

Southwest Minnesota Reading Council News –Fall 2016
News from the President

Hello Educators,

Another summer has flown by! By the time all of you read this, each of us will be helping students of all ages grow as literacy learners in a variety of ways. What a privilege we have and a difference we can make in the lives of these students one by one!

During this summer, I also had the privilege and pleasure of teaching so many veteran teachers through our online master's program at MLC and our satellite courses across the Midwest. These teachers were taking courses for a variety of reasons such as continuing in a master's program, professional development, license renewal requirements, and possibly a combination of one or more of these reasons.

Please do not think that the paragraph above was about me being able to "toot my horn." I hope you will see the connections unveil themselves as you continue to read. As part of my message, I wanted to include an email I received at the end of July from a teacher who will begin her first year of teaching in August. As you read the following message from this teacher, please keep the focus on her and not on me:

Dr. Whaley,

I hope all is well with you. As I sit here on my bed with my school's new reading program surrounding me, I want to personally thank you again for teaching me that curriculum books are a guide and that I do not have to use everything they provide. My school is for the first time in who-knows-how-many years using a developed curriculum/program. Prior to this year they were more on the novel path. They purchased the Wonders curriculum by McGraw-Hill Education, a 2017 copyright! When I went to school to pick up the manuals, I was handed 12 manuals! It also has online resources including a planning calendar and student access. I am so blessed to be working with a school that is just starting to use Wonders. Again, I just wanted to thank you for teaching me that I don't have to be overwhelmed by the amount of manuals that were handed to me!

What did you comprehend from her message? Here are some possibilities that I think you may be thinking:

1. I feel the same way she does, and I have been teaching for _____ years?
2. We just bought that series, and I hope it is a good one!
3. We don't have that series. Will our students do all right until we can buy it next year?
4. Can I be as radical as she is and follow her plan?
5. What truly is a reading curriculum?

I thanked this teacher for her humbling words to me which was so kind of her! The most important take-away was my grin from ear-to-ear that meant she did listen in class and that she is a reading curriculum designer and not just a page turner. She realizes that teaching reading/literacy is about having a philosophy first, knowing what you need to teach, knowing how to teach based on the needs of your students, and then taking the basal (and/or whatever resources a teacher has) and teaching.

My teaching and travels over the summer allowed me to meet with many teachers who think it is the resource that teaches a student to read rather than the importance of the teacher! I was so delighted to help them think along the same lines as this first year teacher. If there was a perfect resource, then we wouldn't need curriculum planning or researchers to help us. Robots can never replace us because they don't have caring hearts like we do which is also a key component of effective teaching. Don't ever forget you are the teacher of reading. Know why you do what you do, and enjoy doing it!

Thanks, and we will see you at the Fall Conference where we will enjoy Lisa Bullard's presentation!

-Cindy



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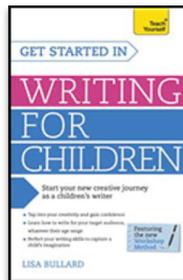
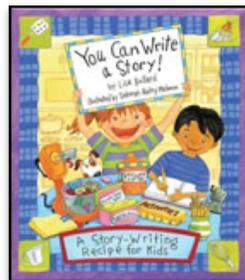
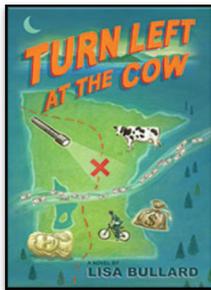
<https://www.facebook.com/SouthwestMinnesotaReadingCouncil>.

Council Literacy Projects Continue to support international literacy outreach in China as well as purchasing books for new parents through the *Books for Babies* community shower in the New Ulm area. A free-will offering will be collected at the Fall Conference to enhance these programs.



Annual Spring Conference, The Inside Story of a Book! The annual Spring Conference was held on Monday, May 9th at Martin Luther College featured author, John Coy. John shared samples of rough drafts & revisions his books have gone through before publication. Lots of enlightening information!

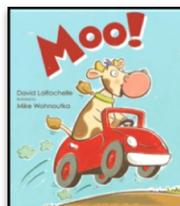
Our Annual Fall Conference will be held on Tuesday, September 27, 2016 at the Redwood Falls Community Center. Lisa Bullard an author/teacher will share her experience working with classrooms and workshops to engage their interest in writing and reading. Lisa's books *You Can Write a Story!* and *Get Started Writing for Children* are based on her decades of teaching. She also has an absorbing middle grade mystery, *Turn Left at the Cow* that is based in Minnesota, so it's been fun for her to talk with teachers and librarians about that book. Red Wagon books will have Lisa's books available for purchase. Questions may be directed to Brenda M. Resch (bresch@isd177.com; 507-822-5659).



Minnesota Reading Association (MRA) Conference Update: What a Wonderful Wednesday, July 13, 2016!! The MRA Conference was held in conjunction with Hamline University's Summer Literacy Institute. What a prodigious partnership! The featured presenter was Dr. Mary Ehrensworth. Mary got our Wednesday going with her inspiring research, wisdom and passion about developing young writers. She shared writer's needs:

- *Time
- *Choice
- *Response
- *Expert Instruction

Mary said, "Protect writing time. The teaching of writing needs to be a priority."
Featured author, David LaRoche, shared his story behind his books.



Mike Wohnoutka

"Moo" illustrated by Mike Wohnoutka

Save the Date: Join us at Martin Luther College, New Ulm for a fun evening with illustrator/writer **Mike Wohnoutka** on April 27, 2017. Check out Mike's web site at : www.mikewohnoutka.com. Ever since Mike can remember he knew he wanted to be an artist. His dad, who was an engineer at the Hiway Department, would bring home reams of paper that had hiway plans on one side and were blank on the other. He would be so excited to have all that paper to draw on and would fill each sheet with race cars, snowmobiles, baseball players, super heroes - everything he was

interested in. In high school his art teacher, Mr. Chase, encouraged Mike to pursue art as a career. This, along with a scholarship, led him to the Savannah College of Art and Design in Savannah, Georgia. Since graduating with a B.F.A. in Illustration, Mike has illustrated over 20 books for children. He has worked with various clients including Random House, Dutton Children's Books, Clarion Books, Holiday House, Scholastic Books, Bloomsbury Publishing, Walker & Co., Hyperion Books, Sterling Books, Cricket Magazine Group, General Mills, 3M, and Peaceable Kingdom Press.

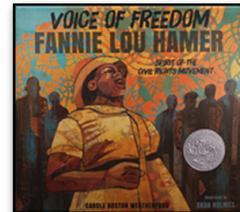
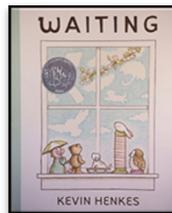
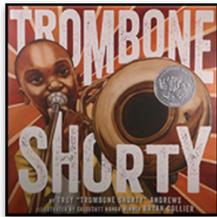
2016 Book Awards: Caldecott...award for illustrations



Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear, illustrated by Sophie Blackall, written by Lindsay Mattick and published by Little, Brown and Company, a division of Hachette Book Group, Inc.

Finding Winnie is an incredible account of the friendship and love shared between a soldier and the real bear who inspired Winnie-the-Pooh. Blackall beautifully interprets this multi-dimensional family story through her distinctive Chinese ink and watercolor art, capturing intimate and historical details perfect for a child's eye.

"Children will be enchanted by Winnie's journey from the forests of Canada to the pages of the Hundred Acre Wood. Blackall offers a tour-de-force of visual storytelling," said Caldecott Medal Committee Chair Rachel G. Payne.



Trombone Shorty ill by Bryan Collier

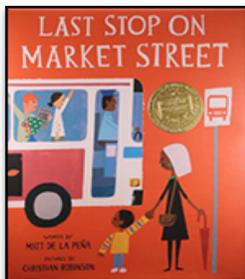
Waiting Ill & written by Kevin Henke

Voice fo Freedom Ill by Ekua Holmes

Caldecott Honor Books

2016 Book Awards: Newbery... award for text content

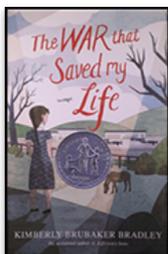
Last Stop on Market Street, written by Matt de la Peña, illustrated by Christian Robinson and published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, an imprint of Penguin Group (USA) LLC.



CJ's journey with his Nana is not just a simple bus ride; it is a multi-sensory experience through which he discovers that beautiful music, nature and people surround him. CJ's questions are familiar, and Nana answers him with gentle wisdom. Right up until their arrival at the last stop on Market Street, Nana guides CJ to become "a better witness for what's beautiful."

"Read it aloud to someone. The use of language to elicit questions, to spark imagination and to make us laugh is at its best when spoken," said Newbery Medal Committee Chair Ernie J. Cox.

This book was also a Caldecott Honor book for 2016.



The War that Saved My Life
by Kimberly Brubaker Bradely

Roller Girl
by Victoria Jamieson

Echo
by Pam Munoz Ryan

Newbery Honor Books

Southwest Minnesota Reading Council's Annual Fall Conference

September 27, 2016, Redwood Falls

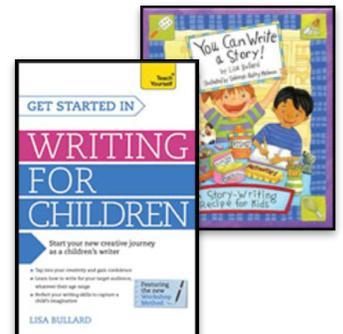


Who: Lisa Bullard

When: Tuesday, September 27th, 2016

Where: Redwood Falls Community Center

Time: 5-5:30pm Registration
5:30-6:30 Dinner
6:30-7:30 Presentation
7:30-8pm Business Meeting



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Phone: _____ **E-Mail:** _____

School Affiliation _____

MRA Member: ___ Yes ___ No, **MRA #:** _____

SWMRC Member: ___ Yes ___ No

- _____ I am a current MRA member. (\$25 to cover dinner and presentation)
_____ I am a renewing or new MRA member. I have included my MRA membership form (*reverse side*, \$25 + MRA fee) with this registration.
_____ I am a renewing MRA member and
I have _____ sent my MRA membership form in to the state or
_____ renewed on-line. (\$25 to cover dinner and presentation)

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

Send registration form and check (made payable to SWMRC) by Friday, September 16, 2016 to:

Brenda M Resch
Box C177
1400 17th Street
Windom, MN 56101

Contact Brenda if you have any questions.

- School: [\(507\)831-6910, Ext. 362](tel:5078316910)
- Cell: [\(507\)822-5659](tel:5078225659)
- E-mail: bresch@isd177.com



Minnesota Reading Association Membership Application

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Email (Required): _____

Phone Number (cell): _____ Phone Number (landline): _____

Are you're a member of IRA? _____. If so, what is your IRA number? _____

Organization / Employer / School: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City / State / Zip Code: _____

Job Title (Check Any That Apply):

✓ Job Title	✓ Job Title	✓ Job Title
Administrator	Classroom Teacher high school	Paraprofessional
Building Literacy Coach	Classroom Teacher middle school	Retired
Classroom Support	College / University Professor or Adjunct	Special Education teacher / Specialist
Classroom teacher 3-5	District-wide Literacy Coach	Student
Classroom teacher K-2	ELL/ ESL Teacher / Specialist	Other(specify):

Membership Levels: (Check box for your membership level choice).

Level	Cost	✓	Level	Cost	✓
Regular Membership	35.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Retiree	25.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paraprofessional	35.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Student	15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

Membership comes with access to one local council. For each additional council you choose to join, it will cost another \$12.00. Mark the council(s) you wish to join.

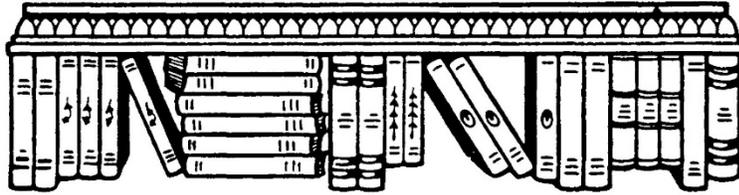
Council	✓	Council	✓	Council	✓
Arrowhead	<input type="checkbox"/>	Northstar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Southeast	<input type="checkbox"/>
Central	<input type="checkbox"/>	Northwest	<input type="checkbox"/>	Southwest	<input type="checkbox"/>
MN Reading Academy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red River	<input type="checkbox"/>	Twin Cities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Northland	<input type="checkbox"/>	Secondary Reading Interest Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vikingland	<input type="checkbox"/>

Total Amount Enclosed (if mailing directly to MRA): _____

Please make Checks Payable to Minnesota Reading Association, Minnesota Reading Association, P.O. Box 904, St. Cloud, MN 56301. Contact S.voss@mnreading.org if you have any questions.



Southwest Minnesota Reading Council
Martin Luther College
1995 Luther Court
New Ulm, MN 56073



Cindy Whaley (President), Raelen Grein, Dawn Haberman, Brenda Resch, Jonathan Roux, Sonya Vierstraete and Beth Wolf.

Southwest Minnesota Reading Council Executive Board

Bring a friend or two!

Look inside for more details

We look forward to seeing you on September 27th for our annual Fall Conference