Teachers Have Power Breakfast | 7:15 AM - 8:00 AM  $20
Teachers shape the lives of their students in powerful ways. Join us to celebrate the power of a teacher with children’s authors David A. Kelly and Jamie Michalak. They will each share how a teacher has impacted their lives and talk about their work as authors. Attendees will receive one copy of a book by each author.

COMPLIMENTARY BOOKS provided by RANDOM HOUSE & CANDLEWICK

Keynote | 8:15 AM - 9:30 AM
Why Reading Matters: Understanding What It Means to be a Reader
Kylene Beers and Bob Probst
When kids can learn almost anything by watching a YouTube clip or enjoy almost any book by listening to it on Audible, the question that we must all be able to answer is “Just why is reading still important?” Beers and Probst will share why reading is a critical skill in this 21st century world. They’ll share strategies that help all readers, but especially our most disengaged readers, become more engaged with texts. With their hallmark humor and their practical strategies, Beers and Probst will help us all understand not only how to develop engaged readers, but why a nation of readers is critical to the preservation of our democracy. (K-12)

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Session A | 10:00 AM - 11:15 AM
The Art of Comprehension
Trevor Bryan
An approach to teaching comprehension and writing skills so that all learners can engage with the skills they need for academic success will be shared. The approach is highly visible, allowing a wide range of students to join the academic conversation and become contributing, confident members of the learning community. (K-8)

FEATURED SESSION ~ SPONSORED BY FABLEVISION

Increasing Access and Inspiring “Book Love” Throughout School Communities
Gwen Blumberg, Susan Kennedy, Clare Landrigan, Tammy Mulligan, Eileen Sprague
Access is more than the volume of books a school owns. Choice, agency and ease matter when it comes to getting the right book into the hands of a reader. Join us to learn how to maximize responsive access to the needs of teachers, students, and families. (K-6)

Tackling the Old School Classics with New School Strategies
Caroline Callum, Molly McDonald Long
Who says the classics have to feel so crusty? Use pop culture and high-interest activities to help students build up the muscles and confidence to tackle challenging texts. Meet the standards and prepare for PARCC/MCAS 2.0 style testing using strategies to make texts feel accessible rather than antiquated. Presented by middle school teachers but appropriate for secondary level teachers as well, this program is designed to motivate readers to dust off those oldies but goodies. (6-12)

Noteworthy Nonfiction that Captivates Readers
Nancy Akhavan
Nancy has used her content area and literacy expertise to guide book selection and offer thoughtfully prepared lessons, activities and teacher tips that pair beautifully with the books she has selected for students in grades K-8. At this session she will provide book lists and lessons to inspire your students to read while learning about ideas, information and interesting things. (K-8)

FEATURED SESSION

@MAreads @mraread #MRAC2020
Session A | 10:00 AM - 11:15 AM

**Awakening Our Dormant Writers: Finding Engaging Topics to Write About**
Lynne Dorfman
How can you help students find engaging topics to write about when they are stuck? Explore creative idea-generating strategies and ways to build your students’ writing identities. Lynne shares ready-to-launch practices that can help all students become successful, confident writers. Leave with tips and step-by-step procedures to promote social-emotional learning. (K-6)

**FEATURED SESSION**

**Books Build Bridges: Using YA Literature to Support Social-Emotional Learning in Middle School**
Mary Cotillo, Erin O'Leary
We’ve always known that children who are emotionally available to learn do better in school; what we didn’t know was how to support the development of those critical skills. The highly individualized approach uses contemporary YA literature to teach students about themselves and the world around them, developing their social and emotional competencies in a safe and comfortable environment. YA literature doesn’t just “fit in” to SEL curriculum, it can be the basis of social and emotional learning within the classroom. (3-8)

**Unleash the Power of Literacy Research for the 21st Century**
Elaine Bukowiecki, Nicole Akin, Aubrey Gidden, Jacqueline Green
Candidates for their M.Ed. Degree in Reading at Bridgewater State University share their action research projects that led to greater confidence and new levels of student achievement in their respective classrooms and school districts. Each educator will give a brief electronic overview of her research project, followed by a brief discussion with the MRA audience. (K-5)

**Supporting Struggling Readers Through Drawing: Connecting Words with Images**
Rachel Silva
Explore a series of hands on activities that examine how visualization instruction in the form of illustration can help a variety of struggling readers with focus on visualizing, descriptive language and characterization. (K-12)

**The Stickiness Principle: Making the Learning Stick!**
Connie Jacquays
How do we make our teaching stick? Using reading comprehension as our instructional focus, this workshop will offer specific tools that teachers, coaches and reading specialists can use for maximizing transfer so that ALL learners (students and adults) will deeply understand, practice, transfer, apply and integrate new skills and strategies. (K-6)

Session B | 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

**Rethinking RTI: Unleash the Power of Volume-based Interventions**
Suzanne Carroll, Maggie Hoddinott, Annie Ward
The term “reading intervention” often conjures images of specialized programs, pull-out support, and strategy-based teaching. Reading volume - how much students are actually reading - is usually overlooked when creating a plan to support striving readers. Learn how one district made reading volume the heart of reading intervention with dramatic results. (K-12)

**FEATURED SESSION**

**Enhancing Academic Engagement Using Representative Texts and Literacy Partners**
Kayla Balthazar, Kierstin Giunco, Christine Leighton
We explored fifth graders’ engagement and comprehension as they read, wrote and discussed a representative text of their choice with a partner. Participants will leave with strategies to develop productive student partnerships focused on discussion and journal writing, and a list of 64 text suggestions. (1-6)

**Harnessing the Power of Booktalking!**
Liz Garden
Learn how to harness the power of the book talk to get kids and adults reading even more. During this session, you will be able to generate a list of new titles to bring back to your schools. Scholastic Book Fairs will be sponsoring this session which means . . . many books will be given away!! (K-8)

**FEATURED SESSION ~ SPONSORED BY SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIRS**

**“My Next Book is . . .” Supporting Students’ Next Book Lists**
Cami Condie, Sarah Pennell
During this workshop, we will share (1) ideas to build students’ next-book reading lists, particularly using motivation theory and using a mirrors/windows perspective, (2) new strategies to highlight books in your classroom or library, and (3) how to successfully (and easily) participate in the Massachusetts Children’s Book in your school/library. (K-8)
Ending Book Deserts: Examining Literacy Access and Equity
Molly Ness
Book deserts – low-income areas where books are scarce – stunt our children’s literacy development. This session presents data around book access and the impact of book deserts. Participants will explore the innovative people and programs who work to provide book access and to foster reading culture in high-poverty urban and rural areas. (K-12)

**FEATURED SESSION**

Engaging Students’ Creativity and Curiosity through Quick Writes
Sara Wilcox
Quick writes increase student engagement with writing while also building writing stamina. These short writing experiences open students’ minds to wonder and reflect while also building their confidence with different writing skills and genres. This interactive session will provide you experience with a variety of quick writes ideas. (6-12)

Understanding Dyslexia to Support Students in the Classroom
Lisa Klein
This workshop will define dyslexia and identify reading vulnerabilities of students with this learning difference. Participants will build a toolkit of classroom accommodations to support students with dyslexia and learn to identify barriers to learning to read. (K-5)

Choices Matter: Unleashing the Power of Three Models for Literacy Coaches
Adam Brieske-Ulenski, Marlene Correia
This session will blend the new ILA standards 2017 for literacy coaches with the three ILA coaching models. Participants will consider how the specific models support meeting the standards and share scenarios where the models may be applied. Suggestions for supporting coaches and teachers within the models will be shared. (1-8)

Innovator in Literacy Luncheon | 12:45 PM - 2:30 PM  $32

Open a World of Adventure with STEM+: Inspiring Students to Touch the Sky
Barrington Irving
Join Captain Irving as he shares his inspiring story that took him from the streets of Miami to setting a world-record flight to encouraging thousands of students around the world to dream, live and fly through STEM+. Captain Irving will take the audience across the globe as he shares his journey and STEM+ global expeditions during this interactive speaking engagement. (K-12)

**SPONSORED BY SCHOLASTIC EDUCATION**

Session C | 1:15 PM - 2:30 PM

How We Raise Students’ Social Awareness and Develop Empathy Using Literature
Mwenyewe Dawan, Lynne Dorfman, Aileen Hower, Renee Jacobs
How do we raise our collective social awareness in classrooms by creating opportunities to access quality literature and have rich conversations about issues and themes? How can we help ourselves and our students understand our reading and writing identities, and how each unique identity contributes to family, school, and community cultures? Learn how to use literature to raise students’ social awareness and develop empathy. (K-6)

Building Literacy and Increasing Comprehension Using Graphic Novels
Shirley Jones-Luke
Graphic novels can help increase literacy and build comprehension in students. Many students are visual learners and pictures along with dialogue can go a long way to help students enjoy reading. This presentation will be interactive and show teachers how to engage students by using graphic novels. (3-8)

Tools for Powerful Writing
Rajani LaRocca, Author ~ From Medicine to Midsummer: How a Doctor’s Tools Help with Writing and Vice Versa
Author Rajani LaRocca talks about her road from practicing doctor to published children’s author, and the skills that help her with both careers. (3-6)

Marcella Pixley, Author ~ The Magic of Re-Memory: Transforming Childhood Shadows into Powerful Writing
Learn techniques to help young writers transform their own childhood memories into authentic expressions of Self. This interactive workshop and discussion will model ways to find significance in our own personal experiences, and model how the classroom can become a community of writers who celebrate creating meaning together. (6-8)
Session C | 1:15 PM - 2:30 PM  Continued

**Beyond Formulas: Research-Based Approaches for Teaching Real-World Writing**
Leslie Lauer, Jenn Traverso
Learn latest research on how to raise motivation, foster self-regulation and improve students’ text-based & real-world writing quality. Receive resources to use immediately that help writers take themselves through the writing process independently, in personalized and authentic ways. Equip students to use their words to change the world when writing. (1-12)

**Curing the Secondary Literature Epidemic with Antidotes to Engage Readers**
Kathryn Hoving, Nichole Woodruff
Experiencing difficulty motivating your struggling and/or reluctant readers? Young Adult Literature (YAL) is the antidote to this secondary school epidemic. Participants will learn YAL history, adolescent reading habit statistics, and incorporation of YAL into the classroom while still meeting curricular standards. (6-12)

**Intersections of Latino/a Identity: Selecting and Exploring Transitional Chapter Books**
Emily Aguila-Pérez, Laura Hudock
This hands-on workshop explores recently published transitional chapter books intended for elementary-aged readers that feature Latino/a characters and/or are penned by Latino/a authors and/or illustrators. Practical and research-based suggestions about book selections and facilitating book discussions that pose critical questions will be offered. (K-6)

**Fine-Tuning Phonics Instruction for Students With Learning Challenges**
Lisa Rosenberg
This workshop will explore the effects of multi-sensory, explicit, and systematic instruction to improve phonemic awareness for students with learning difficulties. A toolbox of approaches and strategies will be reviewed to enhance foundational literacy skills. Specifically, the focus will be on components of specialized instructional approaches for students who cannot access the content of their grade level curriculum. (K-5)

**Making Grammar Stick: Embedding Grammar into Our Everyday Practices**
Sarah Cordova
One thing that all teachers, regardless of grade, can agree on, is that students struggle with grammar. While we know that grammar is being taught, it isn’t transferring into our students’ writing. Using Jeff Anderson’s Everyday Editing as a guide, Sarah will share a philosophy she crafted, with two literacy coaches, to help students both understand and enjoy grammar. (K-8)

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**Keynote | 3:00 PM - 4:15 PM**

**Super Readers, Super Powers: Transformational Literacies for Transformational Times**
Pam Allyn
Pam Allyn will guide us to discover all the ways literacy in all its forms and across all disciplines is a transformational power for today’s learners. She will address the urgency of authentic literacy for every student as a matter of equity, empathy building, opportunity and the work of a civil society. Pam will share new best practices for cultivating students who are knowledge builders, word crafters, community makers and world changers, all with the truly magical superpower of literacy achievement. (K-12)

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• If paying with a purchase order, please be sure to obtain permission from the school district to register. If the school district does not approve the purchase order, the attendee will be responsible for the full conference fee.
• No-shows will be invoiced and subject to collection for the full amount. A $60 cancellation fee will be assessed for cancellations between March 15 and March 30, 2020.
• Communication regarding a registration cancellation must be received by March 30, 2020 at massreading@comcast.net
• NO REFUNDS will be granted for cancellations between March 30 and April 3, 2020.
• If necessary to transfer a registration from one attendee to another, the transfer MUST be done through communication with Administrative Assistant Nancy Meagher via email: massreading@comcast.net
• A certificate of attendance will be issued to each participant at the conclusion of the event.

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Friday, April 3rd Schedule of Events