Conference at a Glance

Michigan Reading Association

58th Annual Conference

March 14, 2014 - Research-to-Practice Institute
March 15-17, 2014 - Annual Conference
Grand Rapids, Michigan
In order to serve you in a more timely and efficient manner, Michigan Reading Association uses an online registration process. This year we are introducing a new registration system that we hope will expedite the process even more. The new system will allow you to purchase or renew a membership and register for the Pre-Conference and/or Annual Conference all in the same place. You will also be able to register and pay for the Research-to-Practice Institute & the Annual Conference through one submission.

Credit card payments will be processed immediately upon submission. Check and purchase order registrants will be considered pending until we receive a check or purchase order from you or the paying organization. A check or PO for your fees must arrive in the office, or payment arrangements made with the MRA bookkeeper, prior to the conference.

Other helpful registration information:

- Online registration will close at midnight March 1, 2014. After March 1, registration will be available at the conference only.
- After February 22, 2014, there will be an additional registration fee of $30 charged per registration.
- If your membership expires prior to the conference, you will need to renew your membership in order to sign up as a member. You can do this during the registration process this year.
- Name badges and meal tickets will no longer be mailed out. All registration materials must be picked up at the Registration Desk in the DeVos Place Convention Center outside the ballrooms.
- Changes to conference registrations and conferee substitutions are permissible with the proper authorizations. All changes and substitutions must be submitted in writing via the “Change Request Form” located on our website. Changes and substitutions are considered completed when you have received confirmation from the office.
- Conference cancellations and refund requests must be made in writing using our “Cancellation Request Form” located on our website. Cancellations must be received by the MRA Office by February 22, 2014. A cancellation fee of $30 applies after February 22. Membership fees are non-refundable. Meal tickets are non-refundable after February 22.

Please check on the website (www.michiganreading.org) periodically for up-to-date conference registration information and other conference related news.

**Price Information:**

- **$170** - Regular Member - Three Day Registration Fee (Saturday-Monday)
- **$125** - Regular Member - One Day Registration Fee (Saturday, Sunday, or Monday)
- **$155** - Retired Member - Three Day Registration Fee (Saturday-Monday)
- **$110** - Retired Member - One Day Registration Fee (Saturday, Sunday, or Monday)
- **$110** - Full-Time Undergraduate Student Member - Three Day Registration Fee (Saturday-Monday)
- **$90** - Full-Time Undergraduate Student Member - One Day Registration Fee (Saturday, Sunday, or Monday)
- **$250** - Non-Member - Three Day Registration (Saturday-Monday)
- **$175** - Non-Member - One Day Registration (Saturday, Sunday, or Monday)
Hotel Reservation Choices: (Please read carefully)

- Make your reservation EARLY by calling the hotel or online using the website registration link.
- If you call, let the hotel know you are attending the MRA conference to receive the conference rates below. You can also make hotel reservations online. Visit www.michiganreading.org for more information. Remember, an advance deposit or credit card number may be required to guarantee your hotel room.
- Hotels will hold rooms at the conference rate until February 11, 2014.
- Please make arrangements for tax exempt rooms with your hotel prior to check in.
- Add 20% (tax exempt subtract 6%) to the room rates listed below for taxes and fees.
- You will be charged one night’s room and tax if you fail to cancel by the hotel’s cancellation date. Cancellation policies differ: check with your hotel!

1. **Amway Grand Plaza Hotel**  
   187 Monroe Avenue NW  
   Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
   616-774-2000 or 800-253-3590  
   Single/Double: $126  
   Triple/Quad: $151

2. **JW Marriott**  
   235 Louis Street NW  
   Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
   1-888-844-5947 Toll-free  
   Double/Triple/Quad: $164

3. **Courtyard by Marriott Downtown**  
   11 Monroe Avenue NW  
   Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
   616-242-6000  
   Single/Double/Triple/Quad: $120

Each hotel offers discounted parking to all registered overnight guests.

*Subject to Change*
Conference Schedule

Saturday, March 15

8:00 - 9:30 A.M.  Early Bird Breakout Sessions
10:00 - 11:30 A.M.  General Session, RJ Palacio
12:00 - 1:15 P.M.  Lunch Break - Rockstar Luncheon, Exhibits Open, Lunch Sessions
1:30 - 3:00 P.M.  Breakout Sessions
3:30 - 5:00 P.M.  Breakout Sessions

Sunday, March 16

8:00 - 9:30 A.M.  Early Bird Breakout Sessions
10:00 - 11:30 A.M.  General Session, Cris Tovani
12:00 - 1:15 P.M.  Young Authors’ Luncheon, Luncheon with the Authors & Illustrators, Nerdy Book Club Luncheon, Exhibits Open, Lunch Sessions
1:30 - 3:00 P.M.  Breakout Sessions
3:30 - 5:00 P.M.  Breakout Sessions

Monday, March 17

8:30 - 10:00 A.M.  Interactive Breakout Sessions
10:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.  Interactive Breakout Sessions
12:00 - 1:30 P.M.  General Session, Sharon Draper

Subject to Change
Saturday, March 15

RJ Palacio

In 2012, #1 New York Times bestselling author R. J. Palacio became one of the most in-demand authors in children’s literature after the release of her novel, Wonder. Praised by the New York Times as “rich and memorable,” the book was hailed as an instant classic upon its publication and has maintained its popularity since then.

R. J. Palacio was an art director and graphic designer for more than 20 years while waiting for the perfect time to start writing her own novel. When she had a chance encounter with an extraordinary child in front of an ice cream store, she realized the time had come to tell Auggie’s story. Auggie’s story became her debut novel Wonder.

In the spring of 2012, Wonder inspired the Choose Kind movement based on the importance of empathy and acceptance. At ChooseKind.tumblr.com, users can pledge to choose kind; watch the trailer for Wonder; download educational resources; and read about Wonder and R.J. Palacio. The home page features a weekly spotlight of a reader, classroom, or community that has responded to the story.

Sunday, March 16

Cris Tovani

Cris Tovani taught elementary school for ten years before becoming a high school reading specialist and English teacher. A nationally known consultant, she chooses to continue teaching high school students full-time. She has also worked for many years as a staff developer for the Denver-based Public Education and Business Coalition (PEBC), the consortium that has received national acclaim for its work in reading comprehension reform. In addition to teaching and consulting, she has served as an adjunct instructor for the University of Denver and the University of Colorado at Denver.

Cris has authored the books; I Read It, but I Don’t Get It (Stenhouse 2000), Do I Really Have to Teach Reading? (Stenhouse 2004), So What Do They Really Know? (Stenhouse 2011), and the videotape sets; Thoughtful Reading (Stenhouse 2003) and Comprehending Content (Stenhouse 2004).

Monday, March 17

Sharon Draper

Dr. Sharon M. Draper is a professional educator as well as an accomplished writer. She has been honored as the National Teacher of the Year, is a five-time winner of the Coretta Scott King Literary Award, and is a New York Times bestselling author. Sharon Draper is an active participant in the activities of the YWCA of Cincinnati, a member of the National Council of Teachers of English, the International Reading Association, and Top Ladies of Distinction.

Dr. Draper travels extensively and has been a guest on television and radio programs throughout the country discussing issues of literature, reading, and education. She is an accomplished public speaker who addresses educational and literary groups of all ages, both nationally and internationally, with entertaining readings of her poetry and novels, as well as enlightening instructional presentations. She lives in Cincinnati, Ohio, with her husband and a golden retriever named Honey.

Subject to Change
Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade)
The journey of readers and writers is never ending. Our ever-changing society requires more reading and writing at more advanced levels than ever before. As children develop into adolescents and adults, literacy demands become more complex. We never truly stop learning to read and write. Plugging into this year's adolescent literacy strand will provide you with the knowledge, tools, and inspiration to lead adolescents to success.

Adult Literacy
The Adult Literacy Strand serves to (1) help educators improve the quality of instruction and learning within adult education, (2) increase the professional understandings of those involved in promoting lifelong learning, (3) enhance an information network for the dissemination of materials, techniques, strategies and philosophies in adult education, (4) impact the development of state legislation and administrative policy supporting post-secondary learning, and (5) increase the general successes of ongoing education.

Diversity
The Diversity Strand was created to raise an awareness of diversity issues, especially those related to urban and rural education and to increase the support of educators working in urban and rural settings. The Diversity Strand will include sessions that specifically address issues related to teaching in response to the vast array of diversities found in our student populations, including, but not limited to, issues of poverty, language, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, and special needs. Examples of innovative and evidence-based approaches will be shared by researchers and practitioners.

Early Childhood Literacy (prek-3rd grade)
Educators of children in preschool through third grade will find engaging presentations to build knowledge to support oral language development, balanced literacy, guided reading, and research based instructional strategies. Presentations have been selected with careful attention to instructional practices that are grounded in research and can easily be implemented into the classroom.

Educational Leadership
Educational leaders will have the opportunity to attend sessions that will support school improvement plans directed at maximizing student achievement. Presenters will focus on significant research materials, strategies, activities and professional development ideas that can be used for staff preparation for the the upcoming 2015 Smarter Balanced assessment. Join us as we learn about best practices and tools that will help us move to a new generation of learning expectations included in the Common Core State Standards and the robust instructional levels of the future.

Legislative
The Legislative/Government Relations Strand is all about advocacy for literacy. As educators, we must have a pro-active voice in the policies that are designed and implemented. Find out how your voice can be used to advocate for literacy.

Literacy Standards & Assessment
Literacy Standards & Assessment sessions promote instruction and assessment to meet the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), and Michigan’s Career and College Ready Literacy Standards. The strand includes sessions that focus on general topics such as developing comprehensive literacy plans based on the CCSS, as well as specific examples of local and state initiatives that support reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language in all content areas and across all grade levels.

Struggling Readers/Intervention
In almost every classroom across Michigan, there are students who struggle with reading. Add the Intervention/Struggling Reader Strand to your day to gain insights on how to address the specific needs of the struggling reader. These sessions will focus on problem solving techniques, comprehension strategies and supports every teacher needs to meet the daily demands of teaching the struggling reader.

Technology/21st Century Literacy
Integrating technology into educational programs provides professionals with powerful tools to help turn concepts into knowledge. The presentations in this strand have been selected specifically for their interactive formats. Come join us for these exciting sessions to learn about methods and materials that allow you to effectively integrate powerful technology based tools into learning.

Writing
Writing teachers and authors from across the state will provide attendees with examples of “Best Practice” strategies that can easily adapt and apply to classroom instruction. Join us for sessions that explore writing workshop, help students make reading-writing connections, and examine new ways of teaching grammar. Discover innovative ideas for implementing CCSS using digital components. Sessions will focus on author’s craft, authentic audience, and motivation for reluctant writers, just to name a few.
Tech Talks

Tech Talks are kiosk demonstrations on tips for using technology to aid in promoting literacy. Presenter topics will be centered on new technologies and apps for teachers and classroom use. Conference attendees are invited to walk up and enter into the discussion. Consider connecting, sharing, and thinking with colleagues in an informal, informative atmosphere. Kiosk tables will be located near registration.

**Jocelyn Farkas, Researching with iPads**
Teaching students to research can be a challenge in itself. Using iPads to research can seem daunting without a keyboard or USB. Have No FEAR! Evernote and Live Paper are here! This tech talk will provide insights on how students can use apps to keep their research notes organized and ready to access.

**Dan Polleys, Publishing Student Writing in a Variety of Ways: podcasts, iMovies, and e-books**
There are many ways to publish student writing with the iPad. We’ll explore apps that allow students to explore their creativity through publishing their own work in ways that engage twenty-first century learners.

**Penny Lou Lew, Walk Through Wikis: You, Too, Can be a Wiki Guru**
Tips for using and managing wikis in the classroom

**Sue Sharma, The Pinteresting Professional**
Pinterest has quickly become the go-to social networking site for ideas in all categories. But, how many Pinterest users have considered anchoring best practice ideas for the classroom? This session will focus on the professional uses for Pinterest from book talks to best practice. Pinners will leave with ideas on how to organize classroom practices, councils, and organizations in order to manage all the great ideas on virtual boards.

**Mark Raffler, Common Core State Standard Resource Bonanza**
Come to this time to explore some of the “go to” sites for materials that line up to the Common Core State Standards from the content literacy, literacy, and grammar perspective. We will look at video modules, prepared materials, assessment samples and more. All available online a click away!

**Patricia Clancy, iPads and Inquiry: Non-fiction reading and writing in your 1-3 classroom**
Learn how the iPad can be used as an essential tool in an inquiry approach to teaching non-fiction reading and writing strategies. This approach will actively engage the students in your first through third grade classrooms and help your students achieve many of the Common Core State Standards in literacy. Student project samples will illustrate the power of this approach. You will leave the session inspired to launch your own non-fiction inquiry unit of study.

**Jeremy Hyler, Engaging Readers and Writers with Subtext**
Subtext is an iPad app that is free, where you can set-up classroom groups to collaborate, annotate, and discuss digital texts. In addition, teachers can issue assignments, quizzes, and tests—giving any teacher opportunities to engage students. Check it out at http://www.subtext.com.

**Julie Milewski, Elements of a Story: Using Toontastic in Your Classroom**
Come and see a second grader teach teachers the elements of a story and how to build a story using the app Toontastic, rated one of the New York Times top 10 apps of the year.

Subject to Change
Saturday, March 15

8:00 A.M. BREAKOUT SESSIONS

FEATURED SPEAKERS

Jeff Anderson, The Grammar of Informational/Explanatory Writing (Adolescent Literacy, Literacy Standards, Writing)

Kathy Bumgardener, COMMON CORE CAN DO: Keys to Really Going Deep in the Real World Classroom with the CCSS (Literacy Standards)

Jim Burke

Harvey Smokey Daniels, Curiosity is Incurable: Texts and Lessons that Energize Kids (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade))

Jane Feber, Engage! Excite! Motivate! Strategies to Engage All Students (Adolescent Literacy, Literacy Standards, Struggling Readers/Intervention)

Penny Kittle, Leading Writers by Writing Beside Them (Adolescent Literacy, Literacy Standards, Writing)

Barry Lane & Colleen Mestdagh, Teaching Kindness Through Song and Literature (Early Childhood, Literacy Standards, Writing)

Frank Serafini, Close Reading: A Necessary But Insufficient Way of Reading (Technology/21st Century Literacy)

Jeffrey Wilhelm, Reading Unbound: The power of reading marginalized texts (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Struggling Readers/Intervention)

FEATURED AUTHORS

Caryn Butzke, Bucket Filling from A to Z (Early Childhood Literacy, Writing)

Sue Stauffacher, 21st Century Literacy for Struggling Readers (Adolescent Literacy, Struggling Readers/Intervention)

Janie Lynn Panagopoulos, Demystifying Creative Writing: 3/3/3 Elements of Writing (Adolescent Literacy, Literacy Standards, Technology/21st Century Literacy)

Marquin Parks, Hook 'em with Humor: How to Keep Boys (& Girls) Reading! (Adolescent Literacy, Writing)

PROPOSAL SPEAKERS

Jeffrey Beal, Kindergarten Entry Assessment: From Pilot to Fieldtest (Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Literacy Assessment)

Lynn Bigelman, Literacy Through Application (Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Literacy Assessment, Literacy Standards, Struggling Readers/Intervention, Technology/21st Century Literacy, Writing)

Julie Grimmelsman, Engaging Resistant Readers and Writers through Conferencing (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Literacy Assessment, Struggling Readers/Intervention, Writing)

Wayne Johnson, Getting Parents involved in your Reading Program (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Educational Leadership)

Melissa Labadie, Tried and True Literacy Resources (Literacy Standards, Struggling Readers/Intervention, Technology/21st Century Literacy, Writing)

Jen Orton, Using Art to Inspire Writing and Writing to Inspire Art (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Adult Literacy, Diversity, Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Literacy Standards, Writing)

Tamara Rhomberg, 21st Century Thinking Connected to 21st Century Writing (Writing, Literacy Assessment, Technology/21st Century Literacy)

Kristina Rouech, When is a Question not a Question? (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Adult Literacy, Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Literacy Assessment, Literacy Standards)

Marcia Scoles, A Moral Dilemma (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Adult Literacy)*

Dr. Leah van Belle, Beyond Narratives: Teaching Persuasive Reading & Writing K-5 (Literacy Standards, Writing, Literacy Assessment)*

Jill Erfourth, Plug-in to Words with Word Study and the Common Core (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Literacy Assessment)

Julie Joynt, From Content to Student to Technology Interaction (Technology/21st Century Literacy)

Lunch Breakout Sessions 12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M.

Brandy Archer, Instructional Practices to Close the Achievement Gap (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Literacy Standards, Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Diversity)

Kassandra Barley, One Minute Reader: Accelerate Reading Achievement at Home (Struggling Readers/Intervention, Technology/21st Century Literacy)

Christi Edge, Literacy Power Inverter: (Re)Discovering Content-Area Texts (Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade))

Tim Hargis, The NEW Writing Diner: Teaching Ideas for Common Core Success (Writing)

Jen Orton, Using Art to Inspire Writing and Writing to Inspire Art (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Adult Literacy, Diversity, Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Literacy Standards, Writing)

*Bring your favorite device (i.e. tablet, iPad, laptop) for this interactive session

Subject to Change
Saturday, March 15

Bernie Osebold, Edmodo & Literacy (Technology/21st Century Literacy)*

Carol Paul, Bringing Up The Bottom 30 (Literacy Standards, Struggling Readers/Intervention, Adult Literacy)

Rachel Reid, Learning is Meant to be “Made” (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Adult Literacy, Diversity, Educational Leadership, Literacy Assessment, Literacy Standards, Struggling Readers/Intervention, Technology/21st Century Literacy, Writing)

Tina Sreniawski, Successful Student-Led Book Clubs (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Literacy Standards, Literacy Assessment)

Kenn Vidro, PLUG-IN With the POWER of WORDS! (Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Diversity, Writing, Struggling Readers/Intervention)

1:30 P.M. BREAKOUT SESSIONS

FEATURED SPEAKERS

Kathy Bumgardener, COMMON CORE CAN DO: Keys to Really Going Deep in the Real World Classroom with the CCSS (Literacy Standards)

Jim Burke

Harvey Smokey Daniels, Curiosity is Incurable: Texts and Lessons that Energize Kids (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade))

Donalyn Miller, Bring on the Books! (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade))

Frank Serafini, Reading the Visual: Images, Design, Texts and Comprehension (Adolescent Literacy)

Alan Sitomer, Smartly Scaffolding to Unlock Rigorous Text (Adolescent Literacy, Literacy Standards, Struggling Readers/Intervention, Writing)

FEATURED AUTHORS

Ellen Airgood, Keeping it Real (Struggling Readers/Intervention, Writing)

Todd Day, Poetic License: Allowing Teachers to Teach Poetry (Adolescent Literacy, Writing)

Wendy Halperin, Drawing Children Into Reading (Early Childhood Literacy, Literacy Assessment, Literacy Standards, Writing)


Kevin Kammeraad, Make Your Classroom Come Alive! (Early Childhood Literacy)

Ruth McNally Barshaw, Ellie McDoodle: Journaling, doodling and writing stories (Adolescent Literacy, Early Childhood Literacy, Writing)

John Mooy, The Importance of Story (Adolescent Literacy)

PROPOSAL SPEAKERS

Karen Allmen, Making Share Time in Writing Workshop Work For You (Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Writing)

Sarah Andersen, Facilitating Choice Within Curriculum Constraints (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade))

Mike Batten, State-Network For Administrators Implementing MAISA Units (Educational Leadership)

Danielle DeFauw, Writing: A Collaboration of Teachers, Families, and Children (Writing)

Kristi Karis, Two Trains: Incorporating geography, history, & literature (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Literacy Standards)

Lynn Mangold Newmyer, Got a Plan? Improving Written Responses (Struggling Readers/Intervention)

Melissa Swales, A Perfect Match: Teaching Writing Using Technology (Technology/21st Century Literacy)

Dr. Leah van Belle, Beyond Narrative: Teaching Persuasive Reading & Writing 6-12 (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Literacy Standards, Writing, Literacy Assessment) *

Jeremy Hyler, Create, Compose, Connect: (Writing, Literacy Assessment, Technology/21st Century Literacy)

Bill Loyd, Reading & Leading (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Educational Leadership)

Don McCabe, Freebies to Help Struggling Readers/Spellers of any Age (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Adult Literacy, Struggling Readers/Intervention, Technology/21st Century Literacy)

Debra Reeves, Navigating Nonfiction for Comprehension of Complex Text (Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade))

Adnan Salhi, Resistant Readers Demand Reading and Writing! How? (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Adult Literacy, Struggling Readers/Intervention, Writing)

Robert Sornson, Developing Self-Regulation and Empathy in the Classroom (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Diversity, Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade))

Tesha Thomas, Close Reading through Text Dependent Questions (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Literacy Standards)

Lorri Zieleniewski, Interacting with Informational Text through Close Reading (Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Literacy Standards, Writing)

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Saturday, March 15

3:30 P.M. BREAKOUT SESSIONS

FEATURED SPEAKERS

Jeff Anderson, The Grammar of Informational/Explanatory Writing (Adolescent Literacy, Literacy Standards, Writing)


Kara Clayton, Media Literacy & Digital Apps to Plug Students Into Literacy (Adolescent Literacy, Adult Literacy, Technology/21st Century Literacy)*

Penny Kittle, Leading Writers by Writing Beside Them, (Adolescent Literacy, Literacy Standards, Writing)

Jeffrey Wilhelm, Fresh Takes on Teaching Literary Elements (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Struggling Readers/Intervention)

FEATURED AUTHORS

Kimberli Bindschatel, From peer pressure to diversity: Guiding a student’s path (Adolescent Literacy, Diversity, Literacy Standards, Writing)

Darrin & Karen Brege, Creativity, Literacy, and Laughter! (Adolescent Literacy, Early Childhood Literacy, Writing)

Matt Faulkner, Can We Talk About This? The Graphic Novel Tackles Bigotry (Diversity)

Colby Sharp, Linda Urban, Katherine Applegate, & Lisa McMann, How can we create a culture of passion and creativity? (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Writing)

Robbyn Smith - van Frankenhuysen, Connect with Nature (Adolescent Literacy, Diversity, Writing)

Gijsbert van Frankenhuysen, Making Drawing Simple for your Classroom (Adolescent Literacy)

Lisa Wheeler, Fact or Fiction: Research is Your Fuzzy Friend (Early Childhood Literacy, Literacy Standards, Writing)

PROPOSAL SPEAKERS

Teresa Bunner, Creating Space for Student Voice (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Writing)

Tanya Christ, Weaving Literacy and Science: Standards-Driven Instruction (Literacy Standards)

Alexander Davidson, Starting In the Middle: Motivating Male Readers with Purpose (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Struggling Readers/Intervention)

Danielle DeFauw, Collaborating with Ryan Hipp - One School’s Experience (Technology/21st Century Literacy, Writing)

Emily Freeman, Blogging as Shared Writing: a Lower El. Approach (Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Technology/21st Century Literacy)

Ana Howrani Heeres, Take Guided Reading to the Next Level: Coaching Readers (Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Struggling Readers/Intervention)

Jacqueline LaRose, Picturing Women in History (Diversity, Literacy Standards)

Ledong Li, Literacy in the Digital Era: Digital Text / Digital Thinking (Technology/21st Century Literacy)

Susan Piazza, Improving Learning Experiences for English Language Learners (Diversity)

Laura Sams, The Shark Riddle: Storytelling from Script to Screen (Technology/21st Century Literacy, Writing)

Kristal White, Documentation for Interventions and Small Group Instruction (Literacy Standards, Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Literacy Assessment, Struggling Readers/Intervention)

Linda Williams, Engaging Voice: Hip-Hop Literacies and Adult Learners (Adult Literacy)

Susan Wilson-Golab, Rethinking the Writing Process with Peer Review and Revision (Writing)

Bob Younger, Technology, Reading and the CCSS. Simple, right? (Literacy Standards, Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Struggling Readers/Intervention)

Tori Bernero, The Tale of Two Accountability Systems (Educational Leadership)

Jill Erfourth, Interacting with Informational Text Through Close Reading (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Literacy Standards, Writing)

Stephanie Erhard, Word Study Brought Into the 21st Century (Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Technology/21st Century Literacy)

Dorothy Henson-Parker, LEP 1021, How can colored overlays help your students? (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Adult Literacy, Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Literacy Assessment, Struggling Readers/Intervention, Technology/21st Century Literacy, Writing)


*Bring your favorite device (i.e. tablet, iPad, laptop) for this interactive session

Subject to Change
Kristin Ziemke, Connecting Comprehension and Technology (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Writing, Literacy Assessment, Struggling Readers/Intervention, Technology/21st Century Literacy) *

Kevin Dykema, Hands-on Manipulatives for CCSS Literacy & Math, Grades K-2 (Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Literacy Standards)

*Bring your favorite device (i.e. tablet, iPad, laptop) for this interactive session

MRA Annual Meeting
Saturday, March 15, 2014

8:00 A.M. – 9:00 P.M.

Grand View A, Amway Grand Plaza Hotel

If you haven’t submitted your voting ballot, please do so during this meeting.

Rockstar Luncheon
New this year. Mingle with our 2014 featured speakers in this cash & carry style luncheon. A large selection of food will be available for purchase outside of the luncheon room. Purchase your food and have lunch with your favorite featured speaker. Admission ticket required through registration.

Rockstars include:
~Richard Allington
~Jeff Anderson
~Mary Bigler
~Warren Buckleitner
~Kathy Bumgardener
~Jim Burke
~James Bucky Carter
~Michael Cirelli
~Kara Clayton
~Smokey Daniels
~Patricia Edwards
~Jane Feber
~Troy Hicks
~Penny Kittle
~Donalyn Miller
~RJ Palacio
~Laura Robb
~Frank Serafini
~Alan Sitomer
~Jeffrey Wilhelm

Subject to Change
8:00 A.M. BREAKOUT SESSIONS

**Featured Speakers**

- **Richard Allington**, Will hard reading improve reading achievement? *(Literacy Standards)*
- **Mary Bigler**, Literacy Matters *(Early Childhood Literacy, Struggling Readers/Intervention, Writing)*
- **Warren Buckleitner**, Technology Enhanced Library Spaces for Young Children *(Technology/21st Century Literacy)*
- **James Bucky Carter**, What’s Up With Comics?: Research, Teaching, and The Now *(Adolescent Literacy, Adult Literacy, Technology/21st Century Literacy)*
- **Donalyn Miller**, Bring on the Books! *(Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade))*
- **Laura Robb**, Unlocking Complex Texts *(Adolescent Literacy, Literacy Standards, Writing)*
- **Alan Sitomer**, Smartly Scaffolding to Unlock Rigorous Text *(Adolescent Literacy, Literacy Standards, Struggling Readers/Intervention, Writing)*
- **Ellen Airgood**, Keeping it Real *(Struggling Readers/Intervention, Writing)*
- **Kimberli Bindschatel**, From peer pressure to diversity: Guiding a student’s path *(Adolescent Literacy, Diversity, Literacy Standards, Writing)*
- **Matt Faulkner**, Can We Talk About This? The Graphic Novel Tackles Bigotry *(Diversity)*
- **Gijsbert van Frankenhuyzen**, Making Drawing Simple for your Classroom *(Adolescent Literacy)*
- **Lisa Wheeler**, Fact or Fiction: Research is Your Fuzzy Friend *(Early Childhood Literacy, Literacy Standards, Writing)*

**Featured Authors**

- **Ellen Airgood**, Keeping it Real *(Struggling Readers/Intervention, Writing)*
- **Kimberli Bindschatel**, From peer pressure to diversity: Guiding a student’s path *(Adolescent Literacy, Diversity, Literacy Standards, Writing)*
- **Matt Faulkner**, Can We Talk About This? The Graphic Novel Tackles Bigotry *(Diversity)*
- **Robyn Smith - van Frankenhuyzen**, Connect with Nature *(Adolescent Literacy, Diversity, Writing)*
- **Gijsbert van Frankenhuyzen**, Making Drawing Simple for your Classroom *(Adolescent Literacy)*
- **Lisa Wheeler**, Fact or Fiction: Research is Your Fuzzy Friend *(Early Childhood Literacy, Literacy Standards, Writing)*

**Proposal Speakers**

- **Cynthia Coble**, Inductive Learning: A Core Six Strategy *(Literacy Standards)*
- **Danielle DeFauw**, Drawing Children into Writing: Handwriting Development *(Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Writing)*
- **Theda Gibbs**, Centering Youth Voices With Literacy In Out of School Spaces *(Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Diversity, Writing)*
- **Kristen Hill**, Teachers candidates’ use of engaging literature with ELLs *(Diversity)*
- **Laura Sams**, The Shark Riddle: Storytelling from Script to Screen *(Technology/21st Century Literacy, Writing)*
- **Lynnette Suckow**, Great Lakes Great Books for the Classroom *(Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade))*
- **Diane Titchie**, Global Inquiry Book Clubs Bring Lit Circles into Digital Age *(Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Literacy Standards, Writing, Technology/21st Century Literacy)*
- **LaDonna Wicklund**, An Early Literacy Boost through Songs *(Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Struggling Readers/Intervention)*
- **Teri Bernero**, The Tale of Two Accountability Systems *(Educational Leadership)*
- **Denise Dusseau**, 7 Keys that Inspire Success in Common Core Writing *(Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Literacy Assessment, Literacy Standards, Technology/21st Century Literacy, Writing)*
- **Molly Funk**, The Dream Team: Principals & Literacy Coaches *(Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Educational Leadership, Struggling Readers/Intervention)*
- **Julie Joynt**, Unplugging the Mysteries of Content Literacy for All *(Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Literacy Standards, Writing, Struggling Readers/Intervention)*
- **Bill Loyd**, Reading & Leading *(Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Educational Leadership)*
- **Sheila Oates**, The Magical Combination of Picture Books and Writing *(Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Literacy Standards, Struggling Readers/Intervention, Writing)*
- **Debra Reeves**, Navigating Nonfiction for Comprehension of Complex Text *(Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade))*
- **Angela Shields**, National Geographic Learning Instills Passion for Reading *(Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Literacy Standards, Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Diversity, Writing, Literacy Assessment, Struggling Readers/Intervention, Technology/21st Century Literacy)*

*Bring your favorite device (i.e. tablet, iPad, laptop) for this interactive session*

Subject to Change
Sunday, March 16

Lunch Breakout Sessions 12:00 P.M. – 1:00 P.M.

Brandy Archer, Instructional Practices to Close the Achievement Gap (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Literacy Standards, Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Diversity)

Kassandra Barley, One Minute Reader: Accelerate Reading Achievement at Home (Struggling Readers/Intervention, Technology/21st Century Literacy)

Christi Edge, Literacy Power Inverter: (Re)Discovering Content-Area Texts (Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade))

Tim Hargis, The NEW Writing Diner: Teaching Ideas for Common Core Success (Writing)

Tina Sreniawski, Successful Student-Led Book Clubs (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Literacy Standards, Literacy Assessment)

Kenny Vidro, PLUG-IN With the POWER of WORDS! (Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Diversity, Writing, Struggling Readers/Intervention)

1:30 P.M. BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Featured Speakers

Richard Allington, Will hard reading improve reading achievement? (Literacy Standards)


Kara Clayton, Media Literacy & Digital Apps to Plug Students Into Literacy (Adolescent Literacy, Adult Literacy, Technology/21st Century Literacy)*

Patricia Edwards, Plugged or Unplugged: Family Literacy in the 21st Century (Diversity, Early Childhood Literacy (prek – 3rd grade), Struggling Readers/Intervention, Technology/21st Century Literacy)

Troy Hicks, Mixing Sources, Amplifying Voices: Crafting Digital Writing (Technology/21st Century Literacy)*

Featured Authors

Darrin & Karen Brege, Creativity, Literacy, and Laughter! (Adolescent Literacy, Early Childhood Literacy, Writing)

Caryn Butzke, Bucket Filling from A to Z (Early Childhood Literacy, Writing)

Todd Day, Poetic License: Allowing Teachers to Teach Poetry (Adolescent Literacy, Writing)


Janie Lynn Panagopoulos, Demystifying Creative Writing: 3/3/3 Elements of Writing (Adolescent Literacy, Literacy Standards, Technology/21st Century Literacy)

Marquín Parks, Hook ’em with Humor: How to Keep Boys (& Girls) Reading! (Adolescent Literacy, Writing)

Proposal Speakers

Mike Batten, Principal’s Role in Highly Effective ELA Workshop Classrooms (Educational Leadership)

Tamara Campbell, Take 2: Reading and Writing Lessons (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Struggling Readers/Intervention, Writing)

Jessica Crawford, Summer Literacy Camp for In-Coming Ninth Grade Students (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Struggling Readers/Intervention)

Sherry Griesinger, Kid Bloggers: Writing for the World to See! (Literacy Standards, Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Writing, Technology/21st Century Literacy)

Lori Irwin, Seriously?? Reading Interventions for Everyone? (Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Struggling Readers/Intervention)

Carol Paul, Look Out! Here Comes a Title Wave (Educational Leadership, Legislative)

Susan Piazza, Responsive Practices for ELL, LD, and Diverse Learners (Diversity)

Laura Pleune, Transliteracy...what can we do? (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Technology/21st Century Literacy)

Julia Reynolds, Three Jobs are Better than One! (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Educational Leadership, Struggling Readers/Intervention)

Pam Rickli, Making the Common Core Accessible to Title 1 Students (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Struggling Readers/Intervention, Writing)*

Rachel Shattuck, Real Reading: Realizing Your Place In Social Injustice (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Diversity, Writing)

Dr. Celeste Shelton-Harris, Literacy IS Rocket Science!!! (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Literacy Standards, Struggling Readers/Intervention, Writing)

Kelly Vangel, What to Say Instead of, Sound it Out. (Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade))

Amy Verhooglestraete, Using Comprehension Strategies with Young Readers (Literacy Standards, Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade))

Mollie Henderson, Meeting the Challenge of K-5 Informational Text With Ease! (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Literacy Standards, Struggling Readers/Intervention)

Subject to Change

*Bring your favorite device (i.e. tablet, iPad, laptop) for this interactive session
Melanie Matthews, Come Walk With Me: Literacy Instructional Rounds! (Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Educational Leadership)

Angela Shields, National Geographic Learning Instills Passion for Reading (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Literacy Standards, Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Diversity, Writing, Literacy Assessment, Struggling Readers/Intervention, Technology/21st Century Literacy)

Elaine Weber, Put students on track to meet literacy targets! Build a Plan (Educational Leadership, Literacy Assessment, Struggling Readers/Intervention)

Kevin Dykema, Hands-on Manipulatives for CCSS Literacy & Math, Grades 3-5 (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade))

3:30 P.M. BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Featured Speakers

Mary Bigler, Literacy Matters (Early Childhood Literacy, Struggling Readers/Intervention, Writing)


Troy Hicks, Mixing Sources, Amplifying Voices: Crafting Digital Writing (Technology/21st Century Literacy) **

Featured Authors

Wendy Halperin, Drawing Children Into Reading (Early Childhood Literacy, Literacy Assessment, Literacy Standards, Writing)

Ruth McNally Barshaw, Ellie McDoodle: Journaling, doodling and writing stories (Adolescent Literacy, Early Childhood Literacy, Writing)

John Mooy, The Importance of Story (Adolescent Literacy)

Sue Stauffacher, 21st Century Literacy for Struggling Readers (Adolescent Literacy, Struggling Readers/Intervention)

Proposal Speakers

Virginia Daniels, Plugging in the Language Experience Approach (Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Struggling Readers/Intervention, Technology/21st Century Literacy)*

Danielle DeFauw, Arts Integration in the English Language Arts (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Literacy Standards, Technology/21st Century Literacy)

Suzanne Gibbs, Using Technology to Inspire Readers and Writers (Writing, Struggling Readers/Intervention, Technology/21st Century Literacy)*

Theda Gibbs, Transformative Literacy Practices In Out of School Spaces (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Diversity, Writing)

Nancy Herta, Toying With Writing: Thinking Like Children (Writing)

Raven Jones Stanbrough, The Case of the Detroit Great Debaters (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade))

LaRissa Paras, Reading Like a Historian (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Literacy Standards)

Tamara Rhomberg, 21st Century Thinking Connected to 21st Century Writing (Writing, Literacy Assessment, Technology/21st Century Literacy)

Biz Ruskowski, Reading and Writing Workshop Lab Visits (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Educational Leadership, Literacy Assessment, Literacy Standards, Writing)

Sue Sharma, Diversity in Teacher Education Literacy Programs: Phase II (Diversity)

Ming Zhang, iPad’s Mind Mapping Apps - Effective Tools for Learning (Writing, Technology/21st Century Literacy)

Patricia Clancy, Engaging Students Meaningfully with Non-Fiction Text (Literacy Standards, Writing, Early Childhood Literacy)

Janet Navarro, Plug into Thinking: Reasoning with Evidence Found in Text (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Literacy Assessment, Literacy Standards)

Jen Orton, Grammar that Transfers! (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Adult Literacy, Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Literacy Standards, Writing)

Dr. Elizabeth Petroelje Stolle, Plugging in Together: Teachers and Students Exploring International Adolescent Literature (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Diversity)

Amy Verhougstraete, Fostering Independence Using Daily Five and Work Stations (Literacy Standards, Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Struggling Readers/Intervention)

Elaine Weber, Reading to the Core (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade))

Kevin Dykema, Making the Literacy/ Math Connection using Manipulatives (Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade))

*Bring your favorite device (i.e. tablet, iPad, laptop) for this interactive session

Subject to Change
Sunday, March 16

Luncheon with the Authors & Illustrators
A Conference Favorite with a Twist
Join our featured authors and illustrators for lunch this year. Participants will receive a complimentary signed book from the author at their table. Tickets must be pre-ordered.

Lunch tickets: $29

Young Authors’ Luncheon
Join our young authors at a special luncheon to celebrate the 2014 Kaleidoscope writers. Go to the Student Involvement tab at www.michiganreading.org to enter a student (K-12) from your school. Tickets must be pre-ordered.

Buffet Lunch Ticket: $25

Nerdy Book Club Barbeque Buffet
The Nerdy Book Club blog is a community blog that invites teachers, librarians, and authors to share their enthusiasm for engaging students with reading. Join a passionate community of readers and share your reading life with the Nerdy Book Club. Attendees will discuss new books and resources, reflect on their reading experiences, and explore methods for building reading communities online and off. The mission of the Nerdy Book Club is “Every reader has value and voice in our community.” Tickets must be pre-ordered.

Have a BBQ picnic with the creators of the Nerdy Book Club, Donalyn Miller & Colby Sharp. Nerdy Book Club door prizes will be given away.

Lunch tickets: $27

Subject to Change
Monday is Back! We have exciting plans for Monday attendees. There will be two separate events happening at the same time. High school students are invited to participate in interactive sessions in reading, writing and drawing. In addition, we will have interactive sessions for our Annual Conference attendees. Sessions will range from using an iPad in the classroom to Dr. Elaine Weber's foldable sessions. Monday at MRA promises to be an exciting finale to our 2014 Annual Conference!

90-MINUTE INTERACTIVE BREAKOUT SESSIONS INCLUDE:

8:30 A.M. BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- **Nancy Akhavan**, Phenomenal Nonfiction Reading Lessons Across Content Areas *(Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade))*

- **Stephanie Erhard**, Word Study Brought Into the 21st Century *(Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Technology/21st Century Literacy)*

- **Suzanne Gibbs**, Using Technology to Inspire Readers and Writers *(Writing, Struggling Readers/Intervention, Technology/21st Century Literacy)*

- **Julie Grimmelsman**, I Know This Because... *(Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Struggling Readers/Intervention, Writing)*

- **Roby Jarczewski**, Smashbook: A Tool to Connect Common Core with Student Choice *(Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade))*

- **A’Kena LongBenton, EdS, PMC**, Mobiles and Online Assessment Tools *(Literacy Assessment, Struggling Readers/Intervention, Technology/21st Century Literacy)*

- **Melissa Marin-Aho**, Blended Learning with Wikispaces *(Literacy Standards, Writing, Technology/21st Century Literacy)*

- **Judith Robinson**, Healthy Apps for the Early Childhood Brain, *(Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Technology/21st Century Literacy)*

- **Sharon L. Russell & Dalyce Beegle**, Adolescent Accelerated Reading Initiative: Text Structure and Critical Thinking Strategies from a research-based intervention for struggling adolescent readers *(Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Struggling Readers / Intervention, Literacy Standards)*

- **Elaine Weber**, Amazing Foldables *(Literacy Standards)*

10:30 A.M. BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- **Nancy Akhavan**, Phenomenal Nonfiction Reading Lessons Across Content Areas *(Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade))*

- **LaShawn Baskin**, Make and Take Literacy Centers *(Literacy Standards, Struggling Readers/Intervention)*

- **Jeffrey Beal**, Argumentative Writing: Making it Easy *(Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Literacy Standards, Early Childhood Literacy (pre-k – 3rd grade), Writing, Literacy Assessment, Struggling Readers/Intervention)*

- **Nancy Herta**, Toying With Writing: Thinking Like Children *(Writing)*

- **Jeremy Hyler & Troy Hicks**, Create, Compose, Connect *(Writing, Literacy Assessment, Technology/21st Century Literacy)*

- **Bill Loyd**, Reading & Leading *(Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Educational Leadership)*

- **Barbara Mick**, Catching Up on the Common Core: A MAISA-REMC Resource *(Literacy Standards)*

- **Janet Navarro & Tamara Lantz**, Plug into Thinking: Reasoning with Evidence Found in Text *(Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Literacy Assessment, Literacy Standards)*

- **Janie Lynn Panagopoulos**, Plug In 'n Connect with Janie Lynn Panagopoulos *(Adolescent Literacy (4th-12th grade), Literacy Standards, Technology/21st Century Literacy)*

- **Sue Sharma**, Plug into Digital Tools: Charge Your Literacy Instruction *(Technology/21st Century Literacy)*

*Bring your favorite device (i.e. tablet, iPad, laptop) for this interactive session*
Michigan Reading Association presents...

HIGH SCHOOL DAY

On Monday, March 17, 2014, the Michigan Reading Association will host a one day interactive workshop for high school age students at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The day begins with an opening keynote session with author Dr. Sharon M. Draper, followed by sessions with invited authors, artists, and actors. Sessions are highlighted below. The event is free to all students and chaperons. A light lunch will be provided. For registration information, go to www.michiganreading.org. Please have your High School students join us for an exciting, one of a kind literacy experience!

**TEEN TALK - TACKLING THE TOUGH STUFF**
**DR. SHARON M. DRAPER**


**ONE ARTIST’S PERSPECTIVE IN THE WORLD OF CHILDREN’S BOOKS, MUSIC, AND PUPPETRY**
**KEVIN KAMMERAAD**

Kevin will share his personal adventures as an artist. He’ll share his start in the field, adventures along the way, and engage us in a discussion about the creative process. He’ll show examples of his works as he answers questions. Insights on writing and revision will be discussed, along with behind the scenes photos and stories. Throughout the program, he’ll be sure to keep it lively with just the right amount of performance mixed in.

**MAKE A LIVING DOING WHAT YOU LOVE**
**RYAN HIPP**

Got an awesome idea, but don’t really know where to start? Are you a creative person but don’t know how to apply yourself? Are you sick of teen vampire love triangles and schools for wizards? Want to make a million dollars? (Well, I can’t promise you the last part...but I can guarantee I can help you make your ideas the best they can be). If this sounds like you, then this hands-on class is perfect for teens like yourself interested in setting goals and improving your writing.

**IT’S ALL IN THE DETAILS**
**KIMBERLI BINDSCHEDEL**

You’ve been told, “Show, don’t tell.” But what does that mean exactly? Creative writing is the art of making readers feel as though they are living within the story, right there with the characters, experiencing what they experience. We’ll workshop together to practice how to do just that. Bring paper, pencils, and an open mind.

**IF YA DON’T KNOW, NOW YA KNOW: HIP-HOP IS POETRY**
**MICHAEL CIRELLI**

In this workshop, students will explore the powerful characteristics of both poetic and rap forms, write bars, and engage poetic formulas to take back to the lab (to write their own poems). As we know, the poetic form of rap is rich with literary devices and techniques, and has a vivid and powerful history. This workshop allows students to discuss and explore this global poetic renaissance on their terms, and in their language.

**ART, IMPROV & LAUGHTER WITH THE BREGES**
**DARRIN BREGE & KAREN BELL-BREGE**

When it comes to the arts this dynamic duo educate and entertain! Darrin will share his most important skills for illustration and graphic design, all while making you laugh. He provides artwork for some of the top brands in the world, including Coca-Cola, HBO and XBOX. But this fun filled session doesn’t stop there; Karen will have you finding your creative and fun self by teaching improv. With over 20 years of performing and directing her troupe, she has taught many major companies and classes on this fantastic skill. Together they also have 10 books out, do comedy and radio. This will be one fun, inspiring workshop. They might even share some of their comedic impressions with you!