

**Winter 2019**  
**CAPSTONE CONFERENCE**  
**Friday, 19 April 2019**

**9 a.m.—SESSION ONE**

Panel A: Seeking Diversity through Multicultural Literature

Facilitators: Ashley Shannon, Brian White

Mayra Cuascut-Santini, "The Importance of Children's Multicultural Literature"

Kara Helms, "Multicultural Literature in the Classroom: Experiencing Diversity through Books"

Ashton VanKoeveering, "Multicultural Literature and Identity Development: Facilitating Accepting in a Diverse Classroom"

Panel B: Meeting Special Needs

Facilitators: Lindsay Ellis, Rob Rozema

Maggie Tisdale, "Strategies for Students with ADD/ADHD"

Samantha Anderson, "Higher-Functioning Students with Autism in the Language Arts Classroom: Promoting Peer Relationships"

Kelsey Van't Zelfde, "Bibliotherapy: The 'Answer' for Depression?"

**10 a.m.—SESSION TWO**

Panel C: Elementary Literature Concerns

Facilitators: Lindsay Ellis, Sherry Johnson

Lesley Lobdell, "Censorship in Elementary Schools: Is It Helping or Hurting Students?"

Jessica Kirchhoff, "The Change in the View of Family Structure in Children's Literature Over Time"

Panel D: Preschool Practices

Facilitators: Regis Fox, Amy Masko

Mary Lehmann, "In Regards to Play"

Kiera Filbin, "Preschool: A Selective System"

**11 a.m.—SESSION THREE**

Panel E: Music & Rhyme

Facilitators: Dawn Evans, Christy Pearson

Olivia VanderStel, "How to Teach Reading Effectively: Understanding the Theory of Rhyme and Connecting the Theory to the Application of Rhyme in the Classroom"

Alexis Elizade, "Integrated Music Curriculum: An Effective Approach to Teaching Intermediate Literacy"

Claire Amat, "Music & Phonological Awareness: A Powerful Combination for Reading Acquisition"

Panel F: Everyone's Wild About Harry

Facilitators: Corinna McLeod, Brian White

Jannelle Brawner, "The Use of Pseudo Races in *Harry Potter* to Address Institutionalized Racism with the Muggle World"

Madelaine White, "The Other Orphans in Rowling's *Harry Potter* Series"

Abby McClure, "Limitations of the 'Chosen One' Trope: How *Harry Potter*'s Lack of Agency Impacts Readers"

Panel G: At Play with Gender & Ethnicity

Facilitators: Jim Persoon, Ashley Shannon

Teague Sutor, "'Prick Love for Pricking': How Heterosexual Love Changes the Genre of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*"

Joel Kibbe, "Diversifying the Narrative: Representation and Humanization in Mainstream Comics"

**12 p.m.—SESSION FOUR**

Panel H: Encounters with African American English

Facilitators: Sherry Johnson, Amy Masko

Hannah Arnold, "The Need for Black English in the Classroom"

Abigail Tuttle, "Code-Meshing, Not Code-Switching, in AAVE"

Sarah McLellan, "Digital Blackface and the Appropriation of African American English Online"

Panel I: Digital Domain

Facilitators: Rachel Anderson, Rob Rozema

Haley Hulan, "'I'm Blackety-Black, Y'all' – Conventions of the Superhero in *Black Lightning*"

John DeBruyn, "Reality Bytes: *Ready Player One*, Toxic Gaming Culture, and Internet and Gaming Addiction"

Hannah Gallon, "*Bandersnatch*: A Work of Metafiction, Electronic Literature and a Multiple-Ending Narrative"

Panel J: Unusual Approaches with Secondary Literature

Facilitators: David Alvarez, Jo Miller

Afton Walker, "Dog Tags on a Dog-Eared Page"

Ashley Munger Kippes, "Hip-Hop as a Form of Literature in Secondary Education English Classrooms"

Cassandra McCraney, "Education: How Children's Literature Combined with Film Adaptation has both Relevancy & Applicability in All Classrooms"

**1 p.m.—SESSION FIVE**

Panel K: Deciphering the 20<sup>th</sup>-Century Novel

Facilitators: Kurt Bullock, Mike Webster

Tara Charboneau, "Southern Otherness: A Look at Flannery O'Connor's Freaks"

Craig Schalk, "A 21<sup>st</sup>-Century Return to Kerouac: *On the Road* to Nowhere Meaningful"

Brandon Skwier, "Postmodern Genius: Exploring the Seriousness within the Zany Works of Tom Robbins"

Panel L: Classroom Curriculum Concerns

Facilitators: Rachel Anderson, Dan Brown

Francesca Vitale, "Censorship: The Overlooked Lessons of Censored Texts"

Jessica Witt, "Phone Usage in English Classrooms: How Educators Can Close the Achievement Gap One Txt at a Time"

Hannah Gurney, "Faults & Flaws in the Common Core Curriculum"

Panel M: Issues in Children's Literature

Facilitators: Pat Bloem, Dawn Evans

Abbey Vandekerckhoff, "The Impact of Violence in Children's Literature"

Lauren Walsh, "Uniting a Society: Using LGBTQ-themed Children's Literature in Elementary Classrooms"

Rachel Rye, "Multicultural Literature: Offering New and Conventional Experiences to Children's Learning"

## 2 p.m.—SESSION SIX

### Panel N: Elementary Reading & Literacy Projects

Facilitators: Pat Bloem, Dawn Evans

Cyrena Johnson, "Free Voluntary Reading as a Homework Program for Elementary Students"

Sabrina Hochhuth, "Using Personalized Technology to Target Early Elementary Readers"

Wendy Hoekstra, "Michigan's Read by Grade Three Law: Will Many of Michigan's Third Graders be Retained Next Year?"

### Panel O: Destabilizing Feminine Boundaries

Facilitators: Brian Deyo, Rob Franciosi

Wren Bianchi, "Ladies Overboard: The Gender Implications of Traditional Mermaid Lore"

Marta Norkus, "*The Gilda Stories* is the Antithesis of *Twilight*: How *Twilight* Reinforces Traditional Gender and Sexuality Norms, while *The Gilda Stories* Disregards These Conventions"

Courtney Van Horn, "Violence Against Women and the Feminine: The Romanticization of the Spectacle of Trauma and Its Representation in the Media"

### Panel P: Poetry, Then & Now

Facilitators: Karen Pezzetti, Mike Webster

Kyle O'Connor, "Creating Distinctions: Haiku and Its English Translations"

Collin Hubbard, "How Hip-Hop Helps Us Overcome the Postmodern Condition"

Evan Sturgeon, "Escaping the Institution: Comparing Ideas of Identity in 'The New Negro' and 'To Pimp a Butterfly'"

## 3 p.m.—SESSION SEVEN

### Panel Q: Diverse Learners, Diverse Methods

Facilitators: Dan Brown, Dawn Evans

Taylor Stowe, "The Leading Causes of Retention for Diverse Students: An Alternative"

Gillian Eisenbraun, "Fostering Language Acquisition in Diverse Classrooms: Representing Multilingual Students"

Emily Weissenborn, "A Resurgence from the Past and a Propulsion into the Future: A Look at the Use of Extensive Reading for Pleasure in the Modern English as a Second-Language Adult Classroom"

### Panel R: Canning the Canon in the Secondary Classroom

Facilitators: Rachel Anderson, Regis Fox

Elinore DeBrule, "The Positive Influence of Contemporary Literature in Secondary English Classrooms"

Aimee Ash, "Re-engaging Students with Reading: Replacing the Classics with Young-Adult Literature"

Dominique George, "Beyond the Canon: Why Multicultural Literature is Beneficial for All Students"

### Panel S: All About Words

Facilitators: Kathleen Blumreich, Shinian Wu

Sophie Rickey, "(A)I Want to Be Just Like You: The Future of Artificial Intelligence and Linguistics"

Jessica Sylvester, "Influential Words: Mass Media and Politics of Anti-Blackness"

Alex Licata, "Code-Meshing Practice in Racially Minoritized Secondary Classrooms"