

*The Chicago Teachers' Center
presents*

Young Adult Literature **Conference**



Funded by grants from the U.S. Department of Education and the Illinois State Board of Education.

Free to teachers, grades 6-12, in GEAR UP, READwELL, and Cicero-Berwyn schools. \$50 deposit required, refunded at the conference.

\$75.00 per person for participants from non-partnership schools (\$65.00 each for groups of three or more).

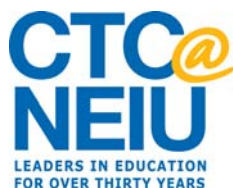
Carruther's Center for Inner City Studies (CCICS)
700 E. Oakwood Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois
Saturday, April 28, 2012

8:30 a.m - 1:30p.m.

Earn 5 CPDUs

Two conference books, breakfast and snack included.

Register at www.neiu.edu/~yal.



The Spring 2012 Conference Books & Workshops

The Hunger Games and the Admission Game: Competition, Collaboration and College

Daniel Laubacher, Presenter

Grade 7 and up

Although it isn't literally a battle to the death, the college admission process is a fight for our students' lives. Like the book's protagonist Katniss, students can go it alone, or seek support from sponsors and mentors, then work with peers also competing for limited college admission space. This workshop will focus on the Common Core Standards for Speaking and Listening regarding collaborative discussions by examining the themes of competition and collaboration in Suzanne Collins' *The Hunger Games* and in the contexts of classroom work, long term college preparation and the admission process. The presenter will utilize experience with the Common Core Standards for Literacy and Experiential /Adventure Education to model activities, strategies and classroom structures to engage learners in thoughtful, meaningful work. Participants should expect to be encouraged to get out of their seats, move and be active participants in teambuilding activities demonstrated during the session. However, activities are "challenge by choice" and should not deter interested participants from choosing this workshop

Book: *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins

Using Fiction to Help Students Cross Boundaries in the Common Core Standards

Mary Massie, Presenter

Grade 8 and up

How does humor allow us to understand harsh realities without losing hope? Come and find out with unforgettable characters that will astonish and delight you as they rush into the joy or disaster waiting around every turn in this incredible journey. Nineteen-year-old Nayeli is an unlikely leader who takes destiny into her own hands when there are no men left to defend her Mexican village against drug-dealing bandidos. This workshop explores aspects of Urrea's novel through quick drama and writing strategies sure to engage teen readers with serious issues while keeping humor in the equation. The featured text is available in English or Spanish.

Book: *Into the Beautiful North / Rumbo al hermoso norte* by Luis Alberto Urrea

Listening to Voice, Place, and Culture in *Their Eyes Were Watching God*

Polly Mills & Germania Solorzano, Presenters

Grade 9 and up

Zora Neale Hurston, while a Federal Writers' Project Writer in the WPA, explored the voices, places, and cultures of Southern Florida during the height of the Great Depression. She combined her observations along with the perceptive skills of a fiction writer to bring forth *Their Eyes Were Watching God* and other novels, plays, and essays that have taken their place among the most respected works of American literature. In this session, you will participate in activities that heighten skills of listening and imagining. You will consider classroom applications of these skills. You will explore how Hurston used what she discovered about language as a medium for her art. And you will consider how your teenaged students can use these skills at a point in their lives when they are negotiating their relationships to community, place, and complex, multiple cultures. Strategies modeled in this session meet Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts.

Book: *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston

Terezin - A Model Concentration Camp?: Blending Fiction and Non-fiction to learn about the Holocaust

Beverly Rowls, Presenter

Grade 7 and up

When, where and how, did you first learn about the Holocaust? What questions or concerns did it raise for you? Why teach about events that happened so many years ago? We teach our children to give them the power to prevent events like this from ever happening again. Yet it is often difficult for students to develop a holistic understanding of historical events and how content materials come together to tell a story that is meaningful to them. In this workshop we will demonstrate ways to have students become THIEVES as they preview non-fiction text, Terezin: Voices from the Holocaust, then compare and contrast information from it with events found in an historical-fiction novel, What World is Left. Join us as we connect the exploration of these strategies using the Common Core Standards for the comprehension of fiction and non-fiction texts.

Books: *What World Is Left* by Monique Polak and *Terezin: Voices from the Holocaust* by Ruth Thomson

Finding Voice, Making History: a Common Core approach to teaching and learning about the Uprising of the Twenty Thousand and Triangle Factory Fire

Susan Garr and Christine Johnson, Presenters

Grade 8 and up

In 1909, New York City's garment factory workers found the courage to stand up for higher wages and shorter hours. In a climate where factory owners had all the advantages, these young, immigrant girls made history by shutting down the entire shirtwaist industry. The strike, known as the Uprising of 20,000, lasted more than 12 weeks, capturing public attention. A year later, New York City's garment industry experienced another kind of factory workplace reality: the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire that took the lives of 146 factory workers. Using historical fiction partnered with non-fiction, this workshop provides hands-on reading, writing and thinking strategies developed to deepen students' abilities to develop background knowledge, explore textual evidence, analyze it and evaluate their new understandings. Participants will experience a culminating "mini-inquiry" activity in which they are challenged to work together to "Take a Stand!" regarding the importance of these historical events and consider how they might connect to the world today.

Books: *Uprising* by Margaret Peterson Haddix and *Flesh and Blood So Cheap: The Triangle Fire and its Legacy* by Albert Marrin