



ILLINOIS TITLE I ASSOCIATION

**Sadly
President Cordes
Says Farewell
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Bulletin

**SAVE THE DATE
IRC FALL Conference
New Date
In Springfield
P. 3**



**ITA Grant
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Farewell

President Cordes

Hello! I just want to say thank you and goodbye. I have had two great years as President of the Title I Association. My journey will come to an end in June.

The IRC Reading Conference has moved to October, 2014. ITA will provide many strands on the 29th floor of the Hilton, for those wanting to gain knowledge on how to educate our learners to meet the rising demands of the 21st Century. Some topics include text complexity, emphasizing Academic Vocabulary, and focusing on technology to develop critical thinkers and career ready students. We cannot wait to see you at the 2014 IRC conference in October, in Springfield! We would also like to invite you to join us at the annual board meeting on Friday afternoon. There are many opportunities for you to get involved. Please see the open board positions posted in this bulletin.

If you are looking for a great resource book to help you with the Common Core Standards, try "Be Core Ready: Powerful, Effective Steps to Implementing and Achieving the Common Core State Standards," by Pam Allyn. It is very inspiring and informative.

Keep Giving It Your All Because You Are Changing Lives Forever!

Marilyn Cordes



IRC

Fall Conference

Dates to Remember

Program Proposals for the October 2014 IRC Conference
April 15, 2014

Registration and Housing Opens
May 1, 2014

2014 IRC Conference
October 2-4, 2014
Springfield, Illinois

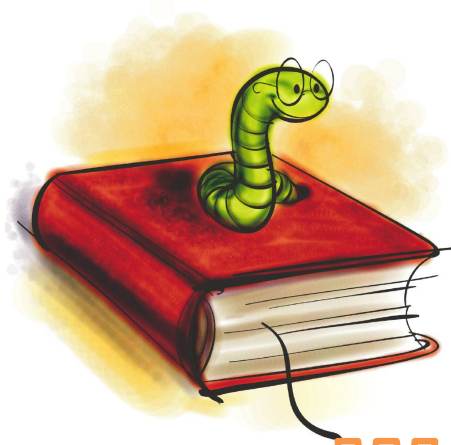
Future Dates of the Annual IRC Conference
Sept. 24-26, 2015
Sept. 29-Oct 1, 2016
Sept. 28-30, 2017
Peoria, Illinois

OCTOBER 2014 IRC CONFERENCE!

Harvesting the Fruits of Literacy

- **October 2-4, 2014**
- **Springfield, Illinois**
- ***Registration and Housing will also open on May 1st.***
- ***Check the IRC website for more details!***





2013-2014

ITA Grant

We Love Books!

By

Susan Tiburzi, 2013-2014 Grant Recipient

We've learned that access to books is key to gaining reading skill. Studies confirm that the number of books in the home directly correlates with reading achievement. In middle income neighborhoods, the ratio of books in the home is thirteen books per child. In low income neighborhoods, the ratio is one book for every three hundred children. Therefore, children growing up in households where books are plentiful get the "book benefit" that has been recognized throughout the world.

According to a three year research study conducted at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, "It may not be enough to simply give children access to libraries, but it was the access of books actually in the home that led to the most opportunities to read". We quickly recognized the need to put books into the hand of each student in our school and develop a support system for family literacy. We believe that books can be effective tools for encouraging parents to become active participants in their child's reading. With the help of a grant from the Illinois Title 1 Association, we were able to do just that. ITA provided us with the funds we needed to purchase a book for each child in our school. We were fortunate enough to purchase quality books for \$1 per book.

Our reading team incorporated the book give-away during our family literacy night entitled, "Spaghetti with Seuss". Our goal was to develop a sense of community and learning. Staff and community members served dinner, modeled reading strategies, played literacy/math games with families, sang songs, performed experiments, and supplied technology for a "Seuss Scavenger Hunt". The best part of the evening was handing out the free books! The children were so excited and the parents were grateful.

Thank you ITA for making a difference in the lives of our students!

The "Ben-Gil Reading Rocks" Team



ILLINOIS TITLE I ASSOCIATION

2014-2015 GRANT PROGRAM FOR ITA MEMBERS

ITA Board of Directors has approved a Grant Program which will award financial grants to members of ITA for innovative programs and projects. Priority in awarding grants will be given to persons who have not received grant monies from ITA during the previous year. However, persons who have received grant monies in the past may wish to submit new ideas they would like to pursue.

PURPOSE:

The ITA will award financial grants for the purpose of promoting literacy development in the school and community.

GUIDELINES:

Each grant applicant will:

1. Submit an application (*Requirements are listed on previous page*).
2. Agree to complete the program or project by June 30 of the fiscal year for which the award was granted.
3. Within thirty days of the conclusion of the program or project, submit a written evaluation report and include an itemized list of income and expenditures.
4. Present the results of your grant winning program during the 2014-2015 year in any of the following ways: (1) at any ITA conference or conference strand; (2) in an article in the IRC Communicator; or (3) in an article in the ITA newsletter.
5. Prior to reimbursement, presentations must be completed; submit all bills to the treasurer for reimbursement by June 30, 2015. **No Exceptions!**

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Individuals applying for grants should submit 5 copies of the application with all names and proper identification of the applicant(s) to the address on the reverse side by the deadline date. All identification information should appear on the cover sheet. Applications with school & individual names included in the body of the grant will be disqualified. Late applications will not be considered.

TIMELINE:

Applications must be postmarked no later than September 15, 2014 and bear the signature of a school administrator. Grant recipients will be notified by November 1, 2014.

BUDGET:

The maximum amount of each grant is \$500. Not all grants are funded for the entire amount requested by the applicant.

APPROVAL:

The ITA Grant Committee shall make the final approval of the grants to be awarded. The Grant Committee consists of the ITA President, President-Elect, Vice President, and Treasurer.

ITA Grant Rubric

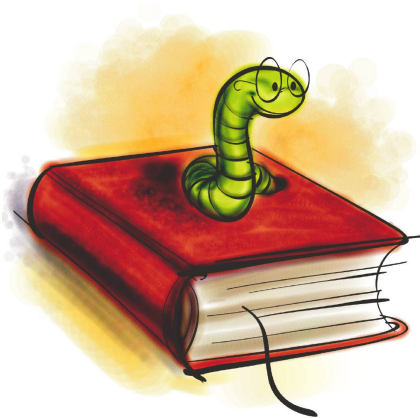
Grant Approved
 Grant Not Approved

Reader: _____ Grant #: _____ Amount Requested: \$ _____

Reminders: No identifying information within text of the grant proposal; no projects deemed to be part of a curriculum budget will be rated

	1	2	3	4
Criteria	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Outstanding
Needs	No financial, intellectual, or social need is established	Need for a literacy project is inferred	Some needs are described but not complete	Description of the project strongly indicates the need for a literacy activity
Project Description	Project is incomplete with no timeline	Project & timeline are sketchy with insufficient detail	Project & timeline are realistic and attainable	Project & timeline are well thought out & implementation plans are detailed
Scope of Project	Involves a limited number of participants	Impacts one classroom	Involves participants beyond one classroom	Involves the whole school and/or parents/community
Impact on Literacy	Little or no impact on improving literacy skills. Substandard literature or methods	Positive impact on improving literacy skills. Adequate literature or methods	Strong impact on improving literacy skills. Quality literature or methods	Impact promotes life-long learning. Uses high quality, award winning literature and best practices/methods
Publicity	No announcements	Local announcements including reference to ITA support	2 announcements + will present at annual IRC conference OR write for the ITA Newsletter	2 announcements + will present at annual IRC conference AND write for the ITA Newsletter
Evaluation	No evidence of evaluation process described	Simplified evaluation process is described	Evaluation process well thought out and described	Unique evaluation process described including pre/post testing as applicable
Budget	Cost per participant is unreasonable and no budget presented	Cost is reasonable and Budget presented is general	Cost is reasonable and Budget presented is specific	Presented budget is detailed and demonstrates outstanding stewardship of funds

General Comments:



Have a Safe and Reading Summer!

The ITA Board
looks forward to a
Harvest of Literacy
this fall.

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