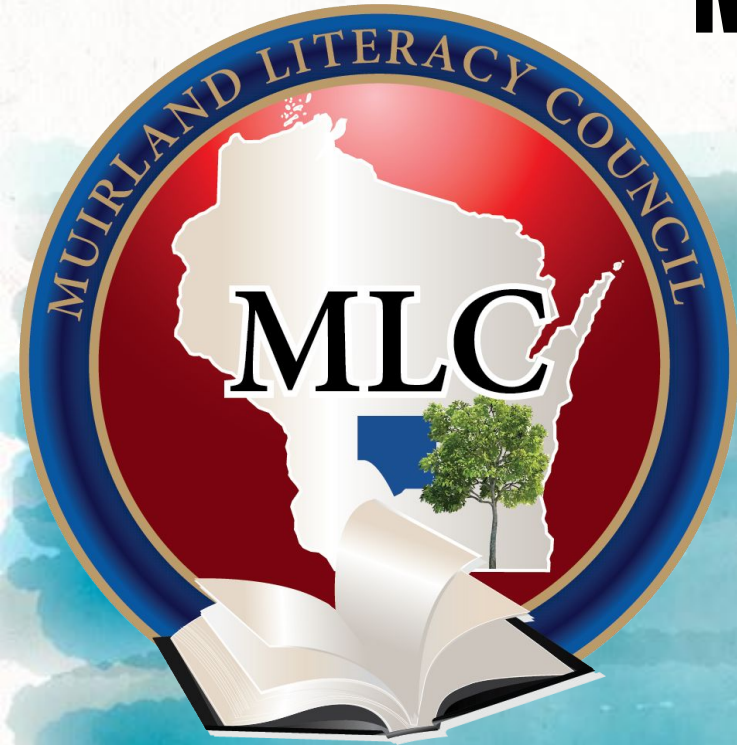


Muirland Literacy Council



Summer Newsletter Highlights

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2019-2020



Program of Events for 2019-2020

[September 26th](#) - Next Steps in Word Study with Dr. Jan Richardson - Monks

Lake Delton

[November 4th](#) - Capture the Reader, Mentor the Writer with Mary Lou Harris Manske - Moosej

Dells

[November 16th](#) - Community Service Pillowcase Sewing Day - Ruth Culver Library -

Prairie Du Sac

December 12th - MARC and Muirland's Holiday Meeting with the CCBC - Maple Bluff Country Club

Madison (The link to register will be on the WSRA calendar soon.)

[February 25th](#) - Show and Tell - Reedsburg Country Club

[April 21st](#) - Muirland and MARC - Rediscovering the Joy of Teaching with Dr. Ford - Moosejaw

Dells

The **Registration Form is Linked on the Date.**

*****New this year. Make sure to click **FINISH** at the end of the registration process so that your registration is fully submitted. This could be confusing. If you get a confirmation email from WSRA, you have successfully registered.**



Next Step In Guided Reading Word Study

We are so excited that Jan Richardson will be speaking at our first meeting on September 26th at Monks in Lake Delton. Jan Richardson, Ph.D., is a leading expert in guided reading, is a former K-12 teacher, reading specialist, Reading Recovery teacher leader, and staff developer. She currently is an educational consultant, providing presentations and classroom demonstrations across the U.S. and Canada. Dr. Richardson is the author of the best-selling Next Step collection.

We will be learning new ideas about word study. Here's a description of her talk: *The Next Step in Guided Word Study*, including a short word study lesson during guided reading, provides the opportunity to differentiate phonics and phonemic awareness instruction and connect word study to reading and writing. In this interactive session learn how to select engaging, hands-on activities that are based on students' needs and linked to the guided reading text. The presentation includes video clips of guided word study activities with emergent, early, and transitional readers.

While this meeting is going to be very valuable for elementary educators and interventionists, the strategies and information that will be learned at our meeting can be applied to readers of all ages. Educators that have learned about guided word study with Jan have reported that they use these strategies with middle school and high school readers and writers in both intervention and classroom situations - especially in situations where they are helping a student work on spelling strategies.

We will meet at Monks at the Wilderness in Lake Delton at 5:30. There will be a Mexican Fiesta Buffet for \$15. Register by September 20 if you would like to have the meal. Registrations for the event ends on September 25.



Muirland's Leadership Team: *What were they up to this summer?*

Each summer your Muirland leaders are hard at work. This summer was no exception. The work started on June 19th when we gathered with other council leaders in our area for the Summer Zone meeting at Maple Bluff Country Club in Madison. Leaders from Madison Area Reading Council (MARC), Hidden Valley Reading Council, Rock River Reading Council, and South Kettle Moraine Reading Council joined the Muirland leaders and WSRA leaders. We learned more about Young Author's workshops, meeting planning ideas, available speakers, community service projects, social media, honor council, and took care of some necessary paperwork. This is the meeting where we learn what's available for our council and what we need to get done for the year.

Following the Summer Zone meeting, Muirland's team met to plan the council year. We met at the Reedsburg Administration building with our wonderful host, Linda Bruun. At this meeting we created new goals for the year, selected leadership positions, divided out the duties for the year, and decided which speakers to invite to our meetings this year. For most of July, the leaders were busy securing venues, meal options, and talking with speakers to get our dates and topics planned. By the time we held our summer meeting at Jose's in the Dells, almost every meeting was all set up!

The last major event of the summer for Muirland's leadership team was the WSRA Summer Institute and Leadership meeting in LaCrosse on August 1 and 2. The first day was spent learning from Debbie Miller and Yong Zhao. On the second day, we meet with council leaders from around the state. We took care of some necessary paperwork, and then spent a good deal of time discussing how to make our councils better with leaders from each corner of the state.

We are so excited about the work that we completed this summer, we think we've got an excellent year planned and can't wait to see you at our first meeting on September 26th!





Authors Wanted: Your Voice Matters!

Our newsletter needs your voice. We'd love to hear about the great things you are learning and reading. Take some time to write a short article about a new educational idea that you've learned about or are trying in your classroom or review a book you or your students are reading. In many districts, you can even earn professional development points towards a pay increase by being published in an organization's newsletter. Send your completed articles to Amanda DeVries - devriesa@portage.k12.wi.us

The deadlines for this year's newsletters are October 1, January 13, and March 9th.





Muirland and MARC: *Continuing the Partnership*

Last year, the Madison Area Reading Council (MARC) invited all Muirland Members to their holiday meeting at Maple Bluff Country Club. It was a lovely evening, and we all had a fabulous time learning about all of the new books from the CCBC. We then invited all of the MARC members to our May meeting with Dr. Ford and Kathy Champeau.

This year, we are going to continue the same partnership. MARC's CCBC holiday meeting will be on December 12th and you will be able to sign up on the WSRA website. We will invite MARC to our April 21st meeting, Rediscovering the Joy of Teaching with Dr. Ford at Moosejaw in the Dells.





Read The Way WSRA:

Which author/book should Muirland Choose?

This year, WSRA and Muirland are promoting the authors and books that will be highlighted at the annual WSRA Conference in February with #readthewayWSRA. Each council in the state will be choosing a book or author to highlight throughout the year.

As a council, we can choose an author or title to highlight this year. Take some time to check out this project on the [WSRA website](http://www.wsra.org). We will discuss the project at our first meeting and then do an electronic vote to choose Muirland's author and/or title.

This year's authors and titles include:

Nic Stone - *Dear Martin*, *Odd One Out*, and *Jackpot! All Bets are Off*

Hena Khan - *It's Ramadan*, *Curious George*, *Aminia's Voice*, *Under My Hijab*, *Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns*, *Crescent Moons and Pointed Minarets*, and *Night of the Moon*

Cynthia Leitich Smith - *Hearts Unbroken*, *Rain is Not my Indian Name*, *Thanku Poems of Gratitude*, *I Remember: Poems and Pictures of Heritage*, and *Jingle Dancer*.

Monique Gray Smith - *Speaking Our Truth*, *Tilly: A Story of Hope and Resilience*, *Tilly and the Crazy Eights*, *You Hold Me Up*, and *My Heart Fills with Happiness*.

Rafael Lopez Illustrator - *The Day You Begin*,
We've Got the Whole World in Our Hands,
Just Ask! Be Different, Be Brave, Be You, *Dream Drum Girl*,
Book Fiesta, and *Bravo! Poems about Amazing Hispanics*.



Choose your books at
www.wsra.org/read-the-way-WSRA

Book clubs! Discussions!

#readthewayWSRA

Learning Together in
COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

Wisconsin State Reading Association
February 6-8, 2020
Wisconsin Center for Education, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

@WSRA2020
@WSRAliteracy

www.wsra.org



WSRA Extends your Learning Opportunities: Online Learning with WSRA

WSRA is in the process of creating an [online learning community](#). One of the first events in the Online Literacy Academy will be Digital Learning Tools to Amplify Each Learners Voice with JoEllen Lieck. You can register for this meeting here (link to the link above). More online opportunities will be coming as the Online Literacy Academy gets up and running. Muirland will share information about any upcoming online events.

WSRA Membership

Become a member of WSRA as a Muirland Member and save \$2.00. Enter the code "council" when you begin or renew your WSRA Membership.

[Join WSRA Here](#)

[Renew Membership Here](#)

www.wsra.org

Welcome to the WSRA Online Literacy Academy

WSRA... providing leadership, advocacy, and expertise

Digital Learning Tools to Amplify Each Learner's Voice

Webinar Presented by JoEllen Lieck

August 14, 2019
7:00 pm

@WSRALiteracy



Celebrate Literacy: *International Literacy Day*



Each year, the world celebrates literacy on September 8th. This year, the theme for International Literacy Day is “Literacy and Multilingualism.” Take some time to learn more about both this year’s theme and possible ways to observe international literacy day with your students from the [International Literacy Association](#) and the [United Nations](#).





Educators: Show and Tell

We will again be hosting Show and Tell in Reedsburg as our winter meeting. This evening is an energizing and joyful event to collaborate and to learn from each other in a professional community of practice. Everyone will leave with at least two or three ideas that we can start using the next morning.

We need your voice and input make this event a success! Are you trying a new strategy? Are you planning something new for 2019-20 school year? Consider sharing what you've been working on with other Muirland members. Each presentation is around 10 to 15 minutes, and the atmosphere is kind and forgiving. You don't need to be an expert presenter to share your ideas and strategies. If you are interested in presenting, contact Amy Treptow @ atreptow@rsd.k12.wi.us

Event Date: February 25th

Event Location: Reedsburg Country Club



9 Questions to Ask Yourself



Are you looking for a way to shine a spotlight on hardworking, inspirational colleagues?

Nominate them for a 2020 WSRA Award!

- ▶ **Do you know of a full-time undergraduate student? Or a graduate student?** Fill out the **Full-Time Undergraduate** and/or **Graduate Student nomination paper(s)**. The honorees of these two awards receive a full registration scholarship for the entire 2 ½ day WSRA Convention. Thursday and Friday night lodging will be free if the honoree is willing to share a room with another recipient.
- ▶ **Are you working on an action research plan for your district or graduate school?** Or do you know of someone who is? If yes, make sure you apply for the **Pat Bricker Memorial Research Award**. This award has been changed to honoring a completed research project provided the applicant is willing to share out data on a poster board session at the WSRA Conference.
- ▶ **Do you know of an individual who makes/has made significant contributions to literacy in their local council's community?** Fill out the **Celebrate Literacy Individual Nomination**.
- ▶ **Do you know of a WSRA member and/or local council member who has made significant contributions to WSRA?** Fill out the **Outstanding Service Nomination**.
- ▶ **Do you have an Administrator who is outstanding in the field of literacy?** Fill out the **Outstanding Administrator Nomination**.
- ▶ **Do you know of an educator who has integrated technology to improve literacy?** Note: this nominee does not need to be WSRA member. Fill out the **Literacy in Technology Nomination**.
- ▶ **Do you know of a current or past member of WSRA who has served with distinction for 10 years or more?** Fill out the **Friends of Literacy Honor Roll Nomination**.
- ▶ **Do you know of a council that has been in existence for at least three years that promotes the goals of WSRA?** Well of course you do! You can honor Muirland Literacy Council by filling out the **Council of Recognition Nomination!** Don't let time get away from you! It is never too early to think about ways to honor members who go above and beyond to celebrate literacy throughout the year. Highlighting successes of colleagues may inspire others.

For more information on where to locate forms, contact Lori Cherf @ lori.cherf@hillsboroschools.org She will send you the nomination forms.

Please note that copies of completed forms need to be sent to our Zone Coordinator, Amanda DeVries by November 1.



Coming Soon: *Muirland Literacy Council Apparel!*

Our friends at Hidden Valley Reading Council inspired us by creating fabulous t-shirts for their council members. Leadership team members, including Janea Sailing, are hard at work creating some really cool Muirland shirts. Our hope is to have different types of shirts made for our leadership team by our first meeting on September 26th so that you can see them and order a shirt if you would like one. We will send updates on our progress in our emails so that you know what you may be able to order at our meeting.





Community Service Project

Thank you for participating in our Birthday Book Bags and Bedtime Book Bags community project during the 2018-2019 school year! Through Muirland members' efforts and a grant from WSRA, we were able to provide fifteen birthday book bags and thirteen bedtime book bags to the Reedsburg Area Food Pantry. During our 2019-2020 Muirland Literacy Council meetings we will continue to collect the following donations for our community project: washcloths, toothbrushes, toothpaste, toothbrush holders, cake mix, cake frosting, birthday candles and books. Monetary donations will be used to purchase these items and fabric for the pillowcases.

Mark your calendar for our Sewing Day on Saturday, November 16 from 9:00-2:30 at the Ruth Culver Library in Prairie du Sac. Feel free to pop in anytime to help sew, iron and assemble our Bedtime Book Bags and Birthday Book Bags to be distributed within our local communities. Light refreshments will be served. [Sign up with this link.](#)

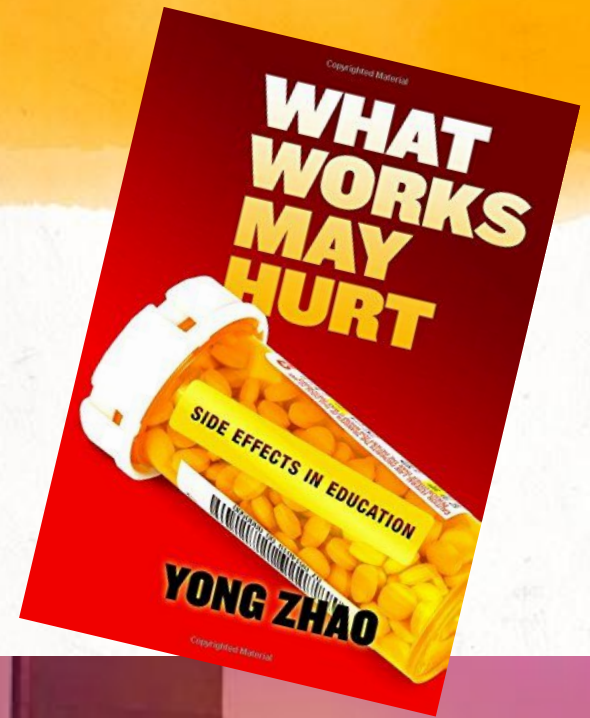


What Works May Hurt by Yong Zhao

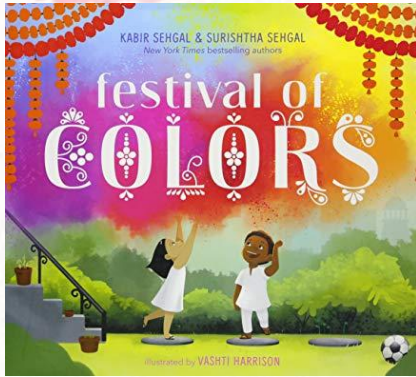
This year, the WSRA Leadership's theme is *Developing Expertise for Wise Decision Making*. In order to develop that expertise, WSRA President Deborah Cromer invited both Debbie Miller and Dr. Yong Zhao to speak at our summer institute. Dr. Zhao has written the book *What Works May Hurt: Side Effects in Education*. This book will be a part of WSRA's Read It Forward program for committee and council leaders. It will be making its way to the Muirland Little Free Professional Library after this school year. However, you may want to check it out before then!

In this book, Dr. Zhao looks at something we may not be told or even think to ask from those promoting an educational initiative, *What are the unintended side effects?* For example, the program may really boost reading scores, but it may make kids hate reading. Dr. Zhao uses a fresh perspective on educational research to help us become better decision makers.

The Muirland Leadership Team is eagerly anticipating this valuable book. You might want to check it out too!

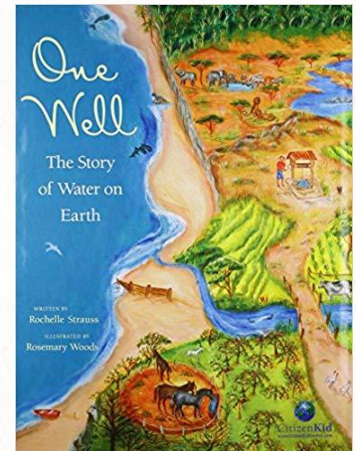


Elementary Book Recommendations

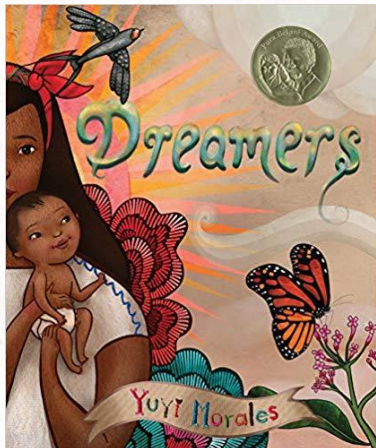


This story highlights an Indian festival called, Holi in South Asia. The festival begins with a bomb fire and colorful powders made from flowers tossed on family, friends and neighbors. This symbolizes triumph over evil. This book highlights the importance of a sense of community.

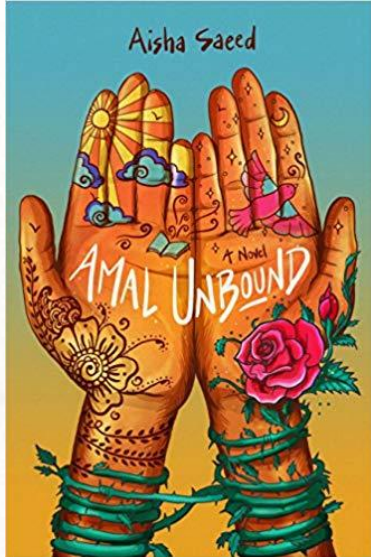
This book is perfect for children to understand about our water in hopes they can be global citizens and be more careful to use and reuse water for their everyday life for sustainability for many generations to come.



Morales shares the brave spirit so many immigrants bring to the U.S. This is a story a loving mother to her small child. The author conveys the confusion with her illustrations that children will delight in. The mother discovers a library and finds out she and her son can borrow books. As she reads to her son, her thoughts float in the air. Morales wants to share her love of books and many kids will fall in love with this book.



Middle School Book Recommendations

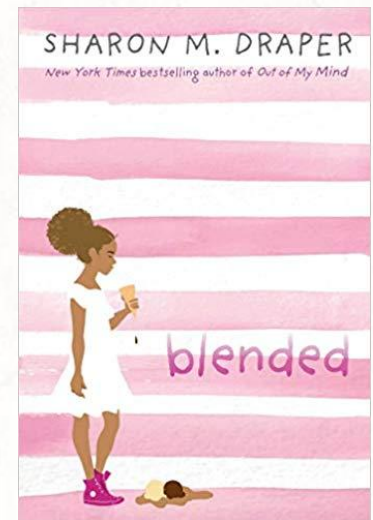


Amal Unbound by Aisha Samed

Amal is a smart, lovable young girl who wants to be a teacher, but a terrible incident leads to her ending up in indentured servitude instead, much to the heartbreak of her family. This new life is at times traumatic, at times confusing, and always eye-opening, but she is strong, determined, and capable. This book teaches us about empathy and understanding for Amal's passion to obtain an education.

Blended by Sharon Draper

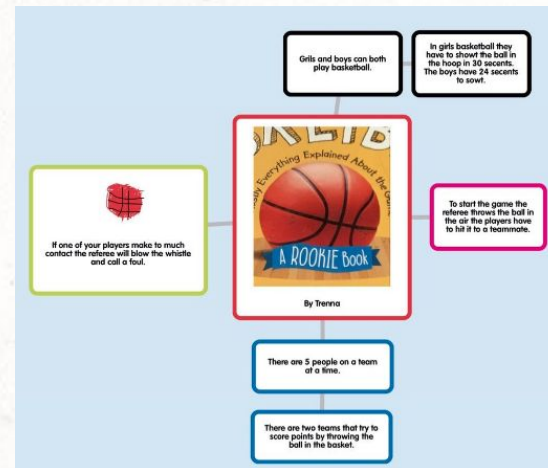
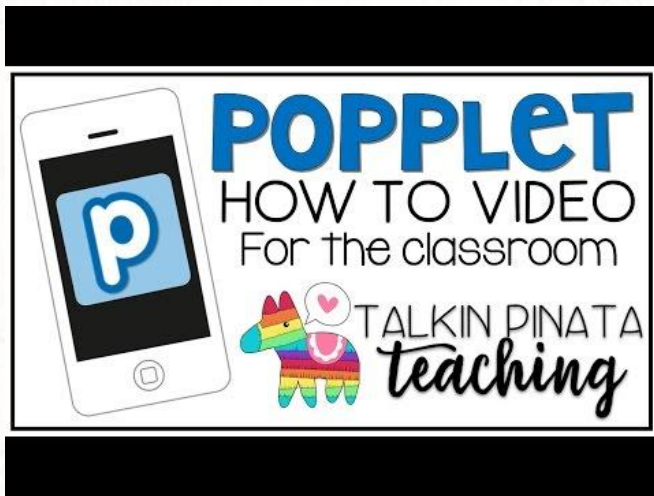
Blended by Sharon Draper has the dubious honor of being the most stolen book in my classroom! The book is about 11 year old Isabella, who is navigating a hard time in her life. Her parents have divorced and she is living two different lives, and she doesn't feel like she belongs in either. This book was popular with all of my middle school students, especially those living in a blended home situation.





Recommended App: Popplet

Popplet is a terrific resource for students to use as a digital graphic organizer. Students share their understanding of a text by creating a web. They can upload photos, draw, add text and change colors. Students utilize this app as a way to demonstrate their understanding or as a way to organize their thoughts prior to writing a summary or report.





Recommended App: Book Creator

Book creator is the perfect resource which provides an alternative for students to write a story including text, illustrations, photos and even allows students to record their voice. This can be used to summarize and/or highlight facts from a specific book or research. I discovered students who were often hesitant to write or share their understanding were eager to use app. So why not give it a try, you'll be happy you did!



Pablo Picasso and his artist friend, Georges Braque, spent five years working together. They used a few colors and broke up objects into shapes. They were inventing a new style of art, called cubism.



This painting that Pablo Picasso painted is called cubism.

Picasso's Many Talents



Pablo Picasso kept painting even at the age of ninety- one! He made many paintings, drawings, and engravings. Between the age of 88 and 91 Pablo Picasso made 933 pieces of art.



Learning Together: Spread the Word About Muirland!

Muirland continues to grow and thrive because of YOU, our fabulous members! During the 2019-20 school year, we will continue to lean on you to help spread the word about our council and our meetings. If you bring a friend to a Muirland meeting, you will again be able to enter a drawing for a gift card for Amazon or Barnes and Noble. We would love to see as many of you as possible invite the administrators in your districts to one of our meetings and plan to do a special giveaway drawing for members that bring their administrator to a Muirland meeting.

[Click here](#) to be linked to a flyer about our first meeting that you can share with your staff.



Muirland Membership Information: *Special Prices Available*

\$12.00 - Early Bird Membership - Become a member or renew by September 30th

\$15.00 - Standard Membership - Become a member Oct 1 or later

\$ Free - *Pre-Service Teacher Membership is always Free!!!*

Learning Together: *Benefits of Your Muirland Membership*



not only does your Muirland Membership get you into all of the Muirland events during the 2019-20 school year, it also gets you into ANY meeting from ANY other council in the state. (You will still have to pay for a meal if you want one!) Councils in our area are still working on setting up their meetings. There are some fabulous things happening in our zone that you will not want to miss. Each area council has their registration on the WSRA website, so check the calendar for upcoming events. Here are the events that we have so far. Click on the date to register.

[September 24th](#) - MARC - Reimagining Literacy Through Global Collaboration presented by Pernille Ripp - Lone Girl, Waunakee

[September 24th](#) - Hidden Valley - Guided Reading with Dr. Mike Ford - Double K's in Boscobel

[November 19th](#) - Writing with Matt Renwick - Double K's in Boscobel

February 25th - Assessment with Kathy Champeau - Double K's in Boscobel

[April 28th](#) - Interventions with Jan Richardson - Location TBD