ELA as Art & Science
Oct. 28 & 29
KATE CON 2022
KANSASENGLISH.ORG
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2023 KATE Conference 20

*** WiFi is available, free of charge, for all attendees, compliments of Drury Plaza Hotel Broadview ***
Welcome Letter

KATE Con 2022: What a pleasant phrase to announce!

Once again, teachers from across the state of Kansas have gathered together to learn, to celebrate, to network, and to grow. During times of turmoil, it’s easy to feel alone, forgotten, overlooked, and underappreciated. And we all know, October is one of the hardest months for educators. By coming to the conference this weekend, you’re making sure to take that step that tells your fellow professionals: I see you. I know what you’re going through. I’m here for you.

The importance of this community cannot be overstated.

It’s easy to hole up in your classroom, grade everything, craft the next perfect lesson, and go home for the day. It’s a lot harder to break the cycle of isolation, to take a risk to venture outside your comfort zone, to share what you’re doing in your classroom — even if it feels like you don’t know what you’re doing and everything’s just an experiment.

However, every teacher is two parts: artist and scientist. We know the value of our art; we know the science behind what we do. But, we must acknowledge two things: art cannot exist without its appreciation and critique; science does not progress without success and failure. Our students also reflect this dichotomy.

Like art, each student requires different handling: no two learn the same way. Like science, what succeeds for one class may be a catastrophic failure in the next.

Whether this conference inspires your muse and helps you sculpt and shape your students; whether this conference piques your curiosity and gives you an experiment to try a new way to help your students learn: we hope that you’ll take something valuable back to your towns and districts to share with other educators who weren’t so lucky to be here, who maybe feel alone, who need someone like you to say, “I see you. I know what you’re going through. I’m here for you.”

Have a wonderful time at this year’s conference, and thank you for being here!

Nathan Whitman
KATE President
KATE’s Mission

- To provide a forum for dialogue and collegiality among Kansas teachers of English Language Arts, pre-kindergarten through post-secondary
- To provide leadership and direction for instruction, curriculum planning, and assessment in English Language Arts
- To serve as a vehicle for encouraging and highlighting students and professional writing in Kansas
- To increase public awareness of current theory and practice on issues of literacy
- To serve as a liaison between the community and schools on matters pertaining to literacy and language use
- To cooperate with other professional organizations and agencies throughout the state and nation in order to achieve common goals through political action
- To conduct, support, and distribute current research and scholarship in English Language Arts and to serve as a clearinghouse for information relating to English Language Arts
- To initiate and continue dialogue among Kansas teachers for the integration and application of language arts in all curricular areas

KATE on Social Media

Follow, like, share, and collaborate with us!

- Twitter: @KansasEnglish, @VoicesofKansas
- Instagram: @Kansasenglishblog
- Facebook: “Kansas Association of Teachers of English” (Closed group! Request to join!)
- Pinterest: @KansasEnglish
- GoodReads: @kansas_english

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Stop skimming.
Stop scrolling.
Just listen.
Keynote Speakers

Friday Luncheon Keynote: Jeff Zentner

Jeff Zentner is the author of New York Times Notable Book The Serpent King, Goodbye Days, Rayne & Delilah’s Midnite Matinee, and In the Wild Light. Among other honors, he has won the ALA’s William C. Morris Award, the Amelia Elizabeth Walden Award, the International Literacy Association Award, and the Westchester Fiction Award. He’s a three-time Carnegie Medal nominee, a two-time Southern Book Prize finalist, and was a finalist for the Indies Choice Award. He was selected as a Publishers Weekly Flying Start and an Indies Introduce pick. His books have been translated into fifteen languages. Before becoming a writer, he was a musician who recorded with Iggy Pop, Nick Cave, and Debbie Harry. He lives in Nashville.

Saturday Keynote: Tabatha Rosproy

Tabatha Rosproy is the 2020 National Teacher of the Year and a preschool teacher with the Winfield Early Learning Center, where children learn alongside volunteer grandparents from a local retirement community and nursing home. Tabatha holds a Bachelor of Arts in unified early childhood education, including special education and typically developing students, from Southwestern College and is near completion of her Master of Science in education (English as a Secondary or Other Language) at Fort Hays State University. She enjoys reading, dancing, gardening, and spending time with loved ones. She lives in Winfield, Kansas, with her husband, Tim, and their cats, Mr. Darcy, Beak, Beezus, and Frankenstein.
Conference Agenda

Friday, October 28

7:30 – 8:30 a.m.  Registration and Exhibitors – Ballroom Foyer
  • Light breakfast

8:30 – 9:45 a.m.  Opening General Session – Grand Ballroom

10:00 – 10:45 a.m.  Concurrent Sessions A

11:00 – 11:45 a.m.  Lunch – Riverview

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.  **Keynote & Q&A: Jeff Zentner – Grand Ballroom**

1:15 – 1:45 p.m.  Book Signing & Networking

2:00 – 2:45 p.m.  Concurrent Sessions B

3:00 – 3:45 p.m.  Concurrent Sessions C

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.  Wrap up, Wind down
  • Election Results

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.  “Kick Back” Happy Hour (Drury Guests – only!)

8:00 – ???  KATE After Party & Open Mic
Saturday, October 29

7:30 – 8:30 a.m. Registration and Exhibitors – Ballroom Foyer
  ● Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 8:55 a.m. Opening General Session – Grand Ballroom

9:00 – 9:45 a.m. Concurrent Sessions D

10:00 – 10:45 a.m. Concurrent Sessions E

11:00 – 12:00 p.m. Keynote: Tabatha Rosproy – Grand Ballroom
  ● Light lunch

12:00 – 12:15 p.m. Farewell

12:30 – 2:30 p.m. Executive Board Meeting
  ● Light snacks

Be sure to visit our exhibitors from near and far!

Special Thanks for Ongoing Support

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# Sessions Overview

## Friday, October 28

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Empowering Students with Digital Choice Grids / Bosin III 134 Grand Ballroom

Amanda Lickteig

Following two unprecedented years in education, engaging students as agents of their own learning is more important than ever. Through the use of digital choice boards and gallery walks, students not only have the ability to exercise learner autonomy through the selection of choice board tasks, but they have the opportunity to nurture feelings of belonging by making connections to peers’ work, as well as feeling efficacious in their ability to demonstrate competence. Additionally, by providing options for students to “consume” information and “create” evidence of their learning, teachers are embedding discrete differentiation into the task. This session will provide participants with examples and free digital resources and will include time for teachers to begin designing their own choice board.

You’ve Got to Read (and Teach) this Book! 2022 Award-Winning YA Literature from the ALA / Bosin II 133

Katherine Cramer, Payton Dearmont, Allison Detrick, Amanda Glenn, Brianna Harshaw, Caleb Thornton, Gabrielle Winter

Are you the go-to book person in your school? Do you want to be? Attend this session to get the scoop on selected 2022 American Library Association young adult literature award-winners/honorees. Panelists will summarize their selected award-winning YA book, identify potential audiences, highlight big ideas and possible avenues for inquiry, and describe instructional design opportunities connected to the text. Session attendees will engage in dialogue regarding their own ideas for teaching contemporary, high-quality literature, and they will receive handouts that capture the books, essential questions, and instructional strategies presented by each panelist.

Treating Songs as Literature - Quick Lessons / Bosin I 132

Katie Hollas

Use songs to boost student engagement and teach or reinforce concepts. After this session you will walk away with access to materials to take and use in your classroom right away. The goal of this session is to show how music can be treated as literature. Most of these mini-lessons are designed to take 5-10 minutes and can work great as bell work or an exit ticket. This presentation will include ways to extend lessons if desired.

Graphic Novels in the Inclusive Classroom / Station Ballroom 1 - 105

Abby Belt & Alexis Golden

“Graphic Novels in the Inclusive Classroom” identifies the need for more diverse texts in the classroom, both in modality and representation. It encourages districts to incorporate graphic novels into ELA curriculums, particularly with English language learners and lower-lexile students in mind. American Born Chinese is a text being piloted in an inclusion classroom, and it brings an abundance of educational opportunities with it, including Chinese mythology, aspects of Chinese culture, higher-level topics such as discrimination and prejudice, and the inner-turmoil many second-generation Americans face as they navigate the duality of their cultural identity. It also offers all students an opportunity to reflect on their own journey of identity and expression within the teenage scope. Additionally, the alternative format of the text, a graphic novel, presents students with a more accessible story that bridges the gap between visual and written media.
When it comes to incorporating innovative, effective, and fun tools for reaching students in the inclusion classroom, graphic novels like American Born Chinese are sure to be an asset.

**Senses and Sensoryability / Station Ballroom 2 - 107**

*Matthew C. Friedrichs*

We will waltz through the senses, learning by touch, taste, and smell, as spoken words vibrated through our ears, written words travel at lightspeed through our eyes and into our brains. From curiosity inspired by the Wunderkammer to saliva-inducing latkes as a touchpoint to culture in Anne Frank’s diary, we’ll talk about how objects integral to the stories can increase student understanding, engagement, and descriptive power.
Educational Gag Orders: What Teachers Need to Know / Bosin III 134 Grand Ballroom

Jeremy C. Young (PEN America)

Educational gag orders -- legislative restrictions on the freedom to learn, and teach -- have been passed by state legislatures around the country with alarming speed. Nearly 200 of these bills have been proposed in 41 states, and 19 have become law -- part of a sustained political assault on education on the part of state legislators. This presentation will survey the landscape of gag orders and other legislative threats to public education, explore the potential consequences of these threats, and offer suggestions for how to respond.

Dyslexia: How to Implement Empirically-Supported Strategies in the Classroom / Bosin II 133

Kim Wilson

This presentation will provide research related to dyslexia and instructional strategies that are empirically supported for use in the classroom.

Visual Literacy as a Mode of Rigorous Critical Thinking: Use of Graphic Novels in the Secondary Classroom / Bosin I 132

Sarah Elsukar

Are graphic novels more popular in your classroom than traditional novels? Have you ever been hesitant to teach a graphic novel in your classroom because it may not be “rigorous” enough? This session will cover what visual literacy is in our world today, and why it is essential for visual literacy to be taught and strengthened in the secondary ELA classroom. You will learn instructional strategies and activities that will foster rigor and critical thinking through the use of graphic novels. Suggestions of various grade level graphic novels will be provided along with ideas for rigorous instructional and collaborative strategies that can be implemented in any secondary English classroom.

Join the Professional Conversation: Publish Your Scholarly & Creative Work in Kansas English! / Station Ballroom 1 - 105

Katherine Cramer, John Franklin, Beth Gulley, Sun Young Lee

Kansas English is KATE’s award-winning peer-reviewed online journal that publishes 75 percent of the manuscripts it receives annually. In this session, the current editor and column editors of Kansas English will lead attendees in learning about the wide variety of scholarly and creative pieces published in Kansas English, the requirements for manuscript submission, and what to expect from the peer review process. In addition, attendees will explore the connection between presenting at conferences and publishing their work, examine the call for manuscripts, and spend time independently and collaboratively brainstorming possible ideas for their own submissions to the journal.

Accommodating ELL Students Redux / Station Ballroom 2 - 107

Monica Swift

ELL students are in our classrooms and eager to learn, but how do we reach across the language barrier to teach them our curriculum and ultimately the English language? Well, this will be a strategies session focusing on assignment and test modification for ELL students, specifically, levels 1 and 2. So, let’s get practical and go beyond just meeting the ILP requirements!
SESSION C 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM

Bringing Out Your Artistic Side: Prose Workshop / Bosin III 134 Grand Ballroom

Nathan Whitman

While collaboration is key at conferences, it’s also equally important to take time for oneself and one’s creative endeavors. Furthermore, to teach writing effectively, one must also practice writing. In this session all prose writers (creative fiction and literary nonfiction) are invited to share, sit, write, and reflect.

Grammar Doesn’t Hate You Back / Bosin II 133

LuAnn Fox

Participants will learn about and practice using a model designed to increase students’ grammar and writing skills. This model, developed by William Van Cleave, can be applied and adapted to multiple grade levels.

The Portrayal of Toxic Relationships & Harmful Ideologies in YA Literature and Their Effect on Adolescents / Bosin I 132

Chelsie Baldwin

This thesis discusses the toxic relationships including those that are abusive and dangerous and their portrayal in wildly popular contemporary Young Adult Literature which young people read in droves, such as the Harry Potter series, the Twilight Saga, and The Hunger Games trilogy. It discusses media’s effect on adolescents and how behavior and thought patterns stem from harmful portrayals in these novels. It also discusses harmful gender stereotypes portrayed in these novels and how they also influence adolescents based on new and published research.

Exploring Ekphrasis / Station Ballroom 1 - 105

Stacy L Chestnut, Rob Compton

Participants will engage in an exploration of visual art in order to make its visual vocabulary, themes and context accessible as inspiration for both academic and creative writing.

It’s Alive! Exploring the Science-y Elements of Literature / Station Ballroom 2 - 107

Deborah L McNemee

Some texts create a natural curiosity for the science behind the story. Mary Shelly’s Frankenstein is one classic that does exactly that. A more recent non-fiction text, Lab Girl by botanist Hope Jahren conveys a real life science-literature connection. Even poetry, such as Robert Frost’s “After Apple Picking” sets the reader up for scientific inquiry. In this session, you will experience three lessons to create engagement with science-y literature in the ELA classroom. Make sure you have your devices, because what’s a science-y lesson without tech? Plus, you’ll leave with examples of passages from additional novels, short stories, poems, and essays that pair well with each other and with these strategies. (Activities can also be done without tech, so join us even if you don’t have a device.)
Saturday, October 29

SESSION D 9:00 AM - 9:45 AM

**Plagiarism-Proof Pedagogy / Bosin III 134 Grand Ballroom**

*Cheryl Hofstetter Duffy, Harrison Jenkins, Robyn Hartman*

Want to reduce the chances of plagiarism when your students tackle written projects? Come engage with a panel consisting of an English teacher, a grad student, and a librarian as they present insights and tactics that have worked for them—and share your own struggles and strategies, too.

**Writing the Cinquain: An Easy Form for Young Poets / Bosin II 133**

*Kevin Rabas*

Learn fundamental techniques for teaching your students (and yourself) how to write brief, powerful American cinquain poems (for grades: elementary, middle, high school, and college). Approaches and prompts will be presented as well as background about this short, easy, fun poetic form. We will examine creative work by the poem’s inventor, Adelaide Crapsey (b. 1878), as well as modern and contemporary practitioners, and we will write our own cinquains.

**Wilder, Erdrich, Park, and Taylor: Diversifying the Canon / Bosin I 132**

*Rachael Cox, Riley Dandurand, Riley O'Mearns*

This panel addresses changing perceptions of Laura Ingalls Wilder’s Little House series, broadening the canon to consider works by Louise Erdrich, Linda Sue Park, and Mildred Taylor. It touches on film adaptations of the Wilder works, and it offers audiences diverse resources for thinking about American historical children’s literature.

**The Trials of Text Complexity: Using Rigor to Impact Student Achievement and Reading Comprehension / Station Ballroom 1 - 105**

*Joann McRell*

Research indicates that teachers developing their own resources frequently select below grade-level text. Exacerbating this practice is the overuse of scaffolds and accommodations to assist struggling readers. How then might we use the art of reading while still applying the science of text complexity to attain student success with Kansas standards? Consider ideas to refresh your curriculum, engage your learners, and achieve mastery of standards using text complexity!

**Poetry that We Hear and Poems That Hear Us: Reflecting on Difficult Topics through Poetry / Station Ballroom 2 - 107**

*Steve Maack & Alex Tretbar*

Poetry contains a power to help us process our most difficult emotions and experiences. In this session, PEN America Prison Writing Poetry Award winner Alex Tretbar will read and discuss some of his own poems paired with the poetry of others that could help students develop empathy for others or understanding of their own difficult lives. Steve Maack will present lesson ideas along with Alex’s readings to help teachers and students both hear each other and feel more heard.
SESSION E  10:00 AM - 10:45 am

**Improving Class Discussions with STQE / Bosin III 134 Grand Ballroom**

*Bryan Anderson*

Have you ever spent hours creating the perfect reading guide with insightful questions? Then, your students do the reading assignment and jot down 3 or 4 words at most, and call it good. They only read to complete the assignment, which kills the actual joy of reading. Let’s do something different! STQE stands for Summary, Thoughts, Questions, and Epiphanies. In this session, you will learn how to use the STQE process to improve student engagement, and deepen class discussions.

**The Science of Reading Explained Through Memes / Bosin II 133**

*Sarah Broman Miller & Carrie Thulstrup*

Do your students struggle to read? Did you know that approximately 60 percent of the United States population reads at a sixth-grade level? If you need answers to the reading challenges your students face, then start right here! During this presentation, you will learn about the Science of Reading through memes and also take away some ideas that could flip the script for struggling readers. All teachers have super powers. Teaching kids to read could be yours!

**Voices of Kansas / Bosin I 132**

*April Pameticky*

Join us for an overview of how Voices of Kansas—the KATE Publication focused specifically on the youth of Kansas—can inspire your students to write and publish their own work.

**A Tiny Bite-Taker’s Guide to Argumentative Research Writing / Station Ballroom 1 - 105**

*Mary Harrison*

When it comes to argumentative research writing, are your students picky eaters? Come learn how to prepare, package, and deliver what can be a very satisfying meal in bite-sized pieces for even the pickiest of eaters. In this presentation, I will provide and walk through a 10-step guide, complete with detailed, editable assignments and examples for various steps of the process. At the conclusion of my presentation and the Q & A session, we will form a roundtable to brainstorm potential prompts for our various research project needs.

**Superior Superlatives: Sharing Experiences through Commonalities / Station Ballroom 2 - 107**

*Amanda K. Stinemetz, Ph.D.*

In the classroom, educators must know how to navigate student learning as well as students’ corresponding obstacles, which include insecurities, fears, self-confidence issues, and conflicting social groups. To break through to the learners, it is imperative to identify a commonality that supersedes these obstacles. Incorporating superlatives into the classroom allows educators to qualify life experiences in a way that places students on an equal plane, subsequently dissolving divisive obstacles. This technique helps students see the countless perspectives in which they all have the same experiences, thereby encouraging students to share and express their life experiences.
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Kansas State University
English Department
Upcoming Events & Ongoing Opportunities

NaNoWriMo 2022
KATE Writing Group
Online Writing Sprints
Nov. 8th, 13th, 20th, 27th
7:00 PM
Register Online via Ktenseenglish.org

DEC 29, 2022: MENTAL HEALTH
MAR. 16, 2023: SOCIAL CLASS DISPARITIES
JUN. 8, 2023: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION & ECO JUSTICE
TOAM VIA ZOOM
REGISTER @ KANSASENGLISH.ORG

Book Study Micro PD
Reading for Action: Engaging Youth in Social Justice Through Young Adult Literature (Boyd & Darragh, 2019)

Kansas English
Kansas Association of Teachers of English

Voices of Kansas
SPRING SUBMISSIONS DUE
Mar. 1st, 2023

Submissions Deadline
Jan. 15, 2023!

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2023

The Kansas Association of Teachers of English
Fall Annual Conference Returns