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Save the Date!

November 4th & 5th, 2010

CRA Annual Conference



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

★ Thursday, Nov. 4th
Chris Tovani

★ Friday, Nov. 5th
Peter Johnston

Joined By

★ Debbie Diller and Dr. Nancy Boyles
on Thursday and

★ Ruth Culham, Janice Almasi, Jeanne
Paratore and Dr. David Monti on Friday

And MUCH MORE!

PREVIEW

CRA'S 59th Annual Reading Conference "Literacy for a Lifetime" November 4 -5, 2010

KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS

Cris Tovani ————— *Thursday's Keynote Speaker*

A nationally known consultant, Chris Tovani chooses to continue teaching high school students full-time. She has also worked for many years as a staff developer for the Denver-based Public Education and Business Coalition, the consortium that has received national acclaim for its work in reading comprehension reform.

In her keynote session, *Listening to Teach: Matching Our Beliefs to Our Practice*, Cris Tovani will share how she had to re-examine her beliefs about her struggling readers so that she could realign her practice to meet the needs of her students.

In her one hour session, *Revisiting Workshop Model*, Cris Tovani will share how she adapts the traditional workshop model to meet the needs of her struggling readers. She will share mini-lessons and planning guides that help her differentiate instruction in order to "catch" kids before they quit.

In her two hour institute, *So What do They Really Know: Using Formative Assessment to Inform Instruction*, Cris Tovani will discuss how she uses formative assessments to help guide her planning, differentiate instruction, and hold students accountable for learning. Useful ideas will be shared that will allow teachers to "see" how students are thinking when they read.

Peter Johnston ————— *Friday's Keynote Speaker*

Peter Johnson is Professor of Education and Chair of the Reading Department at State University of New York at Albany. His position as an advocate for teachers and children developed from his early career teaching primary school in his native New Zealand. He is a recipient of the Albert J. Harris Award for his contribution to the understanding of reading disability and was chair of the IRA/NCTE Joint Task Force on Assessment.

In his keynote session, *Literacy, Learning Thinking and Classroom Communities*, Peter Johnston will

address how language choices impact children's comprehension, their social relationships, their intelligence, and the ways they handle challenge, adversity, uncertainty and difference. This talk shows how to develop productive literacy learning communities and engaged learners who comprehend, and take control of their own development.

In his one hour session, *RTI in Literacy: Responsive and Comprehensive*, Peter Johnston will offer a productive framework for developing an RTI program; examine the requirements of RTI; and explore successful approaches that are consistent with current research and theory in literacy. The session will also examine common problems and misconceptions regarding RTI.

In his two hour institute, *Developing Persistent, Strategic, Literacy Learners*, Peter Johnston will show how the classroom choices we make, particularly our language choices, influence the qualities of the classroom learning community; he will also indicate

how to make those choices wisely. This talk will show how to accomplish these goals and how, surprisingly, culturally accepted interactions often systematically undermine them.

PRESENTATIONS

Janice Almasi is professor of Literacy Education at the University of Kentucky. She will serve as a member of the Board of Directors on the International Reading Association until 2011.

In her two hour institute, *Using Peer Discussion of Text to Promote Comprehension, Motivation, and Social Skills*, Janice Almasi will provide glimpses into K-3 classrooms in which teachers have learned to scaffold children's comprehension as they engage in peer discussion of text.

Authentic video examples, excerpts from interviews with teachers, and research-based evidence will be shared as to the cognitive, social, and motivational benefits of this form of scaffolding comprehension.

Ruth Culham is president of the Culham Writing Company. She is the recognized expert in the traits of the writing assessment field.

In her two hour institute, *Using Picture Books to Teach Writing with the Traits: Grades k-2*, Ruth Culham will show how using picture

books can be rewarding and powerful teaching strategies to help students of any age learn to write. Teachers will review new and classic books chosen to delight young students and inspire powerful writing.

In her two hour institute, *Using Mentor Texts to Teach Writing with the Traits in Middle School*, Ruth Culham will discuss how mentor texts are used to improve student writing as students examine how favorite authors

strategies on how to actively engage students and provide differentiation and practice for what you've already taught through literacy work stations.

In her two hour institute, *Spaces and Places: Setting up for Literacy*, Debbie Diller will share techniques for step-by-step processes to help you organize and set up your room for instruction. The emphasis will be on teaching in (not decorating) your classroom.

Jeanne R. Paratore is an Associate Professor of Education at Boston University. Her current research efforts are in two areas: classroom grouping practices and family literacy. Dr. Paratore is currently working on a weekly basis in two urban schools in the Boston area.

In her one hour session, *Has Our Understanding of What Works Changed in the Last Decade?* Jeanne Paratore will examine evidence related to the outcomes of different grouping practices. The session will combine presentation and discussion.

In her two hour institute, *Acting on What We Know About Effective Instruction for Struggling Readers*, Jeanne Paratore will focus on the instructional qualities that support the learning successes for struggling readers and writers.

develop ideas, shape organization, apply voice, utilize word choice, and explore sentence fluency. In addition, participants will walk through a mini author-study based on the traits and passages where they are showcased.

Debbie Diller has trained many teachers in school districts internationally in all aspects of literacy instruction and is a popular conference speaker.

In her two hour institute, *Literacy Work Stations: Making Centers Work*, Debbie Diller will share

