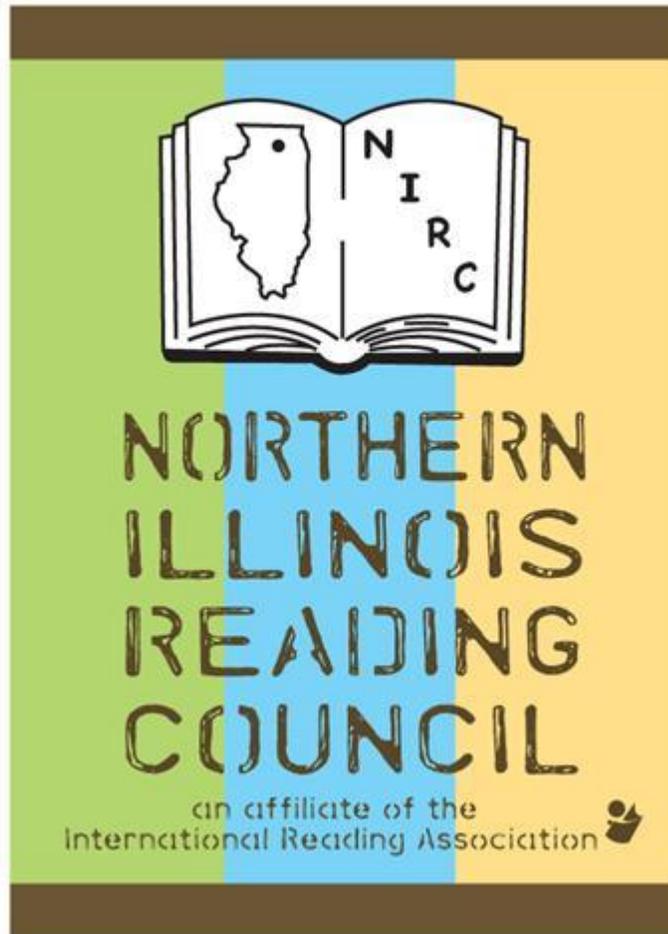




NIRC Newsletter

Volume 51, Number 1

Fall/Winter 2018



Dates to Remember...

- Thursday, October 18th
NIRC's 36th Annual Fall Conference
- Tuesday, November 13th at 6:00pm
NIRC Book Club in THREE locations
 - Panera in DeKalb
 - Hazel's in Oregon
 - Barnes & Noble in Rockford
- Saturday December 1st
Deadline to apply for a NIRC Grant!

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A Note from the President

HAVE WE GOT A FALL FOR YOU!!!! NIRC's 36th Annual Fall Conference features **Dr. Maria Walther (K-3)** and **Dr. Karen Briggs-Tucker (Gr. 4-8)!!!** Their IRC sessions were packed! The conference will be held Thursday, Oct. 18, 2018, at 5-8:30 at NIU's Holmes Student Center Regency Room. Parking in Visitor's Lot across from NIU library is free after 5. NIRC is providing free pizza and bottled water as refreshments. Come join us and get 2 professional development hours. (See registration form)

NIRC's **Book Clubs** will begin Tuesday, Nov. 13th, at 6 PM at 3 locations: Panera in DeKalb; Hazel's in Oregon; Barnes and Noble in Rockford. Food may be purchased at the locations but you may NOT bring food in. The first book targets primary grade teachers: **The Ramped Up Read Aloud** by **Maria Walther** will be given **FREE** to attendees who **RSVP** to pamelafarris@comcast.net by November 6 – Put NIRC Book Club and location in subject. Non-NIRC members will pay \$20... still a discount!!

Autumn means school has begun and students are settling in to classroom routines. NIRC decided to move its annual fall conference from September to October to better meet the needs of teachers and administrators. We wanted to avoid open houses.

As I write this, NIRC is 162 members strong! This past year we have donated a bookcase and 5 books for each child to 6 Habitat for Humanity families in Rockford, Rochelle, and DeKalb. Having books in the home helps anchor literacy.

Teaching has always been a challenge, even more so today. NIRC provides teachers such as yourself with top quality professional development. It also provides opportunities to meet with other teachers to share reading and writing ideas and, sometimes, vent. As a member since 1980, I can say that it has provided me with both.

We hope you will join us at the annual conference to hear these fantastic teachers present or drop by one of our book clubs. Please join us at one or more of our events and apply for a grant.

Warmest regards,

Dr. Pam Farris, President, NIRC

36th Northern Illinois Reading Council Fall Conference

Thursday, October 18, 2018

Regency Room, Holmes Student Center, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL

5:00 PM registration

5:30-8:00 PM Conference

Get 2 Professional Development Hours

Fast food outlets are near campus.

Preservice Teachers (NIU Students) sign class lists at registration.



What Do Readers Need? Teachers, Text, and Talk (K-8)

Don't miss NIU grads Dr. Karen Briggs Tucker and Dr. Maria Walther!

Join two veteran teachers (Karen currently teaches 5th grade and Maria works with 1st graders) to learn classroom tested strategies for getting to know readers and matching them with engaging books. Then, peek into their classrooms to see how they use terrific texts to teach standards-focused inquiry experiences. Leave with a long list of books and lessons you can teach tomorrow.

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

NIRC Member: \$20 _____ After October 1st: \$30 _____

Join NIRC and IRC for \$45 (\$25 Preservice Teacher) to get discount and FREE T-Shirt _____

<http://www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org/images/membershipform.pdf> (Print out both and mail to address below. Make membership check separate to IRC.)

Non NIRC Member: \$30 _____ After October 1st \$40 _____ Preservice Teacher: \$5 _____

NIRC Teal T Shirt \$15 _____ FREE for new member _____ Circle Size S M L XL XXL

Total _____ Make Conference/Tshirt Checks to: NIRC

Mail to: Dr. Pam Farris, NIRC, 10222 E Hickory Ridge, Rochelle, IL 61068

NIRC



*Tuesday,
November
13th
6pm*

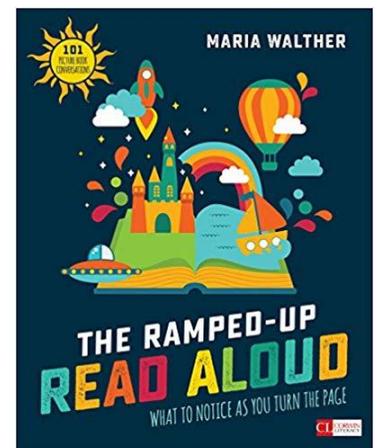
-Panera in DeKalb

-Hazel's in Oregon

-Barnes&Noble in Rockford

Three locations!

Food may be purchased at the locations but you may NOT bring food in. The first book targets primary grade teachers: *The Ramped Up Read Aloud* by Maria Walther will be given FREE to attendees who RSVP to pamelafarris@comcast.net by November 6 – Put NIRC Book Club and location in subject. Non-NIRC members will pay \$20... still a discount!



NIRC News

Want to Join Our NIRC Board as an Officer?

NIRC is always looking for board members! We always need new ideas and enthusiasm. If you are willing to serve on the board, email Pam Farris at pamelafarris@comcast.net. Put NIRC Board in the subject line.

NIRC Grants for Members



Take advantage of NIRC Grants by submitting an application. **Two \$250 grants are available for teachers to create a LITERACY PROJECT in their classroom.** It may be mentor texts for writing, bullying, a STEM project that needs books, new read alouds, books for boys, poetry, etc. In your proposal include your name, grade level, address, school, and describe your classroom demographics, the literacy need you are trying to fill, how this grant will help you meet those needs.

NEW teachers can benefit from the \$500 CLASSROOM LIBRARY grant for first and second year teachers. In your proposal include your name, grade level, address, school, and describe your classroom demographics, the literacy need you are trying to fill, how this grant will help you meet those needs.



New this year is the **MENTOR TEACHER grant.** The \$500 grant goes to a teacher who works with a first or second year teacher to create a unit of study that benefits both teachers. The funds may be used to purchase books to use as mentor texts for writing, materials for STEM, bookcases, etc. In your proposal include your name, address, school, other teacher's name and years taught, and describe your classroom demographics, the literacy need you are trying to fill, how this grant will help you and the new teacher meet those needs.



Grant proposals are Due December 1. Send the proposals to Dani M. Frew danimfrew@gmail.com with Subject being NIRC Grant.

...Fall Teaching Tip...

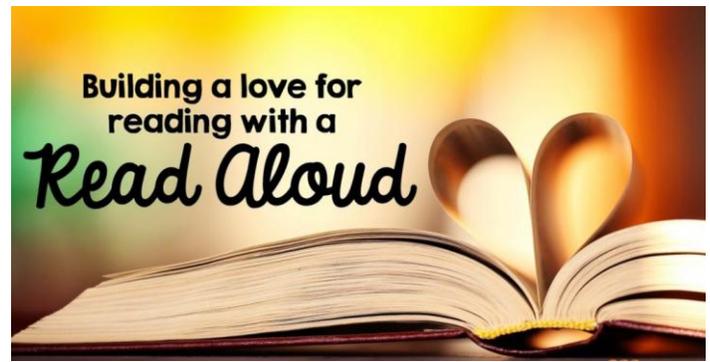


Here's an idea from Kirsten Strober, a fifth grade teacher. She asks on her Facebook page for her family and friends to donate \$9 to sponsor a student in her class. Kirsten then takes the donations and buys the \$1 book in Scholastic Book Club for all of her students so everyone gets a book to take home and read.

Book Ideas

Lester Laminack's new book *The King of the Bees* should be shared as a read aloud after first sharing three or four informational books about bees. The books can be simple and shared with the group or better yet via a document camera if your classroom has one. Put vocabulary words on a chart. Next give each student a white sheet of paper to make a window frame (line down middle, line across the middle). In first box the students write vocabulary words and what they mean, second box is what they already know about bees, third box is what they learned, and fourth box is for questions they may have. What more information do they need? How many students thought there are only one kind of bees? Provide samples of honeycomb and honey so the students can examine the structure of the honeycomb cell. Try to bring in a beekeeper as a guest speaker.

Kwame Alexander's books entice even the most reluctant readers to read. Upper elementary and middle schoolers who are sports fans love *Rebound* and *The Crossover*. Use these as short read alouds to whet the appetite of your students.



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