

LITERACY NEWS

Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers

News & Features

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P R E S I D E N T

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The Executive Committee is busy planning the 2024 ALER Conference in Orlando, FL, Nov. 7-9, with the theme Breaking Down Barriers to Mobilize Our Literate Selves. We look forward to some great speakers, Carmen Agra Deedy and Dr. Kim Parker, and some fascinating and informative Division meetings, presentations, panels, and workshops. Start making plans now! November will be here before you know it!

P R E S I D E N T - E L E C T / C O N F E R E N C E P R O G R A M C H A I R

Ashlee Horton

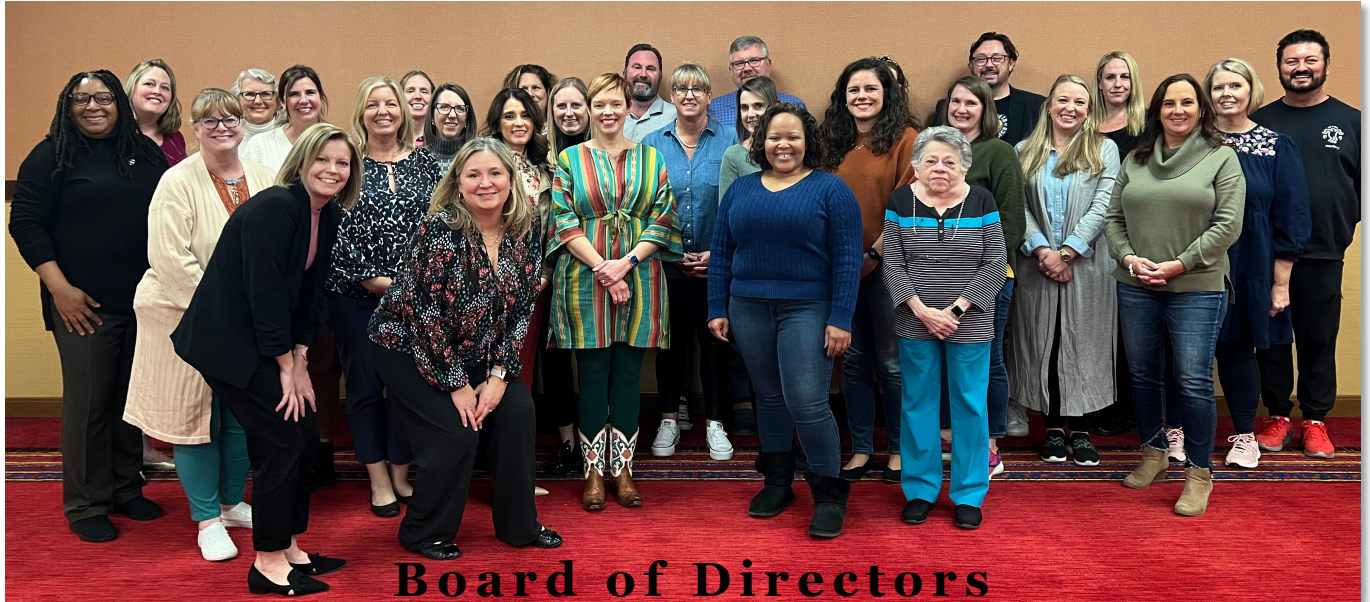
Dear ALER Supporter,

We would love to hear from you during our Orlando 2024 conference, as we would love the opportunity to connect with you as well as learn from your research!

Hope to see you in Orlando,
The ALER 2024 Conference Program Team

**Additional information about the 2024
Conference can be found on Page 10!**

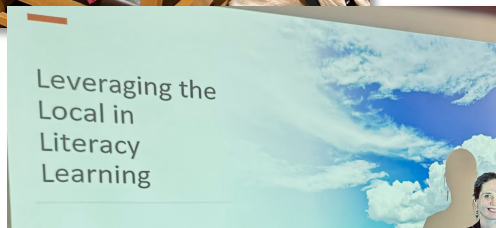
2023 CONFERENCE RECAP



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RESEARCH

At the 2023 Annual Conference, we were proud to recognize and celebrate the following individuals for their commitment to furthering the field through research.

The J. Estill Alexander Future Leaders in Literacy Award for Outstanding Dissertation 2023

Dr. Cherryynn Black

Dissertation: Words in Context: A Mixed Methods Description of an Early Elementary Comprehensive Vocabulary Building Program

The J. Estill Alexander Future Leaders in Literacy Award for Outstanding Master's Research 2023

Laura Simons

Thesis: Putting Words to Work: A Comparative Study on the Effects of Flashcards and Orthographic Mapping on Students' Sight Word Reading and Spelling

The ALER Teacher Education Research Grant

Dr. Shuling Yang (East Tennessee State University) &
Dr. Amy Tondreau (University of Maryland, Baltimore County)

Project: Amplifying Asian American Voices: In-Service Teachers' Explorations of Picturebooks Centering Asian American Characters

2023 CONFERENCE RECAP

DIVISION AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

LITERACY INTERVENTION

Julie Francis & Melanie Keel

Topic: Exploring Critical Issues in Literacy Education

Discussion:

- Proposed & Passed Legislation in the Science of Reading
- What's the Research
- Proposed & Passed Legislation in Dyslexia

Thanks to everyone that joined us for our division meeting in Santa Fe!

LEGISLATIVE & SOCIAL

Tiffany A. Flowers

The legislative and social issues committee held an open committee meeting to discuss our latest research report findings. We presented on pending laws and policies across the United States.

Our 1st special policy brief on Book Banning in the United States was published during February and is available to download on the ALER website.

<https://www.aleronline.org/page/LS>

TEACHER EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

The TEPS Division meeting included 18 roundtable sessions divided into six themed tables.

2023 CONFERENCE RECAP

DIVISION AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

TEACHING AND LEARNING IN ELEMENTARY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD

Alicia Leggett

EC-ELEM will be having upcoming elections for division chair and officers!

RESOLUTIONS AND RULES

Meganlyn Norris

The Resolutions and Rules Committee is presently working on updating the organization's by-laws as well as the procedures and policy manual.

PRES – PROMISING RESEARCHERS AND EMERGING SCHOLARS

Nisreen Daoud

Come learn more about PRES and support our novice colleagues!

ALER YEARBOOK

The ALER yearbook was published on Oct. 30th and is available at aleronline.org/page/yearbook

2023 CONFERENCE RECAP

DIVISION AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

TEACHING AND LEARNING IN THE MIDDLE/SECONDARY GRADES

Amanda Wall

We look forward to the Middle & Secondary Division roundtable at the ALER conference this Fall!

In 2023, attendees discussed a virtual book club. Information will go out soon to those who attended the meeting. If you are interested in reading *White Bird* by R. J. Palacio with this group, contact Amanda Wall: awall@georgiasouthern.edu

COLLEGE AND ADULT LITERACY

Debra Coffey

We invite you to join us for the 2024 meeting of the College and Adult Literacy Division in November. When we explored future plans and participated in our Idea Exchange, the insights we gained were catalysts for our recent meeting. For instance, thanks to Ellen Kaiden's leadership, her presentation, "Peer Writing Review in a General Education Class: A Win for the Students and the Faculty," led to a four-university study. We enjoyed presenting the results of our study and the impact of our collaboration through the year during our meeting.

Our next meeting will open with a session about literature circles, connecting with High-Impact Teaching by Jim Knight because we were so inspired by a learning community discussion and demonstration titled, "Gathering for Justice Work in Powerful Learning Communities (PLCs)." After the roundtable session during our next meeting, we will discuss plans for our literacy journal, elections, and special projects for the College and Adult Literacy Division. If you have any questions, please contact Debra Coffey (dcoffey1@kennesaw.edu).

We look forward to seeing you in Orlando, Florida!

2023 CONFERENCE RECAP

DIVISION AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

PUBLICATIONS

Tori K. Flint

Call for Literacy News Editors - Applications due March 30, 2024. [Apply here!](#)

Current editors would be glad to share templates used and insights gained from their term as editors.

LITERACY RESEARCH AND INSTRUCTION

Literacy Research and Instruction, the primary journal of ALER, has a 5-year impact factor of 1.3 (2023), with over 56,000 downloads per year. Editors are grateful for reviewers, who support a rapid submission-to-decision timeline of 56 days. The current LRI acceptance rate is 20%.

COMMUNICATIONS

ALER has over 1900 Facebook followers! Join us by following at facebook.com/aleronline or on LinkedIn at linkedin.com/in/alerliteracy.

PHOTOGRAPHER

Special thanks to Dr. Rob Erwin, a past president of ALER, who has served in many capacities for the organization. Most recently, Rob has served as Conference Photographer from 2006-2010 and from 2015-2023. Thank you, Rob, for your service!





Breakdown Barriers to Mobilize the Literate Self

Conference Chair: Ashlee H. Horton

Keynote Speakers:

Carmen Agra Deedy

Dr. Kim Parker

General Conference Information

[2024 Conference Website](#)

[Conference Proposal Reviewer Application](#)

Conference Hotel Information

Room Registration is now OPEN! Parking and Resort Fee will be waived.

DoubleTree by Hilton - Orlando at SeaWorld

Book your room [HERE!](#)