

EMPIRE READING SCENE

AUGUST, 2011

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**CHECK US
OUT ON
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FOR
CONFERENCE
UPDATES
AND
INFORMATION**

Nys Reading-
Association



**Come make some
"Literacy Connections!"**



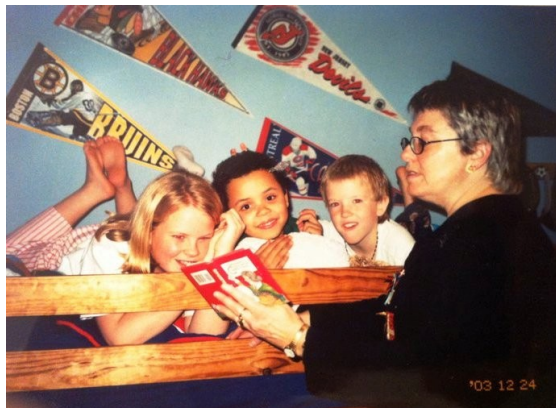
Literacy Connections is the name, professional development is the game. October 23rd – 25th is the time and The Hilton Rye Town, Rye Brook, New York is the place.

The 45th Annual Conference of the New York State Reading Association is making its “return to autumn.” The time of year has changed; going back to the fall where the annual conference lived for many years, hoping educators will better be able to fit the conference into their already bursting schedules. In an effort to make the annual professional development experience even more accessible to more of its members and other educators, the conference is “on the road again,” travelling to a more southerly destination in New York, Westchester County.

Headed up by experienced leaders Mary Kline (Conference Coordinator 1996) and Wally Freeland (Conference Coordinator 2001), a team has been put together that has been working diligently to make connections with the best authors, speakers, and presenters willing to make their own connections with conference participants. (continued on page 3)

**THE NEW YORK STATE READING
ASSOCIATION FALL 2011 CONFERENCE:
“LITERACY CONNECTIONS”
RYE BROOK, NEW YORK
OCTOBER 23-25**

NOTES FROM THE NYSRA PAST PRESIDENT, DEBBIE DERMADY



Team...Some define **team** as a *group of people who come together to accomplish common goals*. I define the word *team* by saying one acronym- NYSRA. It's all about the volunteer members who donate countless hours of their time and talents to making this organization so strong and powerful. That is what makes a **team**. That is NYSRA.

My journey as NYSRA's President may be over, but the accomplishments our **team** has made over the last year continue to bring this organization soaring through the 21st century. Shared decision making, common goals and a stick-to-itiveness attitude, moved NYSRA into the digital age while still fostering the belief that each member's individual needs are very important and need to be met. Our conference was a huge success, professional development continues to thrive, our digital literacy progress is on the move, advocacy for what we as a team believes has been presented, and our work doesn't end. It continues and with the leadership chosen by a democratic election, NYSRA will remain strong.

So what's in store for our future? The sky's the limit, but I know I remain proud to be a part of this great **team** and thank all of you for allowing me to be part of this great flight.

AND... A LETTER FROM NYSRA 2011-2012 PRESIDENT — JOANNE JOYNER-WELLS



I write this letter in the midst of a beautiful summer that I am beginning to feel is quickly coming to an end. As I look forward to this year as your president, I am excited, anxious and somewhat nervous of the enormous challenges ahead.

I take this time to commend NYSRA's Board of Directors under the leadership of Past President, Debbie Dermady for their accomplishments over the course of last year and I vow to continue the work that they so graciously and professionally handled for NYSRA. In an edition of Reading Scene published last fall, all members of the Board of Directors were asked to reflect on our roles and speak to our work with NYSRA. I then, stated that it was my "expectation that NYSRA will continue to flourish as a viable learning and literacy organization that will promote best practices in professional development and literacy for all educators in New York State." So as I reflect on the work of NYSRA this past year and for years to come, this will continue to be my mantra. I want us to be known as a "stellar professional development organization in the state of New York."

As current educators, we are challenged each and every day with a myriad of educational initiatives and reforms on the rise. One very important initiative that is first and foremost in our mind is the ongoing implementation of the Common Core Learning Standards. This will be a priority for this administration to insure that our members are fully apprised of all information related to the implementation of these national standards. We will continue to collaborate with our NYS Education Department via monthly conference calls and meetings and keep you informed, just as your local educational agencies will do. We will also continue our advocacy work in this area under the direction of our Advocacy Chair, Sue Bogdon-Ritty, as we work with local, state and national offices in support of literacy funding. Please visit NYSED's website where information is posted and updated on a regular basis. We also ask that you keep us informed as to how the work is coming along in your respective districts and schools. We want to hear from you! (continued on page 8)

Not to be a name dropper, but...

...Nell Duke, Laura Robb, Valerie Ellery, Rich Long (IRA), Brenda Overturf, Marvin Terban, Bobbie Frederickson, and Karen Orloff & Della Ferrari will be there on Monday connecting with conference participants through keynotes, featured speaker sessions, and workshops.

...Gloria Whalen will share her newest children's book at breakfast on Monday, with Ann Burg, Alyssa Satin Capucilli, J. Patrick Lewis (lunch), Jan Cheripko, Jerry Pinkney, Peter Catalanotto, James & Lesa Ransome, and Vera B. Williams linking their literature to conferees and their classrooms.

...and how about David Gonzalez (storyteller), Ramón González (Bronx principal featured in NY Times Magazine), and "Waiting For Superman" (special screening & panel discussion) also making their appearances that day.

And that is just Monday!

Tuesday's full day programming begins and ends with a bang! A favorite and loved author among many, Patricia Polacco, connects with participants by sharing her story at the morning general session. Closing out not just the day, but the conference, Alfred Tatum will join us for lunch and share his thoughts regarding the connections between boys, particularly African American adolescents, and literacy.

Other speakers and authors for Tuesday Susanna Hill, Michael Buckley, and George O'Connor.

Let's not forget Sunday...

...Sunday afternoon will include the "Hudson River Valley Authors Fair" featuring local authors and their books, hoping to make connections with teachers, children, and families. Entertainment will include "The Storycrafters" and Jason Edwards.

...Sunday afternoon will also feature afternoon-long professional development sessions by Valerie Ellery (Creating Strategic Readers), Jan Cheripko (Writing Workshop), Mary Miller and Tom Tufts (Newspapers In Education), and LitLife (Effective Instruction and Intervention that Supports the Common Core Standards). You may even be able to take advantage of some shorter, practitioner as presenter sessions.

...And, what about dinner with author Rosemary Wells and illustrator Neil Waldman!

Also for your consideration a few other highlights of the conference...

... Educational vendors (publishers) will be sharing their wares and making connections with educators in the Exhibits Area.

...Do you realize that New York City is just a short hop (not even a skip and a jump) from Rye Brook? Our Hospitality/Local Arrangements Committee will be available both prior to the conference, and onsite, to advise you about your plans and transportation needs to travel to The Big Apple. Perhaps you would like to come a day earlier, or stay a day later and really take advantage of this opportunity.

...Maybe you would like to visit an "award winning" school in action. Tuesday will be the day for the opportunity to visit the Charter School of Educational Excellence in Yonkers. This school won the 2010 IRA/NYSRA Exemplary Reading Program Award.

(continued on page 4)

...If you have attended the Rockland Literacy Extravaganza in the fall of past years and were wondering what happened to it this year, we have the answer! NYSRA and the Rockland Literacy Extravaganza are working in partnership to bring you their programming throughout NYSRA's conference. Each of these sessions will be highlighted in the program.

...Common Core Standards will not be overlooked. Consider the advocacy strand on Monday, "Unpacking the Common Core Standards." Also, check out the regular programming for other sessions that make connections to the standards.

...Check out this website:

(<http://starfishinternational.org>). The NYSRA Board of Directors has approved this organization to be the recipient of our charitable focus at the conference. Thanks to the Central New York Reading Council for making us aware of this worthwhile effort. Please help us support this group.

If all of the connections already mentioned haven't totally convinced you to join us at the Rye Town Hilton in Rye Brook, NY, October 23 – 25, 2011, let us suggest one more...

Reconnect with old colleagues and friends while expanding your connections to new colleagues and friends!

See you there!

Mary Kline and Wally Freeland



Top Ten Reasons You Should Participate in the NYSRA Charlotte Award

*From a survey of past Charlotte participants, reported by Liz Yanoff.

The NYSRA Charlotte Award is a children's choice reading award, and we want you and your students to join readers across the state as we choose the 2012 winner!

Participate in the NYSRA Charlotte Award and....

1. Share great literature with your students—Charlotte Award committee members choose the best books published in the past two years based on the award criteria (<http://www.nysreading.org/Advocacy/Charlotte>).
2. Discover new authors—Nominated books have NY authors and authors from around the world that we know will intrigue you and your students.
3. Read new formats and genres—Nominated books include informational books, realistic fiction, fantasy, graphic novels, picture books, and much more!
4. Foster discussion—Kids want to talk about the books and promote their favorites.
5. Nurture critique—As students read and vote, students consider, "what makes a good book?"
6. Connect to authors—Nominated authors are interviewed for our blog (<http://charlotteaward.wordpress.com>) by NY students.
7. Explore technology—NY students have created podcasts, wikis, vokis, book trailers, and many other technology projects as they read the nominated books (examples on our blog).
8. Use your member benefits—NYSRA supports the Charlotte Award so you can have access to the latest in children's literature.
9. Join other NY readers—In 2010, over 12,000 votes were received for the NYSRA Charlotte Award.
10. Motivate your readers—Voting is inspirational for student readers!

For more information about the NYSRA Charlotte Award please contact Judy Ehrensbeck, 2012 NYSRA Charlotte Award chair, at judy@ehrensbeck.com.

**Remember to check out NYSRA's
newly launched website for
up-to-date conference information
and other timely literacy topics!**

www.nysreading.org

FALL CONFERENCE 2011 HIGHLIGHTS "LITERACY CONNECTIONS"

 <p>Sunday October 23</p>	<p>Hudson River Valley Author Fair</p> <p>Valerie Ellery: <i>Creating Strategic Readers</i></p> <p>Jan Cheripko Writing Workshop</p> <p>Newspapers In Education: <i>Reading Strategies to Explore the Real World in Literature and News</i></p> <p>Rockland Literacy Extravaganza Strand</p> <p>Sessions by expert practitioners and Featured Authors</p> <p>Exhibit Hall Grand Opening</p> <p>Author Dinner with Rosemary Wells and Neil Waldman</p>
 <p>Monday October 24</p>	<p>Author Breakfast with Gloria Whelan</p> <p>Nell Duke</p> <p>Author Lunch with J. Patrick Lewis</p> <p>Laura Robb</p> <p>David Gonzalez: <i>Entertainer and Storyteller</i></p> <p>Richard Long: <i>Unpacking the Common Core Standards</i></p> <p>Marvin Terban: <i>Who Says English Can't Be Fun?</i></p> <p>Sessions by Expert Practitioners and Featured Authors</p> <p>Dinner with Ramón González, Principal from Bronx M.S. 223 featured in N.Y. Times</p> <p>Screening: <i>Waiting for Superman</i> and panel/roundtable discussions</p>
 <p>Tuesday October 25</p>	<p>Tour of 2010 NYSRA/IRA Exemplary Reading Program Award Winning School</p> <p>Patricia Polacco</p> <p>Sessions by Expert Practitioners and Featured Authors</p> <p>Closing Session with Alfred Tatum</p>

COME JOIN US FOR A PREMIER LITERACY EVENT OCTOBER 23–25

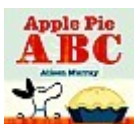


Dog-Gone-Good Reads for the Dog Days of Summer!

Written by Amy Merrill

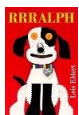
Groucho Marx once said, “Outside of a dog, a book is a man’s best friend. Inside of a dog it’s too dark to read.” The topic of dogs is a popular one among children and adults alike. Classic favorites as well as numerous new titles, abound for all readers featuring our furry canine friends.

Primary Level:



Whether you are beginning to look ahead to the fast-approaching school year or are still having fun in the sun, the adorable golden retriever, Trinka will surely capture your heart! **Deborah Heiligman** was inspired by the antics of her own pooch to compose these delightful doggy adventures in simple rhyming text. **Tim Bower’s** brightly colored, acrylic painted illustrations of Trinka and her escapades are not to be missed. **Cool Dog, School Dog** (M. Cavendish 2009) and **Fun Dog, Sun Dog** (M. Cavendish 2005) are two tail-wagging tales that primary students will beg to have read again and again!

Alison Murray’s Apple Pie ABC (Hyperion 2010) is sure to please both food and dog lovers! Readers will enjoy lingering on the letters of the alphabet as a persistent pup pursues a freshly baked apple pie. Through her colorful, whimsical illustrations and simple text, often a single word or phrase, **Murray** details the dog’s adventures as he is “E eager for it” and wants to “F find a crumb of it.” Readers will be just as eager to get their paws on this book as the pup is to get his on the apple pie! Be sure to check out **Alison Murray’s** doggy alphabetical antics in **Apple Pie ABC.**”



Lois Ehlert fans can once again look forward to her trademark, brightly colored and bold, collaged illustrations in her latest book, **RRRALPH** (Beach Lane 2011). Readers will laugh out loud as the narrator asks Ralph questions such as “what is your name? and “where are you?” as talking-dog, Ralph answers, “Rrralph!” and “roof roof.” **The Horn Book** magazine calls this sure-to-be favorite, giggle-worthy” and gives it a starred review.

Say Hello to Zorro! by **Carter Goodrich** (Simon & Schuster 2010) is truly an account of a dog’s life, as Mister Bud learns to adjust to Zorro, the newcomer pup in the family. Readers are taken through the doggy day routine as the two pups soon realize that two is better than one and become friends that share the events of the daily round. **Goodrich** delightfully details the dogs’ day through his watercolor artwork.

In **Emily Gravett’s Dogs** (Simon & Schuster 2010), young readers will discover different kinds of canine critters through the eyes of a surprise-ending narrator. **Gravett’s** pencil and watercolor illustrations are paired with simple rhyming text. Readers meet different breeds of dogs (identified in the end papers) through examination of opposites (big/small). **Dogs** is certain to become like man’s best friend, one of your favorite dog reads!

Hot Diggety Dog written by **Adrienne Sylver** and illustrated by **Elwood Smith** (Dutton 2010), is not about our favorite cuddly critter but about our favorite food – the hot dog! **Smith’s** fun cartoon images and **Sylver’s** fact-filled text (along with sidebar notes, riddles, contest information, news, statistics, and much more) will surely satisfy readers and their hunger to learn about the history of the hot dog. So, check the menu for hot dog day and get ready to have some fun with these frankfurter facts!

The Blue House Dog by Deborah Blumenthal/ illustrated by Adam Gustavson (Peachtree 2010)

A boy whose beloved dog has died, and a dog whose owner also died, find each other and slowly begin to trust one another (Titlewave).

City Dog, Country Frog by Mo Willems/illustrated by Jon J Muth (Hyperion 2010) When City Dog comes to the country, he meets Country Frog for the first time, and every season afterward, the two have a fun time playing together (Titlewave).

Dog Loves Books by Louise Yates (Knopf 2010)

Dog loves books so much that he decides to open a book store (Titlewave).

How Rocket Learned to Read by Tad Hills (Schwartz & Wade Books 2010)

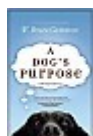
A little yellow bird teaches Rocket the dog how to read by first introducing him to the alphabet (Titlewave).

Brave Dogs, Gentle Dogs by Cat Urbigkit (Boyd's Mills Press 2009)

Text in Spanish and English — translated from the English. Presents a description of how dogs that guard animals on farms are trained and raised, in simple English and Spanish text with photographs, and includes information from their birth, how their instincts are encouraged, and how they protect sheep and other livestock from danger (Titlewave).

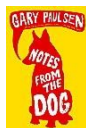
Poetry Picks

Name That Dog: Puppy Poems from A to Z by **Peggy Archer** and illustrated by **Stephanie Buscema** (Dial 2010). Whether you have a dog or wish you did, this book features little poems about different types of dogs that are sure to win your heart. **Archer's** quaint poems, paired with **Buscema's** colorful, retro-style illustrations of the pups, take readers on a romp through the alphabet by examining the dogs' names. Beginning with Aspen and ending with Zipper, readers will enjoy getting to know these dogs that have been named for their behavior, appearance or personality.



Middle/High School Readers

Sparky: The Life and Art of Charles Schulz by **Beverly Gherman** (Chronicle 2010) is a biography of Charles Shultz, the creator of America's favorite cartoon canine, Snoopy and his pals, the Peanuts gang! **Gherman** combines the information about the events of Shultz's life and his inspiration for creating his characters with photographs, old comic strips and drawings. Bibliographical references and an index are included, making this a great choice for recreational reading or for research. Recommended for grades 5-9.



Notes From the Dog by **Gary Paulsen** (Wendy Lamb Books 2009). When Johanna, a cancer surviving, young woman moves next door for the summer to house-sit, fourteen-year-old, Finn's summer is not what he envisioned. Johanna has a profound influence on Finn's self confidence, as she enlists his help in creating a garden. Don't miss this touching tale of friendship. A "starred review" by **The Horn Book** and "highly recommended" by **Library Media Connection**. (Johanna has Finn's dog deliver him anonymous notes of inspiration).

A Dog's Purpose by **Bruce Cameron** (Forge 2010). A dog's behaviors, thoughts and feelings are brought to life in this touching story told from the perspective of a dog as she is reincarnated and contemplates her life's purpose. Touchingly reveals the unique bond between humans and their dogs. **Publishers Weekly** (May 31, 2010) calls **A Dog's Purpose**, "A tail-wagging three hanky boo-hooer." Recommended for high school

By the time you read this edition, NYSRA will have launched our brand new website and we are excited about this work under the direction of our Digital Literacy Committee spearheaded by Kay Gormley and Peter McDermott, both members of NYSRA's Executive Committee. Please join me in congratulating the committee for their commitment to task and expertise in this area. We recognize the importance of digital literacy at this particular juncture in time.

As this summer draws to a close and we look forward to the beginning of fall, it is my expectation that our councils will continue to work and support our programs and initiatives for the 2011-2012 year. We hope that this coming year is as successful, if not better, than the previous. We have a very active and engaging fall schedule. Please keep these events in mind as you plan your calendars...

Fall Assembly of Delegates – As per NYSRA's By-Laws, we will host our Fall Assembly of Delegates on Saturday, September 24, 2011 in Latham, New York. We would like to have each and every viable council represented as we move forward to do the work of NYSRA and we encourage you to make arrangements to attend. This is also our opportunity to honor our local council leaders, those who have gone above and beyond in support of this very important work. Please ensure that your council nominates a worthy candidate for the local council service award. Information is forthcoming.

Fall 2011 Conference – We are most excited about our Annual Professional Conference to be held, Sunday, October 23, 2011 through Tuesday, October 25, 2011 at the Rye Brook Hilton in Rye Brook, New York. This year's conference theme is. "Literacy Connections" and will be our opportunity to connect all the ongoing literacy initiatives to our current work. As a native of New York City, it has been a while since the conference has been held in this part of the state and we look forward to your attendance. Please visit our website and find out what our Conference Coordinators, Wallace Freeland and Mary Kline have planned for your professional learning and development.

As you begin this school year in your respective schools and districts, let us keep our focus on what is important in this work, the children. Despite the hardships of this school year, whether you are facing budget cuts, layoffs and other educational disasters, we acknowledge that we accepted this arduous, but highly rewarding profession because we wanted to make a difference in the lives of children and what better way to start than to give children the gift of being lifelong learners through the world of literacy! Enjoy your school year, keep me informed of any and everything going on and please feel free to contact me if you have specific questions. I can be reached at joynerwells@aol.com. I hope to see you around the state this school year!

Yours in literacy,

Joanne Joyner-Wells, Ed.D

NYSRA President

HELP NYSRA ACHIEVE GOLD MEMBERSHIP STATUS!



The International Reading Association has established a new campaign to increase membership in IRA. This campaign could also be used to assist local and state councils in achieving greater membership status. NYSRA is proud to be host of one of the largest IRA membership rosters at this time and we would like to encourage all of our local councils to help us achieve "Gold Membership Status" and promote IRA membership. To do this we need 100 members to join IRA and meet IRA's projected target. With so many active councils, that equates to approximately 4–5 new IRA members per council. As we spend the last days of summer planning our activities and programs for the coming year, I ask that you brainstorm ways to encourage membership and participation in this campaign. Acknowledging that many councils host "Membership Teas" and/or "General Meetings" in the fall, we encourage you to actively engage new members and make an all-out effort to promote membership in your local councils and IRA during this school year. If each council meets their targeted goal for IRA, then NYSRA will meet our target and achieve "Gold" membership status. This is an attainable goal and I am confident that we can do it! Ideas and resources to promote local council membership will be posted on our website. Our Membership Chairperson, Sharon Kelly is available to assist. She can be reached @ shar17@frontiernet.net. Keep us posted on your progress...we want to hear from you.

NYNPA NIE Program has to offer member newspapers, teachers and students for the 2011-12 school year:



- **Famous New Yorkers X** - The newest edition of features now comes with graphic organizers & ready-to-use student worksheets instead of the teaching guide used in previous years. There is also a complete set of audio pod casts of each feature.

Famous New Yorkers X highlights the lives and achievements of the following individuals: Roscoe Conkling, Millard Fillmore, Kate Gleason, Jupiter Hammon, Lena Horne, Charlotte Pruyne Hyde, Michael "King" Kelly, Madeleine L'Engle, The Statue of Liberty, Julius Sterling Morton, Elmer A. Sperry, William Steig, and Harriet Tubman.

Some of you might be thinking - The Statue of Liberty - really? She's not a real person! But, given that October 28, 2011 marks her 125th "Birthday" Celebration the NYNPA NIE Steering committee thought it best to include a profile on this American icon. Contact your local [NIE coordinator](#) for more details.

- **Geography Awareness Week** - on or about the third week in November. The new curriculum guides available FREE through the NAA Foundation, "[Community Connections with Geography and the Newspaper](#)", would be a perfect way to help teachers and students make the "connections" between geography and community!
- November - **Native American History Month** - in partnership with Plymouth Plantation and others, the NYNPA will be developing materials about the "Real" First Thanksgiving teaching students about Thanksgiving from the Native perspective.

Here's a sneak preview of the rough framework for the upcoming NYNPA Serial Story set during the time frame of the War of 1812. The as yet untitled story will start appearing in newspapers/online in January 2012:

Caleb, a young boy, is caught up in the War of 1812 on New York's Northern Frontier, starting near Ogdensburg where his father runs a small trading post and where we meet a Mohawk trapper who expresses the ambivalence among the Iroquois towards the new war in the wake of their disastrous experience in the Revolution. The trapper shows them a powderhorn covered with scrimshaw, a prized possession his father brought back from that earlier war. The powderhorn suddenly goes missing, and Caleb, accused of theft, runs away from home and goes to Ogdensburg where he meets Gen. Jacob Brown, commander at Sacketts Harbor, who has arrived to garrison Fort Presentation. We are present at the two February 1813 actions and, with the fall of the fort and its abandonment, Caleb goes to Sacketts Harbor and is reunited with the General. There we witness the Second Battle of Sacketts Harbor and the unexpected re-appearance of the distinctive powderhorn clears Caleb's name and unmasks a traitor. This project is again funded by the New York Newspapers Foundation and the New York State United Teachers.



New York State's College Educators Group Meets in June

The College Reading Educators met on June 10th at SUNY Cortland downtown. Agenda items included:

- 1) Common Core Standards Initiative, with video at www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/common_core_standards/
- 2) NYS Teaching Standards, with docs at: www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/reteachers/teachingstandards1.html
- 3) preparing literacy teachers for value added teacher evaluation
- 4) preparing for new performance assessments, replacing CSTs
- 5) planning for the October NYSRA conference session & meeting
- 6) discussing new CRE leadership.

In addition, Michael Shaw reported on the possibility that the new CAEP organization will adopt the new INTASC Standards to replace recently approved new Standards developed by NCATE's Specialty Areas Studies Board (SASB) in order to speak with a single voice on the issue of Standards for teacher preparation. About 15 college educators were in attendance.

NYSRA Membership Excellence Award

All of NYSRA would like to congratulate the Iroquois Reading Council for winning the Membership Excellence Award. They will be receiving this award at the Assembly of Delegates Meeting in Albany on September 24. They have increased their membership and have participated in Board of Director's meetings, Assembly of Delegates meetings and at a Leadership Weekend. It is fantastic to see the Iroquois Reading Council rewarded for their hard work in increasing membership and participation in NYSRA events.

Check out the awards offered by NYSRA at

www.nysreading.org

New York State Reading Association

2012 Charlotte Award Ballot

Named for the main character in E.B. White's *Charlotte's Web*, the purpose of the Charlotte Award is to encourage students to read outstanding literature and ultimately become life-long readers. Additionally, the award recognizes the authors and illustrators of such literature. Students in New York State will read titles on the ballot and vote for their favorites. Ballots must be postmarked by **April 15, 2012**. Votes will be tallied, and winners will receive their awards at the Annual NYSRA Conference that immediately follows the voting deadline.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS:

Students may have the books read to them or read the books on their own to become qualified voters.

Students are encouraged to read all of the titles in a category, but it is not a requirement.

Students may read books in more than one category and vote in each category.

Each reader is entitled to one vote in one or more categories.

An adult in a classroom or library setting must monitor voting procedures, and should submit **one ballot from each participating classroom or library** that indicates the **number of votes for each title**.

SUGGESTIONS FOR CHARLOTTE AWARD PARTICIPATION:

VISIT the NYSRA website at www.nysreading.org for a copy of the ballot with publishers' website links for each title; introduce the site to your class or fellow faculty members.

VISIT the Charlotte Award **Blog** at www.charlotteaward.wordpress.com for resources related to each title on the ballot and reviews of the books.

USE the books in your school's morning or DEAR program.

INVITE a member of the **Charlotte Award Selection Committee** to come to your school to talk about the books and the ballot process.

DISPLAY the books in a special spot in the library; tally the votes on a display chart.

START a "**Charlotte Award Book Club**" for students and/or teachers.

ASK your parent/teacher organization to help purchase books for your school library.

USE the titles in your **PARP** program or hold a **Charlotte Award** family event.

HAVE older students read the books aloud to younger students.

CREATE a **Charlotte Award** shelf in the library displaying past winners.

PUBLICIZE the Charlotte Award nominations by using **LITERATURE CIRCLES**.

INVOLVE the community library, bookstore, preschools, senior citizens, **LOCAL READING COUNCILS** etc.



MAIL BALLOT TO:

NYSRA 2012 Charlotte Award

Attn: Mrs. Judy Ehrensbeck

PO Box 303

Old Forge, NY 13420

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mrs. Judy Ehrensbeck, Chairperson

315-369-2206 or 315-369-3222 ext. 3114

e-mail: judy@ehrensbeck.com or

jehrensb@tows.moric.org

ENVELOPES WITH BALLOTS MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN APRIL 15, 2012 OR E-MAIL BALLOT BEFORE APRIL 15TH TO JUDY EHRENSBECK AT judy@ehrensbeck.com

Adult in Charge: _____

School/Library: _____

Address: _____

(If you would like a copy of the results, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your ballot. Award winners will be posted on the NYSRA website: www.nysreading.org as soon as possible after the voting deadline.)

Ballot for the 2012 New York State Reading Association's Charlotte Award

GRADES PRE K-2/PRIMARY

Bubble Trouble	Margaret Mahy/Polly Dunbar	Clarion Books	2009 ____
City Dog, Country Frog	Mo Willems/Jon J Muth	Hyperion Books for Children	2010 ____
Clever Jack Takes the Cake	Candace Fleming/G. Brian Karas	Swartz & Wade	2010 ____
Lousy Rotten Stinkin' Grapes	Margie Palatini/Barry Moser	Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing	2009 ____
Memoirs of a Goldfish	Devin Scillian/Tim Bowers	Sleeping Bear Press	2010 ____
Otis	Loren Long	Philomel	2009 ____
Stars Above Us	Geoffrey Norman/E.B. Lewis	Putnam Juvenile	2009 ____
That Cat Can't Stay	Thad Krasnesky/David Parkins	Flashlight Press	2010 ____
Turtle, Turtle, Watch Out!	April Pulley Sayre/Annie Patterson	Charlesbridge Publishing	2010 ____
We Planted a Tree	Diane Muldrow/Bob Staake	Golden Books	2010 ____

GRADES 3-5/INTERMEDIATE

The Can Man	Laura E. Williams/Craig Orback	Lee & Low Books	2010 ____
Emily's Fortune	Phyllis Reynolds Naylor	Delacorte Books for Young Readers	2010 ____
Family Reminders	Julie Danneberg/John Shelley	Charlesbridge Publishing	2009 ____
Fly Free!	Roseanne Thong/Eujin Kim Neilan	Boyd's Mills Press	2010 ____
Jake	Audrey Coulumbis	Random House Books for Young Readers	2010 ____
Lunch Lady and the Cyborg Substitute	Jarrett J. Krosoczka	Knopf Books for Young Readers	2009 ____
Mirror Mirror: A Book of Reversible Verse	Marilyn Singer/Josée Masse	Dutton Juvenile	2010 ____
Nic Bishop Lizards	Nic Bishop	Scholastic Nonfiction	2010 ____
The Sandwich Swap	Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah & Kelly DiPucchio/Tricia Tusa	Disney Hyperion	2010 ____
Sojourner Truth's Step-Stomp Stride	Andrea Pinkney/Brian Pinkney	Disney Jump at the Sun	2009 ____

GRADES 6-8/MIDDLE SCHOOL

All the Broken Pieces	Ann E. Burg	Scholastic Press	2009 ____
Bystander	James Preller	Feiwel & Friends	2009 ____
The Brilliant Fall of Gianna Z.	Kate Messner	Walker Books for Young Readers	2009 ____
Candy Bomber	Michael Tunnell	Charlesbridge Publishing	2010 ____
Cleopatra Rules	Vicky Alvear Shecter	Boyd's Mills Press	2010 ____
How to Survive Middle School	Donna Gephart	Delacorte Books for Young Readers	2010 ____
January's Sparrow	Patricia Polacco	Philomel	2009 ____
The Secret Science Alliance and the Copycat Crook	Eleanor Davis	Bloomsbury USA Children's Books	2009 ____
Slob	Ellen Potter	Philomel	2009 ____
A Tale Dark & Grimm	Adam Gidwitz	Dutton Juvenile	2010 ____

GRADES 9-12/HIGH SCHOOL

Beautiful Creatures	Kami Garcia & Margaret Stohl	Little, Brown Books for Young Readers	2009 ____
The Chosen One	Carol Lynch Williams	St. Martin's Griffin	2009 ____
The Maze Runner	James Dashner	Delacorte Books for Young Readers	2009 ____
North of Beautiful	Justina Chen Headley	Little, Brown Books for Young Readers	2009 ____
The Notorious Benedict Arnold	Steven Sheinkin	Roaring Brook Press/Flash Point	2010 ____
The Sweetheart of Prosper County	Jill S. Alexander	Feiwel & Friends	2009 ____
The Things a Brother Knows	Dana Reinhardt	Wendy Lamb Books	2010 ____
Trash	Andy Mulligan	David Fickling Books	2010 ____
Truce	Jim Murphy	Scholastic Press	2009 ____
The Year of Goodbyes	Debbie Levy	Disney Hyperion	2010 ____

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