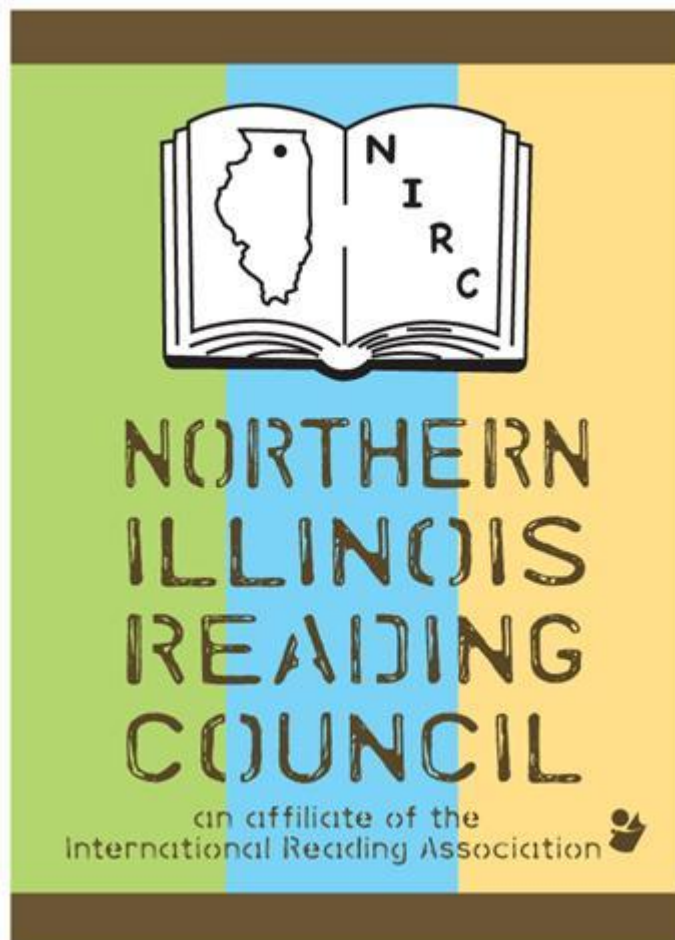




NIRC Newsletter

Volume 47, Number 2

January 2015



Dates to Remember...

February 28
Membership Appreciation Event

July 1
Deadline to apply for a NIRC Literacy Grant!

September 24
NIRC's annual Fall Conference

Northern Illinois Reading Council Board of Directors 2014-2015 Officers

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Family Literacy

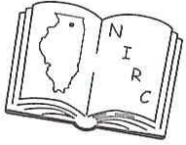
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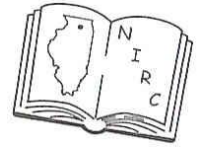
JANUARY, 2015

**NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS FROM THE NORTHERN ILLINOIS
READING COUNCIL!**

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR BEING A MEMBER OF THIS ORGANIZATION! WE APPRECIATE THE TIME AND EFFORT THAT YOU PUT INTO LITERACY INSTRUCTION. WHETHER YOU ARE A TEACHER, A LIBRARIAN, A PARAPROFESSIONAL, A PARENT, AN ADMINISTRATOR, OR A LEGISLATOR, YOU ARE AN EDUCATOR, AND YOU ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS.

AS A LOCAL COUNCIL, WE HOPE TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH PRACTICAL INFORMATION AND NEWS FROM EXPERTS IN THE FIELDS OF READING AND WRITING. WE HOPE THAT YOU APPLY FOR ONE OF OUR GRANTS, WHICH YOU MAY USE TO BUILD YOUR CLASSROOM LIBRARY OR TO FUND A LITERACY PROJECT. WE HOPE THAT YOU ATTEND ONE OF OUR EVENTS, WHICH ARE HELD IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. AND WE HOPE THAT YOU LET US KNOW HOW WE'RE DOING, AND WHAT YOU'D LIKE US TO CHANGE. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO EMAIL ANY OF THE BOARD MEMBERS LISTED ON THIS PAGE WITH SUGGESTIONS, QUESTIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!

**SINCERELY,
JOAN BEREMAN
NIRC PRESIDENT**



MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION EVENT

Saturday, February 28, 10:00 a.m. – noon.

Katie's Cup
502 7th Street, Rockford



Hear Dr. Lou Ferroli discuss “Cool Studies and the D Word (But Mostly the D Word.)”

This event is FREE for all members, and all members who participate will receive a copy of Donalyn Miller's Reading In the Wild.

RSVP to Joan (jbereman67@gmail.com)

NIRC Board of Directors Elections will be held at the Membership Event on February 28th. Nominees for Executive Board members include Elizabeth Coats (President,) Amy Orvis (President-Elect,) and Carol Untch (Vice President.) If you are interested in becoming a board member, please contact Joan Bereman (jbereman67@gmail.com) or Elizabeth Coats (wesliz2@hotmail.com.)



Teachers

As

Readers

**NIRC-TAR is a book discussion group.
All educators are invited to attend!**

Upcoming dates and locations to be determined!

We will be discussing Donalyn Miller's Reading In the Wild. If you would like to host a TAR group at your school, please contact Joan (jbereman67@gmail.com).



Habitat for Humanity

(dates and locations to be determined)

This is one of NIRC's community outreach efforts. For Habitat Homes in the Rockford, DeKalb, and Oregon areas, we donate a bookcase and new books for each child in the home, plus a copy of Mem Fox's Reading Magic for the parents. We would love to have help with this project! If you are interested in purchasing books, assembling bookcases, or attending the ceremonies, please contact Elizabeth at wesliz2@hotmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE

THURSDAY, SEPT. 24, 2015
NIRC FALL CONFERENCE

AT KISHWAUKEE COLLEGE

FEATURING
MARIA WALTHER



DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA FOR A BREAKOUT
SESSION THAT YOU'D LIKE TO PRESENT?
SEE THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS ON THE
NEXT PAGE...

ILLINOIS STATE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES

Please check each of the following purposes your presentation will address:

- Increase the knowledge and skills of school and district leaders who guide continuous professional development
- Improve the learning of students
- Organize adults into learning communities whose goals are aligned with those of the school and district
- Deepen educator's content knowledge
- Provide research-based instructional strategies to assist students in meeting rigorous academic standards
- Prepare educators to appropriately use various types of classroom assessments
- Use learning strategies appropriate to the intended goals
- Provide educators with the knowledge and skills to collaborate
- Prepare educators to apply research to decision-making

STANDARDS FOR PROFESSIONAL LEARNING (LEARNING FORWARD)

Please check the learning standard your presentation will address.

- Learning Communities**: Professional learning that increases educator effectiveness and results for all students occurs within learning communities committed to continuous improvement, collective responsibility, and goal alignment.
- Leadership**: Professional learning that increases educator effectiveness and results for all students requires skillful leaders who develop capacity, advocate, and create support systems for professional learning.
- Resources**: Professional learning that increases educator effectiveness and results for all students requires prioritizing, monitoring, and coordinating resources for educator learning.
- Data**: Professional learning that increases educator effectiveness and results for all students uses a variety of sources and types of student, educator, and system data to plan, assess, and evaluate professional learning.
- Learning Designs**: Professional learning that increases educator effectiveness and results for all students integrates theories, research, and models of human learning to achieve its intended outcomes.
- Implementation**: Professional learning that increases educator effectiveness and results for all students applies research on change and sustains support for implementation of professional learning for long-term change.
- Outcomes**: Professional learning that increases educator effectiveness and results for all students aligns its outcomes with educator performance and student curriculum standards.

RATIONALE ON HOW PRESENTATION WILL MEET THE ABOVE STANDARD:

Please provide a short description in no more than 25 words.

RATIONALE ON HOW PRESENTATION WILL AFFECT STUDENT LEARNING OR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT:

Please provide a short description in no more than 25 words.

Please email this completed proposal to Elizabeth Coats
(wesliz2@hotmail.com)
NO LATER THAN July 1, 2015.

DON'T

FORGET

*...to apply for a
literacy grant!*

Northern Illinois Reading Council Literacy Awards

Do you have a classroom or school-wide literacy project that you would like to implement, but you are in need of funds to make it happen? Perhaps you are a new teacher or a teacher who has changed assignments/grade levels and you're looking for a way to build your classroom and professional library. Northern Illinois Reading Council can be of help. Our *\$500 Literacy Project Award* is intended to support teachers who develop or adopt classroom or school-wide literacy projects. In the past, projects have included: family literacy activities, after-school reading programs, social studies and science high-interest/low vocabulary books to develop comprehension skills, etc. Additional ideas for projects might include materials for student/teacher book clubs, themed literacy activities, literacy projects for ELL/bilingual students, school-wide literacy events/festivals, family reading nights, literacy projects to aid the common core initiative, etc. Whatever your project idea is, we can be of help.

The *\$250 Library Launch Grant* is intended for teachers who are new to the profession of teaching (1-4 years) or who have been assigned to a new grade level. The purpose of this \$250 grant is to provide financial assistance to teachers as they develop a children's/young adult classroom library as well as acquire literacy titles for their personal professional library.

Both grants are available only to NIRC members. Award winners will be expected to submit a written and/or photographic summary of the completed project to the NIRC newsletter. Awards will be presented at the NIRC Fall Conference. Applications must be submitted by July 1, 2015.

Detailed information concerning both awards as well as application forms are available on our website. Be sure and read through the NIRC Literacy Award Rubric to be sure your application meets our specifications. A new rubric is being created for the Library Launch Grant but in the meantime, the Literacy Award Rubric will give guidelines for both grant awards.

www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org/localcouncils/northernillinois.html

For further information, please email Elizabeth Coats at

wesliz2@hotmail.com

Looking for more information?

Check out our website at
www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org



Northern Illinois Reading Council
c/o Sarah Kennay
sarahelsiekennay@hotmail.com

