presenter(s): Davetta Grigsby, Dekalb County Schools
Shannon Howrey, Kennesaw State University

Georgia Association of Literacy Advocates (GALA) will sponsor Stephanie Chadwick, a local Georgia author, who will discuss the process of topic selection, self-publishing, and how it relates to her students' writing. GALA will introduce teachers to their services and projects that benefit educators and promote literacy.

*Topic Strands: early childhood, elementary, writing*
*Targeted Audience: classroom teachers, public libraries, school librarians/media specialists*
Room 461
Big Red READS: The Story of a Mobile Library
Presenter(s): Alice Ensley, Dalton Public Schools

Big Red READS is a community bookmobile that works to ensure book access for all children. Begun in 2010, this initiative has distributed over 12,000 books to students in the Dalton area. Topics for this session will include summer reading loss, fundraising and grant opportunities, and community engagement.

Topic Strands: early childhood, elementary, middle grades
Targeted Audience: classroom teachers, public librarians, school librarians/media specialists

Room 225
Diversity in Children’s Literature: How Arab Americans are Portrayed and Perceived in Children’s Literature
Presenter(s): Tiffany Grant, Katherine Cramer, Sydney Chassion, University of North Georgia

This presentation addresses the perceptions of Arab Americans throughout children’s literature. It introduces a synthesis of research pertaining to various themes and stereotypes that misrepresent this group. Primarily, it will address the importance for educators to review multicultural literature for authenticity before sharing it with students.

Topic Strands: early childhood, diversity and equity, elementary
Targeted Audience: classroom teachers, public librarians, school librarians/media specialists

Room Number: 300
Matt de la Peña
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