



**46TH ANNUAL**  
**SoMIRAC**  
**Conference**  
**April 11-13, 2018**

State of Maryland  
International Literacy Association Council

*Forty-sixth Annual Conference*  
Hunt Valley Inn, Delta Motels by Marriott,  
Baltimore MD



Our conference will once again be *three full days*.

### **BOX LUNCH SELECTIONS**

**Smoked Turkey Sandwich**, cranberry aioli and Swiss cheese on croissant

**Tuna Salad Sandwich** with lettuce and tomato on whole grain bread

**Vegetarian Wrap** with grilled Portobello mushrooms, arugula, roasted peppers and tapenade

**Fresh Garden Salad** with seasonal vegetables topped with sliced grilled chicken

**\*All lunches served with a bag of chips, piece of fruit, dessert, soda or water**

### **NEW!!! Join The Unconference: 'EdCamps at Lunch'**

Each day at lunch time from 11:45-12:30 we will be offering EdCamp. Take your boxed lunch and join this unconference trend that is sweeping the nation! MSDE will be leading the way to facilitate these sessions with a new strand of focus each day.

*Wednesday: Reading*

*Thursday: Writing*

*Friday: Digital Literacy*

### **"Bring Your Boss to Breakfast" (Wednesday, 7:45am)**

Bring your Boss to breakfast to meet Donalyn Miller and we will include your boss' registration at the conference for the day. This is a sponsored event with limited seating, be sure to register early.

### **Wine & Cheese Reception (Wednesday 4:30)**

Join us for a little unwinding after a long day at the conference and a bit of appetizers before dinner with a bit of wine and cheese to celebrate the day.

### **DINNER (Wednesday 6:00) "Shine on"**

Our special guest speaker will be the inspirational speaker LaVonna Roth. This will be the culmination of LaVonna's day with us as she leads us down a journey of self-renewal and discovery. You will leave dinner refreshed and ready to tackle the remainder of the school year with open arms.

### **A Night at the Movies (Wednesday 7:30) "44 Pages"**

This complimentary event will give you snacks and goodies, while viewing one of the most engaging films that any educator will love.

### **A Night with the Authors' (Thursday evening 7:00-8:30)**

This is always a conference participant favorite. Personally interact with our favorite authors and receive an autographed book signed just for you!

### **Ice Cream Social (Thursday evening, 8:30)**

Open to everyone Thursday evening after the authors' night. Join us for some tasty treats and have some fun.

# The 46th ANNUAL SoMIRAC CONFERENCE

presents  
A Preliminary Program  
(subject to change)

Wednesday, April 11, 2018

7:30-2:00 Registration  
8:00-4:30 Exhibits Open  
7:45-9:15 Bring Your Boss to Breakfast  
Donalyn Miller a.k.a 'The Book Whisperer'  
(*ticketed event*)  
8:15-9:15 Concurrent Sessions

- A. Teaching How to Talk About Controversial Issues without Becoming the Controversy Kim Eggborn, Renee Bos
- B. KinderWheel: Structured Literacy Choices for Young Learners Kate Graham, Kate Gehle
- C. Write Now! Writing Across the Curriculum Dianne Newton
- D. Social Academic Schools linked to School System Success: Strategies for building collaborative classroom community, Kelly Davis, Kylie Spencer

9:30-10:30 Featured Speakers  
Jan Richardson  
Kathy Bumgardner  
Katie Garner  
April Henry  
Concurrent Sessions

- A. Creating a Collaborative Community of Learners that Think Critically, Communicate Effectively, and Care for one Another, Elizabeth W. English
- B. Writing Letters to Change Lives: A Pen Pal Project for Literacy and Success, Rebecca Grove and Kristine Calo
- C. Assessing Close Reading in a History Classroom, Mark J. Stout
- D. From Reluctant to Engaged, Kelli Westmorland

10:45-11:45 Keynote  
LaVonna Roth  
"Ignite Your Shine!"

11:45-12:30 Lunch Break/Exhibits  
MSDE EdCamp: Focus Strand: Reading

12:30-1:30 Featured Speakers  
Vicki Gibson  
Jan Richardson  
Stephanie Brant  
Sushmita Mazumdar

12:30-1:30 Concurrent Sessions

- A. Building Bridges: Six Tools to Engage Your Learners in Transformative Thinking and Empathetic Reasoning, Robin Hawley-Brilliante
- B. Odysseus, Meet Katniss, Barit Gordon
- C. Using Data Driven Informed Decision Making To Support Literacy Learning in Early Childhood Classrooms, Kristine Calo

1:45-2:45 Featured Speakers  
Donalyn Miller  
LaVonna Roth  
Amy Hansen  
Katie Garner

Concurrent Sessions

- A. The Storyteller's Project: Empowering Students to Their Stories, Dawn Little
- B. Using 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills to Engage Readers and Monitor Comprehension, Jessica Lemmo
- C. Using IDR to Build a Community of Readers In your Classroom, Christina Morabito, Rebecca Higdon

3:00-4:00 Keynote  
Enrique Hanks Feldman  
4:30-6:00 Young Authors' Receptions  
David Bierdzycki (Grades 2-8)  
April Henry (Grades 9-12)

6:00-7:30 Dinner "Shine On"  
An evening with LaVonna Roth  
(*ticketed event*)

7:30-9:00 Movie Night "44 Pages"  
This free event, co-sponsored by Highlights, will feature the Baltimore premiere of the documentary "44 Pages"

**Thursday, April 12, 2018**

7:30-2:00      **Registration**

7:45-9:15      **Books and Breakfast**  
                     **David Bierdzycki**  
                     *(ticketed event)*

8:00-4:30      **Exhibits Open**  
                     *Scholarship fund-drive tickets for Literacy*  
                     *Lottery available throughout the day*

8:15-9:15      **Concurrent Sessions**

A. Passionate Professional Learning: A Personal Approach to Reading Achievement, Susan Verdi and Courtney Kelly

B. Motivating mechanism, Literature-Inspired Making and Engineering Strategy (LIMES), Tracy B. Jones

C. Oh, Snap! You CAN Close the achievement Gap! Julie Allsworth

D. Guided Reading in the Middle School, Buffy Jordan, Becky Lamb

9:30-10:30     **Keynote**  
                     **Kent Johnson,**  
                     **CEO & President of Highlights**

10:45-11:45    **Featured Speakers**  
                     **NFL player, Chy Davidson**  
                     **Nancy Akhavan**  
                     **Enrique Feldman**  
                     **Leggett, Quattlebaum, & Levy**

**Concurrent Sessions**

A. Universal Design for Learning; meeting the Needs of All Learners, Gina Williams

B. Engaging Strategies for Crafting Nonfiction Journal Entries: Maximize the Power of Journals and the Joy of Learning, Kelly Davis, Lisa Pershan, Jennifer Silbaugh, Jennifer Brown Whale

C. The ABC's of Behavior Management, Rusty May

D. Taking a Closer Look at Close Reading, Jodi C. Ratti

11:45-12:30    **Lunch Break/Exhibits**  
                     **MSDE EdCamp: Focus Strand: Writing**

12:30-1:30     **Featured Speakers**  
                     **Sharon Walpole\***  
                     *\*Special 2-hour Institute*  
                     **Nancy Akhavan**  
                     **Jennifer O'Connell**

**Concurrent Sessions**

A. The Reading Writing Connection through Guided Writing, Erin Schultz, Siobhn Saunderson

B. Using Art to Teach Writing: The Ideas Trait, Jennifer Klein, Elizabeth Stuart Whitehead

C. S.N.A.P. Math Fair: "Connecting Literacy and Math through Puzzles", Teresa Sutherland

1:45-2:45      **Featured Speakers**  
                     **Sharon Walpole (2-hour institute continued)**  
                     **Katie Garner**  
                     **Virginia Berniger**  
                     **Tayrn Souders**  
                     **Veronica Bartles**

**Concurrent Sessions**

A. **Conquer Comprehension with your Struggling Readers**, Julie Allsworth

B. Trait Trunk: A Treasure of Writing Strategies to Engage and Build Life-Long Learners, Mandi Quinn, Shawn Washington-Clark, Lauren Cornwall, Lona Trulove

C. Confronting a Poverty of Words: Building Vocabulary in a Title 1 School, Jean Luebke, Melissa Miller

D.

3:00-4:00      **Keynote**  
                     **Richard Gentry**

4:00-4:30      **Literacy Lottery/Scholarship Fund Drive Drawing**

7:00-9:00      **An Evening with Authors & Illustrators:**  
                     *(ticketed event w/ book included- not a meal event)*

featuring  
**Veronica Bartles, Elissa Brent Weissman, David Bierdzycki, Karen Leggett, Mary Quattlebaum, Debbie Levy, Chryssa Smith, Tayrn Souders, Jennifer O'Connell, Gordan Korman**

9:00             **Ice Cream Social**  
                     **Open to all attendees as a time to socialize, network, mix together and enjoy good food and conversation.**

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**Friday, April 13, 2018**

7:30-2:00      **Registration**

7:45-9:15      **Storytellers' Breakfast with Gordan Korman**  
*(ticketed event)*

8:00            **Exhibits Open**

8:15-9:15

**Concurrent Sessions**

A. **Professional Writing: Engaging in Literacy Practices With the State e-journal, Carolyn Cook, Vicki McQuitty**

B. **Conquering the Writing Prompt, Melissa Mack**

C. **Increasing Literacy Achievement for Diverse Learners using Restorative Practices, Peggy Dumler, Stephanie Milligan**

D. **Windows and Mirrors: Quality Children's Literature that Validates our Ever-Changing Families. Are They in Your classroom Library? Patricia Dean, Emily Loux, Amy Pierson, Ally Stallings**

9:30-10:30      **Keynote**  
**Pam Allen**

10:45-11:45      **Featured Speakers**  
**Linda Hoyt**  
**Pam Allen**  
**Veronica Bartles**  
**Sharon Thomas**

**Concurrent Sessions**

A. **Going Green in Early Childhood, Patricia Dean and Elizabeth Sousa**

B. **Personalized Learning to Increase Reading comprehension, Keely Swartzler,**

C. **Meaningful Instruction via Intentional Questioning: Changing Teaching, Changing Learning, Beth Puschak**

D. **Motivating Students to Improve Reading Fluency Comprehension, Debby Mossberg**

11:45-12:30      **Lunch Break/Exhibits**  
**MSDE EdCamp: Focus Strand:**  
**Digital Literacy**

12:30-1:30      **Featured Speakers**  
**Dr. Sharroky Hollie**  
**Linda Hoyt**  
**Elissa BrentWeissman**  
**LEM**  
**Chrysa Smith**

**Concurrent Sessions**

A. **Changing Minds, Changing Practice: Five High Leverage Coaching Strategies for Literacy Leaders, J-Lynn VanPelt, Shavon Newkirk, Izabela Miller,**

B. **Valencia Church-Williams**

C. **Assessing Students with Technology. Engaging Students and Getting the Data You Need, Meghan Liebfreund**

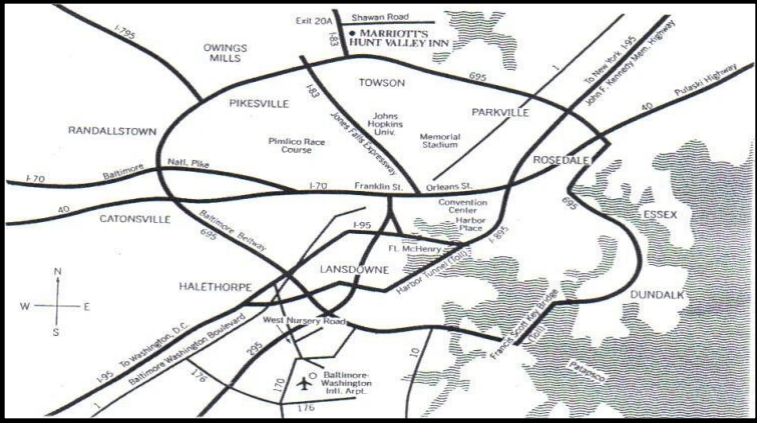
1:45-2:45      **Keynote**  
**Dr. Stephen Peters**

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**Directions to Conference Hotel**

The Hunt Valley Inn is located just east of I-83 on Shawan Road, adjacent to the Hunt Valley Business Community.

Take I-695 (the Baltimore Beltway) to Exit #24 (I-83). Follow I-83 to Exit #20A, Shawan Road at Hunt Valley. Hotel is on your right.



## 2018 SoMIRAC Conference Registration

On-line Registration opens January 2018 [www.somirac.org](http://www.somirac.org)

No On-Site Registration

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last

First

MI-

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City

State

Local Council

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

Please check::  Presenter  State Officer  State Chair  Local President  Past State President

	Regular Member	Student/Aide/Retiree	Non Member	Amount
Wed., Thur., Fri. (Full Conference)	\$185	\$160	\$220	
Wed. and Thur.	\$160	\$140	\$195	
Thur. and Fri.	\$160	\$140	\$195	
Wed. and Fri.	\$160	\$140	\$195	
Wed. only	\$125	\$105	\$160	
Thur. only	\$125	\$105	\$160	
Fri. only	\$125	\$105	\$160	

### Special Functions

**Box Lunches: Make Selections Below \$17 each**

Wednesday  Tuna  Turkey  Veggie Wrap  Grilled Chicken Garden Salad \_\_\_\_\_

Thursday  Tuna  Turkey  Veggie Wrap  Grilled Chicken Garden Salad \_\_\_\_\_

Friday  Tuna  Turkey  Veggie Wrap  Grilled Chicken Garden Salad \_\_\_\_\_

Bring Your Boss to Breakfast (Wednesday) Limited to first 300 people \$20 \_\_\_\_\_

Boss' Name \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner "Shine On" (Wednesday Evening) \$40 \_\_\_\_\_

44 Pages Movie Night (No cost but pre-registration is required) \_\_\_\_\_

Books and Breakfast (Thursday) \$20 \_\_\_\_\_

Authors' Night (Thursday Evening) \$20 \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate level requested Primary Intermediate  Middle/High

Storytellers' Breakfast (Friday) \$20 \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to SoMIRAC

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to Ann Apple, 221 St. Paul Road, Ingleside, Maryland 21644**

**Payment must accompany registration form**