



The Literacy Log

Newsletter of the
Loyola University MD
Literacy Program

SUPPORTING LITERACY LEADERS WORKING FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

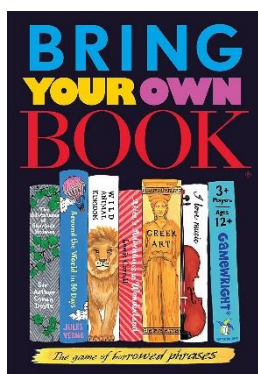


Image: Amazon.com

Bring Your Own Book

A resource recommended by Nicole Smutny

Bring Your Own Book is a literary card game created by Matthew Moore in the style of Apples to Apples or Cards Against Humanity. Players take turn pulling cards with questions or statements that the other players respond to.

Instead of being provided with canned response cards, players bring a novel of their choice to supply what they think will be a winning response.

The creators have a physical set available for purchase and a free print-and-play version available to download; an app is currently in development. The physical copy of the game includes nearly 200 prompts ranging from silly to serious and 10 blank cards to create your own prompts. Some examples of prompts are "Part of an online product review" and "Something we're all thinking but are too afraid to say."

Bring Your Own Book is a fun game to use in middle and high school ELA classrooms. The game is suggested for 2+ players ages 12 and up. The rules can be customized and cards can be pre-selected prior to playing in order to focus the game to your audience.

Classroom strategies for BYOBook:

1. **Informal book chat:** Students can bring their favorite books and use them to play the game. Using lines from the books sparks interest for other students to read a new book.
2. **Book preview:** Using a book you are about to read in class can also generate interest. If someone has found an interesting or funny phrase in the novel, students are interested to read it so they can figure out the context of the statement.
3. **Book wrap-up:** Students use a novel they read for class to answer the prompts which encourages them to think about the content of the book they have read in order to find appropriate answers. For an added comprehension aspect, use the blank cards to create your own prompts specific to the content of the novel.

For more information about the game: www.bringyourownbook.com

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CONTACT US!

Have a teaching resource you'd like to share? A student or teacher you'd like to shine the spotlight on? E-mail us at literacy@loyola.edu.

Have a book you'd like to recommend for #CHECKITOUT? Tweet Dr. Saal (@leahksaal) with the cover and a short description of why we should all #CHECKITOUT at our libraries! 



Loyola Literacy Leadership Awards

Image: loyola.edu

About the Awards

By Dr. Mark Lewis

This year our Literacy Program will celebrate the 11th anniversary of the Loyola Literacy Leadership (LLL) Awards. Established in 2008, the Literacy Leader Award honors an exceptional alum from our Reading Specialist and Literacy Teacher master's degree programs. Among the 10 past honorees are several former and current professors in our graduate program, including Lisa Lewis, Carmella Antonino, Kaitlyn Weinberger, and Jessica Bernacki.

In 2011, we added a second award, the Literacy Educator of Year, aimed at honoring literacy professionals working in K-12 public or private schools—such as an elementary teacher, a reading specialist, a literacy coach, a secondary English language arts teacher, or an English as a second language teacher—working in K-12 public or private schools in Maryland. The seven past honorees include educators working in our partner schools that host our preservice teachers in their field experiences and internships, including Tammy Chilipko and Kristina Collins.

For our 10th anniversary last year, we also honored a local organization for a special Literacy Leader for Community Engagement Award. That honor went to the South Baltimore Learning Center for its three decades of work in Baltimore communities supporting adult literacy learning. A complete list of past honorees can be found on our LLL website (see link above).

As part of the event, we also invite a nationally-renowned scholar in literacy education to provide a keynote on a particular area of teaching and learning. Past speakers have included Marcelle Haddix, Stergios Botzakis, Margaret Musgrove, and Patricia Paugh. This year's keynote speaker is Alan Brown, Assistant Professor of English education at Wake Forest University, who will discuss the intersection of literacy and sports in elementary, secondary, and college settings.

Nominations for this year's awards are open until January 31st, and we encourage you to support your colleagues by submitting a nomination for one or both awards. We also hope you can attend this year's LLL Award Ceremony on Monday, February 26th. The ceremony includes a pre-reception beginning at 5:30pm, followed by the keynote speaker and presentation of the awards. Over the years, the honorees' acceptance speeches have been uplifting, and consistently remind us why we work in literacy education. The event will take place in the Andrew White Student Center 4th Floor Program Room on the Evergreen Campus.

We hope to see you at the event!

More information about the event, nominations, and reserving seats can be found at our website:

<https://www.loyola.edu/join-us/literacy-leadership-awards>



Keynote speaker Dr. Alan Brown

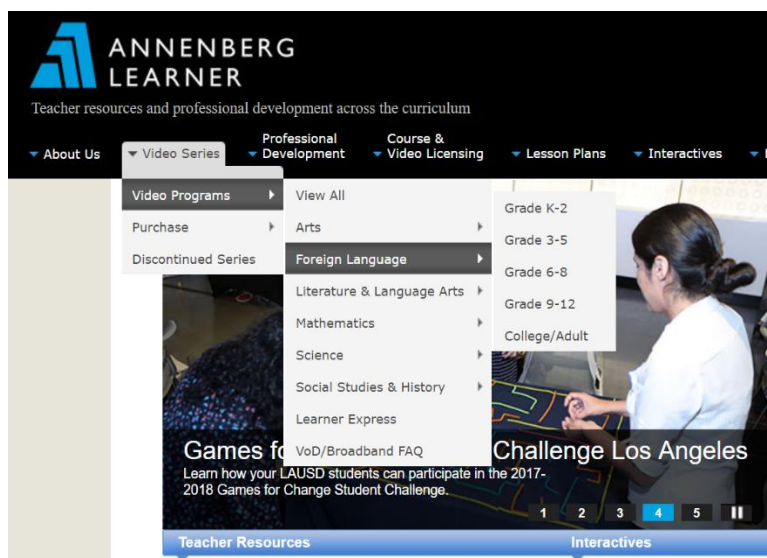
Image: Wake Forest University

SAVE THE DATE!
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2018

ANDREW WHITE STUDENT CENTER
4TH FLOOR PROGRAM ROOM
EVERGREEN CAMPUS

PRE-RECEPTION BEGINS AT 5:30 PM

[CLICK TO NOMINATE SOMEONE BY JAN. 31](#)



Get started on learner.org!

Resource Write-Up: learner.org

By Katherine Oppenheim Smith

When it comes to online teaching resources, teachers are careful to look for quality materials from reputable sources. Teachers must be exceptionally discerning when those materials are low- or no-cost. Learner.org, sponsored by the notable Annenberg Foundation, provides free as well as subscription-based teacher resources and professional development materials in subjects across the curriculum.

Be sure to explore the Video Series content, where you will find workshops dedicated to Literature & Language Arts with materials separated by grade levels. (See screenshot, left). You can even access video of lessons in action in their respective grade-level classrooms. Videos that are available on-demand will be marked with a [VoD] icon.

#CHECKITOUT

By Dr. Zwillenberg

One of the most remarkable new voices in the world of young adult literature is Jason Reynolds. Having published several award-winning titles in the last few years, one of his most recent texts pulls together an authentic sharp voice matched with a compelling story line of reflection and self-determination. *Long Way Down* is the story of Will, who just lost his older brother to gang violence. In the time it takes for the elevator to travel down the eight floors - as Will plans to avenge his brother's death - he is visited by other loved ones, most whom were also lost in cycles of violence. This story, which takes place in only 60 seconds, is written in staccato narrative verse, and relates to readers how

one act of violence can be never ending; it will grab readers regardless of age. Take this book home, read it, bring it into classrooms and read it aloud, listen to Jason Reynolds read the audio version, listen to the way in which Reynolds talks about how each word, each sound mattered in constructing a story in which the narrative and form lend themselves to create a text that will change how readers see the world.

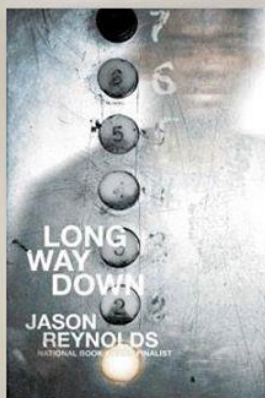


Image: selectcitymag.com

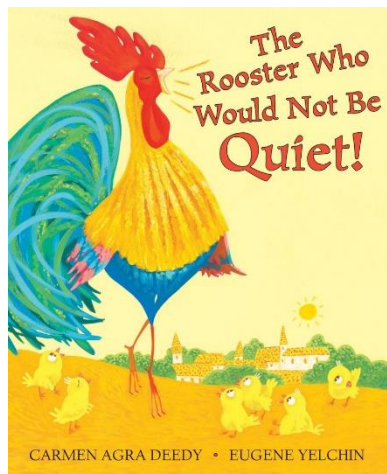


Image: Scholastic

Remember to mark your calendars for the Youth Media Awards, February 12, 2018 at 8:00am. In anticipation of the announcement of such awards as the Caldecott, Newbery, and many others, I wanted to share Deedy and Yelchin's picture book *The Rooster Who Would Not Be Quiet!* This work, very early on this year, was getting much attention as a possible front runner for some of the Youth Media Awards. It is the story of a town that is too loud and changes their political leadership in the hopes of addressing their current concerns, only to discover that the one thing worse than noise, is silence. And then there enters a rooster, who regardless of what they take away from him – his food, family, freedom- refuses to be quiet. Standing with legs apart - strong and determined, he continues to crow *kee-kee-ree-kee* (Spanish onomatopoeia for a rooster's crow). This folktale and political allegory bring together a message of strength and courage while standing tall against those who may want to silence others.

Have a book you'd like to recommend for #CHECKITOUT? Tweet Dr. Saal (@leahksaal) with the cover and a short description of why we should all #CHECKITOUT at our libraries!

The Optics

By Greta Brueck



Hi! I'm Greta Brueck. I help out with Program Operations for the Literacy Program. This column will be dedicated to news, updates, and resources that we hope will help you navigate the logistical side of your studies within the School of Education at Loyola. Feel free to reach out to me any time at literacy@loyola.edu.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR STUDENTS

Feb 16 - Last day to withdraw from first 8-week course with a grade of W

April 13 - Last day to withdraw from second 8-week course with a grade of W

May 19 - Commencement

Students must Apply to Graduate by the deadline (see below for details)

Applying for Graduation

The electronic application is accessed through your InsideLoyola account (www.inside.loyola.edu). For detailed info on the Application Process, [click here](#).

May 2018
Sept. 2018

Apply by Jan 16, 2018
Apply by May 30, 2018



Program Announcements

By Drs. Smith and Saal

We hope you are enjoying the new year and wish you well on your new courses this semester. Please find several important updates and announcements below.

- ❖ Several classes have key assessments as one of the assignments in that class. For example, RE510 has a key assessment called a Hot Topic Research Paper. These key assessments are graded within LiveText, our assessment system, and data from these are carefully collected, analyzed and used for us to make decisions about the program curriculum.
- ❖ We are continuing to assess every student after every class with the Disposition Assessment. These assessments also take place in LiveText and for most the assessments are identifying that you are on target and meeting the expectations required of a graduate student in the Literacy Program. However, the one area that seems to be troublesome is Attendance. As a reminder, our attendance policy can be found in many of the class syllabi, as well as on page 18 of the [Literacy Program Handbook](#), which is located on our [Moodle Page](#).
- ❖ Many of our key assessments will be updated and modified over the next two years as we move to the new International Literacy Association Standards for Literacy Professionals. Stay tuned for more about these updates.
- ❖ Finally, summer courses are now posted on Web Advisor. The one exception is the exact dates for the Reading Specialist Summer Practicum. However, if you are participating in the Reading Specialist Summer Practicum, be prepared for the courses to roughly run from the last week of June through the first week of August. Exact dates and times will be emailed as soon as they are finalized with our partners.

As always, if you have programmatic questions or concerns, do not hesitate to reach out to us by emailing literacy@loyola.edu!

Center for Innovation in Urban Education

Speaker Series

Confronting Racism in Teacher Education:
Voices from the field and strategies for change

Bree Picower, Ph.D.

Feb. 6, 2018 → 6:45 P.M.
McGuire Hall



Dr. Bree Picower is an associate professor at Montclair State University in the College of Education and Human Development. She was named Scholar Activist of 2013 by the Critical Educators for Social Justice SIG of the American Educational Research Association.

To register for the event, please visit www.loyola.edu/picower
Follow the CIUE on Twitter [@LoyolaCIUE](#)