50TH ANNIVERSARY!

GEORGIA CHILDREN’S BOOK AWARDS & CONFERENCE ON CHILDREN’S LITERATURE

MARCH 29-30, 2019 | UGA CENTER FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION & HOTEL, ATHENS, GA

Illustration by Ben Clanton
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:30-9 a.m.</td>
<td>Registration and coffee</td>
<td>Hill Atrium</td>
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| 8 a.m.-5 p.m.| **Bookstore and exhibits open**  
Exhibit of the Silent Books Collection will be open from 10:10 to 3:20 in the Craige Boardroom | Room F/G and Hill Atrium         |
| 8:25-8:35 a.m.| **Welcome: Denise Spangler, dean, UGA College of Education**  
Introduction by Petros Panaou, conference chair, College of Education | Mahler Hall                      |
| 8:35-8:40 a.m.| **Launching of “Books for Schools”**  
A Georgia Rotary Project in collaboration with the Georgia Children’s Book Awards/UGA College of Education  
Richard Heyer | Mahler Hall                      |
| 8:40-8:50 a.m.| **Honoring past GCCL chairs**  
Joel Taxel and Joanne Ratliff | Mahler Hall                      |
| 8:50-9:50 a.m.| **First general session: Keynote by Aisha Saeed (local author highlight)**  
Introduction by Eun Young Yeom, UGA College of Education | Mahler Hall                      |
| 9:50-10:10 a.m.| **Refreshment break, book signing, and exhibit visits**  
Hill Atrium and Pecan Tree Galleria |                                |
| 10:10-10:55 a.m.| **Concurrent sessions one**  
Second Floor Meeting Rooms |                                |
| 11 a.m.-noon | **Second general session: Keynote by Kwame Alexander**  
(2015 John Newbery Medal winner)  
Introduction by Alexandra Lampp Berglund, UGA College of Education | Mahler Hall                      |
| Noon-1 p.m.  | **Luncheon and GCBA Award presentation**  
Presentation of GCBA Awards to Ben Clanton and Alan Gratz  
Announcement of the 2018 GCBA Book Award Winners  
Jennifer Rice, Macedonia Elementary and Sara Kajder, University of Georgia | Magnolia Ballroom                 |
| 1:10-1:55 p.m.| **Concurrent sessions two**  
Second Floor Meeting Rooms |                                |
| 2-2:30 p.m.  | **Refreshment break, book signing, and exhibit visits**  
Hill Atrium and Pecan Tree Galleria |                                |
| 2:35-3:20 p.m.| **Concurrent sessions three**  
Second Floor Meeting Rooms |                                |
3:25-4:25 p.m.  **Third general session: Keynote by Pablo Cartaya**  
*(2018 Pura Belpre Honoree)*  
Introduction by Stephanie Toliver, UGA College of Education  
Mahler Hall

4:30-5:15 p.m.  **Concurrent sessions four**  
Second Floor Meeting Rooms

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**SATURDAY, MARCH 30**

7:30-8:30 a.m.  Registration and coffee  
Hill Atrium

8 a.m.-noon  **Bookstore and exhibits open**  
Room F/G  
Hill Atrium

8:30-9:30 a.m.  **Fourth general session: Keynote by Alan Gratz**  
*(2018 GCBA Grades 4–8 Winner)*  
Introduction by T. Hunter Strickland, University of Georgia  
Mahler Hall

9:30-10 a.m.  Refreshment break, book signing, and exhibit visits  
Hill Atrium and Pecan Tree Galleria

10-10:45 a.m.  **Concurrent sessions five**  
Second Floor Meeting Rooms

11 a.m.-12:15 p.m.  **Fifth general session: Keynote by Ben Clanton**  
*(2018 GCBA Picturebook Grades K–4 winner)*  
Introduction by Julie Carbaugh, UGA College of Education  
Mahler Hall

11 a.m.-noon  **Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl**  
Elementary school finals  
Middle school finals  
High school finals  
Awards  
Masters Hall  
Room K/L  
Room Q  
Masters Hall

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**NON-DISCRIMINATION & ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY**

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KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

KWAME ALEXANDER


A regular contributor to NPR’s “Morning Edition,” Kwame is the recipient of numerous awards, including The Coretta Scott King Author Honor, The Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Prize, Three NAACP Image Award Nominations, and the 2017 Inaugural Pat Conroy Legacy Award. He believes that poetry can change the world, and he uses it to inspire and empower young people around the world through The Write Things, his K–12 Writing Workshop. The 2018 NEA Read Across America Ambassador, Kwame is the founder of VERSIFY, an imprint of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, and the host and producer of the literary variety/talk show, “Bookish,” which airs on Facebook Watch. He’s led cultural exchange delegations to Brazil, Italy, Singapore, and Ghana, where he built the Barbara E. Alexander Memorial Library and Health Clinic, as a part of LEAP for Ghana, an international literacy program he co-founded.

PABLO CARTAYA

Pablo Cartaya is an award-winning author whose books have been reviewed by The New York Times, featured in The Washington Post, received starred reviews from Kirkus, Booklist, Publisher’s Weekly, and School Library Journal, as well as been among the Best Books of the Year for Amazon, Chicago Public Library, New York Public Library, and several state award lists. He is the author of the critically acclaimed middle grade novels “The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora” (a 2018 Pura Belpre Honor Book) and “Marcus Vega Doesn’t Speak Spanish.” His next novel, “Each Tiny Spark,” will debut on the new Kokila Penguin/ Random House Imprint, which focuses on publishing diverse books for children and young adults. He teaches at Sierra Nevada College’s MFA program in writing and visits schools and colleges around the country. Cartaya is proudly bilingual in Spanish and English.

BEN CLANTON

Ben Clanton has won the 2018 Georgia Children’s Book Award (Grades K–4) for his picturebook “It Came in the Mail.”

Ben Clanton is a children’s book author and editor-at-large for the Little Bigfoot imprint of Sasquatch Books. His books include “It Came in the Mail,” “Something Extraordinary,” “Rex Wrecks It!,” “Mo’s Mustache,” “The Table Sets Itself,” “Vote for Me!” and “Rot, the Cutest in the World.” He has spent most of his time on this planet reading, drawing, playing basketball, gardening and eating waffles. He lives in Tacoma, Washington, with his wife, Kelsey (a photographer and designer!), son, daughter, and a wild goldendoodle named Gigi.
AISHA SAEED

Aisha Saeed is a New York Times bestselling author. She wrote “Written in the Stars,” which was listed as a best book of 2015 by Bank Street Books and a 2016 YALSA Quick Pick For Reluctant Readers. She is also the author of the middle grade novel “Amal Unbound,” a summer 2018 Indie Next Pick, an Amazon Best Book of the Month that has also received starred reviews from Publisher’s Weekly and Kirkus and is a Global Read Aloud for 2018. Her forthcoming picture book is “Bilial Cooks Daal.” Aisha is also a founding member of the nonprofit We Need Diverse Books. She has been featured on MTV, the Huffington Post, NBC, and the BBC, and her writings have appeared in publications including the journal ALAN and the Orlando Sentinel. She lives in Atlanta with her husband and three sons.

ALAN GRATZ

Alan Gratz has won the 2018 Georgia Children’s Book Award (Grades 4–8) for his book “Projekt 1065.”

Alan Gratz is the New York Times bestselling author of a number of novels for young readers. His first novel, “Samurai Shortstop,” was named one of the ALA’s 2007 Top Ten Best Books for Young Adults. His second novel, “Something Rotten,” was a 2008 ALA Quick Pick for Young Adult Readers, and was followed by a sequel, “Something Wicked,” in October 2008. His first middle grade novel, “The Brooklyn Nine,” was one of the ALA’s Top Ten Sports Books for Youth and Top Ten Historical Books for Youth, and his middle grade Holocaust novel “Prisoner B-3087” was one of YALSA’s 2014 Best Fiction for Young Readers and has won eight state awards. His latest books are “Refugee,” “Ban This Book,” “Grenade,” and “Allies.”
CONCURRENT SESSIONS ONE (10:10-10:55 a.m.)
FRIDAY, MARCH 29

Keynote Workshop: Pablo Cartaya
(NOTE: requires separate registration)
Room T/U

GCBA (2019–2020) Book Nominees:
Connecting to Children, Community, and Curriculum
Book, Gr. 4–8 (2019–2020 selection) Committee
Sara Kajder (chair), University of Georgia
Rebecca Cooper, Triton City Schools
Angie Embray, Oconee Elementary School
Sheri Pfeuffer, Warner Robbins Middle School
Lynn Staples, Wauka Mountain Multiple Intelligences Academy
Julie Trejo, Berry College Elementary and Middle School
LaRita Wiggins, Henry County Middle School
Todd A. Williamson, Milton Branch, Atlanta Fulton Public Library System

Georgia Children’s Book (Gr. 4–8) Award committee members will share the 2019–2020 nominees to help connect the books with children and integrate them in communities and curricula! A range of standards–based classroom ideas and creative applications will be highlighted. Resources shared during this session will be available on the GCBA website.

Mahler Hall

Wordless Picturebooks for Global Awareness: Exploring IBBY’s Silent Books Collection
Petros Panaou, University of Georgia
Responding to the needs of refugee children from Africa and the Middle East arriving in the Italian island, Lampedusa, IBBY launched the project “Silent Books, from the world to Lampedusa and back” in 2012. The second part of this inspiring project involved creating a collection of silent books (wordless picture books) that could be understood and enjoyed by children regardless of language. This is a traveling exhibition that has been sent to us by IBBY, so we can explore and discuss purposes and ways of sharing international wordless picturebooks with our diverse students here in the U.S.

Craige Boardroom

How to Use Children’s Literature to Meet State Standards and Utilize Digital Literacy in the Classroom
Amy Campbell Epps, University of Georgia
This presentation will guide educators and other authors in the process of using children’s literature to meet standards and utilize digital literacy in the classroom. We will explore concrete ways to teach multi-disciplines through literature. The presenter uses her own work as a reading teacher to demonstrate how being digitally literate and using digital literacies in the classroom can be achieved through children’s literature.

Room A

Using Critical Content Analysis to Interrogate Issues of Power in Children’s Literature
Christie Angleton, University of Louisville
Critical readings of children’s literature can help teachers and other practitioners see the ways that power structures are at play in the books children read. In this interactive session, participants will learn about my systematic reading of a collection of picturebooks, then try their own critical content analysis.

Room B

Primary Sources + Primary Students = A Perfect Fit
Dawn Alexander, East Side Elementary School
Lindsay Kidd, East Side Elementary School
Learn how to bring history to life by engaging your students’ critical thinking and analysis skills through the use of literary trade books and primary source documents. Learn how you can integrate social studies information processing skills and English-language arts standards of excellence in a rich and meaningful way.

Room Q
Reading Strategies for Low Level and ELL Learners
Beth-Anne W. Miles, Georgia Military College
Is it a challenge to reach your low reading level or non-English speaking students? What can you do to help them become more attentive readers? Presented will be essential reading strategies that your learners must know and how you can successfully teach them.

Room C

Teaching Global Perspectives through Cinematic Adaptations
Elaine Morton, Iroquois Ridge High School and York University
“The book was better!” What is lost—and what is found—in a new iteration of a text? A high school educator and PhD candidate hosts a workshop on how to engage students with cinematic adaptations in the classroom. Participants will receive lesson plans for multiple grades.

Room D

Slowing Down the Classroom to Invite the Real World In: Building Lifelong Bonds through Children’s Literature
Emily Allison, East Hall Middle School
Have you ever wondered how to use literature to build deeper bonds with your students? So often, we see great literature tools for the ELA classroom. This session will explore ways on how to invite the real world into your classroom through questioning and discussion of children’s literature and life.

Room K

Read Alouds to Tickle Your Funny Bone
Wendy Hamm, Wesleyan College
Joyce Gable, Wesleyan College
Christen Davis, Wesleyan College
Giggling through a read aloud is just plain fun and a bonding experience that creates classroom community. Books to tickle the funny bone will be presented with ideas for connecting to life in the classroom.

Room J

Purrfect Research is so Doggone Fun
Jodi Wheeler-Toppen, National Geographic Kids (author)
Research is the most fun part of being a nonfiction writer. Students can learn to love it, too! I’ll introduce a research cycle strategy that kids can use to guide their own information searches and give examples from my own quest to understand cats and dogs for two recent books.

Room E

Studying 9/11 through Novels & Other Texts: Designing a Grade 5–9 Reading, Writing, Speaking Unit
Lesley Roessing, Riverview Charter School
Children/adolescents face a host of diverse challenges. Today it is likely that our students are children of an incarcerated parent, homeless, in foster care or living in poverty, neurodiverse, or experiencing adversity or loss. They or family members may be suffering from a physical or mental illness or addiction. This presentation reviews recent Grade 4–8 novels that reflect these children—hidden in plain sight in our classrooms, novels that let them see that their lives are valued and their resilience acknowledged while providing a map to navigate adolescence.

Room V/W

Explicitly Teach Comprehension Using Children’s Literature
Jen Cole, Madison County School District
In this session, participants will learn about high leverage comprehension strategies and examine the strong connection between these strategies and the reading standards. Participants will see teachers in classrooms explicitly teaching some of these strategies. The presenter will lead participants through planning explicit comprehension lessons connected to authentic texts.

Room L
Keynote Workshop: Aisha Saeed, Local Author Highlight
(Note: requires separate registration)
Room T/U

GCBA (2019–2020) Picturebook Nominees: Connecting to Children, Community, and Curriculum

*GCBA (Gr. K–4) Picturebook Nominees: Connecting to Children, Community, and Curriculum*

*Picturebook, Gr. K–4 (2019–2020 selection) Committee*
*Jennifer M. Graff (co-chair), University of Georgia*
*Jennifer Rice (co-chair), Macedonia Elementary School*
*Jennifer Beaty, Dacula Elementary School*
*Nicole McGowan, The Newton County Theme School*
*Kim Coady, retired principal*
*Naomi Craver, Alps Road Elementary School*
*Genise Vertus, David C. Barrow Elementary School*

Georgia Children’s Picturebook (Gr. K–4) Award committee members will share the 2019–2020 nominees to help connect the books with children and integrate them in communities and curricula! A range of standards-based classroom ideas and creative applications will be highlighted. Resources shared during this session will be available on the GCBA website.

**Mahler Hall**

(Don’t) Put that Book Away: Honoring Student Voice and Choice Through Science Fiction and Fantasy

*T. Hunter Strickland, University of Georgia*
*S.R. Toliver, University of Georgia*

This presentation will examine science fiction and fantasy texts that teachers can use with their students now. The presenters will share exemplar young adult science fiction and fantasy texts, give strategies for using them in both whole class and individual contexts, and connect these texts to the canonical works that teachers are likely to find in their book rooms or school libraries.

Room A

**STEM: Children’s Literature, Makerspace, and a Whole Lot of Fun!**

*Melissa Hervey, Alcosa Elementary School*
*Kelly Gruhn, Cedar Hill Elementary School*

STEM/STEAM in the library? Can it be done? Yes it can! Come learn from two media specialists who took the leap and adopted a makerspace in the media center. Learn simple ways to incorporate it into lessons and ways to use your favorite children’s books to inspire makerspace activities.

Room Q

Using Literature to Encourage Growth Mindset, K–2

*Lyssa Sahadevan, East Side Elementary*
*Amy Cardwell, East Side Elementary*

Join two primary classroom teachers as they share favorite books for increasing growth mindset. We will explore texts together and you will leave with ready-to-use lessons that will help brains AND hearts grow.

Room V/W

Reading Responses 2.0: Integrating Technology into Literature Responses

*Jessica Morelli, East Side Elementary School*
*Dawn Alexander, East Side Elementary School*

In today’s world, the ability to share information in multiple formats is critical. Our attempt to address the development of these skills led to discussions about how to make reading responses more engaging for students. It is imperative that students are engaged in both the creation and consumption of literature responses. We identified apps that are easily accessible and focused on creative presentation skills. You will leave this session with a list of the apps we use and ideas for how to implement them in the classroom.

Room B
Finding Your Story
Nancy Raines Day, Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators
Successful authors offer a behind-the-scenes look at the publishing industry. How does a story become a book? What are some ways to “break-in” to the industry? How can you or your students pursue publication? Hear from area writers working with fiction and nonfiction, picture books, magazine articles, and novels.

Room C

A Campfire Curriculum: Creating A Spark in Young Readers
Karen Lord Rutter, retired teacher and principal, author
Still perplexed by the concept of cross-curricular education? This session provides a “how to” for integrating science, math, geography, reading, vocabulary, technology, and character education into any content area using a single text. Attendees will receive access to the website including all curriculum materials and prepared lesson plans.

Room K

Using Outreach and Passive Programming to Engage Middle School Readers
Erin Bailey McElroy, Carver Middle School
Classroom outreach and passive programming are great ways to keep your school community thinking about reading. These strategies also build enthusiasm about the use of your media center space. This session will explore strategies that can be used to bring students and teachers into the media center.

Room D

Stretching a Small Amount of Musical Talent to Enhance your Storytime
Renee Johnson, Auburn Public Library
Adding live music transformed my storytimes. In this session, we’ll discuss simple two- or three-chord songs to play on the ukulele, adding songs to books, and other strategies for feeling confident about stepping away from the CD player.

Room L

Literature Live! Drama-Based Tips and Tricks for the Classroom
June Ash Moore, The Habersham School in Savannah and New York University
Want to enhance the literature experience in your classroom? Desire a way to reach students beyond narration and storytelling? This workshop will give you the tips and tricks you need to add to any literature experience in the classroom with educational theatre expertise.

Room J

Let’s Celebrate Twenty Years of Reading & Winning with Georgia Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl
Wendy Smith, Parklane Elementary School
Mary Thomas, Georgia Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl
Come see how this unique grassroots program has experienced 20 years of growth and success all over Georgia via the collaboration of librarians, media specialists, teachers, parents, and volunteers, all working together to use the Georgia Children’s Book Award nominees in a statewide competition of independent student reading.

Room E

Genres Galore! Get your students out of their comfort zone and into reading many different genres
Sharon Plummer, Hahira Elementary School
Do your students read the same series of books or the same genre all year? Come see how we encourage our students to love historical fiction, biographies, and all the other genres. This session will show participants how to incorporate genre challenges that support the standards and increase students’ Lexile levels.

University Boardroom
CONCURRENT SESSIONS THREE (2:35-3:20 p.m.)
FRIDAY, MARCH 29

Keynote Workshop: Alan Gratz, 2018 GCBA Grades 4–8 Winner
(Note: requires separate registration)
Room T/U

The Coretta Scott King Book Awards Committee: 50 Years Strong
Jonda C. McNair, Clemson University
The Coretta Scott King Book Awards Committee is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, so join us to learn about the committee’s illustrious history and practical and effective ways to use Coretta Scott King Award–winning books to enrich both programming and instruction. The session will conclude with a lively interactive discussion.
Masters Hall

A–Rockin’ and A–Readin’! Author Visits Entertain, Educate, and Inspire the Next Generation of Readers!
Diane Z. Shore, HarperCollins
An author visit is a sure-fire way to get students and staff excited about reading! Funny, fun, and full of life, Atlanta author Diane Z. Shore shares her road to publication through her hilarious, interactive, inspirational, grade-leveled (K–5) presentations. Includes guidelines and suggestions on hosting a successful author visit. Handouts/giveaways.
Room A

Big Red READS: The Story of a Mobile Library
Alice Ensley, Dalton Public Schools
Big Red READS is a mobile library that provides books and learning materials throughout Dalton, Georgia. Learn the history of this program and how you can begin a similar program in your community.
Room B

Using technology to Increase Reading Comprehension and Fluency
Ashiya Glover-Hart, Piedmont College
Erin Prince, Piedmont College (elementary K–5 teacher)
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.
Room Q

Successful Organization and Management of a School or Classroom Poetry Club
Greta Freeman, USC Upstate
This session features strategies for creating and managing a classroom or school poetry club based on the presenter’s own experience as a seventh grade English teacher. A brief overview will be followed by classroom–tested activities and specific techniques for success. Thorough handouts will be distributed and time for questions allowed.
Room D

Not Your Average Heroes
Jackie Pace, Cartersville Middle School
Randi Sonenshine, Cartersville Middle School
Ciera Potter, Cartersville Middle School
Heroes come in all shapes and sizes in these YA novels. If you have been looking for a way to diversify your bookshelf and your units, then these are the heroes you’ve been looking for. This panel looks at the ways you can use multicultural heroic fantasy in the classroom.
Room V/W
Mirrors, Windows or Doors: Interacting and Connecting with (Dis)abilities in Children’s Literature

Julie Carbaugh, University of Georgia

Diverse classroom libraries in elementary and middle schools support not only enhance engagement and a feeling of reader identity, but also students’ abilities to become informed and empathetic citizens. Attendees will explore current picturebooks and YA literature that focuses on (dis)abilities, learn to analyze books for stereotypes, and leave with new book titles to add to their growing book collections.

Room E

#RelationshipsMatter

Nury Castillo Crawford, Gwinnett County Public School

As our communities change and become more diversified, how can educators ensure we are empowering our students with the tools they possess prior to meeting us? Culturally responsive pedagogy goes way beyond incorporating a lesson here and there with our most important stakeholders. Relationships that are genuine, reciprocal, and allow for growth are just as important as the standards we teach. Children need to know that their culture, belief system, and communities matter. Relationships matter.

Room K

Hook ’em With Books

Tommye Mathis, Cedar Ridge Elementary School
Holly Jones, Eastside Elementary School

How do you entice young readers to fall in love with literature? By providing engaging activities and access to books, of course! Join Tommye Mathis and Holly Jones on a reading journey throughout the year. From reading incentives to awesome holiday events, get your readers excited about literature! Participants will leave with information on how to recreate these events in their own schools.

Room L

They Shouldn’t Be Reading Comic Books: Overcoming the Stigma of Graphic Novels and Facilitating a Successful Book Club

Sarah Dupuis, Keheley Elementary School
Ellen Adams, Bullard Elementary School

How often do you hear teachers or parents say, “I don’t want them reading comic books!” You’ve seen the research though and know that graphic novels have a lot to offer, especially with reluctant readers. Learn some tips to overcome the stigma associated with graphic novels!

Room J
CONCURRENT SESSIONS FOUR (4:30-5:15 p.m.)
FRIDAY, MARCH 29

**Book Club Bonanza: 15 Ways to Banish the Book Club Blues**
*Randi Sonenshine, Cartersville Middle School*
*Jackie Pace, Cartersville Middle School*

While discussion is at the heart of book clubs, a traditional format time after time can lead to dull meetings and dwindling participation. Whether you want to spice up established book clubs or begin new ones with a bang, these ideas will keep students talking long after the meeting ends.

Room Q

**That’s Not My Name: The Educational Consequences and Benefits of Tying Twins/Multiples Together in Schools and YA Literature**
*Caroline Bedingfield, Winder-Barrow High School*

Have you ever thought twice about the inclusion of twins in literature and how these copy-cat characters can create harmful stereotypes that follow people into the classroom and beyond? This presentation will create a dialogue that shows educators ways to promote individuality in the classroom and in their classroom libraries.

Room A

**Oh no! Not Flippin’ Research!**
*Alisande Mayer, Moulton-Branch Elementary*

Do your students hate choosing research topics? Do they hate searching for resources for their projects? Do they hate writing research papers? Come and learn ways how one media specialist helped her teachers engage students in research topics and get them through the “bog” of the writing process.

Room B

**Using Book Creator to Inspire Response to Literature**
*Ge-Anne Bolhuis, Whitfield County Schools*

Book Creator is the perfect tool to allow writers of all ages to publish their work to an authentic audience and allows students to respond to literature via text, art, video, etc.—all in one platform. Bring an iPad, laptop, or Chromebook to create and explore with Book Creator.

Room C

**Leave a Literacy Legacy**
*LaRita Wiggins, Henry County Middle School*
*Karen Lewis, Henry County Middle School*
*Trona Peoples, Henry County Middle School*

The principal of Henry County Middle School, LaRita Wiggins, believes that reading is the social justice issue of our time. At Henry County Middle School, the Lead Learner team works to create a culture of reading for our learners. In this session, participants will find creative ways to ensure everyone is reading!

Room V/W

**Developing Multiple Literacies: Measuring Library Media Specialist Effectiveness**
*Phyllis R. Snipes, University of West Georgia*

The development of strategies for teaching reading, writing, and technology literacies is a key strength of the library media specialist. This session discusses the power of the classroom teacher and library media specialist team and provides insight into how the effectiveness of library media specialist contributions can be measured in all areas of service.

Room D
Rocking the Elementary Media Center

**Patricia Carey**, *Comer Elementary School*
**Sara Bird**, *Comer Elementary School*
**Kim Bartlett**, *Danielsville Elementary*
**Heather Hanley**, *Ila Elementary*
**Sally Marable**, *Hull Sanford Elementary*

Do you want to add value to your elementary library program? Media specialists from the Madison County School District will share the different ways in which our media programs serve our schools and community, including collection development, collaboration, community involvement, instructional ideas, and more!

**Room K**

I Can Be: Why diversity and representation are important in children’s books

**Felicia Lee**, *author (Tandem Light Press)*

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.

**Room E**

There’s Nothing I Want to Read! Resources for Finding Engaging, Diverse Books for Your Student

**Millicent Flake**, *Valley Point Middle School*

How many times have you heard students say they cannot find a book they want to read? As a school media specialist, I’ve found that having relevant books with relatable characters and situations gets them hooked! Find resources and suggestions for linking your diverse students with books.

**Room L**
Author Workshop: Ben Clanton, 2018 GCBA Picturebook Grades K–4 Winner
(Note: requires separate registration)
Room T/U

Daniel Finds a Poem: Connecting Community, Literature, and Nature Education with a Picturebook Walk
Ada E. Demlow, Fayette County Public Library
What happens when a public library, school, and conservation group works together on literacy and nature education? This session will walk you through a project that focused on the book Daniel Finds a Poem by Micha Archer. We created a travelling story trail, STEAM programs, family activities, and book clubs.
Masters Hall

Mental Health in Children’s and Young Adult Literature
Sara Ralph, South End Elementary
We have a mental illness crisis in this country. Many children and teens are affected by a family member’s mental illness or suffer symptoms themselves. Children’s and young adult literature can provide an opportunity for introspection on mental health, as well as build empathy for those living with mental illness.
Room A

Reading and Rare Diseases: Rett Syndrome and Representation in Children’s Literature
Usree Bhattacharya, University of Georgia
Alexandra Lampp Berglund, University of Georgia
How inclusive is your classroom library? In this session, we will critically examine portrayals of Rett Syndrome in children’s literature and the overwhelming absence of characters with Rett Syndrome. Attendees will explore the representations and silencing of girls with the syndrome and leave with new titles to add to their shelves.
Room B

Writing Yoga
Molly Bowden, Eagle’s Landing High School
Stretch your students’ writing skills with writing yoga! A creative yet highly adaptable series of prompts might make students uncomfortable—they may even stress out—but in the end they’ll feel great and have a piece of writing that is often described at their best writing yet!
Room C

Multicultural Literature in Literature Circles
Meral Kaya, Brooklyn College, City University of New York
How can literature circles enhance students’ critical thinking and literacy skills through multicultural literature? This presentation focuses on the importance of literature circles and multicultural literature, showcasing an implementation in a literacy methods course for preservice teachers.
Room D

Conquest of the Realm: Gamification and Independent Reading in Elementary School
Lindsey Lush, South Jackson Elementary School
Lisa Wilbanks, South Jackson Elementary School
Learn how we reinvigorated a love for independent reading schoolwide with the Conquest of the Realm Reading Game. Using multiple mediums (technology, art, music, etc.) students create projects based on their self-selected reading and earn territory to help their kingdom conquer the realm! Resources and examples provided.
Room Q

It Happens in the Media Center
Jennifer Brown, Knight Elementary
Take a peek into the largest classroom in the school, the media center, and find it’s more than just a place to check out books. Journey through a year of an elementary media program. Come gather new ideas, tips, and ways to promote reading and your media program.
Room R
**What If, Why Not, & How Come ... Using Trade Books in K–5 STEM**

**Jennifer A. Gates, Mountain View Elementary School**

STEM classrooms can be rich in literacy and real-world connections through relevant and engaging trade books. Integrating texts is easy when the focus is on connecting them to students’ lives and daily practice of thinking, planning, and creating. In this session, resources and ideas will be shared that support making the K–5 STEM classroom a place of learning through great books. You’ll also take away strategies to incorporate reading on a daily basis to support STEM success.

**Room K**

**Learning English and Life: EFL Students’ Improvement in Understanding of Global Events while Reading and Discussing a Multicultural Picture Book**

**Eun Young Yeom, University of Georgia**

This book club activity will illustrate how literary texts, especially multicultural picture books, can act as an impetus for secondary EFL learners (seventh graders–12th graders) to think about their identities and to step outside of their comfort zones.

**Room V/W**

**That Looks Like Me!**

**E. Danielle Butler, EvyDani Books, LLC**

Did you know that we are currently experiencing a record high with 31 percent of children’s books featuring diverse characters? Or that only 7 percent of children’s books published in 2017 were authored by creators of color? This presentation will explore the necessity of access to responsible representation in children’s literature.

**Room L**

**“Biography is (not) B-O-R-I-N-G!” Strategies to Promote Biography in the Elementary Classroom**

**Deborah Harris, Florida Atlantic University**

Educators are sometimes reluctant to use biographies in the classroom, fearing that children won’t find them interesting. This session explores the potential of biography to inspire readers while helping them learn more about their world and ways of being in their world.

**Room J**

**Where is my Book? Connecting with Immigrant Students who Don’t Like to Read**

**Dainess Maganda, University of Georgia**

This presentation will illustrate how a teacher uses her own book-story to help her immigrant students get interested in reading by first turning them into authors.

**Room E**
2019-2020 GEORGIA CHILDREN’S
PICTUREBOOK (GR.K-4) NOMINEES
2019-2020 GEORGIA CHILDREN’S BOOK (GR.4-8) NOMINEES
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