

ReAD

The Electronic Newsletter of the New York State Reading Association

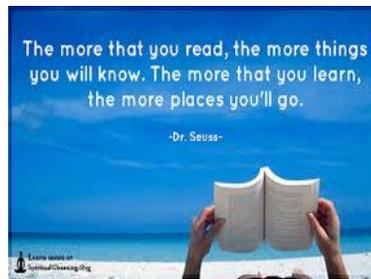
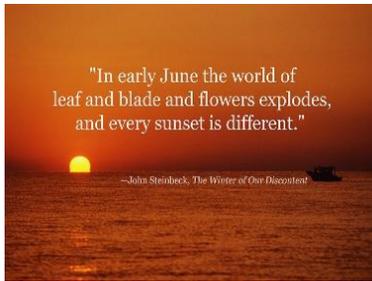
June - August 2019

Volume 15, Issue 9

Editor: Sandi Kurbiel

NYSED Contributing Editor: Kristen Driskill

Happy Summer!



Issues are published every month except for December-January and June-August combined issues. For more information, please contact Sandi Kurbiel at skurbiel@nycap.rr.com. (Above image from GoogleImages)

Don't forget, now you can become a friend to NYSRA on *Facebook*! Have you? Thanks to all who contributed their time and expertise to our issue this month!

Inside: [NYSRA & Legislative News](#) by Sandi Kurbiel; [NYSED News](#) by Kristen Driskill; & [Literacy News/Links of Interest](#) by Sandi Kurbiel

NYSRA and Legislative News

A Message from Sharon Kelly, our NYSRA President:

Hello,

Well, it doesn't seem possible that it is almost the end of the school year. But I hope that everyone had a fantastic year, and is able to have some well-deserved rest and relaxation.

While you are resting up for another school year, think about helping NYSRA out. You are already a member of NYSRA, and most likely a local council, or you wouldn't be reading this newsletter. NYSRA is looking for people who are interested in getting involved on the state and local level. NYSRA has been a great place for me to get involved in because of the many great opportunities to learn about literacy, and how to teach students how to read, write, speak, and listen. NYSRA has a fantastic conference every year with top presenters and actual teachers, with tried and true lessons that have helped my students become better readers and writers. At each Assembly of Delegates meeting and Leadership meeting we have had great speakers and activities to network with other professionals in the field.

But we need you to step up in any manner that you can, and help with the workings of the organization. This could be serving on a local council's membership committee, formulating ideas on how to get more members, or it could be on the financial committee to review finances a few times a year, or becoming an officer or regional director on the local level or the state level. It could be just coming to workshops and meetings on the local level. It is your help that will continue to make NYSRA and our local councils provide fantastic resources and networking to our members. So think it over, and talk to an officer. See how you can help your local council or NYSRA be the **#1 provider of literacy**.

Our new College Reading Educator (CRE) is Keith Newvine. So as the new school year approaches, Keith will be setting up a meeting for any professor of literacy. We hope that you will join this group and share your expertise.

Thank you to my Executive Board, my Board of Directors, the Assembly of Delegates, and all the members of NYSRA for making my term as NYSRA President so rewarding. I have enjoyed my time as President and will help NYSRA further as Past President.

Thank you,
Sharon Kelly
NYSRA President

Upcoming Dates

June 15 - NYSRA: Expense Vouchers are Due

June 30 - NYSRA: All Local Council Reports are Due

Oct. 10-13 - ILA Conference, New Orleans, LA

Nov. 14-16 -NYSRA Conference "Empowering Striving Readers" at Albany Convention Center

Needed

A co-editor to work on the *Empire Reading Scene*, with a combination of layout and editing skills. Must be a NYSRA member. This is a volunteer position. Please send interest or recommendations to Cindy Wells at wellsck@potdam.edu.

Reminders

Please make sure that all membership chairs are putting their members into the database on the NYSRA website, with complete addresses and an email. Full addresses enable us to send the Empire Reading Scene out to all members. If they do not know how, please contact Hannah Monnat at hannahmonnat@gmail.com. Please continue to add new members as they join.

All local councils need to get their Local Council Reports in to Carrie Lake, the NYSRA Council Coordinator, by June 30, 2019.

A Message from Thea Yurkewicz, our Incoming NYSRA President:

It is an honor to take on the role as Incoming President of the New York State Reading Association. I would like to thank the outgoing president, Sharon Kelly, for leading our organization this past year. I would also like to thank all the outgoing executive committee members. I'm looking forward to collaborating with our regional directors and council members throughout New York State. As co-coordinator of our 2019 conference, I also welcome all educators to join us November 14th-16th at the Albany Capital Center. Further information to attend this enriching professional learning opportunity can be found on our website: <https://www.nysraconference2019.org/>.

Thank you for the privilege and pleasure to serve such an important role for this committed organization.

Thea Yurkewicz, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
State University of New York at Geneseo
National Board-Certified Teacher

2019 NYSRA Literacy Conference, Empowering Striving Readers

by Maryanne Barrett

Please check out the 2019 NYSRA Conference website for all conference and registration information:

<https://www.nysraconference2019.org/>

click here: <https://spark.adobe.com/video/DfYXrKWzOzM6m>

52ND ANNUAL
 NEW YORK STATE READING ASSOCIATION
LITERACY CONFERENCE



Empowering Striving Readers

November 14-16, 2019 • Albany Capital Center

REGISTER TODAY! www.nysraconference2019.org

Thursday

Evening Preconference:
 Empowering Teachers
 Virginia Goatley & Thea
 Yurkewecz

Friday

Luncheon:
 Jennifer Serravallo

Ticketed Dinner:
 What Inspires Writing with
 Sandra Athans, Nancy Castaldo,
 and more

Additional featured speakers:
 Stephanie Affinito, Erica Barnes,
 Grace Enriquez, Stephanie
 Harvey, Gretchen Oliver, Zoi
 Philippakos, Erik Sweet & Laura
 Robb

Saturday

Ticketed Breakfast:
 Writing for Children and Young
 Adults with SCBWI members
 Sandra Athans, Nancy
 Castaldo, and more

Luncheon:
 Janet Wong & Sylvia Vardell

Additional featured speakers:
 Adam Fachler & Jeffrey
 Wilhelm, Troy Hicks, Jim Wright,
 and Laura Hallgren Flynn,
 Peggy Connors & Lynn
 Gelheizer



Earn CTLE Credit Hours!

Come learn from nationally and regionally known presenters, network with fellow educators, check out the latest educational products and earn CTLE credits at the 52nd Annual NYSRA Conference.

REGULAR CONFERENCE PRICING

Member or School Group (3-9 registered together)	Non-member	Full Time Students
\$175	\$250	\$75

Save money and register by 9/30/19 and receive the EARLY BIRD fee!

The registration form and more registration details are posted on our website.



- LIKE the "New York Reading Association" Page
- SHARE information and details about the 2019 NYSRA Conference
- WIN a chance to enter drawings for conference vouchers, free books and more!

2019 NYSRA Conference Registration Thursday, 11.14.19 to Saturday, 11.16.19 Albany Capital Center
Registration must be postmarked by 11.1.19 to avoid the additional late and on-site registration fee of \$25.

Last Name:	First Name:
Address:	
City:	State & Zip:
Home Phone:	Business Phone:
Affiliation:	Position:
Valid/Unblocked E-Mail (Required for Registration Confirmation):	
Are you a member of a LOCAL NYSRA COUNCIL or AT-LARGE MEMBER of NYSRA? <input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	
If yes, WHICH LOCAL COUNCIL? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AT-LARGE MEMBER	
<input type="checkbox"/> Please Check Here If You Will Need A Sign Language Interpreter (Postmarked by 9.30.19).	
<input type="checkbox"/> Please Check Here and Specify If You Have Special Dietary Needs:	

Registration Fees, Options (Per Person) and Payment Information

<input type="checkbox"/> \$40 NYSRA At-Large Membership (Allows You To Register At The Member Rate.)	
<p>Package A Regular Full Conference Package (Includes: Thursday Evening To Saturday Afternoon Professional Development, Lunch On Friday And Saturday, And Reception On Thursday And Friday Evening) Early Bird Registration Postmarked BY 9.30.19)</p> <input type="checkbox"/> \$150 Member <input type="checkbox"/> \$225 Non-Member Regular Registration (Postmarked AFTER 9.30.19) <input type="checkbox"/> \$175 Member <input type="checkbox"/> \$175 School Groups Of 3 To 9 (Submit Together) <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Non-Member <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 Full Time Student	<p>PAYMENT INFORMATION (FULL PAYMENT AND/OR PO MUST ACCOMPANY THIS FORM)</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Check # _____ Amount: \$ _____ PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: NYSRA. (RETURNED CHECKS WILL BE ASSESSED A \$25 NSF FEE.) <input type="checkbox"/> PO# _____ District: _____ <p>(WE WILL INVOICE THE DISTRICT)</p> <input type="checkbox"/> CREDIT CARD TYPE: <input type="checkbox"/> AMEX <input type="checkbox"/> VISA <input type="checkbox"/> MC CARD NUMBER: _____ NAME ON CARD: _____ EXPIRATION DATE: _____ SECURITY CODE FROM BACK OF CARD: _____ SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____ E-MAIL TO SEND RECEIPT: _____ <p>(NYSRA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CHARGE YOUR CARD THE CORRECT AMT. IF THERE IS AN ERROR IN THE CALCULATION OF THE AMT. DUE.)</p> <p>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A \$25 late registration fee will be assessed for registrations received after 11.1.19 and for On-Site Registrations. 2. Refunds will be made ONLY with a written request postmarked by 11.1.19 and will be processed after the close of the conference. 3. A registration confirmation e-mail will be sent to the e-mail address listed above. Please be sure to provide a valid, unblocked e-mail, 4. NYSRA Taxpayer ID number is: 16-6098728. 5. PLEASE MAIL, FAX, OR E-MAIL COMPLETED REGISTRATION ALONG WITH METHOD OF PAYMENT TO:
<p>Package B Single Day Conference Package- Friday or Saturday (Includes: Friday OR Saturday Professional Development, Lunch on Friday OR Saturday, and Reception on Friday Evening IF attending on Friday.) Please Check Day Attending: <input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday</p> <input type="checkbox"/> \$125 Member <input type="checkbox"/> \$125 School Groups of 3 to 9 Submit Together) <input type="checkbox"/> \$200 Non-Member <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Full Time Student	
<p>A La Carte Items <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Friday Evening Dinner <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Saturday Morning Breakfast</p>	
<p>\$ _____ TOTAL AMOUNT DUE</p>	
<p>Please Note: If you are sending 10 or more from the same district, please contact Mary Kline for large group pricing at 315-867-2079. For other Registration questions, please e-mail our registrars at nysraconfreg@roadrunner.com. For non-registration questions, contact us at nysraconf2019@gmail.com.</p>	
<p>NYSRA CONFERENCE REGISTRATION C/O MARY & LARRY KLINE 507 BRETT'S WAY WHITESBORO, NY 13492 FAX: 315-736-3519 E-MAIL: NYSRACONFREG@ROADRUNNER.COM</p>	

Advocacy News, Summer 2019

by Sue Bogdan-Ritty, NBCT
NYSRA Advocacy Chair

Federal Update

Congress continues to work on spending bills as we move into the summer recess. Educators will lobby for many programs, and some will take precedence (as happens with each administration). Educators will watch carefully for cuts, and in some cases, even support them, so a program doesn't get eliminated.

This year, one can reflect on the cuts made in 2011, when several programs were cut and continue to not be funded. Among these are the following:

- Small Learning Communities
- Even Start
- National Writing Project
- Reading Is Fundamental
- Teach for America
- National Board for Professional teaching Standards
- Literacy through School Libraries

The cuts for these programs totaled \$200 million in 2011, and these programs currently are still not funded. The point is if your school or university has programs under federal funding, now is the time to contact your Congressman or Senator to support those programs. If funding is cut, one never knows when it may or ever will be returned.

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

The Every Student Succeeds Act was signed into law under President Barack Obama. U. S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos just this month approved the last state's ESSA plans. Florida's plan was approved this past month.

If you would like to know more about each state's ESSA plan, I recommend you visit the ESSA tracker found on the EdWeek website:

<https://www.edweek.org/ew/section/multimedia/key-takeaways-state-essa-plans.html#detailed-overview>.

New York State Update

NYS Board of Regents

The New York State Board of Regents met on Monday, May 6th, and Tuesday, May 7th, 2019. A major topic at their meeting was Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR). This topic was addressed because of the recent change in legislation (Chapter 59 laws of 2019) which amended Education Law 3012-d. In particular, it amends the Student

Performance Category Requirements of the statute. In particular, it combines Educator Practice and Student Learning into a combined score.

The power point presentation from the NYS Board of Regents Meeting can be found here:

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/P12-HE%20Annual%20Professional%20Performance%20Review%20%28APPR%29%20Update.pdf>

NYS Literacy Concerns

Dyslexia Legislations

As previously discussed in *ReAD*, the bills regarding dyslexia are still in the Education Committee. Now is the time to contact your legislator if you have an opinion about this legislation.

A summary of these bills can be found here:

Early Screening of Dyslexia

<https://nyassembly.gov/leg/?bn=A05259&term=2019>

Teacher Training in Multisensory Approach

<https://nyassembly.gov/leg/?bn=A06450&term=2019>

Changes in Literacy Coursework in Undergraduate Programs

The 60-day public comment period for the Regents proposal pertaining to Language Acquisition and Literacy Development for ELLs is now in process. The Regents expect to act on this at their September meeting. The public comment notice was published in the April 24, 2019 New York State Register. Comments must be received by June 23, 2019. See page 25 in <https://docs.dos.ny.gov/info/register/2019/apr24/rulemaking.pdf>.

Send comments to Petra Maxwell, NYS Education Department, Office of Higher Education, 89 Washington Avenue, Room 975 EBA, Albany, NY 12234, (518) 474-2238, Email: petra.maxwell@nysed.gov.

Call for Proposals
by Cindy Wells



*Imagining, Discovering, and
Cultivating Curiosity*

Call for Proposals!

SUNY Potsdam's **Journey Into Literacy** Planning Committee is seeking proposals for the October 24th & 25th, 2019 Conference.

Please visit **JourneyintoLiteracy.com** for more information.

The submission due date has been extended to
June 15, 2019.

NYSRA ILA Excellence Award

by Carrie Lake
NYSRA Council Coordinator

Once again, **New York State Reading Association** has been awarded the ILA Excellence Award for 2018-19.

The following Local Chapters have achieved the 2018-2019 ILA Honor Award:

Niagara Frontier Reading Council
Rochester Area Literacy Council
Central New York Reading Council
Nassau Reading Council

Congratulations and keep up the great work promoting literacy across New York State!

For more information on how to apply for this and a variety of other NYSRA awards, visit <https://www.nysreading.org/>. We will be seeking new applicants for 2019-20.

Literacy News and Links of Interest

by Sandi Kurbiel
ReAD Editor

[Information on Dyslexia](#)

If you are following the NYSED legislation in progress, or just want to learn more about dyslexia, you might be interested in this fact sheet that is very informative and includes many resourceful websites.

[Videos by Dyslexia Experts](#)

Watch some virtual conferences by leading experts in the field, featuring the renowned Maryanne Wolfe and many others, live on June 7, or recordings until September 30.

[Summer Reading at New York State Libraries](#)

Find some fun ideas and resources here for your students at our New York libraries.

[More Summer Reading Resources](#)

Whether you're running a summer program, or just looking for book ideas, you will find many informative resources here, sponsored by the National Education Association.