Greetings MARC members and friends and welcome to the 2017 -2018 council year. For those who are educators, I hope your school year has gotten off to a great start. As you begin strategically planning how to help your students make academic gains in literacy, please consider the power of read alouds. Read alouds are an excellent way to model fluent reading, to expose students to higher level vocabulary and complex ideas, and to get students excited about books. Read alouds, when used as mentor text, can also help students become better writers. There is no grade or age limit to read alouds. One is never too old to enjoy a great story. To help build a sense of community in your classroom, the beginning of the school year is an excellent time to read books about kindness. Please see page six of this newsletter for a few suggestions.

Our first council meeting of the year will be held on Thursday, September 21st. Dr. Michael Ford and Kathryn Champeau will be presenting Moving Toward Action: Expanding Your Sphere of Influence to Impact Practice, Pedagogy, Policies, and Politics (a WSRA Roadshow). Please click on the link below for more information and to register http://bit.ly/2wbX2Rz.

If you haven’t done so already, please consider joining (or renewing membership with) MARC. Membership entitles you to participation in local meetings, legislative updates, newsletters, professional development at a discounted rate, as well as an opportunity to network with colleagues in the Milwaukee area who share a passion for promoting literacy and providing quality instruction to our students. A membership form can be found on page eight of this newsletter or you can complete an online membership form through our website by clicking on the following link: http://bit.ly/2cdTqI5.
Milwaukee Area Reading Council 2017-2018 Year @ a Glance
All events will be held at Lincoln Center of the Arts Middle School 820 E. Knapp Street beginning at 5:00

Thursday, September 21, 2017
WSRA Roadshow - Moving Toward Action: Expanding Your Sphere of Influence to Impact Practice, Pedagogy, Policies, and Politics with Dr. Michael Ford and Kathryn Champeau

Thursday, October 19, 2017
Dr. Karen Ruffner presents What’s the Word on Teaching Vocabulary? (sponsored by Wisconsin State Reading Association)

Thursday, November 16, 2017
Using Technology to Enhance Literacy Instruction – Presented by Neva Moga

Thursday, April 19, 2018
Mary Lou Harris - Manske presents Capture the Reader, Mentor the Writer

Professional Book Study Meeting Dates*
January 11th
February 22nd
March 22nd
May 17th

* Book: To be determined
**International Literacy Day**

**September 8, 2017**

International Literacy Day (ILD) is held every year on September 8th. The goal of this celebration is to highlight concerns regarding global literacy needs. This year’s theme, ‘Literacy in a Digital World,’ examines and highlights what kind of literacy skills people need to navigate increasingly digitally-mediated societies. For more information about International Literacy Day, please click the link below:

[http://en.unesco.org/themes/literacy-all/literacy-day](http://en.unesco.org/themes/literacy-all/literacy-day)

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**Spotlight on Books**

In “The Curious Classroom,” Harvey Daniels provides research based strategies on how to get students engaged in your curriculum by connecting what kids wonder about to the wonders you have to teach them.

In the book “Wishtree,” Red, an Oak tree, is the neighborhood wishtree. One wish comes from a young Muslim girl whose family is the target of a hateful act from one of their neighbors. Katherine Applegate is also the author of the One and Only Ivan.
On Saturday, October 28, 2017, the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh will host their annual Hot Topics Conference. Dr. Sunday Cummins, author of Close Reading of Informational Texts: Assessment-Driven Instruction in Grades 3-8 (Guilford, 2013) and Unpacking Complexity in Informational Texts: Principles and Practices for Grades 2-8 (Guilford, 2015) will be the keynote speaker. Breakout sessions will follow. The cost is only $65.00 for Reading Council Members, $95.00 for nonmembers, and $40 for students. For more information and to register, please click on the following link: http://bit.ly/2bTjNzx.
Community Literacy Initiative: Reading Feeds the Imagination

To provide children in the community with quality books and to encourage summer reading, the Milwaukee Area Reading Council held two book giveaways. The first was held on June 3rd at Lena’s Food Market Midtown location. The second giveaway was held on July 8th at the Miller Parkway Pick n’ Save.

Books were purchased from the Scholastic Warehouse and Half Price Book Stores with a community service grant from the Wisconsin State Reading Association which was matched by the Milwaukee Area Reading Council. MARC members also donated gently used books to this project. Thank you to all members and friends who participated!
Books That Encourage Kindness

The Invisible Boy by Patrice Barton

What it’s about: This sweet book tells the story of Brian, a quiet boy who never makes a fuss or much noise at all. He feels invisible compared to the other children who are the center of the teacher's attention by being loud, or the children with lots of friends who get picked first for sports. When a new kid comes to school, he makes Brian feel a lot less invisible.

Why it’s important: All kids are different. Some are outgoing and some are quiet. This book celebrates those differences, while teaching the importance of welcoming all types of kids to play and participate.

Each Kindness by Jacqueline Woodson

What it’s about: This story is about a new girl at school, named Maya, and how Chloe, who has gone to the school for a while, reacts when she arrives. Chloe is not welcoming towards Maya and excludes her from the group games. Maya leaves and Chloe is left feeling full of regret.

Why it’s important: This story does not have the happy ending that so many books do, but teaches a critical lesson. Every choice we make affects others in either a positive or negative way, and we do not always have an opportunity to fix our negative actions.

The Three Questions by Jon J. Muth

What it's about: This book is about a boy named Nikolai who wants to be a good person, but is not always sure how. He wants to discover the answer to the three questions: When is the best time to do things? Who is the most important one? What is the right thing to do? His three animal friends help him answer these questions, but they all have slightly different approaches. He eventually learns that the right time is now, the important one is the one you are with, and the right thing to do is good.

Why it's important: This book takes a more conceptual approach to helping others, but would serve as an extremely useful tool for starting a discussion with older children about why kindness is an important character trait. For more suggestions: http://bzfd.it/2uvf10x
Join WSRA

The Wisconsin State Reading Association provides leadership, advocacy, and professional learning for the implementation of effective research based literacy practices. Your membership with the WSRA will provide you with access to monthly webinars, the WSRA Journal, Update newsletter, and research to strengthen and support the best practices in literacy instruction. In addition to these resources, as a member of the Wisconsin State Reading Association, you become a part of a diverse community of professionals, forming powerful connections and working together to make a difference.

WSRA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

First Name ___________________________ Initial _____ Last Name ___________________________
Address ____________________________
City __________________ State ______ Zip + 4 ______
Place of Employment/School District __________________________
Duties, Title & Level/Dept. __________________________
Home Phone ( ) Work Phone ( )
Email ____________________________

Are you a member of International Literacy Association? □ Yes □ No
Are you a member of a local reading council? □ Yes □ No If yes, check name(s) →
Send me information about: □ WSRA Committees Information about your local reading council can be found at wsra.org

[Location of mailing address and membership fees]

Membership is for one year from the date of joining. Dues may be tax deductible. Some of the information provided will be in the WSRA Membership Directory.

You may join or renew your membership via:

MAIL: WSRA MEMBERSHIP • 900 Rock Ridge Road • Burlington, WI 53105-7230
Please make checks payable to WSRA for $37.00
ONLINE: Visit wsra.org and use your credit card

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MEMBERSHIP FORM
2017-2018

Benefits of MARC membership include…
✓ Excellent professional development at a discounted rate
✓ Opportunities to network
✓ Legislative updates related to literacy
✓ MARC Newsletter
✓ Community service opportunities

FIRST NAME__________________________________  LAST NAME__________________________________

SCHOOL DISTRICT/PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT_________________________________________________________

JOB TITLE_________________________________________  GRADE LEVEL(S)____________________

ADDRESS__________________________________________________________________________________

PHONE_________________________________________  EMAIL____________________________________

Please select membership type below:
☐ New $20.00
☐ Renewal $20.00
☐ Undergraduate student $15.00
☐ Retiree $15.00

Please check appropriate box(es) below:
☐ I am a member of the International Literacy Association – Membership #_______________________
☐ I am a member of the Wisconsin State Reading Association – Membership #___________________

Make checks payable to Milwaukee Area Reading Council (MARC)

Contact MARC:
MilwaukeeAreaReadingCouncil@gmail.com

Visit MARC:
https://sites.google.com/site/MilwaukeeAreaReadingCouncil

Milwaukee Area Reading Council is an affiliate of the Wisconsin State Reading Association and the International Literacy Association.