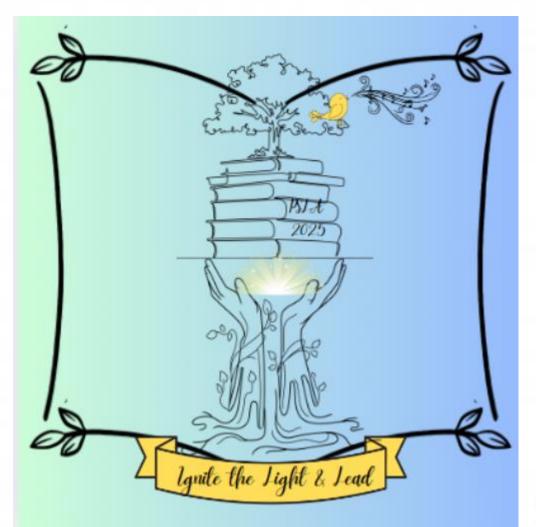
South Carolina Council of the International Literacy Association



49th Annual Conference February 20-22, 2025 Hilton Beachfront Resort & Spa, Hilton Head, SC

International Literacy Project



Peace, Love, and Literacy For Guatemala



Local Councils donate funds today to meet one requirement of the PSLA Honor Council by March 15th. Checks should be made out to PSLA and mailed to our Treasurer, Eddie Marshall 2688 Hwy 308, Clinton, SC 29325. Clearly mark that this is a donation to the ILP.

Gift to the ILP in Honor or Memory of a Special Someone (An opportunity for councils and individuals.) If you would like to donate in honor or memory of a special someone follow these steps:

- 1. Send the monetary donation to our Treasurer, Eddie Marshall. Mark that this is a donation to the ILP.
- 2. Checks should be made out to PSLA. You may send your donation through Venmo. See below for the Venmo link. Write ILP in the Venmo description.
- Complete the Google form to provide the information about the person being honored or memorialized.

You will note that you have the opportunity to provide a name and address for an acknowledgement to the recipient, or a recipient's loved one, to show them that a donation has been made.





President's Message



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Dear Participants,

Welcome to Palmetto State Literacy Association's 49th Annual Conference—*Ignite the Light and Lead*! We are thrilled to have educators and business leaders across South

Carolina coalesce in one space to network, share ideas, and expand efforts to promote literacy in our schools and communities.

This conference celebrates the shared passion and commitment that drive us all—using literacy to empower individuals, foster critical thinking, and build stronger, more vibrant communities. We hope the insights and connections you gain here inspire new initiatives and collaborations that make a lasting impact.

Special thanks go to Michelle Richardson, our President-Elect and incoming 2025–2026 PSLA President, her dedicated team, our board members, and the many educational leaders, sponsors, presenters, authors, and vendors who have worked tirelessly to make this conference come to life. Your leadership and vision are invaluable to our mission.

As we look ahead, we are excited to invite you to next year's very special event—our semicentennial celebration! In 2026, the Palmetto State Literacy Association will mark 50 years of championing literacy. It will be a time to honor our legacy and envision the next chapter in our mission.

Thank you for joining us for this year's conference. We wish you success in applying what you learn to spark change and serve as the beacon light to literacy in your communities.

With gratitude and anticipation,

Krystal Turner, Ed. S. 2024-2025 PSLA President



President-Elect's Message



Welcome to the 49th Annual PSLA Conference!

On behalf of everyone who helped shape this event, we hope it inspires you to "Ignite the Literacy Light" within

yourself and empowers you to "Lead"-whether as a reader, student, teacher, author, or administrator. We're thrilled to have you join fellow educators from across the state here in Hilton Head, SC.

Get ready to *Ignite the Literacy Light & Lead*—this weekend is all about sparking new ideas, fueling your passion for literacy, and empowering you to lead with purpose! Together, we'll light the way for every reader, teacher, and student. Let's build a brighter future, one lesson at a time!

Before you head home, take a moment to relax and soak in the beauty of Hilton Head's stunning beaches. Let the sound of the waves and the salty air recharge your spirit after an inspiring weekend. Whether you're strolling along the shore or simply enjoying the view, take this time to reflect on all you've learned and the connections you've made. The sand and sea are here to remind you that, just like literacy, rest and reflection are essential for growth. Safe travels, and we hope you leave feeling refreshed and ready to lead!

Michelle Richardson 2025 PSLA Conference Chair





SCIRA/PSLA Past Presidents							
973-1974	Florence B. Nelson (deceased)	1998-1999	Barbara J. Everson				
974-1975	Sylvia Swinton (deceased)	1999-2000	LaDené Conroy				
975-1976	Mary A. Kelly (deceased)	2000-2001	Cheryl Sigmon				
976-1977	James Mahaffey	2001-2002	Heath Branham				
977-1978	Barbara Rosso (deceased)	2002-2003	Pamela Small				
978-1979	Janet Cox (deceased)	2003-2004	Jackie Chumley				
979-1980	Louise Scott	2004-2005	Betty Fleming				
980-1981	Elizabeth Galloway (deceased)	2005-2006	Jane Harrison				
981-1982	Angie Evans (deceased)	2006-2007	Mary Chandler-McVann				
982-1983	Roger Rudy	2007-2008	Robyn Prince				
983-1984	James Wilhide	2008-2009	Michael Teal				
984-1985	Martha Hill	2009-2011	Jean Brewington				
985-1986	W. Gale Breedlove	2011-2012	Faye Johnston				
986-1987	Judy Redman (deceased)	2012-2013	Callie Herlong				
987-1988	Pat Smith	2013-2014	Melissa Nicholson				
988-1989	Margaret Riedell (deceased)	2014-2015	Gina Mays				
989-1990	Peyton Harvey	2015-2016	Eddie Marshall				
990-1991	Wayne Brazell	2016-2017	Cathy Delaney				
991-1992	Johnnie Boatwright	2017-2018	Dale Anthony				
992-1993	Kaye Johnston	2018-2019	Vickie Brockman				
993-1994	Kathy Neal Headley	2019-2020	Susan Fernandez				
994-1995	Lannie Love (deceased)	2020-2022	Missy Lark				
995-1996	Teresa Taylor (deceased)	2022-2023	Cathy Jones-Stork				
996-1997	Michele B. Conner	2023-2024	Kaye Jamison				
997-1998	Libby Owens (deceased)						

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Thank you, Past Presidents, for your service and dedication to SCIRA/PSLA!

Judy Redman Award Recipients

2019 Judy Redman

2020 Joan Stevenson 2022 Pat Smith

2023 Jean Brewington & Eddie Marshall



2024 - 2025 PSLA Local Council Presidents

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Aiken **Missy Van Bebber** Beaufort **Renarta** Tompkins Cherokee **Grayson Padgett** Columbia **Breanna Hughes** Edgefield Angela Fallaw Foothills Patricia Massengale Dana Harrigan Georgetown Greenville Loren Pessolano Lakelands Jennifer Dunn Laurens Michele Carroll Low Country Peggy Bing-O'Banner **Karley Watkins** Newberry **Tiffany Smith** Pee Dee Nicole Bright Spartanburg Alisa Black Sumter Union **Kristin Mitchell**

Ignite the Literacy Light & Lead



2024-2025 PSLA State Officers



President Krystal Turner



President-Elect Michelle Richardson



Vice President Virginia Scates



Secretary Ashley Pack



Membership Director Melissa Nicholson



State Coordinator Missy Lark



Treasurer Eddie Marshall



Conference Coordinator Jean Brewington



Past-President Kaye Jamison

Ignite the Literacy Light & Lead



2024-2025 PSLA Representatives and Committee Chairs

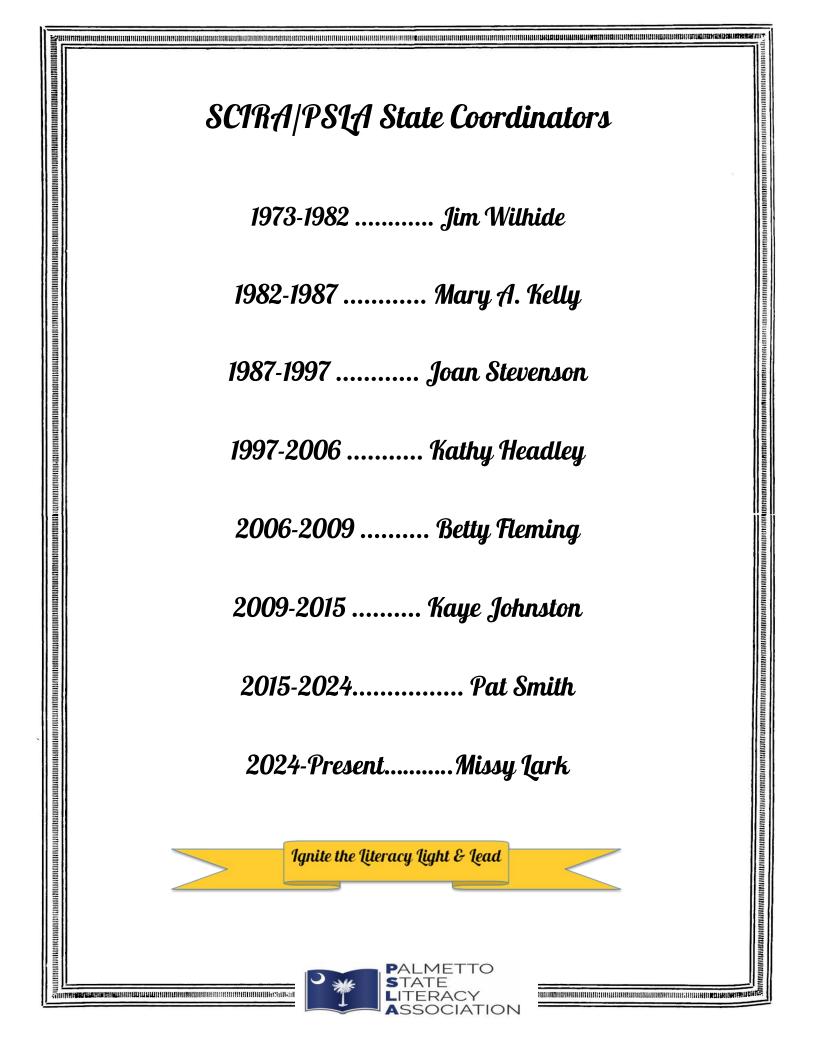
Regional Representatives

Upstate of South Carolina	Ashley Black
Midlands of South Carolina	Rebecca Burriss
Lower Regions of South Carolina	Peggy O'Banner
At Large	Tonja Johnson

Committee Chairs

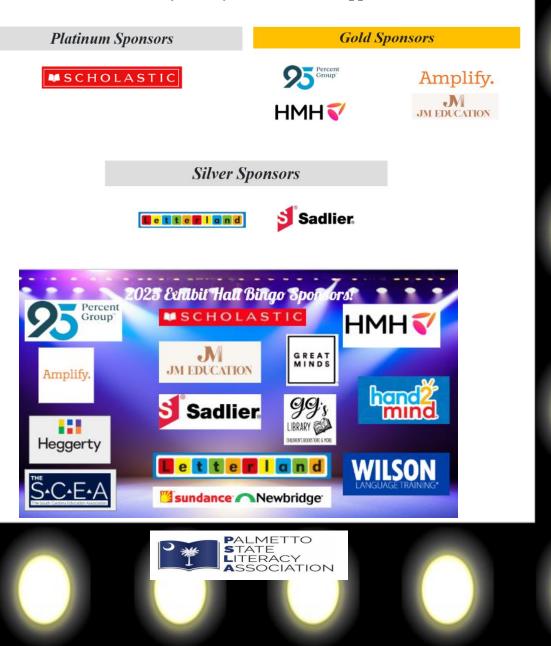
Bylaws	Gina Mays	Gina Mays					
Public Relations	Ashley Pack						
Conference Program	Michelle Richardson						
Distinguished Literacy Administrator	Pat Smith	_					
Distinguished Teacher of Literacy	Judy Arnold						
Exemplary Reading Award	Iesha Jefferson						
Family Literacy Grant	Kim Shelton						
Historian/Archives	Vickie Brockman						
Honor Council	Missy Lark						
International Project	Virginia Scates						
Journal Publication 1	Kirsten Able						
Journal Publication 2	Koti Hubbard						
Legislative	Scott Johnson						
Literacy Leaders of Higher Education	Dr. Catherine Compton-Lilly						
Literacy Partner Award	Gina Rhodes						
Literature Grants	Rebecca Burriss						
Nominations	Jennifer Dunn						
Scholarships	Dr. Mary Howard						
Teachers as Readers	Kimberly Hutcherson						
Service Grant	Jennifer Powell						
Long Range Planning	Callie Herlong						
Finance	Eddie Marshall						
Website and Event Management	Kaye Jamison	. <u> </u>					





Conference 2025 Sponsors Ignite the Literacy Light & Lead

A heartfelt thank you to our generous sponsors and supporters for making this conference possible. Your support plays a crucial role in helping us bring together educators, thought leaders, and innovators to share ideas, inspire one another, and ignite the passion for literacy. We are incredibly grateful for your partnership and commitment to advancing education. Your contribution ensures that we can continue to lead, learn, and grow—together. Thank you for your invaluable support!



Recognition of State and Local Councils

The International Literacy Association and the South Carolina Chapter of the International Literacy Association applaud the efforts of local councils.

> International Literacy Association 2024 Award of Excellence Palmetto State Literacy Association Year 39

2023-2024 PSLA HONOR COUNCIL RECIPIENTS

Cherokee Literacy Council

Edgefield Literacy Council

Greenville Literacy Council

Laurens Literacy Council

Newberry Literacy Council

Pee Dee Literacy Council

Spartanburg Literacy Council

Ignite the Literacy Light & Lead



Special Thanks to Our Photographer!

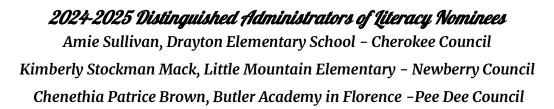


We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our talented photographer, Treva Hammond, for capturing the essence of our

"Ignite the Literacy Light & Lead" Conference. Your creativity and attention to detail brought our program to life, and your dedication to your craft is evident in every shot. We are incredibly grateful for your contribution and the memories you've helped us create.

Thank you for being an essential part of this unforgettable event!





2024-2025 Distinguished Teachers of Literacy

Cherokee Council

Lois Sisk - Blacksburg Primary School Misty Green - Blacksburg High School

<u>Columbia Council</u> Scott Johnson - Piney Wood Elementary School

<u>Edgefield Council</u> Malory Rearden – Johnston Elementary School Kayla Fields – Merriwether Middle School

<u>Laurens Council</u> Jessi Davidson - Joanna Woodson Elementary School Catherine Gambrell - Thornwell Charter School

<u>PeeDee Council</u> Erica Poston - Olanta Creative Arts and Science Magnet School Cynthia D. McQueen - Darlington Middle School

> <u>Spartanburg Council</u> Tiffany Coleman – Hendrix Elementary School Megan Coffey – Chesnee High School

Congratulations!

We are beyond thrilled to extend our heartfelt congratulations to this year's recipients of the Distinguished Teachers of Literacy Award! Your passion, dedication, and unwavering commitment to fostering literacy in your community have not only inspired countless students but have also shaped the future of education itself.







Beaufort County School District

Thank you to Beaufort County School District!

On behalf of the Palmetto State Literacy Association, we would like to express our deepest gratitude for your invaluable support in contributing to the success of our conference program. Your involvement helped to make our conference enjoyable for all participants.

The collaboration with Beaufort County Schools played a key role in making our program well-rounded, engaging, and meaningful. We truly appreciate your dedication and the time and effort you dedicated to helping us create an unforgettable experience for all involved.

Thank you once again for your partnership and for helping to make this conference such a success.

We look forward to continuing our work together to advance literacy and education in our community.

With sincere appreciation,

Palmetto State Literacy Association



2025 Sched	lule of Events				
<u>Thursday, February 20, 2025</u>	WI-FI code: PSLA2025				
7:00 AM	Registration and Membership Booth Opens for Pre-Conference Attendees				
7:00 AM- 8:00 AM	Breakfast for Pre-Conference Attendees in Ballroom Foyer				
8:00 AM - 3:00 PM	Pre-Conference Institute *Lunch will be provided				
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Pre-Conference Sessions *Lunch on your own				
2:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Exhibit Hall Opens				
2:00 PM	Registration and Membership Booth Opens for Conference Attendees				
4:30 PM - 5:30 PM	Opening General Session- Dr. Shuiab Meacham <i>"Hip Hop Culture and Literacy of Youth Vision"</i>				
5:30 PM -6:30 PM	Meet & Greet in Exhibit Hall				
Friday, S	February 21, 2025				
7:00 AM - 3:15 PM	Registration and Membership Booth Opens				
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Breakfast for Conference Attendees in Exhibit Hall coffee, juice, breakfast items				
7:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Exhibit Hall Opens				
8:30 AM - 10:00 AM	General Session- Matt Glover "Beliefs and Actions that Nurture Engaged Writers"				
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Authors on the Move The Cafe (downstairs) Ticketed Event				
11:00 AM - 1:15 PM	Lunch Pick-up in Exhibit Hall				
11:00 AM - 3:45 PM	Concurrent Breakout Sessions				
<u>Saturday.</u>	February 22, 2025				
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Breakfast for Conference Attendees in Exhibit Hall				
7:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Exhibit Hall Opens				
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	Concurrent Breakout Sessions				
9:15 AM - 10:45 AM	Closing General Session - Lindsay Kemeny "7 Mighty Moves for Reading Success" Sponsored by Scholastic				

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Opening General Session Thursday, February 20, 2025 4:30 PM – 5:30 PM Ballrooms A – F

Presentation of Colors – Hilton Head Island High Jr. ROTC

Opening Speech - Kaya Tolly, Hilton Head Island High

National Anthem – Hilton Head Island High Guitar Ensemble – Hernan Jimenez, Edgar Ibarra & David Miquilena, Hilton Head Island High

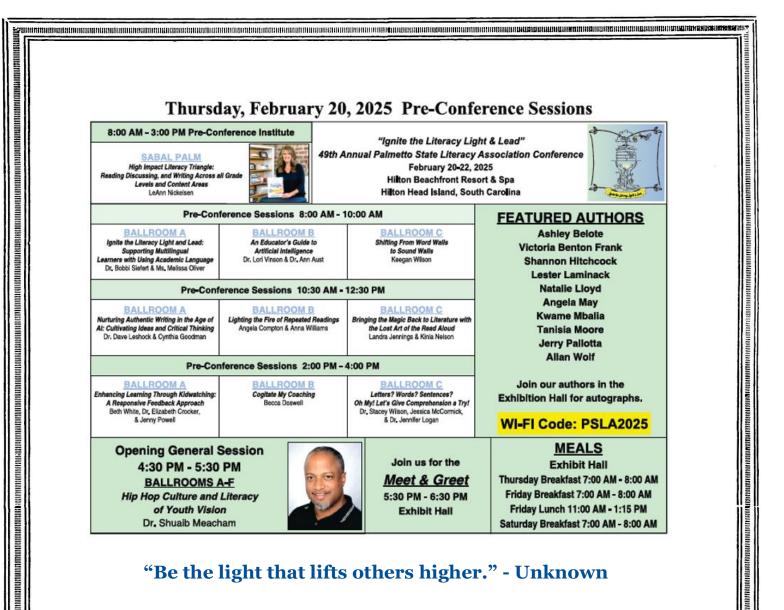
Dance - Beth Herring, Kurtis Miller, Tatyanna Spencer, Marcus Sanofsky, Claire Pluff & Grace Richardson, Bluffton High School

Introduction of Keynote Speaker - Michelle Richardson

Dr. Shuiab "Meach" Meacham – Hip Hop Culture and Literacy of Youth Vision

Closing Remarks – Michelle Richardson





Meet & Greet

February 20, 2025

5:30-6:30 P.M.

Exhibit Hall

Wi-Fi Code: PSLA2025



General Session

Friday, February 21, 2025

8:30 PM - 10:00 PM Ballrooms A - F

Welcome & Introductions – Michelle Richardson

Local Council Introductions – Eddie Marshall

Membership - Melissa Nicholson

Opportunities & Special Thanks – Michelle Richardson

Family Literacy Award Recognition – Michelle Richardson

Distinguished Teachers of Literacy Recognition – Michelle Richardson

Introduction of Keynote Speaker – Michelle Richardson

Keynote Speaker - Matt Glover

Beliefs and Actions that Nurture Engaged Writers

Closing Remarks – Michelle Richardson



Friday, February 21, 2025, Concurrent Sessions

General Session 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

BALLROOMS A-F Beliefs and Actions that Nurture Engage Writers Matt Glover



Friday, February 21, 2025 Concurrent Sessions "Ignite the Literacy Light & Lead"

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM The Café (downstairs) Authors on the Move Ashley Belote, Victoria Benton Frank, Shannon Hitchcock, Leeter Laminack, Natalia Lloyd, Angela May, Kwame Nbalia, Tanisia Moore, Jerry Pallotta, & Allan Wolf (Ticketed Event - registration required) 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

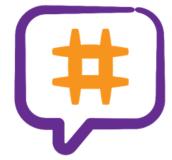
TILLO AM - 12:00 PM CONCORRENT SESSIONS											
BALLROOM A Hip Hop Cathare and Literacy of Youth Vision Dr. Shuish Meacham Audience: Al		BALLROOM B Using Morphemic Analysis with Graphic Organizaria Ingenese Vocabsiany Javion Simpson, Osargaburg County School District Audienoc: PraiX, Prinnary & Bomentary		BALLROOM C Lighting the Way: Unleg Stories to Unite and Resolve Conflict Maction Suitman & Julians Smyth, Greenville Autience: Primary & Bementary		BALLROOM D But / Dan't Know Hew to Teach Writing Jorniter Hannick & Dr. Lori Poole, Losington School District One Audience: Primary & Elementary		BALLROOM E An Educator's Guide to Antificial Intelligence Dr. Lee Vinson & Dr. Ann Aust, North Greenville University Audience: All		BALLROOM F Unlock the Power of LETRS: Supercharge Your The 1 Austraction! Kaegan Wison, hand2mind Audience: PreK & Primary	
School District Audience: Middla	El Sa Rei	BAYLEY'S BARONEY asseing and Buliding Knowledge: The searchial First Step in apporting Students' noing Comprehension Dr. Bobal Selert, Furnan University Jense: Al	lgrebe t Spart Sc	LOBD PRIETORS he Lharacy Light: ting Success in such Cerolina Deservoins SCETV SCETV te: All	Igniting th Poetry in S Dr. Jayson		PALMET ROOM Choseking Bool Implies AV Lee Eliza Brad Audience: All	is that	PRIVATE DINI ROOM Targeted Intensive Tuth In Reaching: A Strategy Beynows Reaching Arestive In Pre-Starvice Traceto Dr., Tammy Garbar Pre-Systanian Collegy Audience: Pre-K & Prim	The Science of Reading 2:5: From Mataphors to Mathods clion Diana Bets, are 55 Parcent Group Audience: All 6	
			1	2:15 PM - 1:1	5 PM CC	NCURRE	NT SESSION	IS			
Using immension and Oral Rebearsal to Support Engagement at the Baginning of a Writing Unit Matt Ginver Authoner All		BALLROOM Engaging Young Au Through Culturally R Textic: A Feccar Comprehensio Dy, Stacy Hilson & Dr. Jerr Vocherse Universi Saukson Check Elam Audience: Primary	aders alevant on thr Logan, by	BALLROOM C So, LETR-What Happens Next? Dr. Russel Clark, Anderson Urivensity Audience: PreK, Primary & Benantary		BALLROOM D The Secret to Witting Success: Transform Reluctent Writers Into Rockster Writers Part Objert, Bockin Resources Audience: Elementary		BALLROOM E Words and Wonders: Exploring the Intersection of Liberary and STEAM Judyn Wellson, Lexington Richland Files & Kindenty Parker, Columbia Audience: Primary, Elementary & Midde		BALLROOM F Relay to Read: Teaching Poundetional Skills to Mastary in Small Groups Kathatine Docasen, Colaborative Classroom Audience: Prek & Primary	
CAPTAIN JACK STONEY Iseling White's Voice Jury Arroit & Thiny Smith Chennes Middle School Audience: Middle		BAYLEY'S BARONEY Readers are Leaders Reading Library Pr Volume / Dr, Nicholas Men Rockdale County Public Audience: Middle & Hi	Close rectice cer, Schools	LOR PROPRIE Enhancing Reading English Languag Educator Strategi Anglash Languag Alacis Lan West Coast U Audience: All	TORS Proficiency in a Learners: as and Their Achievement Van,	Creating a C Sparting Star Wander Acros Alysse Libert Schools J		Center and Re Dis Ca	METTO ROOM Ing Readers: Analyzing reponding to Chlishee as Readers shorine Compton-Lify, rety of South Carolina tet All	SABAL PALM A Tale of J Cities with Embedded Moneconics Cottin Padget, Laterland Audience: Primary	

"Surround yourself with those who light your path, and then be the light for others." - Unknown

Friday, February 21, 2025, Concurrent Sessions Continued

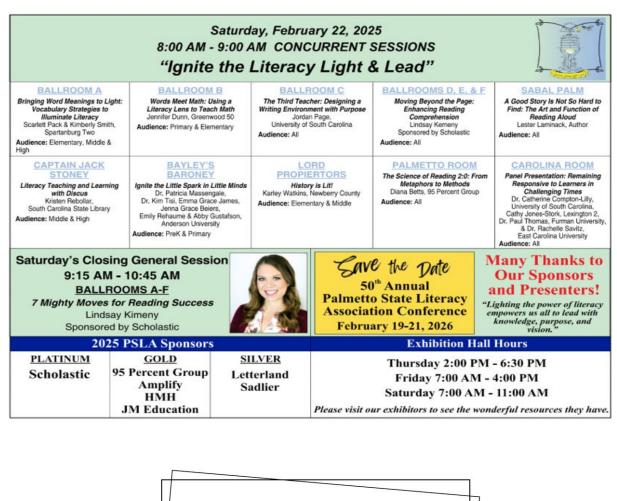
		:30 PM - 2:30 PM CO	NCURRENT SESSION	5	
BALLROOM A The True Story of the Who Would Whin? Books Jerry Pallots, Author Audience: All	BALLROOM B Literacy Contern Lead to Student Growth and Engagement Narce Prevyoa, handbrind Audience: ProK, Primary & Elementary	BALLROOM C A Good Shary Ia Not So Hard To Fled: The Art and Function of Resulting Aloud Laster Laminack, Author Authence: Al	BALLROOM D Apalte Fluency with Reader's Thester Jen Roberts, Rachel Brewington & Arranda Newton, Union County Schools Audience: Primary & Bornartary	BALLROOM E The A-to-Z Pisydeccit of Effective Teaching Jamifer Dam, Greenwood 50 Audience: Elementary & Middle	BALLROOM F Nurturing Authentic Writing in the Apa of AL Cultiveting ideas and Critical Thinking Dr. David Lashock, HMH Audience: All
CAPTAIN JACK STONEY Sealing Test Questions In a New Light: Using the VIEW Strategy to joint Student Engagement Maddison Rippor, Crangaburg County School Dated. Audience: Middle & High	BAYLEY'S BARONEY Finding Power in Balance: Reading With and Against Text Co. Vary Stylinger, University of South Carolina Audience: Middle & High	THE CAFE Developing and Strangthening Local Reading Councils Wisky Latr, LAPBLA State Coordinator Audience: Al	CAROLINA ROOM Trensforming instruction: The Power of Integrated Literacy Michain Pate, Fot MII Schools Audience: Primary & Biamentary	PALMETTO ROOM Four Steps to Transforming Your Writing Cleanroom Nocle Pegat, Empowering Writers Audience: ProK, Primary, Elementary & Midde	SABAL PALM Creating a Culture for Cosmbing Tier One Instruction Through Collaboration, Connection, Considency, and Clarity Dawn Mitchell, Spartarburg Str Audience: Lileracy Coaches
	1	2:45 PM - 3:45 PM CO	NCURRENT SESSION	S	
BALLROOM A The Inspectance and Power of Building Knowledge, Skille, and Engegement with Studente in the Elementary Sattings Harcus Fernara, Danis Cultaon & Kelly Brown, Scholastic Audience: Al	BALLROOM B More Than a Number: Multi- Tiened Systems of Support for the Whole Child Bath Michail, Courthoy McSwain, Krisii Patserson, Hannah Fairlao, Jenny Hill & Jane Wallson, Yook School Diatrict One Audiance: PreK, Primary & Elementary	BALLROOM C Author's Panol Angola Vay & Featured Authons Audience: All	BALLROOM D More Than Just Definitions Dr. Led Poole & Jerniter Hamfolk, Lexington One Scheel District Audience: Elementary	BALLROOM E Intervention: Lighting the Way for Coaching Partnerships Tilling Bach, Chesterfield Courty School District & Karren Humann, Cherter Intermediate School Audience: Printary & Elomontary	BALLROOM F Igniting Literacy: Assess, Loud, and Numinate Argola Wolfe & Dr. David Leshock, HMH Audience: All
CAPTAIN JACK STONEY Notivetional Learning Strategies to ignite All Learners Tiftery Smith & Judy Arnold, Crossee Middle School Audience: Middle	BAYLEY'S BARONEY Supporting Literacy and Language Development with MatCinguel Learners Fried Pleis, Charleston County School Diariet Audience: All	LORD PROPRIETORS The Now and Why of Nandwriting Marcia Bacter, Zana-Biceor Audience: Primary & Euroantary	CAROLINA ROOM Enhancing Literacy Skills with PSS and SCETV Resources Califin Woodurd, South Carolina Educational Television Audience: PraK & Primary	PALMETTO ROOM Strategiae for Older Studente When Appraaching Multisyltable Wards: Syliable Dhaloe and Moxphesiongy Kim Colline, Institute for Multi- Servory Education Audiance: Elementary, Nicola, Social Education Teachine &	SABAL PALM The Future is Already Here: Namesking the Prover of Al in the ELA Classroom DL Christie Aslams, Spartarburg One Audience: Elementary & Mickle

"One child, one teacher, one book, one pen can change the world." - Malala Yousafzai



#PSLA2025

Saturday, February 22, 2025, Concurrent Sessions



Are you a member of PSLA? Join the Palmetto State Association Today! See the Membership Booth located near the Registration Booth!



Closing Session Saturday February 22, 2025, 9:15 AM – 10:30 AM **Introductions** – Michelle Richardson **Recognition of Literacy Partner Award – Gina Mays** Recognition of Distinguished Administrators of Literacy -Ashley Pack, Krystal Turner & Michelle Richardson **Installment of 2025 – 2026 PSLA Officers – Missy Lark 2026 Conference Information** – Virgina Scates Introduction of Closing Keynote Speaker- Kelly Brown Keynote Speaker – Lindsay Kemeny 7 Mighty Moves for Reading Success

Ignite the Literacy Light & Lead



49th Palmetto State Literacy Association Annual Conference Descriptions Thursday, February 20, 2025 Pre-Conference Institute Session

Pre-Conference Institute 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

<u>Sabal Palm</u>

High Impact Literacy Triangle: Reading, Discussing, and Writing Across all Grade Levels and Content Areas

LeAnn Nickelsen, Educator & Author

Educators face many challenges to satisfy all student's literacy needs. LeAnn offers strategies for meeting student needs so they comprehend challenging texts and write in more complex and deeper ways. Students enjoy the processes, are fully engaged during the lesson, and grow tremendously in their literacy skills.

LeAnn calls the process the Magic Literacy Triangle: Reading, Discussing, and Writing – all in one power lesson! Teachers receive a resource full of reading tools, discussing tools, and writing tools to enhance reading engagement. They receive student-friendly conversation starters for richer discussions in all content areas. Teachers learn how to approach writing so that students want to write and accomplish the standards at the same time!



LeAnn Nickelsen

LeAnn Nickelsen, M.Ed. brings powerful, evidencebased tools and strategies that boost student achievement with lasting results. LeAnn is an expert in:

- Closing Gaps with Struggling Students such as those with high poverty, in special education or those with cognitive challenges (formative assessment process, feedback, accurate grading).
- Differentiating Instruction & Growing Literacy to meet every student's needs in all content areas.
- Follow-up Coaching for Collective Efficacy from relationship-building to lesson-planning; feedback, learning walks, and goal-getting.

Pre-Conference Session 8:00 AM- 10:00 AM

<u>Ballroom A</u>

Ignite the Literacy Light and Lead: Supporting Multilingual Learners with Using Academic Language

Dr. Bobbi Siefert, Furman University & Ms. Melissa Oliver, Spearman Elementary School, Greenville

This session will focus on supporting multilingual learners with academic language in the content area classroom. Key ideas for using "*talk moves*" in teaching and learning will be examined. Participants will leave with a variety of practices for planning and using effective instruction with MLs in the content areas.

Emphasis will be on planning and using evidence-based instruction that reaches the range of language and learning levels for students across the K-12 contexts, based on evidence-based principles and practices in the fields of literacy and Teaching Speakers of Other Languages (Fisher, Frey, & Hattie, 2016; Gallagher, 2025; Seidlitz & Perryman, 2021). This session is designed for K-12 content teachers, administrators, and other educators of MLs.

Audience: All

<u>Ballroom B</u>

An Educator's Guide to Artificial Intelligence

Dr. Lori Vinson & Dr. Ann Aust, North Greenville University

This hands-on, engaging experience delves into the power of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Using AI can help your efficiency, organization, and outcomes. Learn how to save time on lesson planning, differentiation, and personalized learning. You will be amazed at what AI can help you do!

Audience: Preschool/Kindergarten, Primary (1-3), Elementary (4-5), Middle (6-8), High School & College

Ballroom C

Shifting From Word Walls to Sound Walls

Keegan Wilson, Hand2Mind

Have you considered incorporating sound walls into your classroom? Are you aware of the distinctions between sound walls and word walls? Join this session to delve into the research backing sound walls and discover methods for moving away from traditional word walls. Understand the rationale behind sound walls and gain practical strategies for effectively transforming your teaching approach.

Audience: Preschool/Kindergarten, Primary (1-3)

Pre-Conference Session 10:30 AM - 12:30 AM

<u>Ballroom A</u>

Nurturing Authentic Writing in the Age of AI: Cultivating Ideas and Critical Thinking

Dr. Dave Leshock & Cynthia Goodman, HMH consultants

In an era of AI, explore methods to maintain authenticity in student writing. Participants will engage in collaborative discussions, revise AI-generated pieces, and analyze multifaceted feedback. This session equips educators to foster originality and critical thinking, preparing students for the digital age while upholding academic integrity. Bring a computer to participate in the session.

Audience: All

<u>Ballroom B</u>

Lighting the Fire of Repeated Readings

Angela Compton & Anna Williams, SC State Dept Office of Early Learning

READ IT AGAIN, PLEASE! In this session, participants will experience the power of repeated reading, extending dialogic reading to develop key foundational skills in meaningful contexts. From Preschool to Kindergarten, children ages 3–5 develop reading skills by leaps and bounds, and repetition makes a significant difference. By engaging in hands-on repeated reading activities, participants will discover how children's brains make neural connections (synapses) that are stimulated over and over so that these connections become "hardwired." Furthermore, this scientifically evidenced-based practice helps students build confidence in their reading abilities, fostering a positive attitude towards reading and igniting the literacy light for lifelong learning and a love for literature!

Audience: PreK & Primary

Ballroom C

Bringing the Magic Back to Literature with the Lost Art of the Read Aloud

Landra Jennings, Author & Kinla Nelson, City View Elementary School

Strategies for helping your learners rediscover their love of reading and stories through creating more purposeful read-aloud time. Tips and techniques will be discussed, in addition to modeling and small group work, to ensure you leave the session with the right tools to implement solutions. Handouts and giveaways.

Audience: Primary, Elementary & Middle

Pre-Conference Session 2:00 - 4:00

Ballroom A

Enhancing Learning Through Kidwatching: A Responsive Feedback Approach

Beth White, Dr. Elizabeth Crocker, & Jenny Powell, University of South Carolina In this session, participants will explore the practice of kidwatching and how it can be used to enhance the learning experience for readers and writers. Through careful observation and analysis, educators can gain valuable insights into their students' understanding and skills. This information allows teachers to provide more effective, responsive feedback tailored to the needs of each learner.

Learning is a continuous process. Kidwatching, as defined in 2002, is a method that allows educators to immerse themselves in this process to gain insights into what a learner knows, can apply, and might confuse. The information gathered through the skill of kidwatching informs a teacher's ability to provide responsive feedback. This session aims to help participants reflect on the value of kidwatching and the support it offers to readers and writers.

Audience: All

Ballroom B

Cogitate My Coaching

Becca Doswell, Educational Consultant

Coaching is not fixing. It is a shared experience for teachers to construct their own ideas, thoughts, and understanding based on student needs. In this session, Becca Doswell, Literacy Lady educational consultant, will provide opportunities for reading coaches to study the SCCCR ELA Standards through the lens of a coach. They will have the opportunity to hone their coaching skills to build teacher capacity in reading and writing, creating success within their schools.

Audience: Elementary Reading Coaches

Ballroom C

Letters? Words? Sentences? Oh My! Let's give comprehension a try!

Dr. Stacey Wilson, Voorhees University, Jessica McCormick, Orangeburg County School District, & Dr. Jennifer Logan, EPI Center

Attendees will learn about Graphic Organizers used as the change idea to address students' comprehension of informational texts and increase their achievement level on the mastery connect assessment. Attendees will be presented with pre- and post- data that show the success of the change idea. Visual artifacts and a video snippet of the change idea in practice with the population will be presented.

Audience: Elementary

Thursday, February 20, 2025 <u>Ballroom A - F</u>

4:30 - 5:30

49th Annual PSLA Conference Opening General Session *Hip Hop Culture and Literacy of Youth Vision* Dr. Shuaib Meacham. Keynote Speaker



Dr. Shuaib Meacham

My Family History

Grandparents from both sides of my family were college educated, which for Black people in the early 1900's is an amazing accomplishment. My wife Dr. Soh Meacham and I both came to lowa for jobs at UNI.

Ever considered how Hip Hop can transform education? Hip Hop Literacy uses the dynamic energy of Hip Hop culture to inspire young people to reach new heights. By engaging students where they are, this approach encourages them to envision and embrace their future.

- **Talent Showcasing**: Students use Hip Hop tools to showcase their abilities.

- **Skill Development**: A culture of learning that fosters personal growth.

- **Future Success**: Empowering young people to become successful adults.

Let's reimagine education with Hip Hop as the driving force!



Friday, February 21, 2025 <u>Ballrooms A-F</u> 8:30-10:00

General Session

Beliefs and Actions that Nurture Engaged Writers Matt Glover, Keynote Speaker

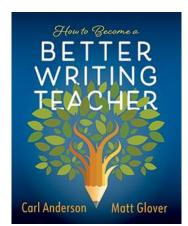


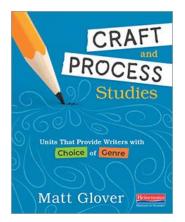
Matt Glover

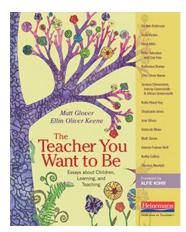
Educator, Author, & Consultant

Matt Glover has been a teacher, principal, author, and consultant for over 30 years. An internationally known literacy consultant, Matt frequently speaks on topics related to nurturing writers,

early reading, language composition and oral rehearsal, and supporting children's intellectual development.







Friday, February 21, 2025

<u>The Cafe</u>

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Authors on the Move

Ashley Belote, Victoria Benton Frank, Shannon Hitchcock, , Lester Laminack, Natalie Lloyd, Angela May, Kwame Mbalia, Tanisia Moore, Jerry Pallotta, and Allan Wolf

Have you ever wanted to have a dinner conversation with an author? Well, here's your chance! Join the fun as TEN authors are showcased during this featured event. Authors will join you at your table while you enjoy lunch. This unique event provides an opportunity to learn about books directly from the author. This event includes the author presentations, a box lunch, and one signed book from the author of your choice.

Audience: All (registration required)

Concurrent Sessions 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Ballroom A

Hip Hop Culture and Literacy of Youth Vision

Dr. Meacham

Audience: All

<u>Ballroom B</u>

Using Morphemic Analysis with Graphic Organizers to Improve Vocabulary

Javion Simpson, Orangeburg County School District

The presentation explains how teachers can use morphemic analysis, breaking words into their smallest meaning units (morphemes), to enhance vocabulary and reading comprehension. It covers the use of graphic organizers and practical classroom routines and provides video demonstrations and examples to illustrate the technique. Teachers will receive sample graphic organizers as takeaways.

Audience: Primary & Elementary

Ballroom C

Lighting the Way: Using Stories to Unite and Resolve Conflict

Madison Siekman, Greenville County Schools & Juliana Smyth, Greenville

The presenter will discuss how conflict resolution skills can be taught through educators' reading lessons, improving students' reading and social skills. The presenters will also share how teaching restorative practices through literature results in restored relationships and a more equitable classroom community.

Audience: Primary & Elementary

Ballroom D

But I Don't Know How to Teach Writing

Jennifer Hamrick & Dr. Lori Poole, Lexington School District One

This session will empower educators with practical strategies to confidently teach writing, even when you feel unprepared. Learn to foster a supportive writing environment and develop effective, responsive instructional techniques to improve your writing instruction.

Audience: Primary & Elementary

<u>Ballroom E</u>

An Educator's Guide to Artificial Intelligence

Dr. Lori Vinson & Dr. Ann Aust North Greenville University

This hands-on, engaging experience delves into the power of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Using AI can help your efficiency, organization, and outcomes. Learn how to save time on lesson planning, differentiation, and personalized learning. You will be amazed at what AI can help you do!

Audience: All

Ignite the Literacy Light & Lead

Ballroom F

Unlock the Power of LETRS: Supercharge Your Tier 1 Instruction!

Keegan Wilson, Hand2Mind

Are you trained in the Science of Reading and ready to shift your teaching practices? Join us for an engaging session where we delve into the 5 Pillars of Literacy. Explore how to integrate a multimodal approach, ensuring all strategies align with the Science of Reading. Discover practical ways to put pedagogy into practice and transform your literacy instruction into Tier 1 excellence.

Audience: PreK/Kindergarten & Primary

Captain Jack Stoney

ABC's of Student Engagement

Missie Van Bebber & Kelli Kilbourn, Aiken County Public School District

Expand your teacher's toolbox with some engaging strategies to improve literacy in the secondary classroom. We will provide researched based learning activities that infuse culturally responsive and authentic learning that facilitates the student's engagement in reading, thinking, and writing. Create more meaningful learning experiences, so your students become invested in their learning process.

Audience: Middle (6-8)

Bayley's Baroney

Assessing and Building Knowledge: The Essential First Step in Supporting Students' Reading Comprehension

Dr. Bobbi Siefert, Furman University

This session will focus on the role *background knowledge* plays in the reading comprehension process. Participants will leave with the understanding that assessing and building prior knowledge is an essential first step of effective instructional design that supports learners' success with content-area reading and learning tasks.

The presenters will share key evidence-based ideas and practices for assessing and building knowledge to help "erase the comprehension gap" (Lupo, Lewis, Strong, and Walpole, 2018). Emphasis will be on instruction that meets a range of language and literacy levels in K-12 contexts, based on principles and practices in the fields of literacy and Teaching Speakers of Other Languages (Gallagher, 2025; Marzano, 2004; & Vogt, Echevarria, & Short, 2023).

This session is designed for K-12 content teachers, instructional support educators, multilingual learner specialists, and district and school-level administrators.

Audience: All

Lord Proprietors

Ignite the Literacy Light: Sparking Success in South Carolina Classrooms

Dr. LaKeshia Adams, SCETV

This electrifying session will delve into cutting-edge practices and strategies that make a real difference. Discover how to ignite a passion for reading & writing in students with innovative techniques, the power of storytelling, and tech tools. Learn how to use stories to engage students with practical, hands-on strategies that work, fostering community involvement and multicultural awareness.

Audience: All

Carolina Room

Igniting the Light with Poetry in Social Studies

Dr. Jayson Evaniuck, Anderson University

Poetry ignites imagery and civic values, enlivens history, and captures geography for learners. Additionally, poetry holds cross-disciplinary value, facilitating deep Literacy connections for learners. This session explores Social Studies-themed poetry in grades 2-8. Social Studies-themed poems will be explored for Literacy integration. Social Studies poetry links will be provided.

Audience: Primary, Elementary & Middle

Palmetto Room

Choosing Books that Inspire All Learners

Eliza Braden, University of South Carolina

Choosing books that inspire children requires getting to know students and communities. In many cases, inspiration is linked to the degree to which children's books reflect the experiences and knowledge that children bring to school. Dr. Eliza Braden will share insights and activities that will help teachers find great books for all kids.

Audience: All

Ignite the Literacy Light & Lead

Sabal Palm

The Science of Reading 2:0: From Metaphors to Methods

Diana Betts, Ed.D., 95 Percent Group

The Science of Reading 2.0 is all about translating research and metaphors to practical implementation, applying principles of instruction, principles of learning, and implementation science. Whether you are new to the science or well-versed, looking at the intersection of these frameworks with instruction will provide interesting ideas and practical applications.

In this interactive session, participants will briefly review the essential guiding frameworks, then have an opportunity to:

- Explore key principles of instruction that come from the intersection of Structured Literacy, Rosenshine's Principles of Instruction, and Dehaene's Principles of Learning and examine how these principles are the focus of effective application of the research;
- Think about the Science of Implementation and how it informs our systems-wide approach to any literacy initiative;
- Consider the "bold leader moves" that are necessary to support any literacy initiative.

Audience: All

Private Dining Room

Targeted Intensive Tutoring in Reading: A Strategy to Improve Reading Instruction in Pre-Service Teachers

Dr. Patricia Jones & Dr. Tammy Graham, Presbyterian College

A Center for the Advancement of Reading and Literacy Instruction was created to engage preservice teacher instruction in reading and literacy grounded in the Science of Reading and research-based instructional approaches. In the spring and fall of 2024, a formative experimental design examined the efficacy of targeted-intensive tutoring in K-3 classrooms in the Laurens 56 School District.

Audience: PreK/Kindergarten & Primary

Ignite the Literacy Light & Lead

Concurrent Sessions 12:15 PM - 1:15 PM

Ballroom A

Using Immersion and Oral Rehearsal To Support Engagement at the Beginning of a Writing Unit

Matt Glover, Author

The first few days of any writing unit are crucial, since they set the tone for the learning that will occur during the next few weeks. Starting with an immersion phase will set the stage for the unit. However, these days can be tricky since they work differently. Using classroom video clips, we will explore strategies for making immersion and connected oral rehearsal easier for teachers and more powerful for students.

Audience: All

Ballroom B

Engaging Young Readers through Culturally Relevant Texts: A Focus on Comprehension

Dr. Stacy Wilson, Voorhees University, Dr. Jennifer Logan, Columbia, & Saudah Collins, Jackson Creek Elementary School

Attendees will learn about Read Alouds as the change idea to address the problem of practice reading comprehension and increase student achievement in identifying textual evidence. Attendees will be presented with pre- and post- data that show the success of the change idea. Visual artifacts and a video snippet of the change idea in practice with the study population will also be presented.

Audience: Primary

Ballroom C

So, LETRS—What Happens Next? – Approaches to Literacy Alignment

Dr. Russell Clark, Anderson University

When student progress is diminished by a misalignment of instructional interventions frustration and decreased engagement will follow. These unintended student outcomes of well-intended educators lead to lower self-efficacy for teachers resulting in a dynamo of good intentions and bad results. This session will examine reading intervention alignment to research and the possible traps and solutions.

Audience: PreK/Kindergarten, Primary & Elementary

Ballroom D

The Secret to Writing Success: Transform Reluctant Writers Into Rockstar Writers

Pam Olivier, Rockin Resources

Struggling to get students excited about essay writing? You're not alone! In this session, I'll uncover the *real* secrets to writing success—without stress, overwhelm, or a magic wand. Learn how to help students build confidence in their writing. Packed with practical strategies and relatable teacher moments, this session will leave you feeling inspired and ready to transform your writing block!

Audience: PreK/Kindergarten & Primary

<u>Ballroom E</u>

Words and Wonders: Exploring the Intersection of Literacy and STEAM

Jaclyn Wallace, Lexington Richland Five & Kimberly Parker, Columbia

Participants will explore the intersection of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) and literacy and the exciting opportunities for enhancing education by bridging these diverse fields. Participants will leave with a lesson template, book suggestions and standards based research projects to integrate STEAM and literacy in their classrooms.

Audience: Primary, Elementary, & Middle

<u>Ballroom F</u>

Relay to Read: Teaching Foundational Skills to Mastery in Small Groups

Katharine Bonasera, Collaborative Classroom

Instruction in the lower elementary classroom often takes place on the rug or at the small group table. In this session, we will explore what the research says about the power of the small group setting for ensuring mastery of the Foundations of Literacy standards. Participants will leave with an understanding of why this instructional time is so important and how to make the most of it.

Audience: PreK/Kindergarten & Primary

Captain Jack Stoney

Igniting Writer's Voice

Judy Arnold, & Tiffany Smith Chesnee Middle School Spartanburg District 2

Learn how we use a variety of strategies and activities to ignite the voice of our middle school writers. Go beyond simple sentences to create a beautiful work of art with language that appeals to the reader on a personal level. Through relevant and intentional vocabulary study, AMS language, and Writer's Workshop our writers learn to make their voices heard.

Audience: Middle School

Bayley's Baroney

"Readers are Leaders: Close Reading Literary Practice Volume I"

Dr. Nicholas Mercer, Rockdale County Public Schools

We will discuss the Literary Resource, "Readers are Leaders: Close Reading Literary Practice Volume One (Grades 6-12)." The goal of our lesson is to motivate teachers across the spectrum to incorporate the following into their literary instruction: Close Reading, Explicit Instruction, and Modeling via Think-A-Louds.

Audience: Middle & High

Lord Proprietors

Enhancing Reading Proficiency in English Language Learners: Educator Strategies and Their Impact on Literacy Achievement

Alexis Lawton, West Coast University

In this engaging and informative presentation, we delve into effective strategies for boosting reading proficiency among English Language Learners (ELLs). With a focus on practical, evidence-based approaches, this session is designed to enhance literacy outcomes for all professionals working in diverse classroom settings. We'll explore a range of innovative teaching methods, including differentiated instruction, scaffolded support, and culturally responsive practices, all aimed at addressing the unique challenges faced by ELL students. The audience will gain insights into how these strategies can be seamlessly integrated into existing curricula to improve reading skills and overall literacy achievement.

Audience: All

Carolina Room

Creating a Culture of Curiosity: Sparking Students' Willingness to Wonder Across the Content Areas

Alyssa Likens, Greenville County Schools & Sarah Brower, Spartanburg School District 6

Literacy opens the door to develop curiosity. Educators have the power to create classrooms that honor and encourage curious minds. This session highlights practical strategies for using literacy to tap into students' curiosities across the content areas. Focus areas include the use of questioning, the role of research and structures for supporting inquiry and student discourse.

Audience: Primary, Elementary & Middle

Palmetto Room

Centering Readers: Analyzing and Responding to Children as Readers

Dr. Catherine Compton-Lilly and Dr. Diane Deford, University of South Carolina

In this session, Catherine Compton-Lilly and Diane Deford will team up to highlight how formative assessment data can be used to plan instruction for children who find learning to read difficult. Examples of actual children's learning will be used to provide ideas for how to recognize what children know and how attending to children can help us to teach them well.

Audience: All

Sabal Palm

A Tale of 3 Cities with Embedded Mnemonics! Caitlin Padget, Letterland

Did you know that there are 3 key brain areas involved in learning to read? Join this session to learn about the "three cities," how we can retrain underused neurons to boost reading development, and how embedded mnemonics and multisensory action tricks can speed up the process. Brain research combined with child-friendly strategies have been proven to produce the greatest reading gains. These simple but powerful additions may be what your core program is missing!

Audience: Primary

Ignite the Literacy Light & Lead

Concurrent Sessions 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Ballroom A

The True Story of the Who Would Win? Books.

Jerry Pallotta, Author

Children's Author, Jerry Pallotta talks about his best selling Who Would Win? Books. It all started with Killer Whale Vs Great White Shark. The latest title is a very unlikely combination, Blue Whale, the largest animal that ever lived on earth, Versus Mosquito. He will discuss where his ideas came from, trying to appeal to reluctant readers, researching, writing, designing, editing, working with illustrators, and publishing over 30 titles.

Audience: All

Ballroom B

Literacy Centers Lead to Student Growth and Engagement

Nancy Breeyear, Hand2Mind

Discover Literacy Centers that are standards aligned and explore the use of hands-on multisensory materials. Examine how differentiated centers can increase student engagement and achievement. Learn how strategies can be taught, practiced, and assessed within student skill levels. See how using literacy centers in your classroom can make independent student work time more successful for everyone!

Audience: PreK/Kindergarten, Primary, & Elementary

Ballroom C

A Good Story Is Not So Hard to Find: The Art and Function of Reading Aloud

Lester Laminack, Author

Join us for a lively introduction to several new and recently published picture books. Come on in and find a seat. Sit back, relax and enjoy the art and function of read aloud. We are going to bask in the beauty of stunning language, laugh out loud with the words of witty writers and dance on the edge of tears with the power of story to evoke emotions. We will review several children's trade books that can be used to enhance and integrate the curriculum, stimulate language development and listening skills...but, most of all, books that will build a child's love of literature and reading.

Ballroom D

Ignite Fluency with Reader's Theater

Jen Roberts; Rachel Brewington; & Amanda Newton, Union County Schools

Fluency is one of the five pillars of reading. Many have the misconception that fluency is reading fast, as opposed to reading accurately, expressively, and with intonation. Students can benefit from the practice that reader's theater provides. We will discuss research, share our experiences implementing reader's theater, and have participants take part in a live demonstration.

Audience: Primary & Elementary

<u>Ballroom E</u>

The A-to-Z Playbook of Effective Teaching

Jennifer Dunn, Greenwood 50

This session will explore the strategies used by a veteran teacher that have led to a 100% success rate on SCReady for two consecutive years. We will delve into strategies such as using data to drive instruction, creating meaningful experiences, and embracing teaching as a passion rather than just a job. Berit Gordon, author of *The Joyful Teacher*, emphasizes that "every teacher deserves to feel and be effective. ANd we know that students in high-impact teachers' classrooms learn far more than students in low-impact teachers' classrooms."

Audience: Elementary and Middle

Ballroom F

Nurturing Authentic Writing in the Age of AI: Cultivating Ideas and Critical Thinking

Dr. David Leshock & Angela Wolfe, HMH

In an era of AI, explore methods to maintain authenticity in student writing. Participants will engage in collaborative discussions, revise AI-generated pieces, and analyze multifaceted feedback. This session equips educators to foster originality and critical thinking, preparing students for the digital age while upholding academic integrity.

Captain Jack Stoney

Seeing Test Questions in a New Light: Using the VIEW Strategy to Ignite Student Engagement

Maddison Rippon, Orangeburg County School District

Do your students need support analyzing assessment questions? The VIEW strategy encourages student interaction with questions using intentional steps. Come ready to explore and walk away with an effective tool students can use daily with any assessment. VIEWing questions will ignite growth in student confidence and light a path to success.

Audience: Middle & High School

Bayley's Baroney

Finding Power in Balance: Reading With and Against Text

Dr. Mary Styslinger, University of South Carolina

There is power in knowing how to read words. But there is even more power in knowing how to read beyond words. Teachers guide students to read "with" as they facilitate meaning-making from the word and "against" as they facilitate meaning-making beyond the word. Using critical literacy, this presentation will demonstrate how to use the same reading strategies to read both with and against text.

Audience: Elementary, Middle & High School

<u>Carolina Room</u>

Transforming Instruction: The Power of Integrated Literacy

Michelle Ruhe, Fort Mill Schools

So much to fit in, so little time! In this session, you'll discover the power of a seamless fusion of reading and writing lessons. Not only will this save you and your students loads of time and frustration, it will also elevate learning, boost engagement, and build critical knowledge and skills. Reignite your joy for literacy instruction where efficiency meets empowerment!

Audience: Primary & Elementary

Ignite the Literacy Light & Lead

Palmetto Room

Four Steps to Transforming Your Writing Classroom

Nicole Pegan, Empowering Writers

Learn a proven 4-Step method that powers up writing instruction. This method encompasses literature as the jumping off point, direct instruction and modeling, as well as application and sharing. Practical and doable, this approach capitalizes on the role of literacy in our classrooms and makes reading experiences in all content areas pre-writing lessons.

Audience: PreK, Primary, Elementary & Middle

<u>Sabal Palm</u>

Creating A Culture for Coaching Tier One Instruction Through Collaboration, Connection, Consistency, and Clarity

Dawn Mitchel, Spartanburg Six

Diane Sweeney writes, "By creating opportunities for coaches to learn together, we can create touchstone experiences that launch rigorous discussion about the work we do with teachers and garner greater results with students." Over a decade into our work utilizing literacy coaches to provide ongoing support to our teachers we have learned that targeted, differentiated support is essential not only for our students as readers and writers but also for our teachers. This session will provide participants with the process our district utilized in partnership with our state literacy specialists to implement a targeted approach to providing coaching support across both our elementary and middle and high schools. This approach will share both resources used including strategies from Sweeney's latest text as well as a practical, teacher friendly model for helping to make coaching cycles approachable and effective for all teachers and coaches.

Audience: Literacy Coaches

The Cafe'

Developing and Strengthening Local Reading Councils Missy Lark, ILA/PSLA State Coordinator and Krystal Turner, PSLA President

This session is designed for educators passionate about promoting literacy in their communities and fostering collaborative spaces for reading initiatives. During this session, we will explore growing and expanding local reading councils and the support and resources available. This is a valuable opportunity to connect with like-minded professionals, exchange ideas, and gain practical insights to strengthen reading councils in your area.

Concurrent Sessions 2:45 PM - 3: 45 PM

Ballroom A

The Importance and Power of Building Knowledge, Skills, and Engagement with Students in the Elementary Settings

Marcus Ferrara, Diana Cullison & Kelly Brown, Scholastic

The importance and power of building knowledge, skills, and engagement with students in elementary and middle school cannot be overstated. By creating a supportive and stimulating learning environment, fostering critical skills, and cultivating a love for learning, we can equip students with the tools they need to succeed in an ever-changing world. This session outlines a comprehensive approach to enhancing education during these formative years, ensuring that every student has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Audience: All

<u>Ballroom B</u>

More Than A Number: Multi-tiered Systems of Support for the Whole Child

Beth Mitchell, Courtney McSwain, Kristi Patterson, Hannah Fairfax, Jenny Hill, & Jane Wallace, York School District One

Come and see how Hunter Street Elementary is making MTSS more student-centered and more supportive for teachers through strategic changes designed to meet the needs of the whole child. We use various strategies, resources and interventions to meet the needs of each child in reading, writing, math, OT, PT, speech, behavior and SEL.

Audience: PreK/Kindergarten, Primary & Elementary

Ballroom C

Author's Panel

Join several authors for an interactive panel discussion about their inspiration, creative process, path to publication, and advice to up-and-coming writers. Angela May (author) will moderate this engaging discussion. Participants will have an opportunity to ask questions, purchase books, and get autographs during this session.

Ballroom D

More Than Just Definitions

Dr. Lori Poole & Jennifer Hamrick, Lexington One School District

Vocabulary knowledge is essential for success. This session reviews research on vocabulary instruction and helps teachers choose impactful words. Effective teaching goes beyond definitions to ensure real-world application. By the end, teachers will have a toolkit of strategies to make vocabulary learning engaging and meaningful, focusing on research, and explicit and implicit teaching methods.

Audience: Elementary

Ballroom E

Intervention: Lighting the way for Coaching Partnerships

Tiffany Besch Chesterfield County School District & Karen (Polly) Humann Cheraw Intermediate School

For the past several years, striving readers across CCSD have excelled in RISE (Reading Inspires Students to Excel). The intervention model has shown significant impacts in reading and writing growth for hundreds of students during the regular school year and Summer Reading Camp. Reading coaches have used the RISE to create a school culture of collective responsibility and foster lasting coaching.

Audience: Primary & Elementary

Ballroom F

Igniting Literacy: Assess, Lead, and Illuminate

Angela Wolfe & Dr. David Leshock, HMH

Explore the Science of Reading, assessment strategies, and the power of data in literacy instruction. This session delves into the latest research, best practices, and case studies that showcase effective assessment and data use. Learn how technology can enhance instruction and gain actionable insights to improve literacy outcomes and lead your students to reading success.

Captain Jack Stoney

Motivational Learning Strategies To Ignite All Learners

Tiffany Smith & Judy Arnold, Chesnee Middle School, Spartanburg 2

Ignite the motivation in your classroom using research-based strategies to promote critical thinking, participation, and ownership in order to enhance learning. Promote the power in your classroom to your students so that engagement is useful in learning activities. The ability of students to learn effectively depends on how we, as teachers, engage the learners in the classroom with the content.

Audience: Middle

Bayley's Baroney

Supporting Literacy and Language Development with Multilingual Learners

Fred Pleis, Charleston County School District

Participants will interact and discuss researched based and practical classroom strategies to accommodate classroom literacy instruction for multilingual students at every level. This presentation will connect the Science of Reading with the framework of Sheltered Instruction to support classroom teachers in effective instruction of increasing populations of Multilingual Learners.

Audience: All

Lord Proprietors

The How and Why of Handwriting

Marcia Baxter, Zaner Bloser

If your school is using Zaner-Bloser Handwriting materials, this presentation will show you how to explicitly teach handwriting-both manuscript and cursive-in fifteen minutes or less each day. This session will also show you the digital resources that are available and explain how to make teaching handwriting something that is necessary easy.

Audience: Primary & Elementary

Ignite the Literacy Light & Lead

<u>Carolina Room</u>

Enhancing Literacy Skills with PBS and SCETV Resources

Caitlin Woodard, South Carolina Educational Television

Did you know that PBS KIDS creates shows with specific learning goals in mind? Participants will learn about the PBS KIDS content focused on developing literacy skills in this session. Participants will walk away with a better understanding of the value of PBS KIDS, how to effectively integrate digital media in their classrooms, and the essential function and use of PBS and SCETV Resources.

Audience: PreK/Kindergarten & Primary

Palmetto Room

Strategies for Older Students When Approaching Multisyllabic Words: Syllable Division and Morphology

Kim Collins, Institute for Multi-Sensory Education (IMSE)

Older students are inundated with multisyllabic words. Because the English writing system is *morphophonemic*, students need a combination of phonics and morphology instruction to efficiently access multisyllabic words. This hands-on session will present strategies for approaching multisyllabic words through both a structured syllable division method and morphemic analysis.

Audience: Elementary, Middle, Special Education Teachers & Interventionists

<u>Sabal Palm</u>

The Future is Already Here: Harnessing the Power of AI in the ELA Classroom

Dr. Christie Adams, Spartanburg One

AI has emerged as a powerful ally in the ELA classroom. This presentation will empower educators with practical strategies for integrating AI tools to enhance student writing, foster creativity, and promote critical thinking. Attendees will gain insights into AI technologies that support personalized learning experiences, streamline feedback processes, and stimulate innovative literacy learning!

Audience: Elementary & Middle

Saturday, February 22, 2025

Concurrent Sessions 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Ballroom A

Bringing Word Meanings To Light: Vocabulary Strategies to Illuminate Literacy

Scarlett Pack & Kimberly Smith, Spartanburg Two

Vocabulary plays a fundamental role in the reading process, and every teacher plays a vital role in literacy instruction. This session aims to spotlight a variety of strategies that will boost students' understanding and application of new vocabulary across all content areas. You will learn ways to help your students internalize word meanings as opposed to memorizing definitions.

Audience: Elementary, Middle & High

<u>Ballroom B</u>

Words Meet Math: Using a Literacy Lens to Teach Math

Jennifer Dunn, Greenwood 50

Literacy is the basis for all learning; therefore, we must show students how subject areas are connected. This session will show how teachers can teach math through a literary lens by showing students how to approach a math problem as a reader.

Audience: Primary & Elementary

<u>Ballroom C</u>

The Third Teacher: Designing a Writing Environment with Purpose

Jordan Page, University of South Carolina

In this session, participants will learn to identify teacher-centered classroom decor versus intentional, student-centered classroom design as it applies to supporting young writers. Loris Malaguzzi, the founder of the Reggio-Emilia philosophy, calls the classroom environment the "third teacher." Teachers will leave with practical ideas for designing spaces that best support our youngest writers.

Audience: PreK/Kindergarten & Primary

Ballroom D, E & F

Moving Beyond the Page: Enhancing Reading Comprehension

Lindsay Kemeny

Join Lindsay Kemeny, author of 7 Mighty Moves, to discover practical strategies for improving students' reading comprehension. Learn how to leverage vocabulary instruction, background knowledge, and strategies to enhance students' understanding of complex texts. Lindsay will share practical tips, engaging activities, and specific protocols to help you implement these "mighty moves" in your classroom.

Sponsored by Scholastic

Sabal Palm

A Good Story Is Not So Hard to Find: The Art and Function of Reading Aloud

Lester Laminack, Author

Join us for a lively introduction to several new and recently published picture books. Come on in and find a seat. Sit back, relax and enjoy the art and function of read aloud. We are going to bask in the beauty of stunning language, laugh out loud with the words of witty writers and dance on the edge of tears with the power of story to evoke emotions. We will review several children's trade books that can be used to enhance and integrate the curriculum, stimulate language development and listening skills...but, most of all, books that will build a child's love of literature and reading.

Audience: All

Captain Jack Stoney

Literacy Teaching and Learning with Discus

Kristen Rebollar, South Carolina State Library

Literacy Teaching and Learning with Discus (grade 7-12)

In this session, we will explore key content and literacy tools available through Discus to inspire 7-12 reading, analysis, and critical thinking. Discover easily navigable informational text, such as author biographies, text analysis, work overviews and more. Navigate eBooks, read-alouds, scalable content and media! We will also examine educator resources to enhance instruction and student engagement. Discus - South Carolina's Virtual Library is provided as a service of the South Carolina State library for all South Carolinians.

Audience: Middle & High

Bayley's Baroney

Ignite the Little Spark in Little Minds

Dr. Patrica Massengale, Dr. Kim Tisi, Emma Grace James, Jenna Grace Beiers, Emily Rheaume, & Abby Gustafson Anderson University

Are you wondering how to light the spark in your classroom? It's time to fan the flames now! Attendees will be immersed in a variety of best practices to ignite learning for all by incorporating the 3 Ms. Music, Movement, and Manipulatives will inspire your students to be on fire for literacy. This session includes tangible resources and meaningful connections to easily implement in the classroom.

Audience: PreK/Kindergarten & Primary

Lord Proprietors

History is Lit!

Karley Watkins, Newberry County School District

This presentation will show how to incorporate literacy into your history/social studies lessons. This will include how to analyze primary sources, the use of novel studies, reader's theater, a sample Cold War lesson plan, and your own ration book. Teachers will leave with multiple resources to use in their classroom.

Audience: Elementary & Middle

<u>Carolina Room</u>

Panel Presentation: Remaining Responsive to Learners In Challenging Times

Dr. Catherine Compton-LillyUniversity of South Carolina, Cathy Jones-Stork Lexington Two, Dr. Paul Thomas Furman University, & Dr. Rachelle Savitz East Carolina University

Many states and school districts have introduced policies and practices that do not place students at the center of instructional decision-making. This panel will discuss various strategies that can be used to center students, their abilities, and their experiences. Panelists will address both research that supports centering learners and tactics for keeping the focus on kids.

Palmetto Room

The Science of Reading 2:0: From Metaphors to Methods

Diana Betts, Ed.D., 95 Percent Group

The Science of Reading 2.0 is all about translating research and metaphors to practical implementation, applying principles of instruction, principles of learning, and implementation science. Whether you are new to the science or well-versed, looking at the intersection of these frameworks with instruction will provide interesting ideas and practical applications.

In this interactive session, participants will briefly review the essential guiding frameworks, then have an opportunity to:

- Explore key principles of instruction that come from the intersection of Structured Literacy, Rosenshine's Principles of Instruction, and Dehaene's Principles of Learning and examine how these principles are the focus of effective application of the research;
- Think about the Science of Implementation and how it informs our systems-wide approach to any literacy initiative;
- Consider the "bold leader moves" that are necessary to support any literacy initiative.

Audience: All

One of the greatest gifts adults can give-

to their offspring and to their society-is

to read to children.

-Carl Sagan

Saturday, February 22, 2025

9:15 AM - 10:45 AM

Ballroom B, D, F

Closing General Session

Moving Beyond the Page: Enhancing Reading Comprehension

Lindsay Kemeny, Author

Join Lindsay Kemeny, author of 7 Mighty Moves, to discover practical strategies for improving students' reading comprehension. Learn how to leverage vocabulary instruction, background knowledge, and strategies to enhance students' understanding of complex texts. Lindsay will share practical tips, engaging activities, and specific protocols to help you implement these "mighty moves" in your classroom. **Audience:** All

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Lindsay Kemeny

Teacher, Speaker, & Author

Lindsay Kemeny, MS, is an elementary school teacher, speaker, author, and podcast co-host with a passion for literacy and applying research to practice.

After her son was diagnosed with dyslexia and depression, she began her deep dive into effective literacy instruction for all children. She is the author of the book, 7 Mighty Moves: Research-Backed, Classroom-Tested Strategies to Ensure K-3 Reading Success. She loves being in the classroom every day, teaching kids to read.





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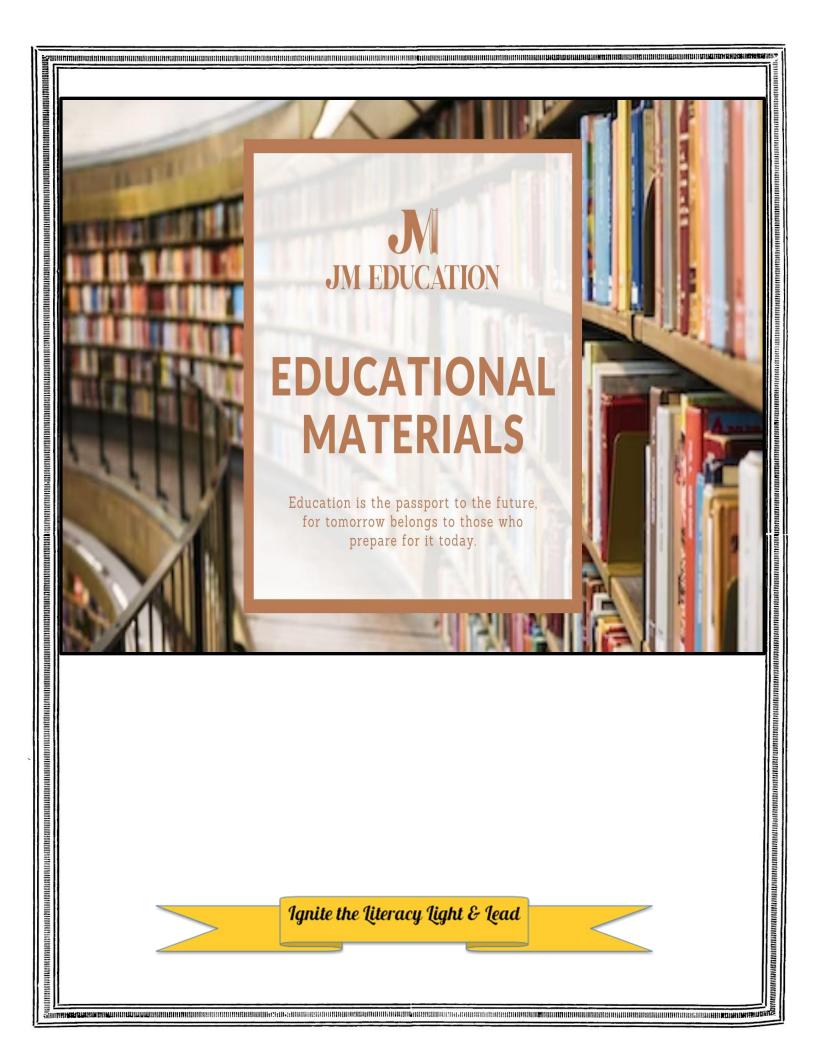
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Donna McConnell

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CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS

Literacy Matters, the journal of the Palmetto State Literacy Association (PSLA), is accepting manuscripts for its Winter 2026 edition. We are interested in receiving practical, theoretical, and research articles. Go to "News & Publications" on the PSLA web page for author instructions.

LITERACY MATTERS WINTER 2026 ISSUE

Manuscript submissions for Literacy Matters should:

- Inform literacy educators in South Carolina.
- Be well-written and purposeful, and discuss the topic in some depth.
- Not exceed 15 pages in length (not including tables, figures, and references).
- Not reveal author identities or affiliations.
- Follow APA guidelines.
- Include a cover page with author names, affiliations, and email addresses.

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Literacy Matters welcomes brief commentary pieces on teaching literacy as well as short teaching tips, teacher or student poetry, vignettes of classroom experiences, and student writing and artwork (with parental permission).

DEADLINE

June 30, 2025

How to submit? Email manuscripts to kotih@clemson.edu.





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