Speakers Bureau 2015-16

The Scholastic Authors/Academics
PRACTICE GUIDED READING

Irene Fountas
Irene Fountas, Ed.D., is an expert on Guided Reading and has many years of classroom experience in the US and abroad. She is the co-creator of Guided Reading Fiction Focus: 2nd Edition. She also coauthored the Scholastic Guided Reading Content Areas Program. Dr. Fountas is a professor at Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where she is also the director of the Center for Reading Recovery and Literacy Collaborative, which offers professional development around the world.

Gay Su Pinnell
Gay Su Pinnell, Ph.D., is one of America’s leading authorities on Guided Reading. She is the co-creator of Guided Reading Text Types, Fiction, and Content Areas. She is a professor in the School of Teaching and Learning at Ohio State University College of Education. Dr. Pinnell has received the Ohio Governor’s Award for service to education, as well as numerous other honors.

Jan Richardson
Jan Richardson, Ph.D., is an educational consultant based in Wisconsin who has trained thousands of teachers and provided classroom demonstrations on guided reading. Dr. Richardson is the best-selling author of The Next Step in Guided Reading (Scholastic) and coauthor of Next Step Guided Reading Assessment (Scholastic). A former teacher, she has taught in every grade, K–12. She has been a reading specialist, a Reading Recovery teacher leader, and a staff developer.

Maria P. Walther
Maria Walther, Ed.D., is a first-grade teacher in the Chicago area and an expert in early literacy. She is the author of four professional books, including Teaching Struggling Readers With Poetry and Literature is Back! She is also the coauthor of Next Step Guided Reading Assessment (Scholastic). Dr. Walther enjoys sharing her passion for teaching young literacy learners with other professionals.

ENCOURAGE PURPOSEFUL READING AND WRITING

Nell K. Duke
Nell K. Duke, Ed.D., is a professor of literacy, language, and culture and a faculty affiliate in the combined program in education and psychology at the University of Michigan. Dr. Duke’s award-winning research focuses on early literacy development. Her areas of expertise include development of informational reading and writing in young children, comprehension development and instruction in early schooling, and issues of equity in literacy education. Dr. Duke is the author and coauthor of numerous journal articles and book chapters as well as coeditor of the Handbook of Effective Literacy Instruction: Research-Based Practice K–8 (Guilford), co-author of Literacy and the Youngest Learner (Scholastic), and author of Inside Information and Information in Action (Scholastic).

Shelley Harwayne
Shelley Harwayne is one of the most prominent education leaders in the country, with 35 years of experience as a teacher, principal, and superintendent in New York City’s District 2. Ms. Harwayne was founder and principal of the renowned progressive Manhattan New School. She has served as a mentor to countless school principals, instructional leaders and teachers over several decades and has advised school district leaders throughout the world in teacher development and instructional leadership. Ms. Harwayne is the author of nine education books and is the recipient of numerous honors including the NCTE Outstanding ELA Educator Award.

Susan Neuman
Susan Newman, Ed.D., is the Professor and Chair of the Teaching and Learning Department at the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development at New York University. She has written more than 100 articles, and authored or edited 12 books. Dr. Newman previously served as Assistant Secretary of Elementary and Secondary Education in the US Department of Education during the George W. Bush Administration and was primarily responsible for initial implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act.
Michael W. Smith

Michael W. Smith, Ph.D., is the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Faculty Development and Professor of Literacy Education at the College of Education at Temple University. Dr. Smith is a former high school teacher for 11 years. He has won awards for his teaching at both the high school and college levels. Dr. Smith’s research focuses on what motivates adolescents’ reading and writing in and out of school and also understanding how experienced readers read and talk about texts.

Alfred Tatum

Alfred W. Tatum, Ph.D., is the Dean of the College of Education and Director of the UIC Reading Clinic, University of Illinois at Chicago. After beginning his career as an eighth-grade teacher, Dr. Tatum became a reading specialist. He is the author and academic advisor of Scholastic’s high school reading and writing program ID voice: vision: identity. Dr. Tatum has authored over 60 publications, including Fearless Voices: Engaging a New Generation of African American Adolescent Male Writers (Scholastic 2013), which builds on years of research and practice in adolescent literacy development.

Jeffrey D. Wilhelm

Jeffrey Wilhelm, Ph.D., taught middle and high school English, reading, and language arts for 13 years. He is a professor of English Education at Boise State University in Idaho and founding director of the Boise State Writing Project. Dr. Wilhelm’s current work focuses on interpreting and implementing the Common Core State Standards. Visit jeffreywilhelm.com to learn more.

PROMOTE INDEPENDENT WRITING

James Blasingame

James Blasingame, Ph.D., is an associate professor of English at the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Arizona State University. He is Past-President of the Assembly on Literature for Adolescents of the National Council of Teachers of English and was the editor of The ALAN Review from 2003-2009. Dr. Blasingame focuses on young adult literature, secondary writing instruction, preparing pre-service teachers, and cowboy poetry. He was a high school English teacher, coach, and administrator for 21 years in Iowa, Nebraska, Utah, and Kansas.

Ruth Culham

Ruth Culham, Ed.D., is the recognized expert in the teaching writing field and has published more than 40 best-selling professional books and resources with Scholastic and the International Literacy Association on the traits of writing and teaching writing using reading as a springboard to success. Her practical yet motivational ideas for teaching writing make her a favorite among teachers. Her steadfast belief that every student is a writer is the hallmark of her work. As the author of Traits Writing: The Complete Writing Program for Grades K–8 (2012), she has launched a writing revolution. Traits Writing is the culmination of 40 years of educational experience, research, practice, and passion.

Douglas Fisher

Douglas Fisher, Ph.D., is a professor of Educational Leadership at San Diego State University and a teacher leader at Health Sciences High & Middle College. He is a member of the California Reading Hall of Fame and is a recipient of an International Reading Association Celebrate Literacy Award, the Farmer Award for Excellence in Writing from the National Council of Teachers of English, as well as a Christa McAuliffe award for excellence in teacher education. He is a board member of the International Literacy Association and a past board member of the Literacy Research Association.

Ralph Fletcher

Ralph Fletcher is a former member of the Teachers College Writing Project and current author and consultant. He is the author or coauthor with his wife, JoAnnn Portalupi, of numerous professional books and videos. Mr. Fletcher speaks at national conferences around the U.S. and abroad. He also conducts his own one-day seminars and does occasional author visits to schools.
**Nancy Frey**

Nancy Frey is a Professor of Educational Leadership at San Diego State University. She teaches classes at Health Sciences High and Middle College in San Diego. Nancy is the recipient of the 2008 Early Career Achievement Award from the Literacy Research Association and the Christa McAuliffe Award for excellence in teacher education from the American Association of State Colleges and Universities.

**Joanne Yatvin**

Joanne Yatvin is a retired public school teacher, principal, district superintendent, who currently writes books for teachers and teaching part time at Portland State University. She is also a former member of the National Reading Panel (2000) and a past president of the National Council of Teachers of English.

**PROMOTE INDEPENDENT READING**

**Pam Allyn**

Pam Allyn is the Executive Director and founder of LitWorld, a global organization advocating for children’s rights as readers, writers, and learners. She is also the Executive Director and founder of LitLife, a national organization dedicated to school improvement. Ms. Allyn is widely known as a motivational speaker advocating for reading and writing as human rights that belong to all people. Her personal quest to bring literacy to every child stems from a deeper desire to bring dignity to every child, and to empower children to read and write powerfully, effectively, and with passion in ways that will change their worlds and the worlds of others.

**Nancie Atwell**

Nancie Atwell founded the Center for Teaching and Learning in 1990. She is a former grades 7-8 teacher of writing, reading, and history and is currently a writing support teacher. She is the first classroom teacher to receive the major research awards in the field of language arts, the M.L.A. Mina P. Shaughnessy Prize and the National Council of Teachers of English David H. Russell Award. She has won many other awards for her contributions to education; most recently, she became the first recipient of the Global Teacher Prize, presented by the Varkey Foundation.

**Stephanie Harvey**

Stephanie Harvey is the president of Stephanie Harvey Consulting. After fifteen years of public school teaching, both in regular education and special education classrooms, she worked for 12 years as a staff developer for the Denver based Public Education and Business Coalition. Mrs. Harvey works with educators, schools, and districts to implement progressive literacy practices. She is a regular presenter at literacy conferences around the country, including her own annual Reading is Thinking conference each summer.

**Ernest Morrell**

Ernest Morrell, Ph.D., is president of the National Council of Teachers of English and a Professor of English Education and Director of the Institute for Urban and Minority Education (IUME) at Teachers College, Columbia University. Dr. Morrell is also a board member of LitWorld. He is a writer of poems, plays, essays, novels, and academic books, book chapters, articles, reviews, and encyclopedia entries.

**Frank Serafini**

Frank Serafini, Ph.D., is a Professor of Literacy Education and Children’s Literature at Arizona State University. He was an elementary school teacher and literacy specialist for 12 years in Phoenix, AZ. Dr. Serafini is an award-winning author and illustrator, and has most recently been awarded the Arbuthnot Award from the International Reading Association as the 2014 Distinguished Professor of Children’s Literature.

**Jennifer Serravallo**

Jennifer Serravallo is a literacy consultant, researcher, and author of several professional books. Until 2012, Jennifer was a Senior Staff Developer at the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project, where she worked for eight years helping urban, suburban, and rural schools implement exceptional literacy instruction through reading and writing workshops. Jen developed Independent Reading Assessment to help teachers meet students wherever they are in their learning curve as readers and writers.
Franki Sibberson
Franki Sibberson is a 3rd grade teacher in Dublin City Schools in Dublin, OH. She has worked for more than 20 years as an educator in many different roles – teaching children in a variety of elementary grades, assisting readers in an intervention position, guiding literacy programs K-12 in the central district office, as an elementary librarian and leading workshop for teachers at the state, regional, and national level. She is also a regular contributor to Choice Literacy and a member of the Elementary Steering Committee for the National Council of Teachers of English.

INTEGRATE READING AND WRITING

Nancy Akhavan
Nancy Akhavan, Ed.D., is a dynamic and engaging professor, author, speaker, coach, and leader. She has worked with teachers, instructional coaches, principals, district leaders, and staff across the United States. She has written six books on literacy, English language development, standards implementation, and change and content based reading and writing instruction. Dr. Akhavan has an extensive background in school leadership, literacy instruction, organizational change, and instructional coaching.

Kwame Alexander
Kwame Alexander is a poet, educator, internationally-recognized literacy advocate and New York Times best-selling author of 21 books, including The Crossover, which received the 2015 Newbery Medal, the NCTE Charlotte Huck Award Honor, the Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Prize, the Coretta Scott King Author Award Honor, and numerous other awards. Each year, Kwame visits hundreds of schools and libraries sharing the joy of poetry and conducting writing workshops throughout the United States, Canada, Asia, and Africa.

Laura Robb
Laura Robb is a master teacher, consultant, and sought-after speaker. She taught grades 4–8 for 43 years and currently coaches grades K–10 teachers in Virginia, Ohio, and New York. The author of many best-selling books for teachers, she has also developed several classroom libraries for Scholastic. Learn more about Mrs. Robb and her work at lrobb.com.

BUILD FOUNDATIONAL LANGUAGE SKILLS

Elfrieda “Freddy” Hiebert
Elfrieda H. Hiebert, Ph.D., is currently an adjunct professor at the University of California, Berkeley. Professor Hiebert received a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. She has worked in the field of early reading acquisition for 35 years, first as a teacher’s aide and teacher of primary-level students in central California and, subsequently, as a teacher, educator, and researcher at the Universities of Kentucky, Colorado–Boulder, and Michigan. Dr. Hiebert has published over 130 research articles and chapters on how instructional and assessment practices influence literacy acquisition, especially among low-income children. At the present time, she is investigating the effects of texts, particularly informational texts, on the fluency and vocabulary development of students, especially with English language learners.

Linda Hoyt
Linda Hoyt has had a rich array of experiences in education ranging from classroom teaching to working as a reading specialist, curriculum developer, Title I teacher, staff developer, and Title I District Coordinator. She is the author of 24 professional books, 6 video programs, and instructional resources. Her energetic presentation style and practical strategies have made her one of the most requested literacy speakers in the U.S.
Anne E. Cunningham

Anne E. Cunningham, Ph.D., is a professor of Cognition and Development at the University of California, Berkeley. Known for her research on literacy and development, she examines the cognitive and motivational processes that underlie reading ability and the interplay of context, development, and instruction. Dr. Cunningham has received several prestigious research fellowships from the National Academy of Education, Spencer Foundation, and the McDonnell Foundation Cognitive Studies for Educational Practice. She consults widely in the areas of children’s reading acquisition, effective instructional methods for the teaching of reading, and the cognitive consequences of wide reading.

David Freeman

David Freeman, Ph.D., is a Professor Emeritus in the Department of Language, Literacy, and Intercultural Studies, University of Texas at Brownsville. In addition to doing staff development with school districts across the country, Dr. Freeman and his wife, Dr. Yvonne Freeman, present regularly at international, national, and state conferences. The Freemans have published jointly and separately on the topics of second language teaching, biliteracy, bilingual education, and linguistics.

Yvonne Freeman

Yvonne Freeman, Ph.D., is a Professor Emeritus of bilingual education in the Department of Language, Literacy, and Intercultural Studies of the College of Education at the University of Texas at Brownsville. She presents regularly at international, national, and state conferences. Dr. Freeman has published books, articles and book chapters jointly and separately with her husband on the topics of second language teaching, biliteracy, bilingual education, linguistics, and second language acquisition.

Timothy V. Rasinski

Timothy V. Rasinski is a professor of literacy education at Kent State University. He has written more than 150 articles and has authored, co-authored or edited more than 15 books or curriculum programs on reading education. Timothy served a three year term on the Board of Directors of the International Reading Association. He is past-president of the College Reading Association. He currently serves as co-editor of the Journal of Literacy Research. He is also a past-president of the College Reading Association and he has won the A. B. Herr Award from the College Reading Association for his scholarly contributions to literacy education.

Sharon Zinke

Sharon Zinke is a reading Intervention Specialist and Literacy Consultant and specialist in the area of literacy development and reading intervention. Most recently, she has worked with elementary and middle schools in the Bay Area to quickly raise the decoding and word recognition levels of students and to assist intervention teams in setting up structures that support effective reading intervention and classroom support. She works every week with children and collaborates with classroom teachers, literacy coaches, special education teachers, and RTI teams to plan effective intervention and classroom strategies for struggling readers.

Jerry Zutell

Jerry Zutell, Ph.D., is a Professor Emeritus and former Director of the Ohio State University Reading Clinic. He is the developer of the Directed Thinking Spelling Activity (DTSA), an innovative, student-active cycle of word study instruction, and the Theme, Context, Roots, Reference, and Review (TC3R) model of vocabulary instruction. Dr. Zutell’s specific area of interest is the study of children’s acquisition of word knowledge in reading and writing.
**ENGAGE FAMILIES AND THE COMMUNITY**

**Susan Bennett-Armistead**

Susan Bennett-Armistead, Ph.D., is an assistant professor of literacy education and the Correll Professor of Early Literacy at the University of Maine. Drawing on more than 25 years as a preschool teacher, parent educator, program administrator as well as a Ph.D. with an emphasis in early literacy, she speaks internationally on literacy development in young children as well as on the role that families can play in that development and is the co-author of several published books.

**Patricia Edwards**

Patricia Edwards is a professor of teacher education, the first African American president of the Literacy Research Association (formerly the National Reading Conference), and the 2010-2011 President of the International Reading Association. She has developed two nationally acclaimed family literacy programs: Parents as Partners in Reading and Talking Your Way to Literacy.

**Barrington Irving**

Barrington Irving is very good at rising above obstacles. Raised in Miami’s inner city, surrounded by crime, poverty and failing schools, he beat the odds to become the youngest person and only African American ever to fly solo around the world. He built a plane himself, made his historic flight, graduated magna cum laude from an aeronautical science program and founded a dynamic educational nonprofit. Then he turned 28.

**Karen Mapp**

Karen Mapp, Ed.D., is the senior lecturer on education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and coauthor of the U.S. DOE Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships. Over the past 20 years, Dr. Mapp’s research and practice focus has been on the cultivation of partnerships among families, community members, and educators that support student achievement and school improvement. Dr. Mapp has partnered with Scholastic FACE (Family and Community Engagement) to coauthor Scholastic Literacy Events—a new research-based event kit that provides educators with strategies and practices to engage families in activities that maximize student reading and writing success.

**SHARE INTERACTIVE READ ALOUDS**

**Phyllis C. Hunter**

Phyllis C. Hunter is a nationally renowned literacy expert. She has been a consultant for Texas Statewide Reading Initiatives, an executive board member of the Consortium for Policy Research in Education, and a member of the President’s National Literacy Advisory Board. Mrs. Hunter has also served as teacher, principal, and district administrator.

**Lester L. Laminack**

Lester Laminack, Ed.D., is a Professor Emeritus of Birth-Kindergarten, Elementary and Middle Grades Education at Western Carolina University. He is a full-time writer and consultant working with schools throughout the U.S. Dr. Laminack is an active member of the National Council of Teachers of English and served three years as coeditor of the NCTE journal Primary Voices and as editor of the Children’s Book Review Department of the NCTE journal Language Arts (2003-2006). He has received two awards for excellence in teaching at WCU: the Botner Superior Teaching Award and the Chancellor’s Distinguished Teaching Award.

**CREATE LEARNING SUPPORTS**

**Robert L. Green**

Robert L. Green, Ph.D., is the Dean and Professor Emeritus, Urban Affairs Programs, Michigan State University. From 1965-1967, Dr. Green worked for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as the education director of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Green is an expert on education, urban development and issues related to diversity, as well as a prominent organizer of school reform initiatives and major education forums. He received the Distinguished Psychologist Award from the Association of Black Psychologists and the “Living Legends” Award from the National Alliance of Black School Educators.
Please contact your Scholastic Sales Representative for more information, or contact your regional office:

West Region
Phone: 1-888-757-5139
National Fax Line: 1-877-242-5865
Email: SCCGWest@scholastic.com

AK, AZ, AR, CA, CO, HI, ID, IL, IA, KS, LA, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NM, ND, OK, OR, SD, TX, UT, WA, WI, WY

East Region
Phone: 1-866-757-5163
National Fax Line: 1-877-242-5865
Email: SCCGEast@scholastic.com

AL, CT, DE, FL, GA, IN, KY, ME, MD, MA, MI, NH, NJ, NY, NC, OH, PA, RI, SC, TN, VT, VA, WV