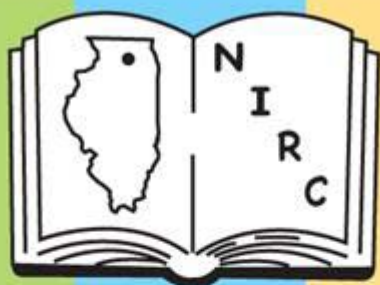




NIRC Newsletter

Volume 42, Number 3

May 2010



NORTHERN ILLINOIS READING COUNCIL

an affiliate of the
International Reading Association 

Mark Your Calendars!

June 1

Summer Conference Registration Deadline

June 17

NIRC Summer Conference

July 1

Awards Applications Deadline

August 23

Fall Conference Program Proposals Due

September 8

Fall Conference Registration Deadline
(after this date, register at the door)

September 23

NIRC Fall Conference at Kishwaukee College

Northern Illinois Reading Council Board of Directors 2009-2010 Officers

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Inside This Issue:

- Letter from the President
- Summer Conference Info
- Fall Conference Info
- Program Proposal Info
- Awards Info and Applications
- Membership Event Recap
- NEW! NIRC T-shirts!
- Literacy Library Launch Info
- Video Staff Development News

Dear NIRC members,

CONGRATULATIONS on receiving the Illinois Reading Council of Excellence Award at the Illinois Reading conference in March! The Northern Illinois Reading Council was recognized for our efforts in many areas including hosting conferences, writing articles, presenting at conferences, holding teachers as readers and so much more. A special thank you to Betsy Hoelting and Barb Swick for preparing the application for the award.

CONGRATULATIONS to the Northern Illinois Reading Council for receiving the International Reading Association Local Council Community Service Award for our "Books in the Home" project. This is our partner project with the Habitat for Humanity organizations in Winnebago, Boone and Ogle counties. The Northern Illinois Reading Council provides bookcases for each new home, books for each child and one resource book for the parent. NIRC members also attend the home dedication ceremony. Past president Mary Gardner was the moving force behind this award winning program. Many thanks to all the people who have worked towards the success of this program. Thank you, Mary, for your leadership and for taking the time to submit the paperwork that allowed NIRC to receive this award. Please contact Mary if you would like to contribute to NIRC's continuing efforts with this program.

It's not too late to register for the summer conference featuring Ralph Fletcher fine-tuning the writing curriculum. The conference is June 17th from 9 – 3:30 at Kishwaukee College in Malta IL. Registration price includes lunch and 5 CPDU credits will be available.

Do you have a literacy project that needs funding? Are you new to the teaching profession and would like to develop or expand your classroom library? If the answer is yes, fill out a grant application in the newsletter and let NIRC continue to support literacy projects.

These awards will be presented at the Northern Illinois Reading Council Fall Conference featuring Christine Boardman Moen, president/past president of IRC. Christine's presentation is titled: Time for the Joy in the EnJOYment of Reading! Conference details can be found in the newsletter.

Over three thousand people attended the Illinois Reading Council conference in March this year. Once again it was an outstanding conference and I would encourage you to attend the 2011 conference titled "Literacy Outside the Box." Preliminary books are available.

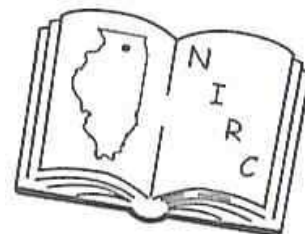
Thank you to Erin Taylor at Wonderland Books in Rockford for hosting the spring appreciation event. A "fun" time was had by all.

Hope to see you at the summer conference.

Have a wonderful summer!

Kim McKenna

President Northern Illinois Reading Council



The 37th Annual Northern Illinois Reading Council Summer Conference

Fine-Tuning The Writing Classroom

Featuring:



Ralph Fletcher

Ralph Fletcher is a friend of writing teachers everywhere. His newest book for writing teachers is *Pyrotechnics on the Page: Language Play That Boosts Writing* (Stenhouse.) He has written many other books including *Boy Writers: Reclaiming Their Voices*, *Craft Lessons*, *Teaching the Qualities of Writing*, and *Writing Workshop: The Essential Guide*. His books for young readers include *Marshfield Dreams: When I Was a Kid* (a memoir), *Fig Pudding*, *Flying Solo*, *Twilight Comes Twice*, and *The Sandman*, a picture book. As a boy, Ralph dreamed of playing centerfield for the Boston Red Sox. Today he writes and speaks at conferences around the U.S. and abroad, helping teachers find wiser ways of teaching writing. He grows orchids and giant pumpkins, enjoys reading, travel, bicycling, sports, movies, and dark chocolate. For more information check out www.ralphfletcher.com

***Intended Audience of conference is Educators of Grade Levels K – 8.**

Mr. Fletcher will speak on how we can create writing classrooms where students can flourish. This practical workshop will cover a range of topics including the importance of choice, the author's cycle of craft, revision, the writer's notebook and literature in the writing classroom. We'll also look at how we can create boy-friendlier writing classrooms.

Conference date: Thursday, June 17, 2010

Time: 9:00 – 3:30 (registration desk opens at 8:30)

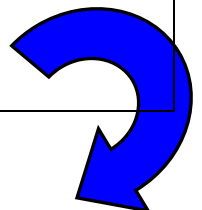
Location: Kishwaukee College Conference Center, Malta IL

Lunch is included in registration fees.

5 CPDU credits will be available

at the end of the conference.

Registration information and form on next page!



**The 37th Annual Northern Illinois Reading Council Summer Conference
Fine-Tuning the Writing Classroom Featuring Ralph Fletcher
Thursday, June 17, 2010 Kishwaukee College Conference Center Malta IL
Sign-in from 8:30 – 9:00 Conference time 9:00 – 3:30**

Registration Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home () _____ Work () _____

E-mail _____

School District Name: _____

(5 CPDU credits will be available at the registration desk at the end of the conference.) _____

Yes, I would like to receive 5 CPDU's for attending this event.

.....

_____ \$75 – Registration for current NIRC Members – includes lunch

_____ \$125 – Registration for Non-NIRC Members – includes lunch- Join NIRC now and pay member price! (See below for membership details.)

_____ TOTAL ENCLOSED - Make checks payable to NIRC.

Registration must be postmarked by June 1st to:

Linda Oshita 1312 Camp Ave Rockford IL 61103 Attn. Summer Conference
TO JOIN NIRC AND IRC (Illinois Reading Council) TODAY: Complete NIRC/IRC membership forms found on the IRC website at www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org and include a SEPARATE CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO IRC. Mail with your conference registration and fees to the above address. If you have any questions about registration, you may e-mail Linda Oshita at fhm616@comcast.net or contact Kim McKenna at mckenna@corncountry.net

Seating is limited, so register early!

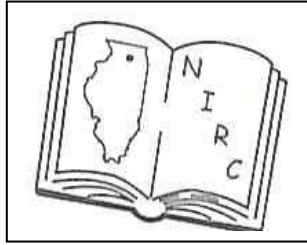
Save the Date!

37th Annual NIU Summer Literacy Conference
“Enhancing Teaching and Learning Through Literacy Coaching”

June 11, 14-17, 2010

For more information:

www.cedu.niu.edu/oep/conferences or call 815-753-0277



**Northern Illinois Reading Council
23rd Annual Fall Conference**

Thursday, September 23, 2010

4:00-8:00 p.m.

**Kishwaukee College Conference Center
Malta, IL**

The Joy of Reading

Featuring: Christine Boardman Moen



Author of Better Than Book Reports; Puzzle Paragraphs; Sensational Sentences; Fun and Fabulous Literature Response Activities; Read-Alouds and Performance Reading

Registration Form
The 23rd Annual Northern Illinois Reading Council Fall Conference

The Joy of Reading

Featuring:

Christine Boardman Moen

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2010

4:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Kishwaukee College Conference Center Malta, IL

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home () _____ Work () _____

E-mail _____

(CPDU forms will be available at the registration desk.)

REGISTER NOW!

_____ \$15 - Registration for current NIRC Members - Join NIRC now and pay member price!!

(See below for membership details.)

_____ \$20 - Registration for current NIRC Members after Sept.8 - ON SITE ONLY.

_____ \$30 - Registration for Non-NIRC Members

_____ \$35 - Registration for Non-NIRC Members after Sept.8 - ON SITE ONLY.

_____ \$5 - Registration for Undergraduate Students (Non-NIRC Members)

_____ FREE! Registration for Undergraduate Students with paid NIRC/IRC membership

_____ FREE! Registration for a school administrator who registers with a teacher

_____ FREE! Registration for Literacy Grant Recipient Presenters

_____ FREE! Registration for Conference Presenters (Limited to 2 per presentation)

BOX SUPPER DINING from 4:00- 5:00 p.m.

Please mark a sandwich choice!

_____ \$7.50 - BOX SUPPER from Kishwaukee College Food Service

(Sandwich, Chips, Fruit Cup, Two Homemade Cookies, and Beverage)

_____ Turkey Multi-grain _____ Ham Multi-grain _____ Veggie Multi-grain

_____ TOTAL ENCLOSED - Make check payable to NIRC.

Registration must be postmarked by SEPTEMBER 8 to:

Linda Oshita 1312 Camp Ave Rockford, IL 61103 Attn: Fall Conference

After September 8, pay at the door. A limited number of box lunches will be available.

TO JOIN NIRC AND IRC (Illinois Reading Council) TODAY: Complete NIRC/IRC membership forms found on the IRC website at www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org and include a SEPARATE CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO IRC. Mail with your conference registration and fees to above address.

Date received: _____ Cash or Check # _____ Amount _____

2010 PROGRAM PROPOSAL

NORTHERN ILLINOIS READING COUNCIL

23rd ANNUAL FALL READING CONFERENCE

The Joy of Reading

Thursday, September 23, 2010 4:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Kishwaukee College Malta, IL

Mail or e-mail completed proposals **no later than Mon., August 23** to:

Teri Reed-Schuster 139 Parkview Oregon IL 61061 or terireedschuster@comcast.net

I. **TITLE OF PRESENTATION** (as you wish it to appear in conference program)

II. **ABSTRACT:** Describe the content of the program in no more than 75 words. Description must be clearly stated and reflect actual presentation. Description will be used in the conference program.

III. **SESSION LENGTH:** Sessions will be **40 minutes** in length to accommodate CPDU distribution.

IV. PERSON SUBMITTING PROPOSAL:

Name (Last) _____ (First) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: Work _____ Home _____

E-mail _____ Fax _____

Position and/or Title _____

School/District/Professional Affiliation _____

Are you currently a member of NIRC? _____ Yes _____ No

V. **PRESENTATION ASSOCIATES:** Please list and include above information for each associate on separate page. Only two (2) presenters will receive complimentary registration.

VI. **GRADE LEVEL/ INTENDED AUDIENCE** (Check each category that applies)

_____ All Educators _____ Reading Specialists _____ Administrators

_____ Preschool Educators _____ Grades K-2 _____ Grades 3-5

_____ Grades 6-8 _____ High School _____ Educators of Adults

VII. **AUDIO-VISUAL EQUIPMENT:** Please indicate any audiovisual equipment that you will need. Most classrooms are equipped with an LCD projector.

** A maximum of \$60.00 will be reimbursed for the cost of duplicating handouts. Please present receipts and a copy of that handout at the conference registration table to NIRC treasurer Linda Oshita.



NIRC 's Road Trip to the 55th Annual IRA Convention in Chicago was a grand success for the six members who chose to attend one of the Sunday Institutes. Our members learned new methods from some of the best reading researchers in the country including Linda Hoyt, Sharon Tuberski, Nell Duke, Harvey Daniels, Donna Ogle, Katie Ray Woods, Tony Stead, Joan Moser and Gail Boushey, and Gail Saunders-Smith.

PheW! What a Day!

Northern Illinois Reading Council Awards

2009 Northern Illinois Reading Council Literacy Project Award

The Northern Illinois Reading Council has established a Literacy Project Award of up to \$500 to be granted to NIRC members. This monetary award is intended to support teachers in developing or adopting innovative and exciting literacy projects for use in their school or classroom. The award shall be used to help defray the cost of literacy projects that enhance and enrich the curriculum.

Past award projects and recipients include the following:

2008: Rebecca Caudill Readers Club – Denise Miglin and Penny Lane
Read With Us! Community Reading Program – Donna Wells

2007: Nonfiction for Every Level – Kathy Colbert

Those receiving Literacy Project Awards (up to \$500 total) will be required to follow up with a brief (one page) article for the NIRC Newsletter as to how the materials were used in the classroom for instructional purposes. This would be submitted by July 1 of the following year.

The board of the Northern Illinois Reading Council budgets \$1,000 per year for these awards. In order to encourage wider participation, members may only apply for this award once every three years.

Interested NIRC members are encouraged to contact the board member listed below for a packet of information including the application forms and the scoring rubric that will be used by a panel of NIRC board members to evaluate the project applications.

Northern Illinois Reading Council Honorary Award Nomination

This award provides the opportunity to publicly acknowledge NIRC members who have worked behind the scenes to ensure the ongoing success of the Council. At this time NIRC is requesting nominations for this award from members. This application form asks for general contact information about the person as well as a description of the nominee's contributions to NIRC. If you know someone whom you believe has made significant contributions to the many activities of NIRC, please contact the board member listed below.

Contact Joan Bereman Joan.Bereman@d428.org for more information. The deadline for both award applications is July 1, 2010. Awards will be presented at the NIRC Fall Conference in September.

**Northern Illinois Reading Council
Literacy Project Award**

Application

Please Type or Print in Black Ink

Applicant:

(circle) Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss _____

Home Address _____

Home Phone _____ Email _____

School Name _____

School Address _____

District _____ Work Phone _____

Email _____

LITERACY PROJECT INFORMATION

Literacy Project Title _____

Grade Level(s) _____ Number of Students Participating _____

Status of Project: New Program _____ Existing Program _____

I am a classroom teacher: Yes _____ No _____ Other _____

TEACHER SIGNATURE: I hereby apply for a Literacy Project Award from the Northern Illinois Reading Council and understand that, if awarded, I am required to write about it for the NIRC Newsletter.

(signature) Date _____

All applications must be received by **July 1, 2010** to be considered. You may send the application either through the U.S. mail or by email to:

Joan Bereman

1822 Paw Paw Rd

Steward, IL 60553 or jebereman@aol.com

Northern Illinois Reading Council

Literacy Project Award

Application

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT IN BLACK INK

(limit attachments to one page)

TITLE:

OBJECTIVE: State your objective in 3-5 sentences. (What literacy need is being addressed by your project?)

DESCRIPTION: Summarize your project. (What is your project? When and how will it be implemented?)

ACTIVITIES: List the key activities in which the students will be involved. (In which kinds of literacy activities will the students be participating?)

BUDGET: Purchases must be an integral part of this project. Be very specific and detailed with your budget request. Include materials, equipment, and sources of supply along with the costs of each item. (Verify availability of supplies.)

TOTAL: _____

(\$500 maximum)

EVALUATION: Describe the methods you will use to evaluate the impact and success of your project. (What will you use to collect data that can indicate that your project has been successful?)

*****COPY THIS SIDE 4 TIMES AND SEND WITH ORIGINAL*****

Literacy Project Rubric

Criteria	1 Below Average	2 Satisfactory	3 Outstanding	Score
Need	Not tied to literacy purposes or need is minimal; need not explicitly stated in proposal	Tied to literacy purposes and one need is identified; need is explicitly stated in proposal and is adequate	Tied to literacy purposes and more than one need is identified; need is explicitly stated in proposal and is thorough and detailed	
Project Description	Project is incomplete; timeline is missing or insufficient	Project and timeline realistic and attainable; description is adequate	Project and timeline are well thought out and implementation plans are detailed	
Scope of Project	Involves a limited number of participants	Involves the classroom of the applicant	Involves more than one classroom and/or community involvement	
Budget	Total amounts listed; no budget breakdown provided; expenditures are not realistic	Adequate budget is provided; some breakdown of expenses is given; expenditures are realistic	Budget has detailed list of expenses; expenditures are realistic	
Evaluation	Little or no evaluation of the project is described; data collection not appropriate or sufficient for the project	Evaluation is adequate; describes how one type of data supporting the success of the project will be collected and analyzed	Evaluation is outstanding; describes how more than one type of data supporting the success of the project will be collected and analyzed	
Publicity	No evidence that NIRC will be acknowledged as the grant provider or plan to share in NIRC newsletter or at NIRC conference	Evidence that NIRC will be acknowledged as the grant provider; plan to share project in NIRC newsletter <u>or</u> at the NIRC Fall Conference	Evidence that NIRC will be acknowledged as the grant provider; plan to share project in NIRC newsletter <u>and</u> at the NIRC Fall Conference	

TOTAL _____ / 18

NIRC Membership Event Re c a p



Andrea Beaty, Erin Taylor, and Julia Durango

NIRC's Third Annual Membership Appreciation event was a resounding success with 26 participants (including new members)! The group was entertained by "Two Silly Chicks" Andrea Beaty and Julia Durango at Wonderland Books in the Edgebrook Shopping Center. The authors shared their unique perspective on

humor in children's books and gave the audience "food for thought" before members adjourned to Egg Harbor (where else would chicks dine?) Luncheon entrees included Silly Chicks Salad, Firefighter Ted's Tuna, Doctor Ted's Turkey, and Ham Fest. Each member received a gift bag of goodies, compliments of Wonderland Book's Erin Taylor, and an autographed book, compliments of NIRC. The Chicks' antics and book picks can be viewed @ <http://threesillychicks.blogspot.com/>

Do you love Erin Taylor's stylish NIRC T-shirt? If so...

Now Available! NIRC T-shirts!

NIRC t-shirts can be purchased at any NIRC event for \$15. They are 100% cotton and come in only one design (V-neck) and color (purple). They are made for adult women in sizes M-XXL. When purchasing one, please select a size larger than you usually wear to accommodate any shrinkage when washing it. If you want to order a t-shirt online directly from the maker, log on to the website of Tattooed Tees at www.tattooedtees.com

NIRC Literacy Library Launch Grant

Who is eligible?

Teachers with Initial Illinois Teacher

Certification (Years 1-4 of teaching)

AND a member of NIRC!

Amount of Grant: \$250 (\$150 for children's books and \$100 for professional library)

Number of Annual Awards: 2



Grants will be presented at the Fall Conference Starting 2010

Overview

One of the most challenging tasks of a new teacher is building a classroom and professional library. Current leaders in the field of reading advocate having up to 3,000 children's or young adult titles for a classroom library and rotating them by taking some home and bringing others during the school year. For the new teacher, the cost is prohibitive. Likewise, staying current with new professional titles is vital but expensive.

The **NIRC Literacy Library Launch Grant** targets new teachers who are currently working under the initial Illinois teacher certification (years 1-4 of teaching). The individual must be a current member of NIRC. The purpose is to provide financial assistance to new teachers as they develop a children's/young adult classroom library as well as acquire literacy titles for their personal professional library.

NIRC Literacy Launch Grant Guidelines:

- The teacher may apply for the grant by writing a one page overview of why the grant would help them develop and expand their classroom library. Specific reasons for selecting the books should be outlined (i.e. for literature circles, to accompany a science or social studies unit, mentor texts to be used as read alouds for writing examples). Grants must be postmarked or mailed by July 1.
- In addition, an explanation of how the funds would help them become a better classroom teacher of reading through the addition of professional books.
- A committee of three NIRC members will review the applications and determine the recipient based on quality of grant application.
- Recipients will be required to follow up with a brief (one page) article for the NIRC Newsletter as to how the materials were used in the classroom for instructional purposes. This would be submitted by July 1 of the following year.

**Northern Illinois Reading Council
Literacy Library Launch Grant
Application**

Please Type or Print in Black Ink

Applicant:

(circle) Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss _____

Home Address _____

Home Phone _____ Email _____

School Name _____

School Address _____

District _____ Work Phone _____

Email _____

LITERACY LIBRARY INFORMATION

Please write a one page overview of how the grant would help you develop and expand your classroom library. Specific reasons for selecting the books, a list of titles that you are requesting with costs should be listed, and an explanation of how the funds would help you become a better classroom teacher of reading through the addition of professional books should be included. (see the guidelines on previous page)

TEACHER SIGNATURE: I hereby apply for a Literacy Library Launch Grant from the Northern Illinois Reading Council and understand that, if awarded, I am required to present the project at the NIRC Fall Conference and to write about it for the NIRC Newsletter.

_____ Date _____
(signature)

All applications must be received by July 1, 2010 to be considered. You may send application either through the U.S. mail or by email to:

Joan Bereman
1822 Paw Paw Rd
Steward IL 60553

jebereman@aol.com



Professional DVDs

What professional DVD title have you been dying to see? Is there a title that you have been looking for in our DVD Staff Development selection? Please share your wish list for professional development DVDs! Let us know what you are interested in and we will do our best to offer it to you! Email Kirstin Ellis for more information about our professional DVD collection!

Kirstin.Ellis@d428.org

Northern Illinois Reading Council

c/o Sarah Kennay

1591 Midway Road

Ashton, IL 61006

sarahelsiekennay@hotmail.com

