2017

Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival

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The University of Southern Mississippi

The University of Southern Mississippi's School of Library and Information Science

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50TH ANNUAL FAY B. KAIGLER

CHILDREN'S BOOK FESTIVAL

School of Library and Information Science

APRIL 5-7, 2017

PROGRAM
The University of Southern Mississippi Medallion is the highlight of the Children’s Book Festival. Awarded annually for outstanding contributions in the field of children’s literature, the 2017 Medallion goes to Kate DiCamillo. Silver medallions are cast for the recipient, for the president of The University of Southern Mississippi, for members of the Medallion Selection Committee, and for the de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection’s permanent display. In addition, bronze medallions are cast and are available for purchase during the festival.

RECIPIENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI MEDALLION

1969  Lois Lenski
1970  Ernest H. Shepard  1985  Arnold Lobel
1971  Roger Duvoisin  1986  Jean Craighead George
1972  Marcia Brown  1987  Paula Fox
1973  Lynd Ward  1988  Jean Fritz
1974  Taro Yashima  1989  Lee Bennett Hopkins
1975  Barbara Cooney  1990  Charlotte Zolotow
1978  Madeleine L’Engle  1993  Quentin Blake
1979  Leonard Everett Fisher  1994  Ashley Bryan
1980  Ezra Jack Keats  1995  Tomie de Paola
1981  Maurice Sendak  1996  Patricia MacLachlan
1982  Beverly Cleary  1997  Eric Carle
1983  Katherine Paterson  1998  Elaine Konigsburg
1984  Peter Spier  1999  Russell Freedman
  2000  David Macaulay
2001  Virginia Hamilton
2002  Rosemary Wells
2003  Lois Lowry
2004  Jerry Pinkney
2005  Kevin Henkes
2006  Walter Dean Myers
2007  Eve Bunting
2008  Pat Mora
2009  Judy Blume
2010  David Wiesner
2011  T.A. Barron
2012  Jane Yolen
2013  Jon Scieszka
2014  Christopher Paul Curtis
2015  Paul O. Zelinsky
2016  Jaqueline Woodson
Kate DiCamillo is one of six authors to have won the prestigious Newbery Medal twice. Appointed by the Library of Congress, she served as the U.S. National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature for the 2014-15 term. Having written more than 20 books for young readers, she has created a collection of the written word that is as decorated as it is beloved. In addition to her two Newbery Medals, she has also been awarded a Geisel Medal, a Newbery Honor, a Geisel Honor, the Josette Frank Award and the Boston Globe-Horn Book Award. Two of her works have also qualified her as a finalist for the National Book Award for Young People’s Literature. With 12 New York Times bestselling titles and 20.5 million copies in print worldwide, she has written her way onto the list of classic American authors.

DiCamillo is perhaps best-known for her first published novel, Because of Winn-Dixie, which was born from a bitter Minnesota winter and homesickness for a life left behind in Florida. The book, which was later adapted into a feature film, became a bestseller, a Newbery Honor winner, and a favorite of librarians, teachers and students everywhere. Subsequent novels include The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane; The Magician’s Elephant; both of her Newbery-winning titles, The Tale of Despereaux (which also received film treatment) and Flora & Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventures; The Tiger Rising and her most recent novel, Raymie Nightingale, both of which were finalists for the National Book Award.

In a display of her range, DiCamillo has also written two pictures books and created three early chapter book series. Her bestselling Mercy Watson series has spawned six titles with the third installment, Mercy Watson Goes for a Ride, receiving a Geisel Honor. She would later share the Geisel Medal with author Alison McGhee for Bink & Gollie, the first in a series of three. Her latest efforts for younger children include titles from the Tales from Deckawoo Drive, a spin-off series starring characters from the popular Mercy Watson books.

Shaped deeply by the life she has known, Kate DiCamillo’s work is a personal manifestation of people known, places lived and animals loved. By creating worlds through the lens of her own, she has illuminated universal experiences. She has said that stories connect us, and her work reflects this idea as each one — in a manner that highlights the unique facets of each distinct work — gives credence to the theme of roses of hope among the thorns of impossibility. It is her philosophy that reading forges bonds between readers, allowing them to see the world for more than how it is presented to them, and to see its people for who they truly are.

Never far away from her childhood wonder, DiCamillo stays earnestly connected to her readers. Formed through her readings of Ribsy, Harriet the Spy and Island of the Blue Dolphins, she credits books with helping to give her voice foundation. Upon winning her second Newbery Medal, she recalled her eight-year-old self perusing other Newbery-winning titles in the Cooper Memorial Public Library. Though she says the only easy part of writing is coming up with the names, her stories have captivated readers with a gentle, effortless force. “Life makes more sense when I write,” she has said, and her millions of readers would agree.
KWAME ALEXANDER was born in Manhattan, N.Y., and he was raised in a family of artists. Kwame wrote his first poem at age 12. While it was not his best work, the love of poetry continued, even though it was just a hobby through his time at Virginia Tech. One of his professors, Nikki Giovanni, encouraged him to pursue it seriously. She is also who he credits as giving him the best advice: SAY YES! This led him to eventually writing The Crossover, which received the 2015 John Newbery Medal for the Most Distinguished Contribution to American Literature for Children, the Coretta Scott King Author Award Honor, the NCTE Charlotte Huck Honor, the Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Award and the Passaic Poetry Prize. He writes for children of all ages, and some of his other works include Surf’s Up, He Said She Said and And Then You Know. Kwame enjoys coming up with ideas and learning his characters before he writes about them. His advice to young writers is to read and learn from what other writers have done.

Along with writing, he enjoys traveling and has been able to visit schools, speak at conferences, and read poetry on five different continents. He is co-founder of LEAP for Ghana, its mission to provide innovative literacy, school improvement and youth development programming to expand educational opportunities and strengthen developing communities. Book-in-a-Day is another literacy project that teaches students the fundamentals of creative writing and book publishing. This program helped to inspire Kwame Alexander’s Page to Stage Writing Workshop, a literacy program published by Scholastic Professional for educators who want to bring Book-a-Day to their own classrooms. Kwame believes that poetry can change the world, and he uses it to help inspire young people.

LOUISE BORDEN was born and raised in Cincinnati, Ohio. She is a graduate of Denison University with a degree in history. Louise considers herself to be a lifelong reader; however, she is not a lifelong writer. She did a variety of things before beginning her writing career, including getting married, raising three children, teaching preschoolers and first graders, and being part owner of a bookstore in Cincinnati. Some of her more notable works include the following: His Name Was Raoul Wallenberg—winner of the Sydney Taylor Award, the Ohioana Award (2013), chosen as a Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People by the NCSS and CBC, a 2013 Notable Children’s Book in the English Language Arts (NCTE), a Junior Library Guild Selection, as well as receiving a starred review in School Library Journal; Fly High!, which was a CBC/NCSS Notable Social Studies Trade Book, an IRA Teachers’ Choice Book and an IRA/CBC Children’s Choice Book; and Good Luck, Mrs. Kl, a 2000 Christopher Award winner, Junior Library Guild Selection and a Parents’ Choice Recommended Book. Her books usually come from a personal experience or from a deep interest in a historical subject. She has spoken in over 400 schools across the country, and The Day Eddie Met the Author is used as a way to honor the many children she has been able to meet through school visits.

BRYAN COLLIER was born in Pocomoke, Md., to a family that encouraged reading, and although he loved reading, what really drew his eye were the illustrations. His love of art was encouraged by home and school, and in 1985, while still in high school, his art won first place in a Congressional competition and was showcased in the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C. He attended Pratt University in New York City on a competitive art scholarship and graduated with honors. Bryan was at a bookstore in 1995 when he noticed that the majority of characters in children’s books did not look or sound like him or his children. In that moment, he decided to do better, and thus began an expansive career writing and illustrating children’s books that are reflective of the African-American experience. His first book, Uptown, has become a modern classic, winning him his first of six Coretta Scott King Awards. In addition to writing his own book, Bryan has successfully and beautifully illustrated over 25 books. His prolific output has garnered him four Caldecott Honors, three Coretta Scott King Honors and the Ezra Jack Keats New Illustrator Award. When not illustrating books and creating studio pieces, Bryan spends his time speaking with students, teachers and librarians on art and books and inspiring them to bring their experiences to life through art. His mission to bring art and youth together is furthered by his community involvement as a volunteer at Harlem Horizon Art Studio. Hailed for his trademark style of blending watercolors and collage, Bryan Collier has been consistent in his purpose to uphold the significance in representing the underrepresented.
PETE HAUTMAN was born in Berkley, Calif., and lived in the Bay Area until he was five years old. He then moved to St. Louis Park, Minn., where he spent the rest of his childhood. After graduating high school, Pete attended the Minneapolis College of Art and Design and the University of Minnesota. Once he graduated college, he worked a variety of jobs, but nothing suited him until he decided to write his first novel. When he is not drafting his next story, Pete likes to read, cook, watch movies and hunt mushrooms. Pete is married to novelist and poet, Mary Logue. The couple, with their two small dogs, live in Golden Valley, Minn., and Stockholm, Wis. His first novel, Drawing Dead, was published in 1993. Since then, Pete’s career as a novelist continues to flourish. In 2004, his novel Godless won the National Book Award for Young People’s Literature. Pete’s imaginative list of published works includes 29 titles that cater to middle grade readers and above. He enjoys taking ideas from everyday experiences and turning them into vivid stories. From time travel in The Obsidian Blade to a coming-of-age story in Godless, Pete’s imaginative storytelling explores themes such as friendship, beliefs, identity and family. The Big Crunch, winner of the L.A. Times Book Prize, tells the tale of a teenage love story, switching perspectives throughout. Readers get the chance to play detective in Blank Confession, winner of the Minnesota Book Award. Rash, Hole in the Sky, Mr. Was and Sweetblood are several of the award-winning titles written by critically acclaimed Pete Hautman.

WENDELL AND FLORENCE MINOR live in Washington, Conn., with their two cats, Sofie and Cindercat. A talented artist from a young age, Wendell’s work is inspired by his love for the natural world and his Midwestern upbringing. After graduating from the Ringling School of Art and Design, he began his career in illustration, which would go on to include collaborations with Jean Craighead George, Mary Higgins Clark and his wife Florence. He has illustrated more than 50 picture books and designed covers for over 2,000 books. His work has received numerous awards, including the Cook Prize for the best STEM picture books for children aged eight to 10, Notable Children’s Trade Books in Social Studies and ALA Booklist Children’s Choices. Additionally, his art is permanently on display in the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, NASA and the Library of Congress. He received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Aurora University in 2004, as well as one from the University of Connecticut in 2010. Following a career as a documentary film editor for ABC News, Florence moved on to the children’s book publishing world as both an editor and author. She and Wendell have collaborated on several books together, including If You Were a Penguin, which was chosen by the Pennsylvania early literacy program “One Book, Every Young Child” in 2009. Among the couple’s more recent achievements are the 2013 New England Independent Booksellers Association President’s Award for lifetime achievement in arts and letters and serving as honorees at the 2015 Associates of the Boston Public Library’s Literary Lights Dinner, which recognizes outstanding writers from the Northeast. Florence and Wendell’s latest book, How to Be a Bigger Bunny, was released in January 2017.

WE ARE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE BOOK FESTIVAL WILL LIVE TWEET AT THE CONFERENCE THIS YEAR!

Be sure to follow us @SouthernMissCBF and use #USMCBF when tweeting. We look forward to seeing lots of interesting tweets from all of our peeps!

Happy Tweeting!
The Magnolia Children’s Choice Award introduces youth to current literature with a goal of instilling a love of reading. The award was established in 2010 and is a partnership between the Mississippi Department of Education, the Mississippi Library Commission, the Mississippi Reading Association, The University of Southern Mississippi’s School of Library and Information Science, the de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection, Mississippi Children’s Museum, and the Mississippi Library Association.

Votes can be cast by Mississippi children grades K-12. Children in public, private or home-schooled settings are eligible to vote. In order to be eligible to make the reading list, and ultimately be selected by the children as the winner, the books must have been published within the past two years. Titles that have won a national award (i.e., Caldecott, Newbery, Sibert, Coretta Scott King, Pura Belpre, National Book Award, etc.) are not eligible for the Magnolia Award, but honor books are, and either the author or illustrator must be living. Nominations may be done by the public and the committees, but final selection of the titles is determined by the committee.

The winning titles in each category are announced at the Fay B. Kaigler Children’s Book Festival.

2016 Winners

- K-2 Winner: *The Princess and the Presents* by Caryl Hart; Runner-up: *When You’re Sent to Your Room* by Ann Stott
- 3-5 Winner: *Wolf* by Valerie Hobbs; Runner-up: *Hot Dog! Eleanor Roosevelt Throws a Picnic* by Leslie Kimmelman
- 6-8 Winner: *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello’s Library* by Chris Grabenstein; Runner-up: *The Fourteenth Goldfish* by Jennifer L. Holm
- 9-12 Winner: *We Were Liars* by E. Lockhart; Runner-up: *All the Truth That’s In Me* by Judith Berry

For more information: www.usm.edu/childrens-book-festival/magnolia-award

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The Coleen Salley Storytelling Award has been established to honor the memory of Children’s Book Festival supporter, storyteller and children’s literature advocate, Coleen Salley. Throughout her career, Salley worked tirelessly to promote quality children’s literature and reading. Each year, the award recognizes a storyteller whose mission reflects the ideals and dedication to the field that Salley personified. The session is supported by the family of Coleen Salley, the Coleen Salley Storytelling Endowment and The University of Southern Mississippi Foundation.

Pat Mora is a poet, an advocate, an innovator and the author of over 40 books for adults, children and those in between. Growing up in a bilingual home in El Paso, Texas, Mora fostered a love for reading, encouraged by her mother and aunt. She worked as a teacher, administrator, museum director and consultant before she began to focus on her writing. Mora has created a variety of work, including poetry, nonfiction, essays, memoirs and children’s books. Mora’s writing is bilingual; she encourages “bookjoy,” the pleasure of reading, celebrates diversity, and advocates for the preservation of cultural heritage. Her notable and award-winning children’s books include *Book Fiesta!: Celebrate Children’s Day/Book Day; Celebremos El día de los niños/El día de los libros; The Beautiful Lady: Our Lady of Guadalupe; and Doña Flor: A Tall Tale About a Giant Woman with a Great Big Heart.* In 1996, Mora established El día de los niños, El día de los libros/Children’s Day, Book Day—Día for short. The initiative, which celebrated its 20th anniversary last year, promotes childhood reading, supports bilingual and multilingual literacy, and celebrates a love for books that reflect the diversity of the world. Mora is the recipient of numerous awards, honors and fellowships for her professional and literary works. Over the span of her career, Mora has been awarded a Poetry Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts, a Golden Kite Award, American Library Association Notable Book Awards and is an honorary member of the American Library Association (ALA). Most recently, she was awarded the May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture Award for 2016. Mora has three adult children and one granddaughter. She resides in Santa Fe, N.M., with her husband.

**Previous Coleen Salley Award Winners**

- 2010 Walter Mayes
- 2011 Carmen Agra Deedy
- 2012 Caroline Herring
- 2013 Trout Fishing in America
- 2014 Mary Hamilton
- 2015 Rita Auerbach
- 2016 Tim Tingle
DE GRUMMOND CHILDREN’S LITERATURE COLLECTION

Founded in 1966 by Dr. Lena de Grummond, the de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection is the result of one woman’s dream to collect original materials from authors and illustrators of children’s books to use as resources for students in library science. Today, the collection has grown far beyond its original intent and is now one of the largest such collections in North America.

While the collection has many strengths, the main focus is on American and British children’s literature, historical as well as contemporary. The collection also holds original materials and published works in the McCain Library and Archives on the Hattiesburg campus at The University of Southern Mississippi.

The de Grummond Collection contains the works of more than 1,300 authors and illustrators, including Randolph Caldecott, John Newbery, Kate Greenaway, H.A. and Margret Rey, and Ezra Jack Keats. These are some of the most celebrated names in children’s literature with Caldecott, Newbery and Greenaway all having prestigious national awards named in their honor, and the Rey’s being the creators of Curious George.

Keats, the man behind The Snowy Day, is one of America’s most groundbreaking authors with his efforts to break the color barrier in children’s publishing. The Snowy Day is considered to be one of the most important American books of the 20th century. The de Grummond Collection is the sole repository of the works of Ezra Jack Keats, holding original artwork, typescripts, dummies and preliminary sketches for 35 books by the Caldecott Award-winning author and illustrator that complement the archives of his personal and professional papers.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

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de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection
McCain Library and Archives
The University of Southern Mississippi
118 College Drive #5148
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001
601.266.4349

THE DE GRUMMOND CHILDREN’S LITERATURE COLLECTION

Born during the Great Depression in Anderson, Ind., PHYLLIS REYNOLDS NAYLOR grew up in a tiny home that both her father and grandfather helped build. At a very young age, Phyllis put her creative imagination to good use and began making up stories to share with family and friends. She traces her love for writing back to her parents and their frequent habit of reading aloud to her and her two siblings. While in elementary school, Phyllis began writing and illustrating her own books on pieces of scratch paper and never truly stopped. What she once called a hobby quickly became a full-time career. Her first book, The Galloping Goat and Other Stories, was published in 1965 when she was only 32 years old. Since then, the author has had over 145 books published, many of which have received special recognition from the American Library Association, the International Reading Association and the Children’s Book Council. In 1985, Phyllis received the Edgar Allan Poe Mystery Writers Award for her 1984 novel, Night Cry. Her children’s novel, Shiloh, received the Newbery Medal in 1992. The book went on to win the Sequoyah Children’s Book Award, the Mark Twain Readers Award and the William Allen White Children’s Book Award. The novel was also selected as an American Library Association Notable Children’s Book. Phyllis’ writing is quite versatile and covers a variety of topics such as death, mental illness and self-discovery. Her most popular series follows the life of Alice McKinley. With more than 15 books in the series, it begins with sixth-grade Alice in The Agony of Alice and travels through her high school years. Phyllis has made an extraordinary impact in the world of literature, having received over 50 literary awards and notables for her valued and prolific contributions.
Ezra Jack Keats (1916-1983) is one of the most influential creators of picture books in the 20th century. At a time when multicultural characters and themes were unheard of, Keats broke the color barrier in children's publishing with his Caldecott-winning 1962 classic, The Snowy Day. He believed that children of color should see themselves in picture books, but he wrote his books for all children. As an illustrator, Keats was a master of color and collage. He used various mediums and techniques to convey the imaginative lives of children. Keats wrote and illustrated more than 20 books, including Whistle for Willie, A Letter to Amy, Goggles!, Hi, Cat!, Pet Show!, Dreams and Peter's Chair, and he illustrated more than 60 books written by others. Generations of children have recognized themselves as well as the magic in his books.

The University of Southern Mississippi is proud to have awarded Ezra Jack Keats the 12th Southern Miss Medallion for outstanding contributions to children's literature. In 1985, the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation established the Ezra Jack Keats Lectureship at the Children's Book Festival. The distinguished lecturers are listed below. In 2016, EJK Foundation Executive Director Deborah Pope gave the Keats Centenary Lecture.

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New York Times bestselling author Andrea Davis Pinkney has written more than 30 books for children and young adults. She has also had an illustrious career as a children’s book editor at Scholastic. Her picture books, novels and works of historical fiction and nonfiction include Hand in Hand, which won the Coretta Scott King Author Award, Sit-In: How Four Friends Stood Up By Sitting Down, The Red Pencil, Martin & Mahalia: His Words, Her Songs, and Rhythm Ride. Andrea’s books have also earned the Jane Addams Book Award Honor, The Boston Globe/Horn Book Honor, National Parenting Publications Awards, and NAACP Image Award nominations. Andrea has been named one of the “25 Most Influential Black Women in Business” by the Network Journal and one of Children’s Health Magazine’s “24 Most Influential People in Our Children’s Lives.” A recipient of Adam’s Prize, awarded to high achievers with learning disabilities, Andrea continues to inspire children with ADHD and dyslexia. In 2014, Andrea was selected to be the May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecturer.

Her most recent work, A Poem for Peter, a lyrical celebration of the life of Ezra Jack Keats and the creation of The Snowy Day, won rave reviews and was declared best book of the year in numerous publications. She lives in New York City with her husband, illustrator Brian Pinkney, and their two children.
BOOK AWARD WINNER / NEW WRITER

Jeri Watts, winner of the 2017 Ezra Jack Keats Book Award for New Writer for *A Piece of Home*, was a public school teacher for 27 years before becoming an associate professor and program director of undergraduate curriculum and instruction at Lynchburg College. *A Piece of Home* is her second picture book; *Keepers* was her first. She has also published numerous short stories and a middle-grade novel, *Kizzy Ann Stamps*. Watts has said, “My book is based on a true story. A few years ago, I taught a student who, like my main character, had moved from Korea. His struggles affected me deeply, as I can only imagine how difficult it is to be displaced as a child, especially when you have no choice in the matter.” She added, “Winning the Ezra Jack Keats Book Award is overwhelming, in a good way! I’ve written something other people in the publishing world respect and value.”

*A Piece of Home* is published by Candlewick Press and illustrated by Hyewon Yum.

BOOK AWARD WINNER / NEW ILLUSTRATOR

Micha Archer, winner of the 2017 Ezra Jack Keats Book Award for New Illustrator for *Daniel Finds a Poem*, taught kindergarten for 15 years. Today, in addition to her design and illustration work, she offers workshops and classes to children, adults and other artists and consults with teachers on incorporating art into their curriculum. Archer previously illustrated *The Wise Fool* and *Lola’s Fandango*, which earned a 2011 Ezra Jack Keats Book Award Honor for New Illustrator. Archer has said, “I grew up in a small town and currently live in the woods, but my decision to set my story in a city park is a tribute to Ezra Jack Keats, who made books in which children who live in cities could feel seen and celebrated.” Of Keats’ influence, she added, “I’m a person who learns best through pictures, so Keats’ clear, beautiful collage compositions became part of my early visual vocabulary, inspiring me to eventually work in collage myself. His keen understanding of the child’s point of view also deeply influenced the gentle and observant nature of Daniel, my little ambassador of poetry.”


HONOR BOOKS


The Ezra Jack Keats Book Award Honor for New Illustrator went to Daisy Hirst for *The Girl with the Parrot on Her Head* (published by Candlewick Press and written by Daisy Hirst).

The Ezra Jack Keats Book Award Honor for New Writer and Honor for New Illustrator went to Francesca Sanna for *The Journey* (published by Flying Eye Books).
The first presentation of the Kaigler-Lamont Award was made in 1998. The generous financial support of Fay Kaigler of McComb, Miss., made the award possible. Kaigler was well-known for her love of children and devoted herself for many years as an elementary school teacher to enhance books and reading in the lives of children. Her students were soon hooked on books. In her retirement, she continued to promote books and reading in her local public library. Her dear friend, Ruth Lamont, who for many years was a successful school librarian in Baton Rouge, La., shared her passion for making books integral to children’s lives.

The Kaigler-Lamont Award recognizes distinguished accomplishments in promoting children’s reading by librarians and teachers in Mississippi schools and by children’s librarians in the public libraries of Mississippi.

RECIPIENTS OF THE KAIGLER-LAMONT AWARD

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Recipient(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Mattie Rials</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Sally James</td>
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<td>1999</td>
<td>Lawana Cummings and Charjean Graves</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Linda Perez</td>
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<td>2000</td>
<td>Sybil Hanna</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Faye Harris Bruce</td>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>Sherry Donald</td>
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<td>Dianne Butler</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>Linda E. Sikes</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Elizabeth Turner</td>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>Vickie Ross</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Kathie Ward</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>Victoria Penny</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Becky Smith</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>Carol Phares</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Nettie Moore, Youth Specialist</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>Ramona Barrett</td>
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<td>M.R. Davis Public Library</td>
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MEMBERS OF THE 2017 MEDALLION SELECTION COMMITTEE

Ellen Ruffin (chair), Curator, de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection, The University of Southern Mississippi
Catharine Bomhold, Assistant Professor, School of Library and Information Science, The University of Southern Mississippi
Stacy Creel, Assistant Professor, School of Library and Information Science, The University of Southern Mississippi
Elizabeth Haynes, Professor Emeritus, School of Library and Information Science, The University of Southern Mississippi
Jamie Campbell Naidoo, Associate and Foster-EBSCO Endowed Professor, School of Library and Information Studies, University of Alabama
Venetia Oglesby, Library Media Specialist, New Hope Elementary School
Kathy Roberts, Director of Youth Services, Central Mississippi Regional Library System
Eric Tribunella, Associate Professor, Department of English, The University of Southern Mississippi
CHILDREN’S BOOK FESTIVAL SPEAKERS, 1968-2016

Arnold Adoff
Jon Agee
Brian Alderson
Valerie Alderson
Aliki
Lee Ames
Berthe Amoss
Derek Anderson
M.T. Anderson
Nancy Anderson
Kathi Appelt
Jose Aruego
Rita Auerbach
Patricia Austin
Avi
Thomas J. Aylesworth
Molly Bang
Liz Ann Barber
Kathy Barco
Pam Barron
T.A. Barron
Chris Barton
Caroline Bauer
Marion Dane Bauer
Phil Bildner
Kay Bishop
Quentin Blake
Judy Blume
Louise Borden
Elizabeth Bowne
Carolyn Brodie
Bruce Brooks
Peter Brown
Ashley Bryan
Barbara Bryant
Judy Broaddus Bullock
Dorothy Butler
Eric Carle
Michael Cart
Carroll Case
Betty Cavanna
Tony Chen
Beverly Cleary
Vicki Cobb
Esmé Codell
Evelyn Coleman
Carroll Coley
Bryan Collier
Pam Conrad
Scott Cook
Floyd Cooper
Barbara Corcoran
Bruce Coville
Donald Crews
Chris Crutcher
Pat Cummings
Christopher Paul Curtis
Margery Cuyler
Matt de la Peña
Tomie de Paola
Lulu Delacre
Carmen Agra Deedy
David Diaz
Pamela Duncan
Floyd Dickman
Carol Doll
Rebecca Kai Dotlich
Sharon Draper
Eliza Dresang
Mary K. Eakin
Richard Egielski
Barbara Elleman
Ed Emberley
Carol Evans
Tom Feelings
Candace Fleming
Denise Fleming
Paula Fox
Russell Freedman
Barbara Freeman
Jean Fritz
Chuck Galey
Patricia Lee Gauch
Jean Craighead George
Charles Ghigna
Faye Gibbons
Jan Spivey Gilchrist
John Green
Eluin Greene
Bette Greene
Nikki Grimes
David S. Halacy
Gail Haley
Mary Hamilton
Virginia Hamilton
Nancy Hands
Gerald Hausman
Michael Patrick Hearn
Betsy Hearne
Kevin Henkes
Caroline Herring
Susan Hirschman
Tana Hoban
Will Hobbs
Bonnie Holder
Jennifer Holm
Kimberly Willis Holt
Lee Bennett Hopkins
K.T. Horning
Karen Nelson Hoyle
Robert Hubbard
Sylvia Hubbard
Irene Hunt
Trina Schart Hyman
Barbara Immoth
Anne Izard
Maureen Johnson
William Joyce
Jean Karl
Erza Jack Keats
Steven Kellogg
Eric Kimmel
Margaret Mary Kimmel
Debra King
Elaine Konigsburg
Joseph Krumgold
Karla Kuskin
Barbara LeCroy
Loris Lesynski
Betsy Lewin
Ted Lewin
E.B. Lewis
David Levinthal
Grace Lin
Robert Lipsyte
Anita Lobel
Arnold Lobel
Lois Lowry
Anne Lundin
David Macaulay
Patricia MacLachlan
Leonard Marcus
James Marshall
Jill May
Walter Mayes
Kathleen Merz
Ann McConnell
Emily Arnold McCully
Frank McGarvey
Barney McKee
Pat and Fred McKissack
Bruce McMillan
May McNeer
Milton Meltzer
Eve Merriam
Wendell Minor
Pat Mora
Yuyi Morales
Barry Moser
Anita Moss
Walter Dean Myers
Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
Elizabeth Nichols
George O’Connor
Kevin O’Malley
Iona Opie
Peggy Parish
Laurie Parker
Katherine Paterson
Kate Pearce
Richard Peck
Patsy Perritt
Peggy Pfieffer
Mary Anderson Pickard
Jerry Pinkney
Deborah Pope
Lillie Pope
Martin Pope
Jack Prelutsky
Robert Quackenbush
James Ransome
James Rice
Bruce Roberts
Eric Rohmann
Evester Roper
Pam Muñoz Ryan
Robert Sabuda
Rose Anne Saint Romain
Coleen Salley
Gary Schmidt
Leda Schubert
Jon Scieszka
Jan Scott
Anita Silvey
Peter Sir
Espyh Slobodkina
David Small
Sona Sones
Frances Lander Spain
Peter Spier
Jay Stailey
Janet Stevens
Sarah Stewart
Whitney Stewart
Eric Suben
Zena Sutherland
Roger Sutton
Melissa Sweet
Don Tate
Joyce Carol Thomas
Ann Thwaite
Alan Tiegreen
Tim Tingle
Jenine Titherington
Trout Fishing in America
Chris Vinsonhaler
Will Weaver
David Wiesner
Rosemary Wells
Irving Werstein
Maureen White
Nancy Willard
Deborah Wiles
Mo Willems
Garth Williams
Vera Williams
Rita Williams-Garcia
Kathryn Tucker Windham
Diane Wolkstein
Jacqueline Woodson
Dan Yaccarino
Gene Luen Yang
Jane Yolen
Arthur Yorinks
Paul O. Zelinsky
Herbert S. Zim
Paul Zindel
Charlotte Zolotow
**2017 CONCURRENT SESSION PRESENTERS**

Melissa Adkins is in her 18th year as an educator for Lamar County School District. She spent her first eight years of employment with the district as a teacher at Purvis Elementary and is currently in her ninth year as one of the district’s two instructional technologists. Melissa has presented at MECA conferences for the last nine years, the MS-Lamp Workshops in 2014, and the Mississippi Reading Association’s conference in 2015. Adkins recently became a certified Google educator trainer, the first person in Mississippi to obtain this distinction.

Kim Becnel is a former children’s librarian and youth services director and is currently an associate professor of library science at Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C. Becnel teaches and researches in the areas of distance education, public libraries, and youth literacy and literature. She co-edited the volume Library Services for Multicultural Patrons: Strategies to Encourage Library Use (2013), and her work has appeared in Children & Libraries, The Journal of Education for Library and Information Science, and Public Libraries.

Mac Buntin is a senior library consultant at the Mississippi Library Commission. Mac’s primary work duties include: coordination of the Summer Library Program, continuing education programs and rendering advice to public librarians and their trustees. Mac’s MLS was awarded from the University of Alabama. Roll Tide!

Dianne Butler is a national certified librarian, who has retired from the public school library and is working part time at Discovery Christian School as their librarian in Florence, Miss. She travels the state visiting schools and libraries, spreading her own special brand of storytelling. The Mississippi Arts Commission has her listed as a Weaver of Story Magic. She enjoys meeting artists, authors and illustrators at the Children’s Festival.

Sarah C. Campbell creates picture books with facts and photographs. Her award-winning books, Mysterious Patterns: Finding Fractals in Nature, Growing Patterns: Fibonacci Numbers in Nature, and Wolf snail: A Backyard Predator, are favorites on nonfiction shelves. She serves as the assistant regional adviser for the Louisiana/Mississippi Chapter of the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators. Sarah and her husband, Richard, who is co-photographer on the books, live in Jackson, Miss.

Bethany Carlisle has served as the youth services coordinator for the Jackson-George Regional Library System based in Pascagoula for the last seven years. Prior to taking the youth services coordinator position, Bethany worked at the Vancleave Public Library where she found great joy in being the community “Library Lady.” When Bethany took an elective undergraduate course in storytelling, she had no idea that storytelling would become one of the many hats she utilized in her career.

Tracy Carr is the library services director at the Mississippi Library Commission, where she has worked for the past 13 years. She also serves as Mississippi’s coordinator for the Center for the Book and is on the Mississippi Book Festival’s Board of Advisors. She has a Master’s in English from Mississippi State University and a MLIS from the University of Alabama.
Dr. Jane Claes is an elementary school librarian in the Carrollton/Farmers Branch (Texas) Independent School District. A former associate professor of school library and information science, she has taught children’s and young adult literature as well as courses in school library management, collection development and leadership. She has served on the American Library Association’s Odyssey Committee, Robert F. Sibert Committee, the Notable Children’s Recordings Committee, and Notable Videos for Children Committee, as well as on the Texas Library Association’s Texas Bluebonnet Award Committee.

Laura K. Clark is a post doc at the Florida Public Archaeology Network, which is part of the University of West Florida. Her research interests include evaluation, emergent literacy, community programming and digital preservation.

Tanya DiMaggio is the children’s services coordinator for St. Tammany Parish Library. Tanya received her MLIS from the University of Texas at Austin School of Library and Information Science, now The School of Information. She has worked as a public children’s librarian for the past 19 years. She has co-hosted two Library Cons and is the mom of a teen-aged fan, who has attended two My Little Pony conventions, plus made several costumes.

Michele Frasier-Robinson is an assistant professor and an education and psychology librarian at The University of Southern Mississippi’s Cook Library. She joined the library’s research services department in 2014 and serves as the liaison librarian for education, child and family studies, library and information science, and psychology. She oversees collection development for the library’s Curriculum Materials Center. She earned an MLIS from Louisiana State University.

Dr. Lee Freeman is a professor of curriculum and instruction, specializing in elementary and literacy education at the University of Alabama. He taught first through seventh grade for 24 years, prior to teaching graduate and undergraduate classes for the last 12 years. His research interests include early literacy, effects and methods of reading aloud to children, and pre-service teacher education and evaluation. Email: lfreeman@bamaed.ua.edu

Chuck Galey is a children’s book author and illustrator well-known for his arts integrated lessons at schools and libraries all over the South. Chuck has been working with the Mississippi Arts Commission as a teaching artist for 10 years, including working with special needs students with grants provided by the Kennedy Center for the Arts.

Crystal Giles is a nationally board certified English and reading teacher at Petal High School. Last year, she had the great honor of being chosen as Petal School District’s Teacher of the Year. This is her 16th year to teach, and she has started a successful program at her school called Teens as Teachers. This program pairs English I students with primary students from her district for tutoring sessions that use award-winning children’s books as their central text. Teens as Teachers has been beneficial for remediation services and enrichment in Petal High School’s literacy program for since 2012.

Melanie Hays is the librarian at Crystal Springs High School in Crystal Springs, Miss. She is from Mendenhall, Miss. She received a bachelor’s degree in secondary English education from William Carey University in 2012. This is her fourth year as a librarian, and she has served students in grades K-12 during that time.
Dr. Janet Hilbun is retired faculty (still teaching adjunct) from the University of North Texas Department of Library and Information Science, where she taught children’s and young adult literature. Prior to that, she was faculty at Texas Woman’s University and taught children’s and young adult literature, school library courses, and information storage and retrieval. In her “prior” life, she taught English and reading in middle and high school and was a middle school librarian. She has a BA from Texas Tech, a MEd from East Texas State (before it was East Texas A&M), a MLS from Texas Woman’s University, and a PhD from Rutgers in Library Science.

Shannon Hitchcock was called by the ALAN Review, “A new voice in historical fiction.” Shannon is the author of the Crystal Kite Award-winning book, The Ballad of Jessie Pearl, hailed for its immediacy and cadenced voice. Her second novel, Ruby Lee & Me, a Scholastic Mother Daughter Book Club pick, is based on Shannon’s real-life experience and the teacher who inspired her as a child.

Linda Williams Jackson was born and raised in the Mississippi Delta town of Rosedale and likes to spin stories about everyday people in small-town settings. She is the author of the historical middle-grade novel, Midnight Without a Moon, (1/3/17), a book that has been described by reviewers as powerful, poetic, and especially good for classroom use. Though she has lived in a few other states, Linda now resides in Mississippi with her husband, three children and one very spoiled cat.

Althea Jerome and Kathryn Lewis are professional teaching artists who serve as storytellers and scholars of the PrimeTime Reading Program hosted by the Mississippi Humanities Council. Their work in children’s literature focuses on utilizing strategies to develop a love of stories and books. In their work with students and teachers, they frequently emphasize connections between the arts and literacy.

Dr. Lynn Kelley is an associate professor of curriculum and instruction, specializing in early childhood, elementary and social studies education at the University of West Alabama. She taught grades preschool-second for over 33 years, prior to teaching graduate and undergraduate classes. Her research interests include parent involvement, questioning in early childhood and social studies methods. Email: lkelley@uwa.edu

Jennifer R. Luetkemeyer is an assistant professor of library science at Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C. Her research interests include school libraries, digital integration, digital learning resources, educational technology, 21st Century Skills and school culture.

Mary Beth Magee writes news, reviews and feature articles for print and online publications; cozy Christian fiction, poetry and devotions; as well as recollections in several anthologies. She has presented to groups across the country, including writing groups and conferences. As a member of the Poplarville Storytellers Guild, she shares stories across the South, including participation in TELLABRATION™, the annual International Day of Storytelling.

Naomi Hurtienne Magola is the youth services librarian for Terrebonne Parish Library. She received her MLIS from The University of Southern Mississippi in 2007. She made the move from adult services to
children’s services back in 2013 and has never been happier. Since then, she has hosted two Comic Cons at her library and her cosplay wardrobe has grown exponentially. Next year, she plans on cosplaying as Rosie, the most excellent Lumberjanes Camp Director from Miss Quinzilla Thiskwin Penniquiquil Thistle Crumpet’s Camp for Hardcore Lady Types.

Cheryl Mathis is in her second year as regional advisor for the Louisiana/Mississippi Chapter of the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators. She writes middle grade fiction, and in 2015, she was an honor runner-up for the SCBWI Sue Alexander Award. Recently, two of her short stories were published by Pelican Publishing in Bayou Bogeyman Presents: Hoodoo and Voodoo, an anthology of scary stories for middle grade. Cheryl has also been published in the adult short story literary market both online and in print.

Dr. Lillian McEnery is a professor in the University of Houston-Clear Lake’s literacy, language, & library science department. She works with, and learns alongside, teacher candidates at the undergraduate, graduate and doctoral level. Her research interests include family literacy, reading motivation factors, and literacy as an empowering agent. She has published in Educational Researcher, Current Issues in Education, Educational Forum, College Teaching, Interchange, and the Academic Exchange Journal.

Tamela Camp Miller has been at educator at Oak Grove Middle School for 17 years, 12 of which she has served as the teacher-librarian. She received her MLIS with a certification in youth services and literature from The University of Southern Mississippi in December 2016. Her library passions include reader’s advisory, incorporating programming and makerspaces in school libraries, and making school libraries the heart of the school and a space where all students feel welcomed, safe and inspired to become lifelong readers and library users.

Robin A. Moeller is an associate professor of library science at Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C. She received her PhD in curriculum studies from Indiana University, Bloomington. Her research interests are visual representations of information as they apply to youth and schooling, as well as cultural facets of youth services and materials.

Carrel Muller is a teacher, librarian and author. She served as Louisiana’s regional advisor of the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators for over 20 years. She has published both fiction and nonfiction in magazines for children and adults. She taught writing children’s literature at the University of New Orleans Metro College for many years. A librarian for over 20 years, she is currently the lower school librarian at the Academy of the Sacred Heart in New Orleans.

Claudia Nisbett is professor of education at Belhaven University in Jackson, Miss. She has been chair of the education department at Faulkner University, a past elementary principal and an elementary teacher in the classroom. She is involved in teaching reading and literacy courses at the college as well as the following courses: classroom management, educational psychology, children’s literature, math for teachers, and diagnostic reading.
Venetia Oglesby serves as the vice president for the Magnolia Awards Executive Board. She is a national board certified librarian and works at New Hope Elementary school in Columbus, Miss. Venetia loves introducing her youngest students to the joys of reading and children’s literature through story time in the library and helping her older students realize just how much fun reading can be.

Nancy Opalko is the youth services librarian and assistant branch manager at the Lafayette County & Oxford Public Library in Oxford, Miss. She has been in this position for 20 years and library programming, along with bicycling, is one of her passions.

Karin Perry and Teri Lesesne are faculty in the Department of Library Science at Sam Houston State University where they teach courses in literature for children, tweens and teens, among other courses. They teach an online course for YALSA on Reading with a Critical Eye to help potential committee members discern quality literature. Each has numerous publications including books, chapters, columns and articles. Together, they are Professors Proving Professional Development on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSaYxeoQmxa8ECTkGO7TfOg/videos.

Jon C. Pope, an alumnus of The University of Southern Mississippi’s MLIS program, is a former reference librarian who served both adult and young adult populations in a small public library in the mountains of western North Carolina. He now serves on the faculty of the university writing program at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Katy Hobgood Ray is a children’s musician, author and the host and producer of Confetti Park, a kid-friendly radio show and podcast featuring music and stories from Louisiana. She is the director of a children’s chorus in New Orleans called the Confetti Park Players, who regularly contribute to the soundscape of the radio show. Katy holds a bachelor’s degree in English from Carleton College and a master’s degree in musicology from Tulane University. Katy has published two children’s books through Confetti Park, including “Candy Land Ball” and “The Little Mouse Santi,” which was named a Kirkus Reviews Indie Book of the Year in 2015.

Jennifer Rifino received her MLS from Rutgers University in 1995 and has worked as a librarian in public libraries ever since. Serving as the teen services librarian for the St. Tammany Parish Library for the past 11 years, she believes that she has the best job ever. However, if she had been just 8 inches taller, she most likely would have become a Rockette at Radio City Music Hall instead.

Dr. Dana Rolison serves as the reading specialist and an associate professor at the University of West Alabama in the College of Education. As a national board certified teacher with over 25 years’ experience in education, she has served as an early childhood educator, a school improvement specialist and worked with the Alabama State Department of Education as a consultant on various committees. Her research interests include early childhood education, elementary education, teacher efficacy, pre-service teacher training, teacher preparedness in dealing with traumatic events, research methodologies, wellness and assessment. drolison@uwa.edu
Corabel Alexander Shofner was born in the early 50s as the youngest child of whimsical parents and was raised in a family of judges, farmers and colorful women. She is the author of the middle-grade novel *Almost Paradise*, (7/25/17), which is to be published by Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, and her shorter work has appeared in *Word Riot, Willow Review Habersham Review, Hawai‘i Review, Sou’wester, South Carolina Review, South Dakota Review,* and *Xavier Review*. A Mississippi native, Corabel now resides in Nashville with her husband.

Augusta Scattergood’s first novel, *Glory Be*, was listed on numerous state children’s choice lists and was an NPR’s Back Seat Book Club selection. Her recently-released third book, *Making Friends with Billy Wong*, is based on research and memories of growing up in the Mississippi Delta. A former school librarian, she now writes, reads and reviews books from her home in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Nancy Varian is the director of the Center for Professional Development and a professor at Malone University in Canton, Ohio. She organizes Malone’s Literacy Celebration, bringing in renowned children’s authors and/or illustrators each spring. She has taught children’s literature, content reading strategies, math and science methods, social and culturally diversity classes, and understanding poverty. She has done many community outreach.

Lonna Vines lives in Charlotte, N.C., and is the children’s librarian at the Hickory Grove Branch for the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library System. Her career includes serving as the head of youth services of the Livingston Parish Library System located in Livingston, La., and the teen coordinator for the Oconee County Library located in Watkinsville, Ga. She has an article published in the March/April issue of the Public Libraries Magazine titled, *The Library is a Musical Place: Incorporating Music in Library Programming*.

Ally Watkins is a library consultant at the Mississippi Library Commission. She previously worked as a youth services librarian and will always be one in her heart. Ally serves on the executive board of the Magnolia Award, is co-chair of the Young Person Services Roundtable of the Mississippi Library Association, and received her MLIS from The University of Southern Mississippi.

Meridith Wulff is the youth specialist at the Lafayette County & Oxford Public Library in Oxford, Miss. She previously served as executive director of the Lafayette County Literacy Council and loves sharing her passion for books and learning with children and their parents.

**INTERNET ACCESS DURING THE FESTIVAL**

**GUEST ACCESS:** To connect to the **USM PUBLIC NETWORK**, retrieve the list of available networks and choose “USM Public.” The USM Public network has limited access and speed.
BreakoutEDU Challenge
Melissa Adkins
Heard of Escape Rooms? Like Escape Rooms, Breakout EDU challenges can be used in all content areas and teach critical thinking, teamwork and complex problem-solving skills. In this session, participants will experience a Breakout challenge based on a children’s book or novel! Attendees will have to complete a series of challenges, reveal clues and unlock mysteries before time runs out in order to “break out.”

Now Trending... #SocialMediaInSchoolLibraries
Melissa Adkins and Tamela Camp Miller
Is there a place for social media in our school libraries? Can social media be used effectively to promote and advocate for school libraries? Is it possible for school librarians to incorporate even “one more thing” into their very busy day? This presentation will focus on some simple but effective ways school librarians can use social media platforms, such as Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat and Twitter, to promote their library programs, advocate on behalf of their libraries, and engage and involve students in all that the school library has to offer.

When It's Hard to Find the Helpers: Post-Election Bibliotherapy and Creating Safe Spaces for Our Youth
Kim Becnel and Jon C. Pope
We will discuss the critical role librarians and libraries can play in this tumultuous political climate and offer suggestions for how to best support all our youth as they struggle with a sense of crisis that they likely do not understand. Specifically, we will discuss helpful items to add to library collections and present some ideas for activities designed to help students express their feelings and fears surrounding the election and the social divisions it has exposed. Finally, we will talk about ways to mark the library as a safe place for all and how to make sure it remains a refuge and sanctuary.

We Need to See Each Other: Great Graphic Novels that Embrace Diversity
Kim Becnel and Robin A. Moeller
More and more, graphic novels are helping to shape children’s ideas of what is normal, acceptable and powerful in a society they are just learning to navigate on their own. By recognizing the power of this medium, and purposely collecting diverse titles, librarians can help to make sure that all readers can literally see themselves in our collections and develop a picture of the larger world that is richer, more diverse and more in sync with the reality they live in. This presentation will provide concrete suggestions for developing such a collection.

Summer Reading Programs
Mac Buntin
Get a quick overview of the 2017 Summer Library Program theme “Build a Better World.” Resources and activities will be shared on this theme. Topics will include tips on recycling, repurposing materials and general ways to build a better world.

Got a story? Publish it!
Sarah C. Campbell, Cheryl Mathis and Linda Williams Jackson
Three writers with diverse paths to publication share strategies for turning your idea into a book. You will hear from a middle-grade novelist, a picture book author/illustrator, and a short story writer with a total of five books in print and two more in production. Learn what to do and what NOT to do when approaching agents and editors at traditional publishing houses. Will include information specific to diverse books and #ownvoices stories.

Do-It-Yourself Storytelling for the Public Library
Bethany Carlisle
Interested in using the Art of Storytelling in your library programs or for library outreach? This session is a primer for the beginner storyteller. Hear tips, suggestions and resources for storytelling programs in your library.

Extra, Extra! MLC’s Non-Traditional Resources
Tracy Carr and Ally Watkins
Did you know that the Mississippi Library Commission has extensive special collections and services that you can use in your library? From technology to storytime and puppet kits to book clubs in a box, MLC offers many absolutely free nontraditional services that can help librarians serve their patrons. Come hear an explanation of everything we have to offer you!

Maker Spaces: Making Connections to Literature
Drs. Jane Claes, Janet Hilbun and Lillian McEnery
Maker spaces allow children of all ages to learn through creative exploration and experimentation. Maker spaces that connect to literature bring the added bonus of stimulating a learner’s interest in reading, furthering the education process. This session will examine the educational value of maker spaces, provide ideas for activities connecting those maker spaces to literature and suggest ways to acquire and fund supplies for maker space activities. Session participants will receive ideas for maker spaces connected to literature that can easily be adapted for use in the classroom, the school or the public library.
Holy Comic Cons, Batman! How to Host a Comic Con @ Your Library
Tanya DiMaggio, Naomi Hurtienne Magola, Jennifer Rifino and Lonna Vines
Do your comic books fly off your shelves? Do your teens tear through manga faster than it can be printed? Were you surprised by the response to 2015’s summer reading theme? It might be time for your library to host a comic con!

From vendors, to cosplay, to gaming and more, four librarians who planned successful comic cons at their libraries will uncover everything you will need to know to host your own con.

Step Right Up and Get Your Free Educational Resources!
Michele Frasier-Robinson
Open Educational Resources (OER) are freely accessible, openly licensed documents and media for teaching and learning that can be reused, modified and shared. This session will introduce teachers and school librarians to the wide world of open educational resources. Attendees will leave this session knowing how to find high quality, peer-reviewed OER suitable for K-12, how to evaluate them, and how to use and re-purpose them. Attendees will also learn the nuts and bolts of Creative Commons licensing of OER and the proper attribution of OER materials.

Art Projects for The Artistically Challenged
Chuck Galey
With limited budgets, librarians, media specialists and teachers are asked to provide programs without any training in the arts. In this lively workshop, participants will learn how to prepare arts integrated lessons that will keep students engaged with hidden learning elements.

Writing and Remembering in Black and White
Linda Williams Jackson and Corabel Alexander Shofter
What are the chances of two children’s authors posting their agent success stories online, on the same website, on the same day, then meeting each other on Twitter that day, only to find out they were practically neighbors as children in the dirt clods of the Mississippi Delta? Interesting odds, right? But on April 25, 2015, that’s exactly what happened to a black sharecropper’s granddaughter and a white landowner’s granddaughter. And it was their starkly different backgrounds and their willingness to openly and honestly discuss the pain of Mississippi’s past that allowed them to become trusting friends. The debut authors hope to offer communication skills that support and enforce honest sharing, listening and creating.

Adding up 200 years for Mississippi + 50 years for Faye B. Kaigler Book Festival + Fifteen Great Books = Priceless
Althea Jerome and Kathryn Lewis
Throughout 2017, Mississippi will celebrate its bicentennial. Over the past 200 years, our state has established a strong literary tradition. Likewise, the Book Festival has garnered widespread respect for its 50 years of promoting children’s literature. This session will introduce “Fifteen Great Books for Mississippi Kids” as a means to celebrate both of these historic milestones.

May I Have the Envelope, Please? If We Decided the Awards for Books
Teri Lesesne and Karin Perry
Only a handful of books will receive a major award in the field of literature for children and young adults. Many more are certainly deserving of attention and praise. In this session, Teri Lesesne and Karin Perry will booktalk those “other” books. Teri and Karin have served on numerous selection committees for ALA, IRA and NCTE. Come prepared to be bowled over by the richness that is youth literature.

Picture Books as Learning Resources: From Pre-K to Middle School
Jennifer R. Luetkemeyer and Laura K. Clark
In the first half of this 60-minute session, attendees will learn how to conceptualize emergent/early literacy and apply this information to picture books to encourage reading behaviors in children of pre-school age. The second half of the session will focus on using picture books as tools for teaching middle grades students and how lessons using picture books tie into the Common Core State Standards. This session is appropriate for both public and school librarians, as well as classroom teachers.

Mother Goose Theater
Carrel Muller
Librarians, do you need a curriculum for young children in your library? Let your babies act out Mother Goose Rhymes. They will love being active learners as they acquire language and literacy skills.

Magnolia Award - Mississippi Children’s Choice
Venetia Oglesby
This session will present a brief history of the Magnolia Award and discuss ways for school and public librarians to promote the award to their patrons. Session attendees will gain insight into what it is like to be a part of the selection process for the Magnolia Awards. The presentation will feature titles from the list of nominees for the 2018 Magnolia Award.
Integrating the Curriculum through Social Studies Notable Books
Drs. Dana Rolison and Lynn Kelley
National Council for the Social Studies members will present all new exemplary lesson plans that focus on integrating literacy and social studies in the elementary classroom through the use of Notable books. All attendees will receive free lesson plans (CD).

Write Bravely - Tackling Tough Topics with Books
Augusta Scattergood and Shannon Hitchcock
Two writers of historical fiction about tough topics - school integration, interracial friendships, shyness, bullying - will present examples from their own writing as well as other recently published books that tackle difficult issues. Through PowerPoint images and handouts, they will show why historical novels are relevant to today’s students and how their own characters’ prejudices changed over the course of the stories.

2017 CONCURRENT SESSION PANEL DESCRIPTIONS

Storytelling Panel
Dianne Butler, Bethany Carlisle and Mary Beth Magee
This session is a primer for the beginner storyteller. Hear tips, suggestions and resources for storytelling programs in your library. By utilizing the popular format of ABC’s, the audience will participate in this very interactive workshop, giving hints and illustrations to help with storytelling. From A is for “audience, anthologies, anecdotes, attending storytelling programs” (where different festivals and the summer library programs at the local libraries will be promoted) to Z is for “zip, zap snap, this tale is told out,” audience members will receive many tips and ideas to help them develop their own personal style of storytelling. Attendees will also learn to apply storytelling techniques both to teach and to verify understanding of material.

Musical Programming Panel
Katy Hobgood Ray and Lonna Vines
You don’t have to be a musical superstar to share the joy of music with your patrons. Attendees of this session will learn the technology used to produce, distribute and promote musical and other audio content. There will also be information about easy and more ambitious ways to incorporate music into your public library programming schedule with little to no musical background.

Community Programming Panel
Claudia Nisbett, Nancy Opalko, Nancy Varian and Meridith Wulff
Learn how to organize, promote and kick off a library program that will bring families together to enjoy outdoor activities, books and local culture. Presenters will share how ideas are formed and the promotional methods that were found to be most effective in reaching families.

Attendees will also learn about “tried-and-true” events and activities that have worked to use books to bring people together.

Reaching Older Readers Panel
Crystal Giles and Melanie Hays
This session will focus on encouraging teen involvement and selecting material for both middle school and high school students. Attendees will learn about programs that have successfully gotten teens involved and how to utilize this type of programming in their library or school. Recently released and upcoming books for 2017 will also be introduced, along with suggestions for who might best be suited for each particular book.
9-10 A.M.
A1. MUSICAL PROGRAMMING PANEL
Katy Hobgood Ray† and Lonna Vines
Room 216 • (0.1 CEU)

A2. ART PROJECTS FOR THE ARTISTICALLY CHALLENGED*
Chuck Galey†
Room 210 • (0.1 CEU)

A3. WRITE BRAVELY - TACKLING TOUGH TOPICS WITH BOOKS*
Augusta Scattergood† and Shannon Hitchcock
Room 218 B • (0.1 CEU)

A4. BREAKOUTEDU CHALLENGE*
Melissa Adkins
Room 214 • (0.1 CEU)

A5. ADDING UP 200 YEARS FOR MISSISSIPPI + 50 YEARS FOR FAY B. KAIGLER BOOK FESTIVAL + 15 GREAT BOOKS = PRICELESS*
Althea Jerome and Kathryn Lewis
Room 218 A • (0.1 CEU)

10:15-11:15 A.M.
B1. STORYTELLING PANEL*
Dianne Butler, Bethany Carlisle and Mary Beth Magee†
Room 216 • (0.1 CEU)

B2. HOLY COMIC CONS, BATMAN! HOW TO HOST A COMIC CON @ YOUR LIBRARY*
Naomi Hurtienne Magola, Tanya DiMaggio, Jennifer Rifino and Lonna Vines
Room 218 A • (0.1 CEU)

B3. MAY I HAVE THE ENVELOPE, PLEASE? IF WE DECIDED THE AWARDS FOR BOOKS*
Teri Lesesne† and Karin Perry
Room 218 B • (0.1 CEU)

B4. NOW TRENDING... #SOCIALMEDIAINSCHOOLLIBRARIES*
Tamela Camp Miller and Melissa Adkins
Room 214 • (0.1 CEU)

B5. MOTHER GOOSE THEATER*
Carrel Muller
Room 210 • (0.1 CEU)

B6. INTEGRATING THE CURRICULUM THROUGH SOCIAL STUDIES NOTABLE BOOKS
Lee Freeman, Lynn Kelley and Dana Rolison
Room 228 • (0.1 CEU)

11:30 A.M.
WELCOME SESSION
Ballrooms

NOON-1:30 P.M.
COLEEN SALLEY STORYTELLING LUNCHEON WITH PAT MORA
Complimentary boxed lunch included in festival registration
Ballrooms • (0.1 CEU)

1:45-2:45 P.M.
DE GRUMMOND LECTURE WITH PHYLLIS REYNOLDS NAYLOR
Magnolia Awards announced at this session.
Ballrooms • (0.1 CEU)

3-4 P.M.
KEATS LECTURE WITH ANDREA DAVIS PINKNEY
Ballrooms • (0.1 CEU)

4:15-5:30 P.M.
AUTOGRAPHING AT BARNES AND NOBLE
Coffee meet-and-greet with the Library and Information Science Student Association and Student Archivists Association located directly outside the Barnes and Noble second floor entry.
Louise Borden, Kate DiCamillo, Pat Mora, Phyllis Reynolds Naylor, Andrea Davis Pinkney, Ezro Jack Keats Book Award winners and breakout session presenters

4:30-5:30 P.M. SECOND-CHANCE SESSIONS
S1. STORYTELLING PANEL
Dianne Butler, Bethany Carlisle and Mary Beth Magee†
Room 216 • (0.1 CEU)

S2. ADDING UP 200 YEARS FOR MISSISSIPPI + 50 YEARS FOR FAY B. KAIGLER BOOK FESTIVAL + 15 GREAT BOOKS = PRICELESS
Althea Jerome and Kathryn Lewis
Room 218 A • (0.1 CEU)

S3. WRITE BRAVELY - TACKLING TOUGH TOPICS WITH BOOKS
Augusta Scattergood† and Shannon Hitchcock
Room 210 • (0.1 CEU)

S4. WE NEED TO SEE EACH OTHER: GREAT GRAPHIC NOVELS THAT EMBRACE DIVERSITY
Kim Becnel and Robin A. Moeller
Room 214 • (0.1 CEU)

6 P.M.
50TH ANNUAL FAY B. KAIGLER CHILDREN’S BOOK FESTIVAL CELEBRATION
Complimentary buffet-style dinner included in festival registration.
Ballrooms • (0.1 CEU)

* Indicates sessions also offered as second-chance sessions
† Denotes participants in autographing sessions
2017 FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2017

9-10 A.M.
GENERAL SESSION WITH KWAME ALEXANDER
Ballrooms - (0.1 CEU)

10:15-11:15 A.M.
MEDALLION SESSION WITH KATE DICAMILLO
Kaigler-Lamont Award announced at this session.
Ballrooms - (0.1 CEU)

11:30 A.M.-1 P.M.
EZRA JACK KEATS AWARDS LUNCHEON ($20)
Ballrooms - (0.1 CEU)

1 P.M.
AUTOGRAPHING AT BARNES AND NOBLE WITH KWAME ALEXANDER

1:15-2:15 P.M. SECOND-CHANCE SESSIONS
S1. MAKER SPACES
Jane Claes, Janet Hilbun and Lillian McEnery
Room 216 - (0.1 CEU)

S2. MOTHER GOOSE THEATER
Carrel Muller
Room 214 - (0.1 CEU)

S3. WHEN IT’S HARD TO FIND THE HELPERS: POST-ELECTION BIBLIOThERAPY AND CREATING SAFE SPACES FOR OUR YOUTH
Jon Pope and Kim Becnel
Room 210 - (0.1 CEU)

S4. MAY I HAVE THE ENVELOPE, PLEASE? IF WE DECIDED THE AWARDS FOR BOOKS*
Teri Lesesne* and Karin Perry
Room 218 A - (0.1 CEU)

S5. STEP RIGHT UP AND GET YOUR FREE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES!
Michele Frasier-Robinson
Room 218 B - (0.1 CEU)

2-3:30 P.M.
AUTOGRAPHING AT BARNES AND NOBLE
Coffee meet-and-greet with the Library and Information Science Student Association and Student Archivists Association located directly outside the Barnes and Noble second floor entry.
Louise Borden, Bryan Collier, Kate DiCamillo, Pete Hautman, Florence and Wendell Minor, Phyllis Reynolds Naylor, Ezra Jack Keats Book Award winners and breakout session presenters

2:30-3:30 P.M. SECOND-CHANCE SESSIONS
S1. HOLY COMIC CONS, BATMAN! HOW TO HOST A COMIC CON AT YOUR LIBRARY
Naomi Hurtienne Magola, Tanya DiMaggio, Jennifer Rinfino and Lonna Vines
Room 210 - (0.1 CEU)

S2. WRITING AND REMEMBERING IN BLACK AND WHITE
Linda Williams Jackson* and Corabel Alexander Shofner
Room 210 - (0.1 CEU)

S3. BREAKOUTEDU CHALLENGE
Melissa Adkins
Room 218 B - (0.1 CEU)

S4. ART PROJECTS FOR THE ARTISTICALLY CHALLENGED
Chuck Galey*
Room 214 - (0.1 CEU)

3:45-4:45 P.M.
GENERAL SESSION: A CONVERSATION WITH THE MINORS
Ballrooms - (0.1 CEU)

5-6 P.M.
GENERAL SESSION WITH LOUISE BORDEN
Ballrooms - (0.1 CEU)

7 P.M.
CELEBRATION OF THE EZRA JACK KEATS BOOK AWARD
HORS D’OEUVRES AND CASH BAR
Co-sponsored by the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation and the de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection. Hattiesburg Train Depot

* Indicates sessions also offered as second-chance sessions
† Denotes participants in autographing sessions
FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 2017

9-10 A.M.
GENERAL SESSION WITH BRYAN COLLIER
Ballrooms - (0.1 CEU)

10:15-11:30 A.M.
AUTOGRAPHING AT BARNES AND NOBLE
Bryan Collier, Pete Hautman, Florence and Wendell Minor, Ezra Jack Keats Book Award winners and breakout session presenters

10:30-11:30 A.M. SECOND-CHANCE SESSIONS
S1. EXTRA, EXTRA! MLC’S NONTRADITIONAL RESOURCES AND SUMMER READING PROGRAMS
Ally Watkins and Tracy Carr
Room 214 B - (0.1 CEU)

S2. GOT A STORY? PUBLISH IT!
Sarah Campbell†, Cheryl Mathis and Linda Williams Jackson
Room 218 B - (0.1 CEU)

S3. NOW TRENDING... #SOCIALMEDIAINSCHOOLLIBRARIES
Tamela Camp Miller and Melissa Adkins
Room 218 A - (0.1 CEU)

S4. REACHING OLDER READERS PANEL
Melanie Hays and Crystal Giles
Room 216 - (0.1 CEU)

S5. SUMMER READING PROGRAMS
Mac Buntin
Room 228 - (0.1 CEU)

NOON – 1:30 P.M.
LUNCHEON WITH PETE HAUTMAN ($20)
Ballrooms - (0.1 CEU)

1:45-2:45 P.M. CONCURRENT SESSIONS
A1. COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING PANEL
Claudia Nisbett, Nancy Opalko, Nancy Varian and Meridith Wulff
Room 210 - (0.1 CEU)

A2. REACHING OLDER READERS PANEL*
Melanie Hays and Crystal Giles
Room 216 - (0.1 CEU)

A3. MAKER SPACES: MAKING CONNECTIONS TO LITERATURE*
Jane Claes†, Janet Hilbun and Lillian McEnery
Room 218 A - (0.1 CEU)

A4. WRITING AND REMEMBERING IN BLACK AND WHITE*
Linda Williams Jackson* and Corabel Alexander Shofner
Room 218 B - (0.1 CEU)

A5. WHEN IT’S HARD TO FIND THE HELPERS: POST-ELECTION BIBLIO THERAPY AND CREATING SAFE SPACES FOR OUR YOUTH*
Jon Pope and Kim Becnel
Room 214 - (0.1 CEU)

A6. STEP RIGHT UP AND GET YOUR FREE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES!*
Michele Frasier-Robinson
Room 228 - (0.1 CEU)

3-4 P.M. CONCURRENT SESSIONS
B1. GOT A STORY? PUBLISH IT!* Sarah Campbell†, Cheryl Mathis and Linda Williams Jackson
Room 210 - (0.1 CEU)

B2. WE NEED TO SEE EACH OTHER: GREAT GRAPHIC NOVELS THAT EMBRACE DIVERSITY*
Kim Becnel and Robin A. Moeller
Room 214 - (0.1 CEU)

B3. PICTURE BOOKS AS LEARNING RESOURCES: FROM PRE-K TO MIDDLE SCHOOL
Jennifer Luetkemeyer and Laura Clark
Room 216 - (0.1 CEU)

B4. MAGNOLIA AWARD - MISSISSIPPI CHILDREN’S CHOICE
Venetia Oglesby
Room 218 A - (0.1 CEU)

B5. EXTRA, EXTRA! MLC’S NONTRADITIONAL RESOURCES AND SUMMER READING PROGRAMS*
Ally Watkins and Tracy Carr
Room 218 B - (0.1 CEU)

B6. SUMMER READING PROGRAMS*
Mac Buntin
Room 228 - (0.1 CEU)

5-7 P.M.
CHILDREN’S BOOK FESTIVAL 50TH ANNUAL CLOSING RECEPTION WITH WENDELL MINOR
Oddfellows Gallery
This year marks the 50th annual Fay B. Kaigler Children’s Book Festival at The University of Southern Mississippi. A three-day event that offers talks, lectures, workshops, storytelling sessions, musical performances, book-signings and awards, the festival has become one of the most widely recognized conferences of its kind.

The vision of library science professor Dr. Lena de Grummond and librarian Dr. Warren Tracy, the first festival was held in 1968 and was simply called the Conference on the Writing, Illustrating and Publishing of Children’s Books. Its purpose was to showcase the McCain Library and Archives’ collection of children’s literature materials, founded by Dr. de Grummond in 1966 and known today as the de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection. The event was such a success that a second conference was held in 1969, at which time the festival awarded the very first University of Southern Mississippi Medallion to renowned children’s author Lois Lenski.

Since then, the festival, renamed the Fay B. Kaigler Children’s Book Festival in 2001, has become an important part of the children’s literature community in America. It is where, over the past half-century, countless librarians, teachers, parents and scholars have come together to share their interest in and enthusiasm for children’s literature. Its cumulative roster of keynote speakers, panelists, storytellers and Medallion winners is one of the most impressive of any literary festival. It has helped not just the University, but indeed the Southeastern community, make an important contribution to one of literature’s most enduring fields.

Come join us on the evening of Wednesday, April 5, in the Thad Cochran Center Ballrooms for a special dinner celebration in honor of the 50th festival. Included will be a video retrospective, as well as a talk given by Dr. Matthew Griffis about the festival’s history from 1968 to present. Special historical exhibits will also be on display in the ballrooms throughout the duration of the festival.

DR. MATTHEW GRIFFIS is an assistant professor in the School of Library and Information Science at The University of Southern Mississippi. He has published about the history of libraries and librarianship in scholarly and professional journals. In 2015, Griffis published an article in Mississippi Libraries about the history of librarian education at The University of Southern Mississippi, and in the fall of 2016, he spoke about the history of the Fay B. Kaigler Children’s Book Festival at the Mississippi Library Association’s annual conference in Vicksburg.
In 2001, the Children’s Book Festival was renamed in honor of Fay B. Kaigler, a school teacher from McComb, Miss. Kaigler was well-known for her promotion of children’s literature and for advocating for the role of books in the lives of youth. She first attended the festival in the 1990s at the invitation of her friend Ruth Lamont, a children’s librarian from Baton Rouge, La. The pair would continue to visit every spring. Before her passing, Kaigler left the festival a planned gift that has helped ensure the festival’s continued success. Since 1998, an annual award named the Fay B. Kaigler-Ruth Lamont Award has been given to a Mississippi teacher or school librarian for accomplishments in promoting children’s reading. Born July 1, 1917, Kaigler would have turned 100 this year.

SPECIAL THANKS

The Fay B. Kaigler Children’s Book Festival expresses appreciation to the following for their contributions to the success of the 2017 festival:

**Dr. Rodney D. Bennett**, President, The University of Southern Mississippi

**Dr. Steven Moser**, Provost, The University of Southern Mississippi

**Dr. Aubrey Lucas**, President Emeritus, The University of Southern Mississippi

**Dr. Ann Blackwell**, Dean, College of Education and Psychology, The University of Southern Mississippi

**Dr. John Eye**, Dean, University Libraries

**Dr. Teresa Welsh**, Director, School of Library and Information Science, The University of Southern Mississippi

**The Estate of Fay B. Kaigler**

The family of **Coleen Salley** for their continued support of the festival

**Dr. Martin Pope**, Dr. Deborah Pope and the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation for their continued support of the festival

**Sarah Mangrum** and **Dawn Smith**, 50th Annual Festival Celebration Coordinators

Volunteer Coordinator **Heather Moore**, Special Collections Librarian, Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission, Mississippi College

Steering Committee: **Dr. Stacy Creel**, **Dr. Ellen Ruffin**, and **Dr. Teresa Welsh**

Registration: **Stevie Evans**, **Jaclyn Anderson** and **Amanda King**

Social Media Coordinators: **Shannon Hicks** and **Alicia Schwerzenbach**

**Ellen Ruffin**, Danielle Bishop Stoulig, Elizabeth La Beaud, Leah Rials and **Amanda Myers** for their extensive help with historical research of the festival

**Dr. Onva Boshears** and **Jeannine Laughlin-Porter** for their infinite knowledge of all things Festival

**Dr. Matthew Griffis**, SLIS Assistant Professor, who served as curator of the displays, “The Children’s Book Festival: A Retrospective in Artifacts” and “The History of the University of Southern Mississippi Medallion”

**Graduate Student Ambassadors**

Rachel Bloomingburg - University of Alabama

Liz Bracher - Kent State University

Amanda Deliman - Indiana University

Rachel Jones - University of North Texas

Hannah Payne - University of North Texas

Trey Veazey - Louisiana State University

**Escorts**: Anna Brannin, Ramona Caponegro, Erin Clyburn, Sharon Davis, Tonja Johnson, Christine Nassar, Bridget Reeves, Montana Rindahl, Jeannie Thompson, Bethany Venable

**LISSA**: Student Association of the School of Library and Information Science, The University of Southern Mississippi

**Hattiesburg Arts Council**

**Sandra Foster**, Frank James III, and the staff at the Hilton Garden Inn

**Pat Alonzo** and **Penny Patterson** with CH Travel

**Jessica Sherman** of Spooky Spittle

**Tracy Miracle**, Marissa Herman and Stephanie Pando at Candlewick Press

**Eric Roberts** and **Jerod Staples** with Roberts Creative

**Faculty, staff and students of the School of Library and Information Science**, The University of Southern Mississippi

**Librarians and staff of University Libraries**

**Staff of Southern Miss** including Aimee Huard, Marlene Dillon and her crew at Eagle Dining; Lynn McCarver, Heather Graves, David Tisdale, Megan McCormick, Britney Westbrook and the team at University Communications; Kathy Hayman, Maggie Amerson, Penny Rymarowicz and the Barnes and Noble staff; Lucy Bowens, Belinda Patterson and the staff at Parking Management; Jami King, Jeff Taylor, Megan Wilkinson and the Thad Cochran Center staff; James Buckhaults and his staff at the Image Center; Leslee Smith, Kristie Murphy, Maegan Knight and MaryAnn Parish at University Foundation.