

What is the Illinois Center for the Book?



cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book

The Illinois Center for the Book

Reading, Writing and Illinois Author Programs

*And ... a proud partner of the Illinois Reading Council.



Illinois Authors

Reading



Writing



Illinois author: Jane Addams (photo: Hoover Institution)

cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book

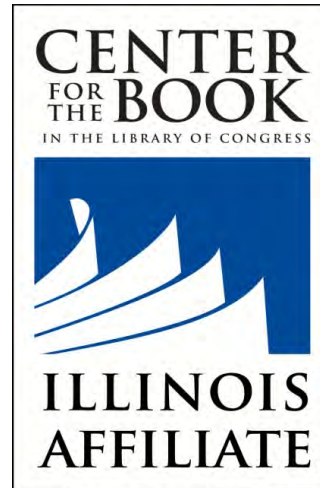
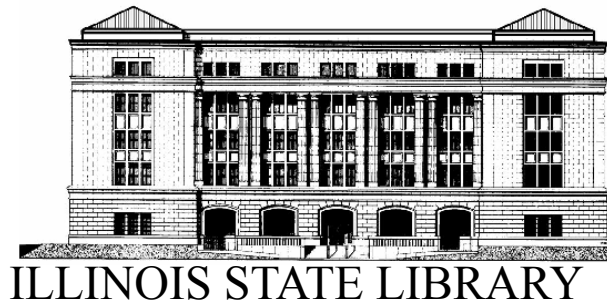
Illinois Center for the Book

An affiliate of:

The National Center for the Book in:



A programming arm of:



A department of:

JESSE WHITE
SECRETARY OF STATE
& STATE LIBRARIAN



cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book

History

The National Center was established by public law in 1977 with the mission to promote:



- Books
- Libraries

- Literacy
- Reading



and the ...

- Scholarly Study of Books

cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book

History

To help spread the mission nationwide, the **National Center** started establishing state affiliate centers.

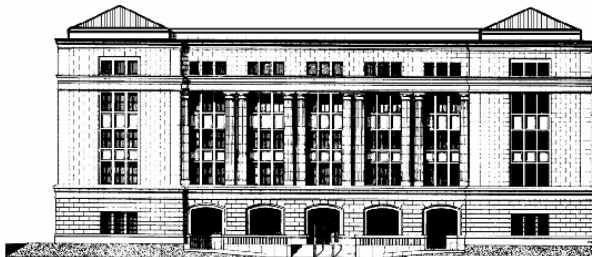


cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book

History

Established as a State Affiliate of the
Center for the Book in the Library of Congress at the

Illinois State
Library
in
1985'



Illinois was the **3rd** state center created in the nation.

cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book

History

Today, all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the US Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico have a Center for the Book.



Each state center provides programming that highlights their own literary heritage, libraries, literacy, reading and book programs.

cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book

Illinois Center for the Book



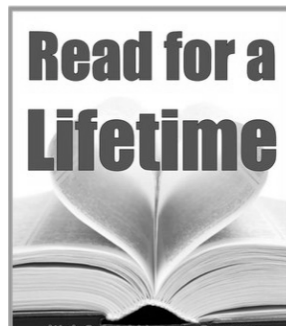
“Nurturing and connecting readers and writers, and honoring our rich literary heritage.”

cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book

Illinois K-12 Reading and Writing Programs



... and our partnership
with the Illinois Reading Council!



Letters About Literature

Read. Be Inspired. Write Back.

cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book

Letters About Literature

2019 Winners

LETTERS

ABOUT

LITERATURE

BOUT

LITER

TERS

ABOUT

LITERATURE



TERS

ABOU

RATURE

LETTE

BOUT

LETTERS

ABOUT

LITERATURE

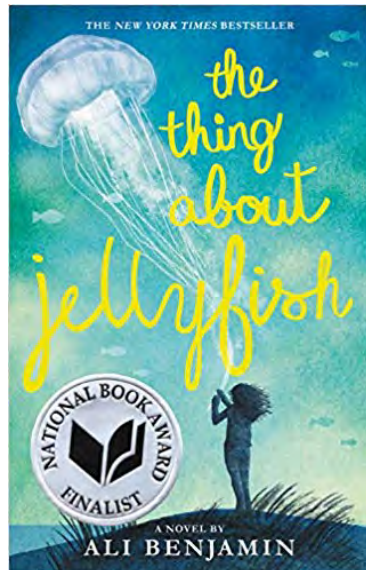
cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book

Letters About Literature

A Statewide Reading and Writing Program

Students read a book and write a letter, letting the author know how reading the book changed their view of the world or themselves.

Students in Grades 4–12 can enter individually or through school, library and youth organizations.



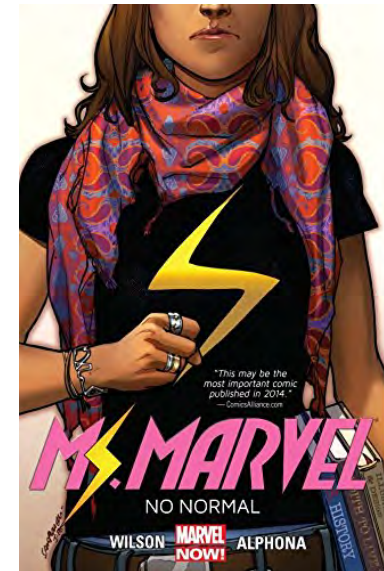
Awards Ceremony: May

Deadline to enter: December

A Teachers Guide with lesson plans is available online.

State winners receive cash prizes.

Runners-up receive certificates.



cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book

Letters About Literature

What teachers have to say ...

*“It has been **an amazing process** watching the students reflect on their reading experiences and put their feelings and emotions into words.”*

AMAZING

*“Some students who feel nervous and intimidated to speak up in class were **eager** to have the chance to tell their story to an author they admire.”*

eager

Letters About Literature

What teachers have to say ...

*“Each year the opportunity to have my students participate in **Letters About Literature** leads to unexpected discoveries.”*



“Through the writing process, I find out so much more about each of my students and about myself as a teacher.”



cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book

Letters About Literature

What teachers have to say ...

HELP ME LEARN!

WHAT DO THEY READ?



"I always enjoy reading these letters.

They help me learn about my students and about teaching reading."

- *"What are the students connecting to?"*
- *What makes them pick up a book?*
- *What makes them stay with a book?"*

cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book

Letters About Literature

What teachers have to say ...

Remedial Reading



“Currently, ‘Mary’ is enrolled in a remedial reading program due to her low reading scores on the Explore test.”

“She received an ‘A’ on her letter due to her strong emotional reaction after having read this book.”

Letters About Literature

What teachers have to say ...

*“Each year I look forward to entering my students in this writing contest. As a reading teacher, I **appreciate the powerful reflections and connections that great authors inspire.**”*

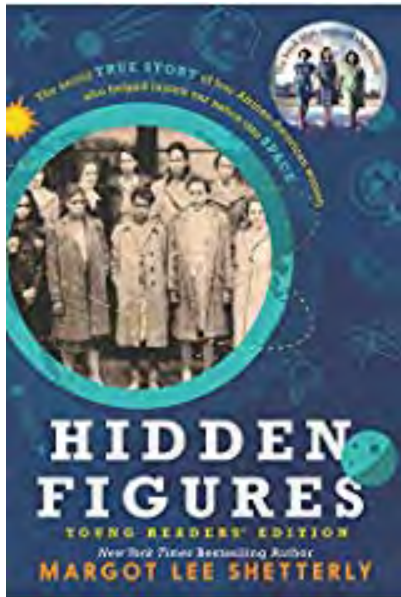
“The honesty and sincerity in some of these letters is evidence that so often literature offers an opportunity for us to share our troubles, our sorrows, and even our courage with the characters we meet in the books we love most.”



Read for a Lifetime

A statewide reading program that targets high school students.

Students who read at least four books from a list of 25 designated titles during the school year receive a certificate signed by the Secretary of State. The list changes every year and includes both classic and contemporary literature.



1984

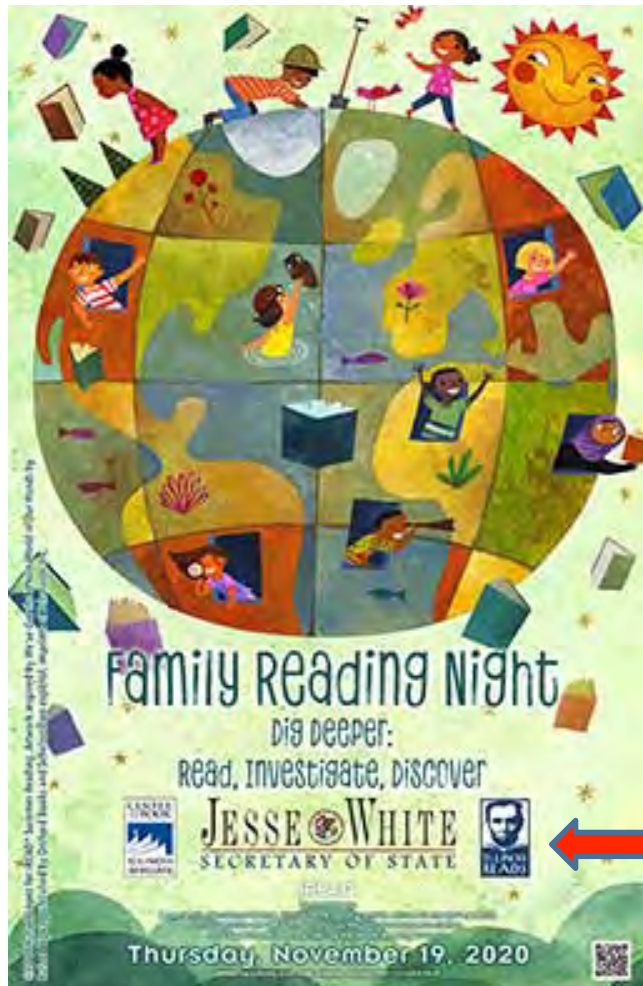
GEORGE ORWELL



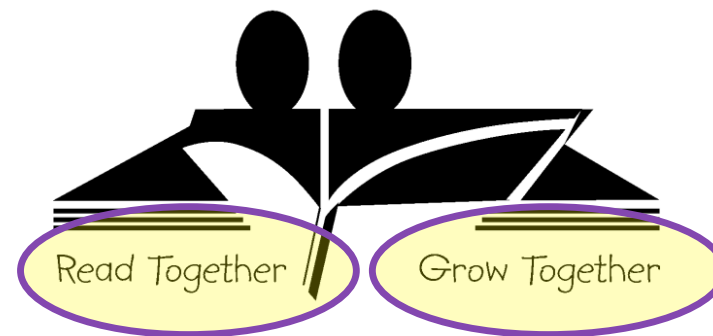
cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book

Family Reading Night

A statewide reading program that encourages families to turn off electronics and ...



turn off electronics and ...



Always ... the Third Thursday in November
November 19, 2020

Bookmarks and Posters are mailed in the Fall

Program Partners:

Illinois Library Association's iREAD program

Illinois Reading Council's ILLINOIS READS program

cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book

Family Reading Night

Schools, libraries, literacy programs and youth organizations host programs for families across the state.

Book Themed Programs:

Harry Potter
Rainbow Fish
The Very Hungry Caterpillar
Wizard of Oz
Space
Mysteries



Secretary White visits Addison Public Library on Family Reading Night.

Guest Readers:

Fire Fighter
Police Officer
Local Author
Pilot
Farmer
UPS Driver
Military Sergeant
Veterinarian
Nurse
Ballerina
Sports Star
Local TV Personality



Costumed Readers:

Clifford
Sherlock Holmes
Scooby Doo
Elmo
Princess and Knight
Abraham Lincoln
Team Mascot

cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book

Illinois READS

Each year, 36 titles by Illinois authors are selected by an author/book selection committee for the reading list – six titles at six different reading levels ...

- Birth – 4
- K – 2
- Grades 3 – 5
- Grades 6 – 8
- Grades 9 – 12
- Adult

* The Center Coordinator serves on the Illinois READS author/book selection committee.



cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book



Illinois READS and Illinois Center for the Book



Reading is a gift that provides endless enjoyment and sets young readers on the path to lifelong learning. In an effort to highlight the importance of reading at all ages and to support Illinois authors, my office has once again joined with the Illinois Reading Council for the annual “Illinois Reads” initiative.

“Illinois Reads” was introduced by the Illinois Reading Council in March 2013. The initiative encourages people to read books by Illinois authors. Each year, the program offers a new list of books at six different age levels. “Illinois Reads” kicks off in March and concludes in November with “Family Reading Night,” an annual statewide event sponsored by my office.

I am proud to serve as the honorary chair of the Illinois Reading Council’s “Illinois Reads” Committee. I encourage everyone to get involved by becoming an [Illinois Reads Ambassador](#), hosting or participating in a Family Reading Night program, attending an “Illinois Reads” author event and/or reading from the rich list of titles.

Thank you again for taking part in this meaningful program.

*Jesse White, Honorary Chair, Illinois READS
Illinois Secretary of State and State Librarian*



cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book

Illinois READS & Family Reading Night

Illinois READS formally kicks off with the Illinois READS Book Festival in March and formally ends on Family Reading Night in November.

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

ILLINOIS READS

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Family Reading Night

Read Together | Grow Together

cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book

Illinois READS and Family Reading Night

What Family Reading Night program themes can you think to create with the 2020 Illinois Reads book list?

Some topics to consider with the K – 2 and the Grades 3 – 5 titles .

K – 2

Jasper and Ollie

Animals
Friendship

Just Read!

Libraries

My Teacher is a Robot

School Issues

Oak Leaf

Weather

Sofia Valdez, Future Prez

Self Esteem
Multi Generational

This is How I Do It!

Explore the World



Grades 3 – 5

Cape, The League of Secret Heroes

Superheroes

Captain Superlative

Bullies
Superhero

The Peculiar Incident on Shady Street

Mystery
Friendship

The Superlative A. Lincoln

Poetry

Time Castaways: The Mona Lisa Key

Time Travel

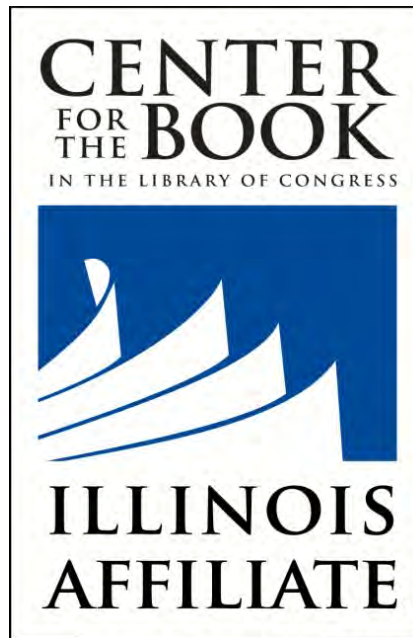
Weird Little Robots

Science & Nature

cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book

Illinois Center for the Book

To check out the other programs of the
Illinois Center for the Book



go to:

cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book

Questions?

Contact:

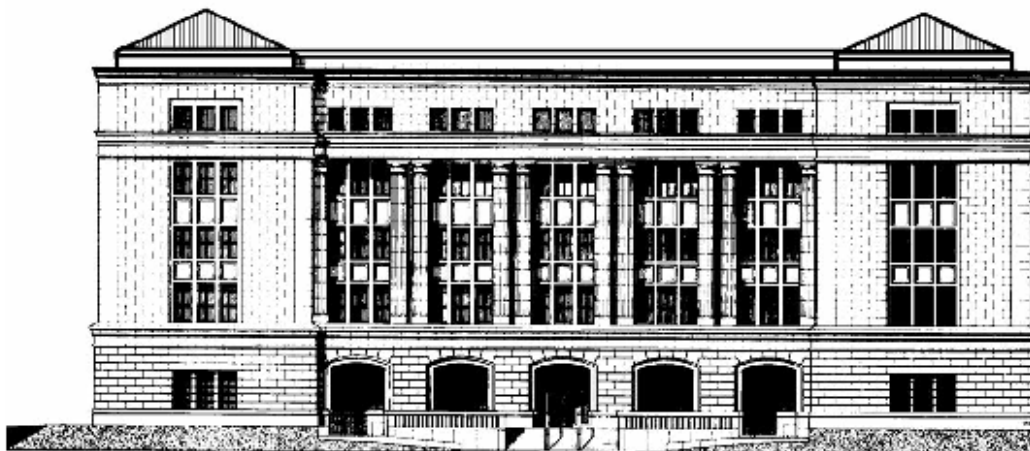
Bonnie Matheis

Coordinator,

Illinois Center for the Book

217-558-2065

bmatheis@ilsos.gov



cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book