

National Council of
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COUNCIL CHRONICLE



**ANNUAL
CONVENTION
PREVIEW**

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2026



Philadelphia

**ANNUAL CONVENTION
NOVEMBER 19–22**

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WELCOME FROM PROGRAM CHAIR

DETRA PRICE

There is nothing quite like walking into a space filled with thousands of people who love stories, language, and teaching just as much as you do. That's exactly why getting together this November for the 2026 NCTE Annual Convention feels so essential. It is our chance to take a breath, re-energize, and focus on exploring the conditions necessary for literacy research and teaching practices to thrive with joy and possibility. This year, we're gathering around three words: **Imagine. Innovate. Inspire.**

The 2026 NCTE Annual Convention will bring together a vibrant community of educators dedicated to ensuring high-quality literacy learning for every student. I am so excited about what's in store for us. We have an incredible lineup of dynamic featured speakers, engaging workshops, beloved authors, interactive sessions, and unique opportunities for learning in our Exhibit Hall designed to spark your curiosity and provide practical strategies to use in your classroom Monday morning. This November we will come together in Philadelphia to think collectively about what ELA research, teaching, and learning can look like in a digital world. I can't wait to see you there!

Warmly,
Detra Price



Share your Convention stories this year!
#NCTE26

What's Inside

2026 KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

THURSDAY GENERAL SESSION: Margaret Atwood

THURSDAY SECTION GET-TOGETHERS: Dave Eggers,
Traci Todd, Vashti Harrison, two more to be announced

FRIDAY GENERAL SESSION: Misty Copeland

FRIDAY LUNCHEONS: Natasha Singer, Nic Stone, one
more to be announced

SATURDAY BREAKFAST: Elizabeth Acevedo

SATURDAY GENERAL SESSION: LeVar Burton

SATURDAY LUNCHEONS: María Dolores Águila,
Brittany Cicchese, Megan Clendenan, one more to be
announced

SUNDAY BREAKFASTS: Grace Lin, Jamal Cooks, Emily
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WELCOME FROM **EMILY KIRKPATRICK** NCTE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Join us for the 2026 NCTE Annual Convention to give and receive the joy that's unique to literacy.

NCTE's signature annual event presents the opportunity to learn, grow, and rejuvenate. Whether you are in your first few years of teaching or an educator with many years of perspective, this is a space where you are welcome and needed. This is our time to celebrate what we individually and collectively know about the essential value of story, of hearing the voices of youth, and guiding our world with humanity.

With the pace of incredible change, you can't miss this event to learn, think, and align with professionals across settings who are all driven by the arts and sciences of language to shape our world. We have created the opportunities described in this Convention Preview to inspire your creativity and nurture your participation in our incredible profession.

We hope you'll encourage your colleagues, from your school and your professional networks, to join you at the Convention in November.

See you in Philadelphia,
Emily Kirkpatrick



Register by October 7 to take advantage of early-bird pricing; see convention.ncte.org/registration



Schedule

All times are Eastern Time.

Convention events Wednesday–Tuesday will take place at the Pennsylvania Convention Center.

See the complete list of sessions on the Convention website: convention.ncte.org/program
Hours are subject to change; more information will be added to the website as the schedule is finalized.

WEDNESDAY 11/18

4:00–7:00 P.M.—Registration & NCTE Central

THURSDAY 11/19

6:30 A.M.–6:00 P.M.—Registration & NCTE Central

8:00 A.M.–12:00 P.M.—Preconvention Workshops
(see p. 16; additional registration required)

11:30 A.M.–3:45 P.M.—A, B, C, D & E Sessions

2:30–3:30 P.M.—First-Timers' Event: **Alane Adams**
(no charge; registration required)

4:00–5:15 P.M.—Opening General Session: **Margaret Atwood**

5:30–7:00 P.M.—Section Get-Togethers: **Dave Eggers, Traci Todd, Vashti Harrison, two more to be announced**

7:00–8:30 P.M.—Cultural Celebration

8:30–10:00 P.M.—CNV Reception

FRIDAY 11/20

6:30 A.M.–6:00 P.M.—Registration & NCTE Central

8:15–9:15 A.M.—Friday General Session: **Misty Copeland**

9:30–11:30 A.M.—F & G Sessions

10:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M.—Exhibits Open

11:30 A.M.–1:30 P.M.—ELATE Luncheon: **to be announced**

11:30 A.M.–1:30 P.M.—Middle Level Section Luncheon:
Nic Stone

11:30 A.M.–1:30 P.M.—College Section Luncheon: **Natasha Singer**

11:45 A.M.–4:45 P.M.—H, I, J, K & L Sessions

5:00–6:15 P.M.—Annual Business Meeting

SATURDAY 11/21

6:30 A.M.–6:00 P.M.—Registration & NCTE Central

7:00–9:15 A.M.—ALAN Breakfast: **Elizabeth Acevedo**

7:30–8:45 A.M.—Awards Session

8:15–9:30 A.M.—M Sessions

9:45–10:45 A.M.—Saturday General Session: **LeVar Burton**

11:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M.—Exhibits Open

11:00 A.M.–12:15 P.M.—N Sessions

12:30–2:30 P.M.—Secondary Section Luncheon:
to be announced

12:30–2:30 P.M.—Children's Book Awards Luncheon:
María Dolores Águila, Brittany Cicchese, Megan Clendenan

12:30–5:30 P.M.—O, P, Q, R & S Sessions

5:45–7:00 P.M.—Special Interest Group Sessions

SUNDAY 11/22

8:00–11:00 A.M.—Registration & NCTE Central

7:00–8:45 A.M.—Children's Literature Assembly Breakfast: **Grace Lin**

7:00–8:45 A.M.—Affiliate Breakfast: **Jamal Cooks, Emily Kirkpatrick**

8:00–11:30 A.M.—Exhibits Open

8:15–11:45 A.M.—T, U & V Sessions

10:30 A.M.–12:00 P.M.—National Writing Project Brunch:
Writing Still Matters

12:00–1:15 P.M.—Closing General Session: **Tomi Adeyemi, Antero Garcia**

2:00–6:00 P.M.—CEL Annual Convention* & ALAN Workshop*

MONDAY 11/23

7:00–10:00 A.M.—Registration

8:00 A.M.–5:30 P.M.—CEL Annual Convention* & ALAN Workshop*

TUESDAY 11/24

8:00–11:00 A.M.—CEL Annual Convention*

**(see p. 17; additional registration required)*

Explore the list of
Convention sessions!



Welcome to Philadelphia

FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF TEACHERS OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Philadelphia offers a rich blend of history, culture, and modern attractions that make it an ideal destination for all educators seeking both inspiration and meaningful experiences. One of the most iconic areas to explore is Historic Old City, home to Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell. Walking through this district allows visitors to stand where the Declaration of Independence and the US Constitution were debated and signed. For teachers, this experience provides a tangible connection to American history that can easily translate into engaging classroom discussions and lessons.

Beyond its historical landmarks, Philadelphia is known for its world-class museums. The Philadelphia Museum of Art, famous for its “Rocky Steps,” houses an extensive collection spanning centuries and continents. Nearby, the Barnes Foundation offers a unique display of impressionist and post-impressionist works arranged in an unconventional, highly intentional format. Educators interested in science and innovation should consider visiting The Franklin Institute, where interactive exhibits make complex scientific concepts accessible and engaging—an approach many teachers may find inspiring for their own instruction.

Philadelphia also boasts vibrant neighborhoods that highlight the city’s cultural diversity. Reading Terminal Market is a must-visit destination, offering a wide variety of local and international cuisine in a lively indoor setting—perfect for a November visit. Meanwhile, areas such as South Street and Fishtown provide opportunities to explore local art, independent shops, and contemporary culture. These neighborhoods give visitors a broader understanding of the city beyond its colonial roots and showcase the dynamic communities that shape modern Philadelphia.

November is an especially pleasant time to visit, as cooler temperatures make walking tours comfortable and seasonal decorations begin to appear throughout the city. Educators may also find value in exploring educational institutions such as the University of Pennsylvania or Temple University, both of which contribute to the city’s strong academic atmosphere. Whether focusing on history, art, science, or culture, Philadelphia offers a wide range of experiences that can enrich educators professionally while providing memorable personal exploration. Welcome to the City of Brotherly Love!

Jordan Caldwell, PCTELA President
Amy Nyeholt, PCTELA Past President
#NCTE26 Local Committee Co-Chairs



Share your Convention stories this year!
#NCTE26



Pennsylvania Convention Center

Photo: ©PHLCVB



City Hall and Clothespin sculpture by Claes Oldenburg

Photo: ©PHLCVB



Signers' Hall at the National Constitution Center

Photo: ©PHLCVB



Thank You to Our Sponsors

NCTE would like to thank our current 2026 Annual Convention sponsors for their generous contributions and support of literacy education.

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Make Your Case to Attend

Why You Should Join Us at #NCTE26

The NCTE Annual Convention is the premier annual event for English language arts and literacy educators. Learn from experts and participate in sessions and workshops to improve your strategies for success. Meet educators from around the country and enjoy social and cultural events, explore the publisher booths in the Exhibit Hall and celebrate your colleagues in the awards ceremony. Share your challenges and victories with a community of English language arts professionals who are fighting the good fight alongside you. Don't miss this chance to communicate, collaborate, and create with fellow English language arts teachers and educators at the NCTE Annual Convention in Philadelphia.

Customize your learning: Within the more than 1,000 concurrent sessions, there are strands of programming dedicated to specific levels from preK through college. You can attend the sessions that are most relevant to your interests, aligned to the topics and issues that are most pressing to your professional setting or teaching level. Topics include, but are not limited to:

- intellectual freedom and censorship,
- reading in the digital age,
- innovative writing practices,
- support for preservice, new, and veteran teachers,
- inclusive teaching,
- using critical pedagogy to teach YA literature,
- antiracist teaching,
- leading the way to critical inquiry,
- writing in the age of AI,
- culturally sustaining texts,
- raising student voice through writing,
- early literacy and using picturebooks,
- nurturing student engagement through poetry, and
- so much more!

Bring the learning back: Develop bonds that lead to sustained professional learning groups in your school and across digital networks to embrace and implement the ideas gained during #NCTE26.

**Explore the list of
Convention sessions!**



Suggestions for Funding Your Convention

Directly ask your supervisor or administrator for funding/reimbursement by following these best practices:

Informally inquire about the possibility: *Example:* "NCTE's Annual Convention happens this November; it's the premier professional learning opportunity available for ELA educators. You can learn more about it on this website: convention.ncte.org. Attending is a way for me to meet leading teacher voices, research scholars, and authors to continue my growth in service of students and literacy. Can we find funds to support this important experience for me?"

State your case formally and intentionally: *Example:* A best practice is to lift up the anticipated impact that attending will have on your practice and that of your colleagues (by presenting back to them key takeaways from the professional learning upon returning), and therefore, on student achievement.

If not approved for full funding/reimbursement, **propose partial support:** *Example:* "I understand the reasons why fully funding this opportunity is not possible. Would you consider partially funding this PD for me so that I may still be able to attend?"

Plan your budget: You can get a very clear picture of exactly how much this event will cost by looking at the registration and hotel and travel pages on the Convention website.

Get creative and use **crowdfunding sources** to cover registration: The support for getting teachers the professional learning and experiences they deserve is out there—make public your wish to attend and explicitly state your need(s).



Registration

Become a Member & SAVE When You Register!



Registration for the 2026 NCTE Annual Convention includes access to all general sessions, concurrent sessions, any all-attendee gatherings, Special Interest Group events, the Now Screening film festival, featured sessions, and the Exhibit Hall.

Find the registration link on the Convention website:

convention.ncte.org

Student registration requires current NCTE student membership and valid proof of student status. To receive the Emeritus or Life rate, be sure you are currently an NCTE Emeritus or Life member.

Rates increase after October 7, 2026 (as shown below):

2026 NCTE ANNUAL CONVENTION (November 19–22)

NCTE Member	\$385	\$495 (after Oct. 7)
Nonmember	\$525	\$595 (after Oct. 7)
Student	\$170	\$190 (after Oct. 7)
Emeritus or Life	\$220	\$220 (after Oct. 7)

2026 ALAN WORKSHOP (November 22–23)

NCTE/ALAN Member	\$285	\$325 (after Oct. 7)
Nonmember	\$350	\$390 (after Oct. 7)
Student	\$130	\$150 (after Oct. 7)

2026 CEL ANNUAL CONVENTION (November 22–24)

CEL Member	\$300	\$315 (after Oct. 7)
NCTE Member	\$340	\$360 (after Oct. 7)
Nonmember	\$410	\$430 (after Oct. 7)

2026 WORKSHOPS (November 19)

NCTE Member	\$75
Nonmember	\$100

2026 MEAL EVENTS

ELATE Luncheon (Nov. 20)	\$75
Middle Level Section Luncheon (Nov. 20)	\$75
College Section Luncheon (Nov. 20)	\$75
ALAN Breakfast (Nov. 21)	\$52
Secondary Section Luncheon (Nov. 21)	\$75
Children's Book Awards Luncheon (Nov. 21)	\$75
Children's Literature Assembly Breakfast (Nov. 22)	\$51
Affiliate Breakfast (Nov. 22)	\$51
National Writing Project Brunch (Nov. 22)	\$51

Our registration fees are priced lower than most other national conventions, and they include admission to our large Exhibit Hall, which provides access to books and exclusive conversations with authors. There's so much to enjoy and learn at this premier event for the ELA community. Whether this is your first NCTE Convention or a home you've returned to for decades, we are eager to welcome you.

Bringing a Team?

We offer registration at a group discount rate of \$400 (\$530 after October 7) per person if a school or district sends 10 or more teachers and makes a single payment to cover the balance of the invoice. Every member of your team will return to work energized by what they've learned and ready to collaborate on implementing the new ideas. Contact **NCTEevents@ncte.org** for details.

Hotel & Travel

See the Hotel & Travel page on the Convention website for the hotels in Philadelphia with our special pricing, airline discounts, and other travel information: **convention.ncte.org/hotel-travel**

Reserve your room right away to receive our NCTE Convention discounted rates!

Early-bird pricing expires on **October 7**. The deadline for refunds for those unable to attend the Annual Convention is also October 7, 2026. Refunds will not be given after October 7, 2026.

Presenters are required to register for the Convention.

Questions? Contact NCTE Customer Service: 877-369-6283 or CustomerService@ncte.org.



General Sessions

OPENING GENERAL SESSION

THURSDAY | 11/19 | 4:00–5:15 P.M.

Margaret Atwood

Margaret Atwood is the author of more than 50 books of fiction, poetry, and critical essays. Her novels include *Cat's Eye*, *The Robber Bride*, *Alias Grace*, *The Blind Assassin*, and the MaddAddam trilogy. Her 1985 classic, *The Handmaid's Tale*, was followed in 2019 by a sequel, *The Testaments*, which was a global number one bestseller and won the Booker Prize.

Atwood has won numerous awards, including the Arthur C. Clarke Award for Imagination in Service to Society, the Franz Kafka Prize, the Peace Prize of the German Book Trade, the PEN America Lifetime Achievement Award, and the Dayton Literary Peace Prize. In 2019, she was made a member of the Order of the Companions of Honour for services to literature. She lives in Toronto, Canada.



Photo: Ruven Afanador

FRIDAY GENERAL SESSION

FRIDAY | 11/20 | 8:15–9:15 A.M.

Misty Copeland

Born in Kansas City, Missouri, and raised in San Pedro, California, **Misty Copeland** began her ballet studies at the late age of 13. At 15, she won first place in the Music Center Spotlight Awards. She studied at the San Francisco Ballet School and American Ballet Theatre's Summer Intensive on full scholarship and was declared ABT's National Coca-Cola Scholar in 2000. Copeland joined ABT's Studio Company in September 2000, joined American Ballet Theatre as a member of the corps de ballet in April 2001, and in August 2007 became the company's second African American female Soloist and the first in two decades. In June 2015, Copeland was promoted to principal dancer, making her the first African American woman to ever be promoted to the position in the company's 75-year history. Twenty-five years later, Copeland retired from the American Ballet Theatre with her final performance, on October 22, 2025.

She is the *New York Times* bestselling author of several books, including *Life in Motion*, *Ballerina Body*, *Black Ballerinas*, *The Wind at My Back*, and the picturebooks *Bunheads* and *Firebird*. Copeland recently released *Letters to Misty*, which shares her advice to young dancers, inspired by the letters she has received over the years. In 2022, she launched the Misty Copeland Foundation with its first signature program, *Be Bold*, which aims to bring greater diversity, equity, and inclusion to dance, especially ballet. Also in 2022, Copeland created her production company Life in Motion Productions and produced her short film *Flower*, telling a powerful story through dance and movement to highlight intergenerational equity in the community of Oakland, California. *Flower* premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival in 2023. In 2025, Copeland and Life in Motion Productions also produced *Match in a Haystack*, a short film about finding beauty during the war in Ukraine.

Copeland is an avid philanthropist and ambassador of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, of which she is also an alum. In 2021, Copeland was the recipient of the Spingarn Medal, the NAACP's highest honor, and in 2023, she received the Trailblazer Icon Award at The Griot Awards, was named to The Root 100 list, and was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts from New York University. Prior honors include *Glamour's* Women of the Year, Black Girls Rock! Awards, and *Time's* 100 Most Influential People.



Photo: Ottavia Giola

Speakers will be added to the Convention website as they are confirmed; see convention.ncte.org/speakers.

All times are Eastern Time.

SATURDAY GENERAL SESSION

SATURDAY | 11/21 | 9:45–10:45 A.M.

LeVar Burton

LeVar Burton is an actor, director, producer, educator, and author who has captivated audiences for decades. Best known for his groundbreaking role as Kunta Kinte in the landmark television series *Roots* and as Lieutenant Commander Geordi La Forge on *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, Burton has built a career defined by storytelling and advocacy for literacy.

As the beloved host and executive producer of the iconic PBS series *Reading Rainbow*, Burton inspired millions of children to discover the joy of reading over the show's 23-year run. His commitment to literacy continues through his work with the *LeVar Burton Kids* digital platform and his acclaimed podcast *LeVar Burton Reads*.

Burton's accolades include 15 Emmy Awards, a Peabody Award, a Grammy Award, and seven NAACP Image Awards. His 2023 documentary *The Right to Read* continues his lifelong mission of championing literacy as a fundamental right for all.

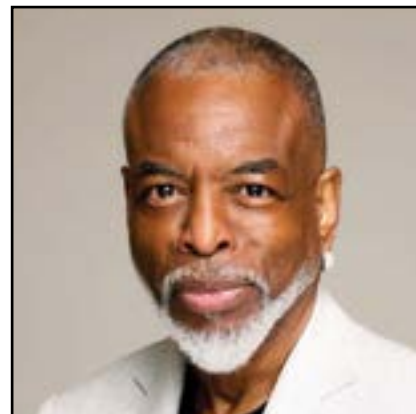


Photo: Paul Smith

SUNDAY GENERAL SESSION

SUNDAY | 11/22 | 12:00–1:15 P.M.

Tomi Adeyemi & Antero Garcia

Named one of *Time* magazine's 100 Most Influential People, **Tomi Adeyemi** is a Hugo and Nebula Award-winning writer, speaker, and model based in New York, New York. After graduating from Harvard University with an honors degree in English literature, she wrote her groundbreaking, instant #1 *New York Times* bestselling series, which includes *Children of Blood and Bone*, *Children of Virtue and Vengeance*, and *Children of Anguish and Anarchy*. The trilogy has sold over three million copies around the world.

Antero Garcia is a professor in the Graduate School of Education at Stanford University and current NCTE President. His research explores the possibilities of speculative imagination and healing in educational research. Prior to completing his PhD, Garcia was an English teacher at a public high school in South Central Los Angeles. He has authored or edited more than two dozen books about the possibilities of literacies, play, and civics in transforming schooling in America, including coediting the recent NCTE titles *Critical English Education: Enduring Voices*, *New Perspectives* and *Key Works in English Education, Volume 1* and *Volume 2*. Antero currently coedits *La Cuenta*, an online publication centering the voices and perspectives of individuals labeled undocumented in the US. Antero received his PhD in the Urban Schooling division of the Graduate School of Education and Information Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles.



Meal Events

Speakers will be added to the Convention website as they are confirmed; see convention.ncte.org/speakers.

College Section Luncheon

FRIDAY | 11/20 | 11:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M.

Natasha Singer

Natasha Singer has covered technology in schools for *The New York Times* for more than a decade. She is currently reporting on how tech giants like Google and OpenAI are urging schools to adopt AI tools while teachers are working to equip students to ask deeper questions about the societal impacts. In September, W.W. Norton will publish her book, *Coding Kids: Big Tech's Battle to Remake Public Schools*, which recounts the inside story of how tech companies catalyzed and ultimately came to capture computer science and AI education in America.



Photo: Bella Wang

Middle Level Section Luncheon

FRIDAY | 11/20 | 11:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M.

Nic Stone

Nic Stone is the author of many novels, including the #1 *New York Times* bestseller *Dear Martin*, its *New York Times* bestselling sequel, *Dear Justyce*, and the bestselling final installment, *Dear Manny*. Her middle-grades novels include *Clean Getaway*, a *New York Times* bestseller, and *Fast Pitch*, a YALSA Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers selection. Stone lives in Atlanta and will continue to write books that ruffle feathers.



Photo: Nigel Livingstone

ALAN Breakfast

SATURDAY | 11/21 | 7:00 – 9:15 A.M.

Elizabeth Acevedo

Elizabeth Acevedo is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Poet X*, which won the National Book Award for Young People's Literature, the Michael L. Printz Award, the Pura Belpré Award, the Carnegie Medal, the Boston Globe-Horn Book Award, and the Walter Award. She is also the author of *With the Fire on High*, named a best book of the year by the New York Public Library, NPR, *Publishers Weekly*, and *School Library Journal*, and *Clap When You Land*, a Boston Globe-Horn Book Honor book and a Kirkus Prize finalist. She holds a BA in performing arts from the George Washington University and an MFA in creative writing from the University of Maryland. Acevedo has been a fellow of Cave Canem and CantoMundo, and a participant in the Callaloo Creative Writing Workshops. She is a National Poetry Slam champion and resides in Washington, DC, with her family.



Tickets for meal events can be purchased at registration: convention.ncte.org/registration.

All times are Eastern Time.

Children's Book Awards Luncheon

SATURDAY | 11/21 | 12:30–2:30 P.M.

María Dolores Águila, Megan Clendenan, Brittany Cicchese

María Dolores Águila is a Chicana poet and author from San Diego, California. Deeply inspired by Chicane history and art, she seeks to write empowering and inclusive stories about everything she learns. Her middle grades novel-in-verse, *A Sea of Lemon Trees*, was named a Newbery Honor Book and a Pura Belpré Award Honor Book, and the winner of the Charlotte Huck Award® for Outstanding Fiction for Children, the Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction, the Jane Addams Children's Book Award, and other accolades.

Megan Clendenan has worked for nonprofit organizations focused on environmental law, women's empowerment, and urban food security. As a writer, she loves topics that explore the connections between history, society, and the environment. She is the author of a number of books, including *Just In Case: Saving Seeds in the Svalbard Global Seed Vault*; *Fresh Air, Clean Water: Our Right to a Healthy Environment*; and *Cities: How Humans Live Together*. Clendenan loves speaking with readers at festivals, schools, and libraries. She lives near Vancouver, British Columbia, where she enjoys growing vegetables in her backyard as well as spending time with her family in the forest near her home.

Brittany Cicchese enjoys capturing emotion above all else, from expressive portraits to moody illustrations. She is the illustrator of *The Kitten Story: A Mostly True Tale* and *No More Señora Mimi*. When Cicchese isn't sketching or writing, you can find her working at the library, reading a good fantasy or sci-fi book, or hiking around the beautiful Rocky Mountains. She lives in Denver, Colorado.



MARÍA DOLORES ÁGUILA
Charlotte Huck Award-winning author



MEGAN CLENDENAN
Orbis Pictus Award-winning author

Photo: Dave Clendenan



Share your Convention stories this year!
#NCTE26

Explore the list of
Convention sessions!



BRITTANY CICHESE
Orbis Pictus Award-winning illustrator

Photo: Joe Cicchese

Meal Events

Speakers will be added to the Convention website as they are confirmed; see convention.ncte.org/speakers.

Children's Literature Assembly Breakfast

SUNDAY | 11/22 | 7:00–8:45 A.M.

Grace Lin

Grace Lin is the award-winning and bestselling author and illustrator of *Chinese Menu*, *When the Sea Turned to Silver*, *Starry River of the Sky*, *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*, *The Year of the Dog*, *The Year of the Rat*, *Dumpling Days*, and *Ling & Ting*, as well as picturebooks such as *The Ugly Vegetables*, *A Big Bed for Little Snow*, and *A Big Mooncake for Little Star*. Lin is a graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design and lives in Massachusetts.



Photo: Blue Lo

Affiliate Breakfast

SUNDAY | 11/22 | 7:00–8:45 A.M.

Jamal Cooks and Executive Director Emily Kirkpatrick

Jamal A. Cooks is the president of Chabot College in Hayward, California, where he champions access, justice, and excellence in education. As Vice President of NCTE, he brings a vision grounded in decades of scholarship, mentorship, and advocacy to amplify voices, promote inclusive literacy practices, and advance the field for future generations. He has been a committed leader and contributor to NCTE for three decades, serving as a Rainbow Strand member, a Cultivating New Voices among Scholars of Color mentee, the Co-Chair of the Black Caucus of NCTE, and member of numerous key committees, including the NCTE Committee on Research, the Conference on English Leadership, and the David H. Russell Award for Distinguished Research in the Teaching of English Committee.

His commitment to equity, research, and representation is highlighted by being an NCTE Richard W. Halle Award for Outstanding Middle Level Educator winner. A prolific scholar, he has coedited volumes such as *The Black Excellence Collective: A 10×10 Model for Academic and Student Success for Black Students* (Chabot College) and *Urban Middle Literacies (Voices from the Middle)*. His work in adolescent literacy and culturally relevant pedagogy has appeared in leading NCTE journals including *English Journal* and *Voices from the Middle*.

Emily Kirkpatrick is a transformational leader who has dedicated her career to public service and civic engagement, specifically the creation of human-centric efforts to advance literacy and asserting the expertise of women in leadership positions. The partnerships she has created and sustained span international philanthropists, national media, authors, creative communities, and large networks of educators. Her achievements have drawn commendations from *Time* magazine, *CBS Sunday Morning*, *TODAY*, and beyond.

She is active in the International Women's Forum and the American Council of Learned Societies and has served on the public policy committee for the American Society for Association Executives, the Visioning Panel for the National Association of Educational Progress (NAEP), as a judge for the Stronger Democracy Challenge and The Trust in America's Institutions Challenge, and as a board member of the Trust for Insuring Educators. She earned her MBA from Bellarmine University, her BA from Centre College, and a Certificate in Public Leadership from Harvard's Kennedy School.



Tickets for meal events can be purchased at registration: convention.ncte.org/registration.

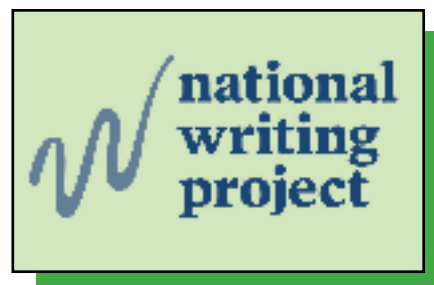
All times are Eastern Time.

NWP Brunch

SUNDAY | 11/22 | 10:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Writing Still Matters

How do we cultivate confident writers when AI tools draft and summarize instantly? Come brunch with the National Writing Project and celebrate writing as a deeply human act of thinking, meaning-making and civic participation. Learn what more than 50 years of practice and research tell us about building “author”ity and agency positioning writers as critical decisionmakers and designers of our work.



See convention.ncte.org/speakers for information on additional Meal Events

ELATE Luncheon

FRIDAY | 11/20 | 11:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M.

Secondary Section Luncheon

SATURDAY | 11/21 | 12:30 – 2:30 P.M.



New teaching ideas can inspire you, whether you're new to the profession or have decades of experience! NCTE's Classroom Idea Exchange will connect you with other literacy educators to share and receive best instructional practices. This unique event centers teacher expertise and facilitates the inspiring and affirming exchange of ideas that is the hallmark of our vibrant professional community.

The Classroom Idea Exchange is an opportunity for new classroom teachers, experienced teachers, and those preparing to become teachers to hear from presenters about what engages their students.

Presenters will have five minutes to share a specific lesson, activity, or assignment. Attendees will walk away with concrete and easily integrated teaching ideas for activities, assignments, or classroom planning.

Join us on Sunday, November 22, for the Classroom Idea Exchange!

Workshops

Dig Deeper into Topics with a Thursday Workshop

These four-hour sessions provide rich and interactive learning experiences focused on a single topic.

Enrollment is limited, so register early! Complete workshop descriptions can be found when you register and on the Convention website: convention.ncte.org/workshops

Thursday, November 19, 8:00 A.M.–12:00 P.M.

- W.1 A Coaching Laboratory: Practicing Conversations and Building Structures That Strengthen Collective Efficacy and Innovation
- W.2 AI and the Art of Teaching Writing to Humans
- W.3 AI for Literacy in the Secondary Classroom: Tools, Ethics, and Instructional Routines That Strengthen Reading and Writing
- W.4 Anyone Can Wear the Mask: Critical and Innovative Approaches to Teaching Superhero Texts in ELA
- W.5 Are You Getting By or Getting Better? How to Increase Your Learning and Accelerate Your Development
- W.6 Beyond the Curriculum: Bridging Language Acquisition Research and Scripted Instruction
- W.7 Build Your Stack® Reading Room—Graphic Novels
- W.8 Centering Peace, Empathy, and Community Action through Nonviolent Communication
- W.9 Embracing the Science of Reading through Fugitive Literacies: Imagining beyond Compliance
- W.10 Hip Hop as Humanities: Counterstories for the Canon, Classroom, and Country Workshop
- W.11 Historicizing the Novels We Read: Engaging Historical Sources to Inspire Democracy and Reimagine Literature
- W.12 Illuminating Places of the Past and Creating a Vision for the Future through Place-Based and Justice-Oriented Literacy Practices: Walking & Writing in Philadelphia
- W.13 Imagining Multilingual Futures: Translanguaging to Inspire All Learners
- W.14 Innovating ELA Instruction with AI and Interactive Digital Tools
- W.15 Literacy IS a Restorative Practice: Building Community and Justice through Reading and Writing
- W.16 Philadelphia Writing Marathon
- W.17 Photos as Witness: Teaching Visual Literacy for Research and Social Action
- W.18 Progress over Perfection: Encouraging Students to Think, Question, Write, and Revise
- W.19 Situating Early Literacy in Social, Historical, and Cultural Contexts: Teaching and Affirming African American Learners from Birth through Age Eight
- W.20 Teaching Indigenous Literature for All Students: Responsible Representations and Culturally Affirming Practices
- W.21 What Stories Can Students Best Tell? Media Literacy through Multimedia Journalism with WHYY and PBS News Student Reporting Labs



Share your Convention stories this year!
#NCTE26

**Explore the list of
Convention sessions!**





CEL Annual Convention • November 22–24

Integrated Leadership: Bridging Literacy and English

This year's Conference on English Leadership (CEL) Annual Convention invites participants to explore the dynamic intersections, tensions, and opportunities that arise when we work to integrate leadership across literacy and English. While younger students focus primarily on building foundational and content area literacy skills, the emphasis shifts as students advance through grade levels, with disciplinary literacy skills within specific subject areas becoming increasingly prominent. With this arc in mind, how can leaders create coherence between literacy instruction and English teaching while honoring their distinctions? What strategies build collaborative cultures among elementary and secondary teachers, literacy coaches, curriculum designers, college professors, and instructional leaders? And how can school, district, and state leaders guide the work of literacy and English to strengthen learning, honor differences, and respond to today's complex educational challenges?

Sessions will offer practical tools and research-based practices to help CEL Convention attendees think deeply and act courageously at the intersection of English and literacy leadership.

Register today for the
2026 CEL Annual Convention:
ncte.org/groups/cel/convention/



TRICIA EBARVIA

DON'T MISS OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Monday, Nov. 23, 8:30–9:30 A.M.: Tricia Ebarvia, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at a preschool–8 independent school in Philadelphia; a cofounder of #DisruptTexts and cofounder/director of the Institute for Racial Equity in Literacy (IREL)

Monday, Nov. 23, 2:20–3:20 P.M.: Jenelle Williams, a literacy consultant at Oakland Schools, an intermediate school district supporting 28 districts in Oakland County, Michigan



JENELLE WILLIAMS

ALAN Workshop November 22–23 *Forging New Futures*

Young adult literature has been instrumental in expanding our collective imagination about youth—their lived experiences, their identities, and the roles they (could) play in society. In recent years, however, a resurgence of anti-immigrant, anti-Black, anti-Asian, and anti-LGBTQ sentiments, to name a few, alongside widespread censorship, has threatened the stories and practices that help us cultivate an all-embracing understanding of human experiences.

The 2026 ALAN Workshop theme, “Forging New Futures,” invites youth librarians, teachers, teacher educators, and researchers to dream up vibrant new futures with, for, and about young people. What YA books help readers (re)imagine who they can be in the world and what that world could look like? What paths can we forge to lead us to futures where educators and youth alike can thrive?



Register for the ALAN Workshop (the first 250 registrants receive a box of books!) on the NCTE Convention
Registration page: convention.ncte.org/registration

Elementary

Teachers of Our Younger Students Will Find Plenty to Explore at #NCTE26

From incredible authors and illustrators to the leading experts and innovators in our field, every hour is packed with sessions designed just for elementary teachers. And every session will find you sitting next to other teachers who are just as passionate about early literacy as you are.

What If I Work in Early Childhood? Will There Be Something for Me?

Absolutely! The latest and greatest in early literacy education can be found in the Early Childhood Education strand. These sessions are specially curated by the Early Childhood Education Assembly of NCTE and focus specifically on issues and strategies for teaching and advocating for preschool and early elementary-age children.

See Also the New & Early Career Teacher Strand

Search the Convention app and see the Convention program for sessions in the New & Early Career Teacher Strand. These sessions focus on highlighting issues for new teachers and celebrating those in the early years of their profession. Recognizing that teachers today take various paths to the classroom, these sessions will answer questions and offer strategies specifically curated for new and early career teachers and those who support them.



What Kinds of Sessions Can I Attend?

Over the course of the Convention, there are nearly 300 sessions designated for the elementary level, but you might be surprised at the ideas you can glean from sessions at EVERY level. Here are just a few of the topics:

- Think Like a Scientist, Write Like a Poet: Using Picturebook Biographies to Inspire STEM and Language Arts Learning
- How Picturebooks Strengthen Reading Identity and Elevate Student Writing
- Gateways to Literacy: Early Reader Graphic Novels That Imagine, Innovate, and Inspire
- From Classroom to Corridor: Supporting Teachers as Writers and Storytellers for NCTE's Classroom Corridors
- Illuminate and Inspire: Innovative Ways to Harness the Power of Poetry in Your Classroom
- Celebrating Diverse Stories: Books and Strategies to Illuminate Inclusive Communities and Inspire Children
- Exploring Complex Family Relationships through the Lens of Children's Novels
- Nonfiction Empowers: Sparking the Literacies, Imaginations, and Innovations of Black and Latine Youth
- Making Meaning in Maker Spaces: Playful, Multimodal Literacy Learning in PreK–6 Classrooms
- Author Visits under Attack: How Teachers Can Host Awesome Events in the Face of Challenges
- Immigration Narratives in Youth Literature
- Reimagining Reading Assessment: Using AI to Understand Readers and Respond to What They Need
- Using Various Author Works from First Draft to Final Text to Inspire Student Writing, Revision, and Literary Analysis
- AI Isn't Replacing Thinking: How Teachers Use SchoolAI to Deepen Literacy, Engagement, and Student Agency
- "We Can't Do This on Our Own": Reflecting on How to Inspire Innovative School Librarian-Teacher Collaborations
- Stories That Count: Reimagining Culturally Responsive Teaching across Literacy and Mathematics

Literacies and Languages for All (LLA)

There is a strand of sessions at #NCTE26 chosen by leaders of LLA, an NCTE Conference of holistic educators who believe that ALL children deserve personally meaningful learning contexts in which their languages and cultures are valued and recognized as assets for learning. LLA sessions focus on whole language theory and practice. They push understandings of critical literacy, inquiry, and collaborative learning, and integrate literacy with other sign systems and knowledge systems situated in social, historical, political, and cultural contexts. Learn more about LLA: ncte.org/groups/lla



Experience

ELEMENTARY FAVORITES:

Elementary Section Get-Together / Thursday, Nov. 19, 5:30–7:00 P.M.

Hear from NCTE's elected leaders who represent the NCTE Elementary Section, from keynote speakers **Traci Todd** and **Vashti Harrison**, and from the winner of the 2026 Outstanding Elementary Educator Award. Read more about the award: ncte.org/awards/outstanding-educator-elementary

Children's Book Awards Luncheon / Saturday, Nov. 21, 12:30–2:30 P.M.

The 2026 winners of the Charlotte Huck Award® for Outstanding Fiction for Children and the Orbis Pictus Award® for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children will be honored: authors and illustrators **María Dolores Águila**, **Megan Clendenan**, and **Brittany Cicchese**. Then, the 2027 award winners will be announced live! Read more about the awards: ncte.org/awards/ncte-childrens-book-awards

Children's Literature Assembly Breakfast / Sunday, Nov. 22, 7:00–8:45 A.M.

Hear from children's book author **Grace Lin** during this popular Convention event. Read more about the Assembly: childrensliteratureassembly.org



Share your Convention stories this year!
#NCTE26



Middle Level

There Is So Much Happening in the Middle Level at NCTE

From Section-specific events to a thoughtfully chosen program, you'll notice an energized focus on crafting sessions that speak to the complexities of teaching students in the middle grades and bringing leading authors and educators to the podium. Discover new ideas, new tools, and new friends!

Don't Miss the New & Early Career Teacher Strand

Search the Convention app and see the Convention program for sessions in the New & Early Career Teacher Strand. These sessions focus on highlighting issues for new teachers and celebrating those in the early years of their profession. Recognizing that teachers today take various paths to the classroom, these sessions will answer questions and offer strategies specifically curated for new and early career teachers and those who support them.



What Kinds of Sessions Can I Attend?

Throughout the Convention there are more than 400 sessions designated of interest to middle level educators, but you'll find plenty of interest at other levels as well. Among the topics are the following:

- The Missing Middle: Stories and Strategies for Navigating the Pipeline from High School to College Writing Success
- From Paper to Process: Reimagining Research as a Creative, Authentic Journey
- Youth Truth: Examining Trends and Imagining Possibilities for Teaching with Young Adult Nonfiction
- A Novel Approach: Unlocking Student Voice and Engagement through Independent Reading
- Beyond Bans and Bots: Literacy-Centered Approaches to AI in English Classrooms
- Collaborative School Communities: Reimagining Teacher and Student Learning
- Imagining Monsters: How Horror Illuminates the Past, Present, and Future for Middle School Readers
- Level Up ELA: How Games Scaffold, Differentiate, and Engage All K-12 Learners
- Pride in Comics: Teaching Queer Stories with Graphic Novels
- Teachers as Readers: Cultivating Book Love with YA Authors and Each Other
- Utilizing Spoken Word Poetry in the Classroom: Developing Written and Oral Literacy through Poetic Self-Discovery
- Fifty Books in 50 Minutes: Guaranteed to Inspire, Spark the Imagination, and Promote Innovation
- Kids as Literacy Leaders: Engaging Communities through Student-Led Book Clubs
- Innovating through the Limitless Possibilities of Gaming
- Reimagining the Power of Book Clubs: Collaborating across Your School to Build a Community of Readers
- When Quizzes Aren't Working and Grades Don't Motivate: Poetry as Assessment



Register by October 7 to take advantage of early-bird pricing; see convention.ncte.org/registration

Experience

MIDDLE LEVEL FAVORITES:

MIDDLE LEVEL MEET-UP / THURSDAY, NOV. 19, 5:30–7:00 P.M.

Kick off your Convention experience with this gathering of middle level attendees that features speakers and the chance to hear from Section leaders.

ALAN AT NCTE: Hear from author **Elizabeth Acevedo** during this much-loved ALAN Breakfast event on **Saturday, Nov. 21, 7:00–9:15 a.m.** If you're looking for even deeper immersion in YA lit, you might enjoy the ALAN Workshop, "Forging New Futures," **Sunday–Monday, Nov. 22–23.** The first 250 registrants will get a box of books! Both of these events can be added when you register for the Convention.



MIDDLE LEVEL LUNCHEON / FRIDAY, NOV. 20, 11:30 A.M.–1:30 P.M.

This event will feature keynote speaker author **Nic Stone**, award presentations, and announcements from leaders of the Middle Level Section.

#MAKERSINTHEMIDDLE is a series of incredible learning experiences on the program. This year's sessions include:

- Co-Creating Inclusive and Critical Literacy Instruction in the Classroom
- Interdisciplinary and Project-Based Approaches to Literacy Instruction
- Problems and Practices: Engaging Middle Level Community in Reading, Writing, and Creating around Issues That Matter
- Imagining Possibility, Innovating Practice, Inspiring Change—The Middle Level Mosaic



**Explore the list of
Convention sessions!**



Secondary

NCTE's Secondary Section Has Selected a Program with the Best Professional Learning You'll Ever Find

Whether you love teaching poetry, Shakespeare, graphic novels, critical literacy, choice reading, disciplinary writing, or some other specialty of grades 9–12, this Convention is rich with learning experiences for you. You'll also be surrounded by a giant network of colleagues you'll want to stay connected to all year long!

Watch for the New & Early Career Teacher Strand

Search the Convention app and see the Convention program for sessions in the New & Early Career Teacher Strand. These sessions focus on highlighting issues for new teachers and celebrating those in the early years of their profession. Recognizing that teachers today take various paths to the classroom, these sessions will answer questions and offer strategies specifically curated for new and early career teachers and those who support them.



Share your Convention stories this year!
#NCTE26

What Kinds of Sessions Can I Attend?

More than 500 sessions on the Convention program are designated for the secondary level. Here are just a few of the topics that will be covered:

- What If We Graded for Growth? Reclaiming Process, Risk, and Identity in Student Writing
- Beyond Elementary: When Workshop Moves to the High School English Classroom
- AI Isn't Replacing Thinking: How Teachers Use SchoolAI to Deepen Literacy, Engagement, and Student Agency
- Radical Girlhoods: Crafting Latina Narratives of Becoming, Belonging, and Beyond
- From Cringe to Creative Breakthrough: Engaging Young Men as Readers and Writers
- Building Curious Minds and Courageous Citizens through News Literacy
- From Page to Practice: Using YA Novels as Mentor Texts for Novice Writers
- Against Silence: YA/MG Authors and Educators on Censorship, Free Speech, and Social Action
- Reimagining the "Reading Rug": Using Picturebooks to Foster Curiosity and Critical Thinking in Secondary ELA Classrooms
- Building Bots: Designing AI Agents as Writing Coaches
- When Talking about the News Isn't Enough: How News and Media Literacy Build Critical Thinking and Civic Engagement in Today's World
- Making Texts Accessible: Promoting Reading Engagement in High School English Classes
- Reading Requires Books: Imagining a More Hopeful Future for Teachers Navigating Censorship
- Beyond AP Literature: Critical (Re-)Reading, Writing, Creation, and Remix
- The Grief No One Names: Teaching Ambiguous Loss through YA Literature
- From Recipe to Remix: Chaos Cooking and Innovation in the Writing Classroom
- That One Poem: The Lessons and Verses That Ignite Inspiration
- Choosing the Right Texts: Creativity in Selecting and Engaging Students in Literature
- From Apps to AI: Innovative Practices to Illuminate Literacy Skills to Empower Their Futures
- Inspiring Joy: Activities for Implementing Joyful Literacies Pedagogy in Secondary English Language Arts

I'm a School Principal—Are There Sessions for Me?

Yes! This Convention is rich with learning experiences for everyone who supports literacy learning both in and outside the school. If you're an instructional leader searching for the maximum learning experience, you'll also want to take advantage of the offerings from NCTE's Conference on English Leadership (CEL) Annual Convention, "Integrated Leadership: Bridging Literacy and English," Sunday–Tuesday, Nov. 22–24. Learn more: ncte.org/groups/cel/convention



Experience

SECONDARY LEVEL FAVORITES:

SECONDARY SECTION GET-TOGETHER / THURSDAY, NOV. 19, 5:30–7:00 P.M.

Meet members of the Secondary Section Steering Committee, hear Section updates and award announcements, gather with friends and colleagues over appetizers, and hear from keynote speaker **Dave Eggers**.

HIGH SCHOOL MATTERS

The NCTE Secondary Section has selected several sessions for its “High School Matters” series:

- IRL: Inspiring Positive Reading Relationships in the Age of AI
- Feds Watching: Teaching Critical Literacy in Surveiled Spaces
- From Cringe to Creative Breakthrough: Engaging Young Men as Readers and Writers
- Pride in Comics: Teaching Queer Stories with Graphic Novels
- From Dice Rolls to Drafts: Engaging Students in Narrative through *Dungeons & Dragons*
- Children of the Page: Comparatively Analyzing the Music of Ozzy Osbourne and Black Sabbath with Sophocles’ *Antigone* and Cormac McCarthy’s *The Road*
- The Impact of Censorship on Black Female Language Arts Teachers in Florida
- Portraits of the Past: Connecting Genealogy to Research and Narrative Writing
- Songs That Inspire Deep Reading: Music as Literature in a High School English Classroom

ALAN at NCTE

Hear from author **Elizabeth Acevedo** during this much-loved ALAN Breakfast event on **Saturday, Nov. 21, 7:00–9:15 a.m.** If you’re looking for even deeper immersion in YA lit, you might enjoy the ALAN Workshop, “Forging New Futures,” **Sunday–Monday, Nov. 22–23**. The first 250 registrants will get a box of books! Both of these events can be added when you register for the Convention.



SECONDARY SECTION LUNCHEON / SATURDAY, NOV. 21, 12:30–2:30 P.M.

This event will feature a keynote speaker, award presentations, and announcements from leaders of the Secondary Section.



NCTE's College Section Represents a Wide Diversity of Experiences, Reflected by a Variety of Convention Offerings

You'll find sessions pertinent to teaching English in the two-year college, assessment in composition courses, first-year writing, and current research in the field. If you teach college English, you'll be intrigued by a range of interesting sessions on composition, literature, reading, and communication. There's truly something for everyone!

"College Conversations: Learning, Community, and Connections"

Sponsored by the NCTE College Section, this roundtable session is an opportunity, especially for faculty and instructors who teach at the college level, to be in community and share pedagogical insights and responsive teaching practices on a broad variety of ideas that guide postsecondary teaching and learning. This new event, **Saturday, Nov. 21, 4:15-5:30 p.m.**, is for faculty and instructors teaching at four-year colleges and universities, community colleges, and other open-access institutions, as well as those who teach in part-time or dual enrollment settings.

"Leaders of NCTE's College Section have been working diligently this year to provide fresh, dedicated Annual Convention programming that uniquely supports our members in postsecondary," said Jonathan Bush, chair of NCTE's College Section Steering Committee. "We are thrilled to establish this new tradition for college educators!"

New This Year! Sessions in the Community College Strand

Search the Convention app and see the Convention program for sessions in the new Community College Strand. These sessions connect community college instructors to pedagogy-rich content, including sessions on literature, literacy, and student success alongside composition-centered proposals. Sessions embrace college faculty who work at open-admission type institutions, with first- and second-year or non-traditional students, and in student support roles. Sessions may also support conversations between secondary teachers and community college faculty, noting the crossover in roles and student populations.

What Kinds of Sessions Can I Attend?

Throughout the Convention there are more than 200 sessions designated of interest to college-level educators. Here are a few of the topics:

- Not Just for Kids: Picturebook Read-Alouds in the College Classroom
- Start before the Semester Begins: Cultivating Belonging in the Community College Classroom
- Beyond Curriculum: How the Writing Center Allows Both Students and Faculty to Imagine, Innovate, and Inspire
- Should You "Cite" AI? New Guidance from the MLA
- The Missing Middle: Stories and Strategies for Navigating the Pipeline from High School to College Writing Success
- It's a Win-Win Situation: Cultivating University & School Partnerships
- Beyond the Workshop: Inspiring Career Readiness through Creative Writing Education in Community Colleges
- Engaging Writers Where They Live: Community Centered Composition
- A More Just Future in College English Teaching: Counterstory as a Tool for Teaching Writers
- Writing Feedback That Inspires Risk-Taking and Revision
- Eight Great Living Writers Who Illuminate the Darkness
- Third Space Writing Instruction: What Does it Take to Support Dual Credit Composition Instruction?
- Continuing Conversations on Dual-Enrolled Student Learners in FYC

I'm a Teacher Educator—Are There Sessions for Me?

Of course! The English Language Arts Teacher Educators (ELATE) group puts together a special program with hundreds of sessions for those who are engaged in the preparation, support, and continuing education of teachers of English language arts/literacy. Sample session topics include:

- Inspiring Preservice English Teachers to Thrive in an AI-Mediated Writing World
- Teaching as Human Work: Inspiring a Mentorship Network through Relationships, Not Evaluation
- Dynamic Author/Illustrator Duos: Imagination, Inspiration, Intentions & Interplay
- This Is What Effective AI Integration Looks Like!
- Inspiring Possibilities for Change: Supports and Obstacles to Justice-Centered Teaching across the United States
- Beyond Bans and Bots: Literacy-Centered Approaches to AI in English Classrooms
- From Banned Books to Brave Teaching: Preservice Teachers Imagine Literary Futures
- Socially Engaged Art as Innovative and Critical Literacy Practice
- Recurring Conversations: Innovative Practices from across the History of English Education
- Where Writers Grow: Transformative Composition Pedagogies That Foster Community and Connection

Experience

See Also: Sessions in the New & Early Career Teacher Strand

Search the Convention app and see the Convention program for sessions in the New & Early Career Teacher Strand. These sessions focus on highlighting issues for new teachers and celebrating those in the early years of their profession. Recognizing that teachers today take various paths to the classroom, these sessions will answer questions and offer strategies specifically curated for new and early career teachers and those who support them.

COLLEGE LEVEL FAVORITES:

COLLEGE SECTION GET-TOGETHER / THURSDAY, NOV. 19, 5:30–7:00 P.M.

Meet members of the College Section Steering Committee, hear Section updates and award announcements, gather with friends and colleagues over appetizers, and hear from a keynote speaker.

COLLEGE SECTION LUNCHEON / FRIDAY, NOV. 20, 11:30 A.M.–1:30 P.M.

Join your community college and university faculty colleagues for this luncheon that will include a keynote address by **Natasha Singer**.

ELATE LUNCHEON / FRIDAY, NOV. 20, 11:30 A.M.–1:30 P.M.

Celebrate the accomplishments of ELATE (English Language Arts Teacher Educators) members and enjoy a keynote address.



COLLEGE SECTION WORKSHOP / FRIDAY, NOV. 20, 3:30–4:45 P.M.

Join us for an immersive learning experience for college teachers: "College Teachers Teaching Reading: Practical Strategies for Postsecondary Readers."

What about Research?

Each year the Annual Convention features a carefully selected set of sessions devoted entirely to current research in the field, bringing together different perspectives on critical issues. You will be able to search the Research Strand on our online list of sessions to explore more than 200 sessions.

- Black Boys' Joy in the Living Room: Limitless Possibilities for Humanizing Research
- From Research to Practice: Using AI to Support Writing Instruction
- Critical Witnessing in Literacy: Story, Representation, and Power
- Imagining Aesthetic Reflection to Promote Grade 7 Reading Engagement: An Action Research Study
- Challenging Classroom and Community Censorship through Research, Practice, and Action
- From Hype to Practice: Research Findings on AI-Supported ELA Instruction
- Hacking the Teaching-Research Relationship
- Equity in Learning through AI Literacy
- Fifty Years of Becoming Teachers of Writing: What Qualitative Research Reveals about the NWP Invitational Institute
- Teacher-Researchers Come Together for Social Action: Illuminating Pathways for Championing Change in Challenging Times
- Our Group, a Research Collaborative: Explorations into Alternative Schools, Literacy, and Multilingualism





Navigating the Exhibit Hall

Every year our attendees tell us that browsing the Exhibit Hall and meeting authors are two of their favorite activities during the Annual Convention!

The Exhibit Hall is filled with the latest and greatest books and other classroom resources. You'll have the chance to pick up advance reading copies (ARCs) and get books signed by your and your students' favorite authors. You can talk with publishers about what's new for the classroom and pick up texts to share with colleagues. Our attendees find all kinds of amazing ways to bring the treasures they find in the Exhibit Hall back to their classrooms.

The Convention Program and Convention App will both include maps of the Exhibit Hall for maximum planning efficiency. Watch for the Meet the Authors booklet (available online and onsite) to find out when your favorite authors will be appearing. And be sure to stop by the Build Your Stack® area (see p. 27) to learn from your peers about the best books for your classroom.

Tips for Visiting the Exhibit Hall

Plan your trip in advance. If you want to get a book signed by a popular author, the line may be long, so you'll either want to arrive early or plan to stay for some time.

Pack your travel bag inside a larger bag so you will have one empty bag for carting home books. The Convention Center also has a shipping center to make it easy to box up your finds and send them home.

You can get access to all kinds of freebies, drawings, and other opportunities if you choose to join mailing lists for vendors. Your name badge will have a QR code on the back that can be easily scanned to add your information to giveaway lists.

Talk to the publishers about what texts they're excited about. Some will be sharing copies of books that aren't even out yet. Others may put a previously unknown treasure in your hands.

EXHIBIT HALL HOURS

(located in Hall A, 200 Level)

Friday: 10:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M.

Saturday: 11:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M.

Sunday: 8:00–11:30 A.M.

STOP BY NCTE CENTRAL

(near the NCTE Registration Desk in the Pennsylvania Convention Center) to browse the newest titles and older favorites from NCTE, pick up a sample journal or two, see our new gift items, and talk with NCTE publications staff members.

Wednesday, 11/18: 4:00–7:00 P.M.

Thursday, 11/19: 6:30 A.M.–6:00 P.M.

Friday, 11/20: 6:30 A.M.–6:00 P.M.

Saturday, 11/21: 6:30 A.M.–6:00 P.M.

Sunday, 11/22: 8:00–11:00 A.M.

Visit the Exhibit Hall floor plan to start planning your visit!



Who will be there?

Explore the Exhibit Hall and connect with publishers, organizations, and partners offering resources, ideas, and solutions to support your work.

2026 Exhibitors

List current as of August 28, 2026

30-Minute Shakespeare
ABRAMS - The Art of Books
ACMRS Press - Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies
American College of Education
American Psychological Association (APA)
Astra Books for Young Readers
Ayn Rand Institute
Bedford, Freeman & Worth High School Publishers
Benchmark Education
Bloomsbury Children's Books
Books Across America
Candlewick Press/Holiday House/Peachtree Publishing Company
Capstone
Capti
Carnegie Learning
Center for the Art of Translation and Words without Borders Campus
Charlesbridge Publishing
Cherry Lake Publishing Group
Children's Literature Assembly of NCTE
Chronicle Books
Columbia Southern University
Combined Book Exhibit
CommonLit
Corwin
Cosmic Writers
Curriculum Associates
Daffodil Hill Press
DBQ Project
Diffit for Teachers
Disney Publishing Worldwide
Dreamline
Eastpoint Global Limited
Echoes & Reflections
Eerdmans Books for Young Readers
Epic Books for Kids
Facing History & Ourselves
Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression (FIRE)
Gareth Hinds
Hachette Book Group
HarperCollins Children's Books
Heinemann
A High School English Teacher's Guide
IMSE - Institute for Multi-Sensory Education
I'm Your Neighbor Books
Ingram Academic & Professional Books
Inquiry By Design
The Island Writer

Joyful Reading Company
The Juice Learning
Kiddom
Latinx KidLit Book Festival
Lerner Publishing Group
Little, Brown Books for Young Readers
Mackin
Macmillan Academic
Macmillan Children's Publishing Group
Membean
Middlebury Bread Loaf School of English
Modern Language Association
myShakespeare
National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA)
National English Honor Society for Secondary Schools
National Writing Projects at Community Initiatives
Newsela
NoRedInk
Norton High School
Orca Book Publishers
People's History in the Digital Age
Penguin Random House
Perfection Learning
Perma-Bound Books
Polyphony Lit
Prestwick House
Process Feedback
ProHuman Foundation
Publisher Spotlight - a service of Myrick Marketing

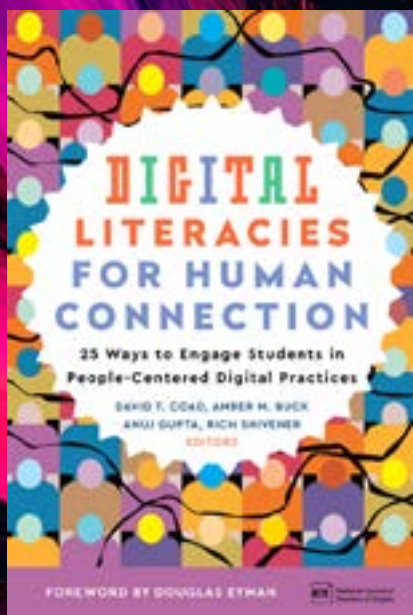
Quill.org
The Reading & Writing Project at Mossflower
Red Comet Press
Retro Report
The Right Question Institute
Rise Up Foundation
Savannah College of Art & Design
Savvas Learning Company
SCBWI Pennsylvania East and New England
Scholastic
Scriblit
Selected Readings Editions
The Shakespeare Oxford Fellowship
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Simon & Schuster
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