

# EMPIRE READING SCENE



VOLUME 7, ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER, 2008

## NYSRA Receives Honors in Atlanta

The New York State Reading Association was honored to receive the **Award of Excellence** and **Advocacy Award** from the International Reading Association at the Annual Awards Ceremony in Atlanta, Georgia this past May. Both the Award of Excellence and Advocacy Award are coveted awards, that are rigorous in their requirements. New York State is active in promoting literacy throughout our state through our five goal areas which include:

- 1) Professional Development/Growth and Improvement
- 2) Advocacy/Influence
- 3) Partnerships/Collaboration
- 4) Communications/Information
- 5) Organizational Structures/Governance



Several New York State Councils also received the **Honor Council** award, which is similar to the state council Award of Excellence. Councils are required to provide specific information as to the inner-workings of their group toward the promotion of literacy. Congratulations to recipients of the Honor Council Award!

For more information on awards, see our website: [www.nysreading.org](http://www.nysreading.org) or visit the International Reading Association's site at [www.reading.org](http://www.reading.org)

## Electing a President Series

(Sponsored by Newspapers In Education)  
Level: Elementary, Middle



When it's time to vote, it's time for young people to understand the complicated process of choosing a leader. This 13-part series tells the whole story--from the primaries to the conventions to the issues, everything that leads up to pulling the final levers in the booth. Throughout the series there are tons of learning activities that link to the newspaper. NIE has also included a unique learning opportunity with step-by-step instructions for holding a classroom election so that students can "act out" the whole process to truly comprehend how it all works.

## Middle Level Summit Convenes in Albany August 20 & 21

Representatives from various groups involved in the education of Middle Level students gathered together in Albany this summer to discover the value in the state mandated "**Seven Essential Elements**". This summit meeting was called together to raise awareness of these essential elements that have been research based and proven to be a successful approach to educating students aged 10—14 in our New York schools.

To learn more about these essential elements log onto:

<http://www.nysmsa.org/>



## NYSRA 2008-09 CALENDAR:

- ◆ September 26 & 27, 2008  
Board of Directors and Delegates Meetings  
Best Western  
1228 Western Avenue  
Albany, NY
- ◆ January 23 & 24, 2009  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Holiday Inn Express  
1442 Western Avenue  
Albany, NY
- ◆ March 28, 2009  
Board of Directors and Delegates Meetings  
Saratoga Hilton  
Saratoga Springs, NY
- ◆ June 5 & 6, 2009  
Board of Directors Meeting and Leadership Workshop  
White Eagle Conference Center, Hamilton, NY

**SAVE THESE DATES!**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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**Election 2008** – With the Presidential elections on the way, most Newspapers in Education programs are looking for specialized curriculum to jump on the bandwagon. The New York Newspapers Foundation has funded special features for every daily newspaper

in New York State wishing to offer specialized materials for their teachers. In addition, the NIE vendors, Hot Topics Hot Serials have developed a “virtual” teacher workshop which teachers can “attend” at their leisure on their own computers. Teachers could “attend” a one-hour teacher workshop on “Using the Newspaper to Teach About the Election” by simply logging in whenever and wherever they choose.

This virtual workshop will provide teachers with specific strategies/lesson plans for teaching about the election. And, at the end of the course, it will generate a certificate of completion so that teachers may be able to get continuing education credits for taking the course. As part of the course, teachers will be able to download some election activity sheets and a copy of the NIE materials their students will be working with later.

## NYSRA’s 2008 Leadership Workshop

By Wally Freeland

The weekend of June 6th – 7th, 2008 brought together council leaders from across New York State to “Celebrate Literacy Leaders”. The weekend started with participants sharing books written with a setting in New York State, facilitated by NYSRA’s “Teachers As Readers” chairperson, Gail Wellman. Many great titles were shared and the bibliography will be available to NYSRA members. Many of the books shared were also donated for use at the IRA Leadership Workshop that was held in New York City a few weeks later. State council leaders from the eastern part of the United States were welcomed to the “Big Apple” and the “Empire State” by NYSRA, and many of them returned home with the New York State books.

Saturday’s activities included a “mini” NYSRA Assembly of Delegates meeting providing an opportunity to deal with some organizational business left from the cancelled March AOD meeting. The Leadership Workshop started with the sharing of some ideas about the “whys” of belonging to professional organizations. Membership chairperson, Jan Peters, then presented NYSRA’s “new” online membership system, developed to make membership recordkeeping easier and more accessible for both NYSRA and the local councils.

“*In the Year 2525, Associations Will Still be Alive*” was the topic for the next activity. Participants divided into two groups and each group read a different article about the future of organizations in the United States. They identified the key points and the implications for NYSRA and local councils. The good news is that professional organizations do have a future life with current generations, Generation X & Generation Y. Small group sessions included additional conversation about this topic and about membership, tools for council leaders, and updated IRS filing requirements.

The Greater 1000 Islands Literacy Council and the Niagara Frontier Reading Council helped to put closure on the day’s activities by sharing local initiatives. The GTILC spoke about their current success and future plans with “book blogging.” The NFRC shared a digital presentation they’ve developed which promotes their council and its activities.

Utilizing the feedback from the workshop, planning is already underway for NYSRA’s 2009 Leadership Workshop to be held the first weekend of June 2009. If you are interested in attending, please communicate with your local council president or contact Wally Freeland, IRA State Coordinator. (wally32320@aol.com)

## NYSRA 2008 Mini Grant Winners *Carol L. Pratt* & *Nancy Zajdel*

### FOR Connecting the Public Library and the Schools

A standards-based project  
initiated to encourage  
Maryvale students  
from K - 8th Grades  
to connect with and use  
the public library.

The proposal format can be found  
on-line at  
[www.nysreading.org](http://www.nysreading.org)



## LEADERSHIP 2009-2010

It’s not too early to start working on finalizing your council’s leadership for the next (2009 – 2010) year. Invite potential volunteers to “shadow” current leaders to get a better idea of the responsibilities. Also, be sure that they “pencil in/sharpen-in” June 5 & 6, 2009 for next year’s NYSRA Leadership Workshop. While you are at it, encourage others (current officers, potential future officers, interested council members) to be part of your council’s team at the June 2009 Leadership Workshop.

**Hope to see you there!!**

## *A Letter from NYSRA President, Cindy Wells*

Dear Colleagues,

Greetings from the banks of the St. Lawrence River! As the last vestiges of summer remain, I take pleasure in having the opportunity to reflect on what my goals for NYSRA are as I enter the role of presidency.

At the top of my list is to make NYSRA the “parent organization” of all our local council units — the place that our 30 councils look to for advice, guidance and belonging! At the same time, it is my hope that registrants at the state level also belong to a local council in order to bring their expertise and contributions to the area in which they reside. In our recent survey (if you haven’t yet responded, please do so by September 15!) we learned that of the respondents to date, almost 5% indicated that they did not realize belonging to a local council also included state membership! Uniting our human resources will make us a stronger organization and our voice will be heard in more places! So, **Goal #1- “Let’s Communicate as an Organizational Family !!”**

My second goal is to create and publish a NYSRA membership brochure. Many years ago, our organization had a brochure, but it has become outdated. In our efforts to create a new brochure, we are targeting the communication of what our organization does and the many benefits of membership. At our recent summer retreat great strides were made toward finalizing a draft of this document which will be available at our Fall Delegates meeting for com-

ments and further suggestions from our members. Following that meeting, we hope to move forward to publication. So, **Goal #2- “ Let’s Communicate Effectively with a Newly Created Brochure!!”**

A third goal that was addressed at our recent retreat was to “clean up” and update our website located at [www.nysreading.org](http://www.nysreading.org). Technology has made great advancements in recent years, and many of you, like myself, prefer to conduct business on-line at a time of our convenience. In our efforts to keep up with technology, we want our website to be user friendly and a vehicle that is informative to our membership. Our retreat break out group working on this goal spent a great deal of time viewing the various pages of the site and making them current. So, **Goal #3- “Let’s Communicate Efficiently Via our Website!!”**

A fourth goal is to redefine and provide a mentoring program for our Regional Directors. At the state level, we depend on the Regional Directors to solidify the connection between the state and local councils. The roles and responsibilities laid out in written format would be easier to understand and accomplish with someone who had “walked the walk” acting as a mentor for our newly appointed regional directors. The group working on this goal at our summer retreat was very thorough in drafting a design that would be effective toward this end. The change will have to be voted on by our delegates in order to become a part of our By-

Laws. We will need your ideas and voices for this vote! So, **Goal #4- “Let’s Communicate More Successfully With Our Local Councils via Better Informed Regional Directors!”**

Do we see a common theme here? Obviously, communication is what is going to solidify and unite our organization.

We hope to see every council represented at our Fall Delegates Meeting to be held on September 27th at the Best Western, 1228 Western Avenue, Albany, NY. Meeting time is 9:00 a.m. Get a group together from your council and plan on attending!! It would be wonderful to fill our conference room at the Best Western!! At this meeting, as mentioned in the recently sent flyer, Erik Sweet will present the changes of the State Standards and Core Curriculum from the State Education Department along with sharing technology sites that support us as educators. We will also present the “Seven Essential Elements” that are in the New York State regulations for Middle Level students. Schools that have adopted these elements with a fervor are meeting the needs of Middle Level students with overwhelming achievement. Of course we will provide highlights of our upcoming conference which will be held in Saratoga Springs, March 29-April 1, 2009.

So, I urge you to join us and become a part of our “Communication Network”! Our goal of improving the quality of literacy throughout our state will only be enhanced with the addition of



your resources and input!

I am looking forward to working with all of you as my presidential year progresses. If you have any suggestions or comments, please make your ideas heard by contacting me at: [www.nysreading.org](http://www.nysreading.org) under the heading of “Board of Directors”...

Again, I hope to...

♪See you in September♪...

With warmest regards,  
Cindy Wells  
NYSRA President, 2008-09

### **NYSRA Awards Packet Now On-Line**

**Did you know NYSRA has several awards available to its membership? There are monetary awards in the form of a mini-grant and research grants, along with awards to honor the individuals in education and within our councils for their dedication, service and excellence in what they do!**

**At our Fall Delegates meeting we will be proud to recognize the individuals who put tireless energy into making their local councils successful through our “Council Service Award”. For more information about our Awards Program you can visit our website at: [www.nysreading.org](http://www.nysreading.org)**

# Book Banter

## Fall 2008

### Primary

There's a special pebble, small and round and nearly smooth, who feels right at home on the seashore, and enjoys the beautiful sky and the waves, even the crashing breakers during storms. This not-entirely-smooth pebble is tickled by the crabs and warmed by the sun, but is quite sure that there is something more in his future—possibly as part of a huge stone wall, or being used in the construction of a fine building. (Hey...even pebbles can dream, can't they?) Susan Milord's **Pebble** (Harper Collins, '07) is a beautiful little picture book that can be used at all levels, with exquisite collages that evoke memories of the seashore and fittingly support the story. The theme is about belonging. And also about imagining...what great things might be.

Cast a spell with Jack Prelutsky's **The Wizard** (Greenwillow Books, 2007)! This book is a poem introducing the reader to a wizard who changes a frog into many different things through the course of his rhyming stanzas. Prelutsky has a rich imagination, and conjures some mesmerizing scenes. Brandon Dorman's illustrations superbly bring the book to life, with vibrant colors, unusual perspectives and intriguing details all drawing the reader into the wizard's world and holding him spellbound.



Eric Kimmel's adaptation of Washington Irving's beloved story of the greatest sleeper of all time brings a classic tale into the present age. **Rip Van Winkle's Return** (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2007) is a retelling of Irving's classic tale, but with a new perspective: It seems that Rip always managed to find other things to do when he should have been working. He preferred fishing or going to the tavern over working on his farm. And he always found time to play with the local children. They loved him. But his wife had to keep after him to take care of the farm. One afternoon, while Rip was escaping his wife's nagging, he encountered a group of strangers who generously offered him a drink from their keg. Immediately Rip fell fast asleep. Decades later, his eventual return journey to town and his reaction to the changes that have occurred add dimension to Kimmel's version, along with some enjoyable ironic humor. Rip's remorse over time lost and his attempts to redeem himself will caution Early Elementary readers not to let themselves be idle.

Barbara Joose, the author of *Mama, Do You Love Me?* and *Papa, Do You Love Me?* has created a new tale, this time of grandmotherly love. **Grandma Calls Me Beautiful** (Chronicle Books, '08) is about a grandmother who loves to tell her favorite story—which is the one about first meeting her granddaughter. Grandma named the child *Beautiful*, because she always would be beautiful in her eyes. The book is illustrated by Barbara Lavalée with wonderful water-colors showing scenes from the Hawaiian Islands, intertwined with a child's string game. This is a heart-warming book for grandmothers and granddaughters to share, and to cherish together.

The actress and singer Queen Latifah has continued her support of charities that empower children by writing **Queen of the Scene** (Geringer Books, '06), with proceeds going to worthy causes. The Queen in the story represents all girls and the power they can have. Girls who often are slighted in many activities can, if they try and really want to succeed, become “queen of the scene” whether in basketball, hopscotch, running, stickball, or any other playground activity. This little parable also underscores the old but true adage “If at first you don't succeed, try, try again.” Frank Morrison's bold, colorful artwork adds energy to the dynamics of this Elementary-level picture book.

### Intermediate

**A Crooked Kind of Perfect** by Linda Urban (Harcourt, 2007) is the perfect Intermediate book for children who are trying desperately to find their own niche.

When your dream is to give a piano concert in Carnegie Hall wearing a beautiful ball gown with a tiara and as yet you don't even own a piano, you have a dilemma any ten year-old can understand. Add to the mix a workaholic mother and a dad who seems only to be happy taking correspondence courses at home, and things get still more complicated. Urban does an excellent job of portraying the black and white world of Fifth-Graders, where best friends and used-to-be best friends, and lunch-room seating and those strange creatures called boys send you swinging from the heights of joy to the lows of despair.



Zoe Elias is the unforgettable heroine, plunking away on her Perfectone-D60 electric organ (which is a “not really” piano), struggling to find her place in the world. This is an affective book, with a thought-provoking story line.

...

Sara is fed up with the games and traditions at her family's Chanukah party. Everything is always so predictable. What Sara really wants is a beautiful Christmas tree, like ‘everyone else.’ “Dreydl are boring,” comments Sara. Then Aunt Mariam arrives with a big shiny, gold dreydl just for Sara. It turns out that this special dreydl is really an enchanted princess who takes Sara into a magical world filled with demons, biblical characters, and strange traveling companions.

Ellen Kushner weaves threads of Jewish folklore and tradition in with fantasy and humor. **The Golden Dreydl** (Charlesbridge, '08) is a great book to share with elementary children during the holidays. Ilene Winn-Lederer's complex pen and ink drawings add charm and allure to the fantasy.

**Young Adult**

In Laura Williams McCaffrey's fantasy novel, **Water Shaper** (Clarion Books, 2006), Margot feels different from those who live in her father's castle. Her dark hair and light skin make her stand out from the others. She resembles her mother, who died when she was three. Her mother came from a far away kingdom to the west, off by the sea, where magical people all knew the secrets of the deep. Margot wishes to escape from her father's landlocked kingdom and get to the Western Islands so she can find and live with others who share her love of water. The trip is far and dangerous because of Demon Spirits who come out at night. Only the magic of Holy Men can protect travelers. Margot finally finds a westerner—Orrin, King of Mawr—who also loves water, and will help her return to the Sea. Orrin offers to let her live in his kingdom under his protection. Margot, however, is hiding a secret. In a world where only men can be magical, her own growing magic powers and the enchanted *Book of the Sea* that she finds drive our young heroine to explore her destiny. And there may be other problems lurking. Margot views Orrin as her savior, but he may not be as wonderful as he appears. (Stay tuned!) This is a richly plotted tale, with a likable lead character and new turns occurring in every section. It will attract and hold the interest of young readers, and absorb them into McCaffrey's engrossing world.



**Children's Literature Committee**  
 Pat Shea-Bischoff, Faye Cohen, Debbie Dermady, Kristin Gramlich-Regan, Janice Peters, Alice Sample (Chairperson)

*Contributors to this issue:*  
**Communications Chair..... Dorothy Troike**  
**Editor.....Cindy Wells**  
**Articles ..... Debbie Dermady, Wally Freeland, Mary Miller, Janice Peters, Alice Sample, Mary Sawyer and Cindy Wells**  
**Proofreader..... Debbie Howlett**



**IRS REMINDER!**

All local councils, with gross receipts of \$25,000.00 or less, are required to file a Form 990-N (e-Postcard) online. The e-Postcard is due every year by the 15th day of the 5th month after the close of the council's tax year. Most council's tax years coincide with their "program" year, ending on June 30th. Therefore, the filing needs to be done by November 15th. Councils must first register at "epostcard.form990.org" and then follow the instructions for completing the tax form. If you need any additional information or assistance, please contact Wally Freeland, IRA State Coordinator (Wally32320@aol.com).



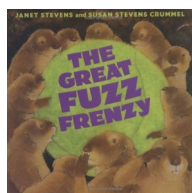
**Special Thanks to the New York State Youth who Submitted Over 11,000 Votes!**

The purpose of the Charlotte Award, established in 1990, is to encourage students to read outstanding literature and ultimately become life-long readers. Additionally, the award recognizes the authors and illustrators of quality literature. Students from all over New York State read titles on the ballot and vote for their favorites. Named for the spider in *Charlotte's Web* by E. B. White and illustrated by Garth Williams, the award honors those who are great storytellers, as is Charlotte.

The award is given bi-annually to winning books in primary, intermediate and young adult categories. The ballot is chosen by a committee of ten NYSRA members from all around New York State and is distributed state-wide by NYSRA.

The winners of the 2008 Charlotte Award will be honored at the NYSRA Annual Conference in Saratoga Springs on March 31, 2009. Authors, illustrators, as well as the publishers, will be invited to attend! The Charlotte Award is a motivating way to get readers, both young and old, caught up in the "web" of READING!

**Congratulations to the 2008 winners!!!**



**Primary Winner:**

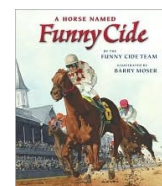
**The Great Fuzz Frenzy**

Written by Janet Stevens and Susan Stevens Crummel, Illustrated by Janet Stevens, Harcourt, 2005

**Intermediate Winner:**

**A Horse Named Funny Cide**

Written by Funny Cide Team, Illustrated by Barry Moser, G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2005



**Young Adult Winner:**

**Heat**

Written by Mike Lupica, Philomel Books, 2006




**Hudson – Fulton – Champlain Quadracentennial Celebration: –**

2009 marks the 400th anniversary of Hudson and Champlain's voyages along the river and lake that bear their names -- and the 200th anniversary of Fulton's successful steamboat voyage and establishment of steam commerce on the Hudson River. In cooperation with the Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadracentennial Cultural Education Center, the NYNPA Newspapers In Education Program will be creating a 10 part educational series.

The Newspapers In Education staff have started work on in-paper features, a teacher's guide and extensive online extensions and hotlinks to a wide variety of related resources. So whether your local newspaper delivers its NIE program in-print or via an E-edition this program should have something for teachers and students.

The topics being covered by these features include: Celebrations, Native Americans, Champlain, Hudson, Fulton, West Point, Crown Point/Fort Ticonderoga/Plattsburg, the Erie Canal, Mid-Hudson Estates and Albany Leadership. These materials should be ready by January 2009.

THE NEWSPAPERS IN  
EDUCATION PROGRAM  
PROVIDES LITERACY  
AND  
CONTENT  
AREA  
SUPPORT TO  
EDUCATORS AT A  
DISCOUNTED RATE ALL  
ACROSS OUR STATE



**4<sup>th</sup> Annual Statewide Serial Story: “All in Good Time”**

Newspapers in Education is slated to provide another Statewide Serial Story. This year's story, “*All in Good Time*” is being provided by Hot Topics, Hot Serials and was written by Jane Kendall. It has 9 chapters with artwork and a teacher's guide. The following is a plot summary:

Eddie is a young boy who is not interested in learning history. But, when his teacher gives him a magical subway token that enables him to time travel back to the 1930s, everything changes. Eddie gets embroiled in an adventure and soon learns that history is not just dull dates on a page, but rather, the people and events that color our lives.

The illustrations are beautiful paintings that bring the characters and settings into vivid focus. “All in Good Time” is again being funded by a grant by the New York Newspapers Foundation and is scheduled to run during the spring semester. More information will be made available as we approach the project's start date of January

**Parent Information Resource Center (PIRC) Initiative**

– The PIRC Initiative is a national program to try to get parents more involved with their children's education. Parental involvement is a major determining factor of a child's success in school ([www.nea.org/parents/index.html](http://www.nea.org/parents/index.html)). The NYNPA NIE Program is working with the NYS PIRC locations to create a series of NIE parent tips to increase awareness. The series is also designed to help parents learn simple, easy steps they can take to make a difference in their child's learning. These materials will be made available free to all newspapers throughout the state. The goal is to have these materials ready by mid-October.

**Famous New Yorkers VII**

– another edition of Newspapers In Education's popular 13-part series and teacher's guide of Famous New Yorkers – local sons and daughters who have contributed to our society, yet may not appear in many history books. This edition includes in alphabetical order: Fanny Brice, Melvil Dewey, Frederick Douglass, Elmer Ellsworth, Sarah Loguen Fraser, Katharine Graham, Leroy Grumman, Alex Haley, Alexander Hamilton, Johnny Hart, Robert R. Livingston, Bruce McKinley Shanks and Philip Van Cortlandt. Teachers should ask their local newspaper if and when their local newspaper is planning to run the series.

## New York State Reading Association's Conference March 2009



### **SPRING**board to Literacy

**Looking for that extra Bounce?**

**Bounce for your struggling students?**

**Bounce from your mid-winter doldrums?**

*How about the latest ideas from key educators around the country to put Bounce into your current lessons and Bounce into your planning for the next school year? Well, Bounce on over to the Saratoga Springs City Center and the adjoining Saratoga Hilton for the Annual NYSRA Reading Conference, March 29 – April 1, 2009 (no fooling)!*

This year's annual conference will bring lots of changes. This is our first springtime conference, and Sunday through Wednesday is a new part of the week for our conference. Your choice of one of the four pre-conference institutes is included in your registration fee. A discount is available for school groups of three or more. Another discount is available if you register before Dec. 16, 2008. If five teachers register from the same school district, your principal can attend Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at no additional cost. The Saratoga Hotel is even under new Hilton management!

Another new addition to the conference is a networking session with other professionals that work in your area of education. Facilitated sessions will be held for College Educators, Primary, Elementary, Middle and High School Level Educators, and Special Educators.

Check our website [www.nysreading.org](http://www.nysreading.org) for additional information and updates. In addition to over 50 interactive workshops aimed at multiple aspects of the world of Literacy, the following pages include the highlights that we have assembled so far.

So, Bounce on down to Saratoga Springs and share in the excitement of quality professional development, networking with educators, vendors with the latest educational materials, and a whole lot of FUN!! Come jump on the **"SPRING board to Literacy"!!**

Janice Peters  
2009 Conference Coordinator

Cindy Wells  
2008-2009 NYSRA President

KEY EDUCATORS FROM  
AROUND THE NATION  
WILL BE ON HAND TO  
SHARE THEIR EXPERTISE  
AND PASSION FOR  
EDUCATING CHILDREN!



**Four-hour Institute Sessions**

(choose one)

Sunday: 12:30 – 4:30 p.m.

**I**

**Adapting Lesson Plans which Allow Struggling Readers to Succeed** – Presented by James L. Herman, Tennessee State Education Department - Director of the Reading First Initiative K-5

**II**

**Engaging with the Language and Literacy Three Block across the Curriculum** – Dr. Sheila G. Cohen, Associate Professor, SUNY Cortland plus several students who have completed this Literacy Masters Program.

**III**

**Bringing Quality Comprehension Instruction into Your Classroom** – Sandra K. Athans and Denise Devine, 4th grade teachers and Robin Parente, elementary reading specialist in the Chittenango School District

**IV**

**Involving Parents in their Children’s Reading Development** – Bruce G. Johnson, Reading Specialist in the Merrimack Valley School District, New Hampshire

**Keynote and Featured Speakers**

**Sunday night at 7:30 pm**



**Jerry Mills**

*Don't Doubt the Dream*

**Monday, March 30, 2009**

**Dr. Donald Leu:** IRA Board Member, *Director, New Literacies Research Lab, University of Connecticut*



**Dr. Nel Noddings**  
Caring Education



**Sue Lockwood Summers**  
Developing Critical Thinking Skills Through Use of the Media



**Peter De Witt**  
Reaching Struggling Learners



**SPRINGboard to Literacy**

**Esmé Raji Codell**, Children's Author and a Certified Readologist. Founder of Planet Esmé  
 Author: *Sahara Special*, *Diary of a Fairy Godmother*, *Vive La Paris*, *Hanukkah Shmanukka*,  
*Sing a Song of Tuna Fish*, *How to Get Your Child to Love Reading*, *Educating Esmé*.



### College Reading Educators Panel: Literacy Online – Templates for Success

**Dr. Mary J. Drucker**, Utica College; **Dr. Donna Mahar**, Empire State College  
**Dr. Irene Rosenthal**, College of St. Rose; **Dr. Ginny Goatley**, SUNY Albany  
**Dr. Sheila Cohen**, SUNY Cortland

### Vendor Area Opening Reception

7 – 9 p.m. – Ice Cream!



**Tuesday, March 31, 2009**



### Dr. Jan Hasbrouck

Co-author of the *Reading Coach* and  
*Differentiated Instruction: Grouping for Success*

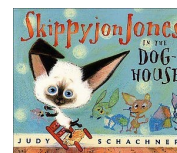
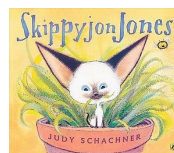
### New York State Education Department Panel Discussion

**Dr. Cindy Williams**, Associate in Reading/Literacy; **Tracey Bennett**, Assistant in Reading/Literacy; **Erik Sweet**, Associate in ELA; **Dr. Jo Anne Shawhan**, Associate in School Library Services; **John Brock**, Associate in School Library Services; **Diane Knight**, Associate in Instruction, ELA Content Specialist; **Mary Beth Farr**, Library Development Specialist 1, Office of Cultural Education; **Matthew Giugno**, Associate in the Training of Special Educators, VESID; **Barbara Miller**, Associate in Special Education Policy, VESID; **Colleen Ferrone**, Associate in Instructional Services, Office of Early Childhood and Reading Initiatives; **Richard D. Gervais**, Supervisor of Teacher Education, NYSED - Office of College and University Evaluation.



### Judy Byron Schachner

The author of the *Skippyjon Jones* series and many, many other books



### 2010 Charlotte Ballot Announcement

**Progressive Dinner with the Authors 7 p.m.** (additional charge)

**Wednesday, April 1, 2009**

**Dr. Jack Pikulski**  
 University of Delaware  
 Past IRA president



An additional 3 hour institute will be offered from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

### Differentiated Instruction – Making It Work

Mya Chen Whitney, Literacy Consultant, Scholastic Inc



**NEW YORK STATE  
READING  
ASSOCIATION**  
Chartered by the International Reading Association

P.O. Box 8/4  
Albany, New York 12201-0874

Phone: (518) 434-4748  
Fax: (518) 434-4748  
E-mail: [www.nysreading.org](http://www.nysreading.org)

**NYSRA OFFICERS:**

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**President-Elect:** Sue Smith  
**Vice President:** Debbie Dermady  
**Past-President:** Dolores Watford  
**Secretary:** Barbara Haverly  
**Treasurer:** Gerald Peters  
**Membership:** Sharon Kelly



**SPRINGboard to Literacy**

*New York State Reading Association – 2009 Conference  
March 29 – April 1, 2009  
Saratoga Springs, NY*

**SPRING board to Literacy!**  
**Supporting our Struggling Readers**

Check our website, [www.nysreading.org](http://www.nysreading.org) as additional events become finalized

**Sunday, March 29, 2009**

10:30 Registration opens  
12:30-4:30 Pre-conference Institutes  
Dinner-on your own  
7:30 Jerry Mills:  
***Don't Doubt the Dream***

**Monday, March 30, 2009**

7:30-8:30 Early Bird Workshops  
8:30 First General Session  
Dr. Donald Leu  
10:00 Featured Speaker  
Dr. Nel Noddings  
Or College Educators Panel  
10:15-4:15 Workshops  
Lunch-on your own  
1:00-2:00 Featured Speaker  
Esmé Cordell  
3:00-4:00 Featured Speaker  
Sue Lockwood Summers  
5:00-7:00 Dinner-on your own  
7:00-9:00 Exhibit Hall Opens  
Vendors' Reception

**Tuesday, March 31, 2009**

7:30-8:30 Early Bird Workshops  
8:00-5:00 Exhibit Hall Open  
8:30 Second General Session  
Dr. Jan Hasbrouck  
10:00 NYSED Panel  
10:15-4:15 Workshops  
Lunch-on your own  
1:00 Featured Speaker  
Judy Schachner  
Charlotte Ballot 2010 Announced  
6:30 Authors' Progressive Dinner  
(ticket required)

**Wednesday, April 1, 2009**

7:30-8:30 Early Bird Workshops  
8:30-11:30 Institute on  
Differentiated Instruction  
(Limit of 30)  
8:00-noon Exhibit Hall Open  
9:00 Third General Session  
Dr. Jack Pikulski  
10-noon Workshops



This coupon is good for one  
**FREE**  
**Silent Auction**  
**Ticket**  
at NYSRA's  
Conference  
March, 2009:  
Saratoga, NY  
Silent Auction  
located in the  
Exhibit Hall.

**SEE YOU  
THERE!!!**