

Morning Breakout Session Details

10:15 AM to 11:15 AM

Marcy Canterna - Introducing WPA SCBWI Class of 2017 - 2020

Most children think that authors only live in New York or California. Pennsylvania has a wealth of talented authors and illustrators, and we want to share their newest books with you. We will discuss each recently published book, and we will talk about the story, the author, and the illustrator. Then, we will share some suggestions of ways to include the stories in your classroom, at a variety of grade levels and in many curricular areas. Co-presented by the Western Pennsylvania Chapter of the Society for Children's Book Writers & Illustrators (WPA SCBWI).

Audience: Interest in Middle Grade, Young Adult, and Picture Book Literature

Marietta Frank & Catherine Baldwin - What's Black and White and Re(a)d all Over? David Macaulay's *Black and White*!

David Macaulay's *Black and White*, a wonderful example of a postmodern picture book, turns 30 this year. This presentation will discuss postmodern picture books, *Black and White* as a "touchstone" in the history of children's literature, and the book's current relevance for child readers. This will largely be an interactive session and, toward that end, copies of the book will be available during the session.

Audience: Educators, Librarians, Picture Books, Middle Grade

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Continued

Dr. Mary Beth Spore - Excavating the Secrets of the Middle Class: A.S. King's *Dig* and its Uncomfortable Explorations

Addressing the hard-to-look at issues of racism, abuse, sexuality, and mental illness, *Dig* by A.S. King provides a peephole into many contemporary issues young people confront on their way to adulthood. How King's characters navigate these complex issues within a culture that has been polluted by family dysfunction and hatred invites deep reflection on the damage inflicted on these young people and the tools they use to share. This session will provide a presentation and invite discussion.

Audience: Educators, Librarians, Young Adult, Middle Grade

Robert Snyder - What is a Veteran, Anyway? Celebrating Military Veterans through Children's Literature

Robert shares his experience as a military police battalion operations officer during the war in Iraq that inspired the pages in his book, *What is a Veteran, Anyway?*. Ideas and activities are shared to help teachers engage their students in active ways to show appreciation for veterans of all age in our community. Through hands-on activities, such as learning military hand signals, radio calls, and map reading, teachers can develop a dynamic sense of appreciation for veterans in their K-6 grade classroom.

Audience: Educators, Librarians, Picture Books

Afternoon Breakout Session Details

12:45 PM to 1:45 PM

Jeff Kuntz - Cultivating a Positive Classroom Climate Using Children's Literature

Relationships First...Content Second! This session will provide participants with dozens of ways to help develop a positive classroom climate using a variety of children's literature paired with activities. Participants will be actively involved in working through a book list of picture books and novels that can be used in large groups and independently to help develop positive relationships in the classroom. A bibliography will be provided to all participants

Audience: Educators, Librarians

Dr. Rebecca E. Hirsch - STEM in the Spotlight

STEM books merge fact-based subject matter with fun, fresh, and engaging approaches. These books teach critical literacy skills; connect students to the world of science, nature, and technology; and encourage inquiry-based learning. An award winning professional author will reveal craft-based strategies, elements, and practices that make certain titles stand out, and will introduce a variety of engaging STEM from preK through Middle Grade. Participants will get to know the five types of nonfiction and learn how they differ from informational fiction. Attendees will receive a bibliography of books cited in the presentation, sorted by grade level and subject matter.

Audience: Educators, Librarians, Writers, Picture Books, Young Adult, Middle Grade

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Afternoon Breakout Session Details

12:45 PM to 1:45 PM

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Elizabeth Mahoney - American Illustration from The Red Rose Girls: Jessie Willcox Smith, Elizabeth Shippen Green, and Violet Oakley

In the early part of the 20th century, these three women had a significant impact on illustration for and about children. They each attended the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts where they were instructed by Howard Pyle and others. These women helped to frame the American Illustration style known as the Brandywine Tradition. They were single minded on obtaining an education, improving their artistic skills, and making a living wage as artists. We will consider their history and lasting impact on picture book illustration.

Audience: Educators, Librarians, Picture Books

Alexander Miller - Shonen, Shojo, and Beyond: Manga for Children and Teens

Since U.S. manga sales have grown every year since 2013, these stories of shinobi, magical girls, and giant robots will continue to captivate young readers for years to come. During this breakout sessions we'll explore the world of Japanese comics, identify both classic and upcoming age appropriate titles for children of all ages, and share easy, practical resources that teachers and librarians can use to engage their anime and manga loving students and patrons.

Audience: Educators, Librarians, Young Adult, Middle Grade

Ebonie Thompson - Releasing S.N.A.I.L.S. in Your Media Center

This presentation will cover the importance of offering S.N.A.I.L.S (special needs and inclusive library services) to special education and special needs students so that they too can be exposed to literature and the media center as a whole. This presentation will cover my best practices and lessons I've been taught by these students along the way.

Audience: Educators, Librarians, Middle Grade