



ReAD: The Electronic Newsletter of the New York State Reading Association

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To share information in ReAD please submit news by the first of the month to be published the 10th of the month. Issues are published every month except for December-January and summer combined issues. For more information please contact Sandi Kurbiel at skurbiel@nycap.rr.com.

In this edition: NYSRA News, NYSED News, & Literacy News of Interest
(Please click on each heading to lead you to an associated link.)

Happy Halloween!

NYSRA News

Fall NYSRA Conference

Mark your calendars for NYSRA's Fall Conference, *Literacy Connections*, in October! This year's conference will be held from Friday, October 23, to Sunday, October 25 at the Hilton Rye Town in Rye Brook, New York. This is a great opportunity to make connections with other literacy-minded educators, and to listen to many wonderful guest speakers. Hope to see you all there!

Assembly of Delegates

The Assembly of Delegates met in Latham, NY on September 24. It was a productive meeting and the highlight was discussing the exciting Fall 2011 Conference. The delegates are hoping that all NYSRA members will be able to attend.

New York Library Association Disaster Relief Fund

At the Assembly of Delegates, the Delegates voted to support NYLA's disaster relief fund to honor our many members affected by recent disasters. \$250 was given from current funds and \$250 was raised from raffle proceeds so we are able to donate \$500 to this important cause! If individual members want to donate more you can visit the NYLA website.

NYSRA Charlotte Award Committee

Just a reminder: the Charlotte ballot is on the NYSRA website, and the voting deadline is April 15, 2012. Also, Charlotte committee members are available if you would like to schedule a presentation at your council. Please contact the Committee Chair, Judy Ehrensbeck, at judy@ehrensbeck.com for more information.

Also, as previously mentioned, you can learn all about these great books at the [NYSRA Charlotte Award site](#) or the [Charlotte blog](#).

[NYS Letters About Literature](#)

[Empire State Center for the Book](#) is a once again a participant in the national [Letters About Literature](#) program sponsored by the Library of Congress National Center for the Book. New York State students in grades 4-12 are eligible to participate in the state program. NYSRA continues to support this program through donations of funds and volunteers.

[NYNPA Newspapers in Education](#)

Check out the many resources available from NIE in the latest Reading Scene and online. NIE is also sponsoring a workshop at this fall's conference entitled, "Reading Strategies to Explore the Real World in Literature and News" with author Tom Tufts.

NYS Education News

[PARCC Announces Launch of New Website](#)

The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers launches a new website.

[Prudential Spirit of Community Awards](#)

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards honors young people for outstanding volunteer service to their community.

[Being an American Essay Contest](#)

This is an essay contest for students in grades 9-12 about how the Constitution maintains a culture of liberty.

[Information for Districts Impacted by Severe Weather](#)

Find questions and answers for school districts impacted by severe weather events.

[2011-2012 Test Schedules](#)

The revised schedule is posted and supersedes the previously released schedule.

[NYS Teacher of the Year is Named](#)

A Schenectady School District teacher is named the 2012 Teacher of the year.

[Updated Guidance on Annual Professional Performance Review](#)

Find updates on APPR.

Literacy News of Interest Links

[Teachers at Random](#)

Sponsored by Random House, this website goes above and beyond giving lesson plan ideas. It includes information on authors and illustrators, literacy awards, reading programs, classroom clubs, teacher guides, information for librarians, and even includes a sample planning calendar.

[Teacher Vision](#)

This is another great website for literacy teachers, including dozens of literature guides and other resources. Although this website is not free, there is a free trial membership available.

[Teaching Ideas.co.uk](#)

Find some interesting free lesson plan ideas for literacy, math, geography, and other subject areas from our neighbors in the United Kingdom at this website.

[Apples 4 the Teacher](#)

Find some fun Halloween literacy ideas at this link.