

# IATE NEWSLETTER

Monthly Newsletter of the Illinois Association of Teachers of English

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## Post-Conference Report

BY DR. KAITLIN GLAUSE, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Congratulations to all our Fall Conference participants. What a celebration of authenticity in English teaching and learning! The conference was a wonderful opportunity to explore, connect, and experience all the good work in English teaching from across the state of Illinois. We had 90 English teachers and teacher educators bringing their best ideas and most authentic selves to this year's conference.

In this newsletter, you will find an overview of awards and featured authors, reflections on conference experiences, and information on the upcoming 2024 conference theme.

As you reflect on your own Fall Conference experience, we encourage you to share what you've learned with your colleagues at school, prepare your conference presentation for publication in the Illinois English Bulletin, and begin reflecting upon the professional development you could share at our next conference, Fall 2024: Cultivating Humanity.

Thank you to all the amazing executive team members and presenters who made the conference possible. It's a joy to be your colleague.

Kaitlin Glause, Ph.D.  
IATE Executive Secretary

# Conference Wrap-Up

BY KIM KOTTY, CONFERENCE CHAIR

We're so glad that so many could join us at Millikin University in Decatur!

In keeping with the conference theme "Authenticity in Action" we spent the weekend exploring the many ways in which we celebrate authentic literacy practices within our classrooms.

We are grateful to our long-time primary sponsor, Lake-Cook Distributors, who helped us to welcome attendees with complimentary copies of *The School for Good Mothers* by our 2023 Illinois Author of the Year, Jessamine Chan and who provided many give-aways throughout the weekend. When you need to purchase books for your classroom, please consider Lake-Cook.

We started the conference with our annual business meeting on Friday. President Jennifer Gouin introduced our new slate of officers: President, Betsy Geiselman; 1st Vice President, Kim Kotty; 2nd Vice President, Andrew Rodbro; Secretary, Jennifer Gouin; and Treasurer, Michelle Ryan. We are sure that our leaders will continue to move us forward as we work to grow IATE.

Following our business meeting, we listened as Robin Ha shared her own personal story as an immigrant moving to the U.S. from South Korea. She initially struggled to find her place in Alabama but found a community by reading comics. Though she began her career in the fashion industry, she eventually found publishing success when her illustrated cookbook *Cook Korean!* landed her on the New York Times best seller list. Her subsequent graphic novel, *The Almost American Girl* has been met with critical acclaim, and her second graphic novel, *The Fox Maidens*, will be released this coming February. Her talk reminded us of the value of bringing graphic novels into our classrooms and that we should always encourage students to follow their passions.

Throughout Friday and Saturday, attendees had the opportunity to choose from over 40 sessions focusing on many kinds of authentic literacy practices from fostering inquiry-based classrooms to creating podcasts and from writing personal narratives to incorporating SEL into our classrooms meaningfully. Our presenters shared countless teaching practices and facilitated workshops on their topics. Many uploaded their materials at [iateonline.org](http://iateonline.org). Conference attendees can access those materials by logging into the website.

(Continued page 3)

## Conference Wrap-Up, Cont.

After a full day of learning, we ended the evening with a cocktail reception to create space to relax and connect with professional friends, both new and old. After dinner, Honorary Awards Chairperson Genevieve Sherman interviewed Illinois Author of the Year Jessamine Chan. Chan shared the inspiration for *The School for Good Mothers*, a 2013 piece in the *New Yorker* by Rachel Aviv called "[Where is Your Mother.](#)" Her novel highlights the effects of an unjust system on a flawed central character. In her interview, Chan reflected on the role of race and poverty within the child welfare system and challenged participants to examine who is served and who is punished by our system. After her interview we celebrated Gary Anderson, longtime mentor and friend to many within IATE, with the IATE Lifetime Membership Award. Gary encouraged us to press on despite the challenges and reminded us how vitally important our role is as ELA teachers.

We closed the conference with a keynote address from Catherine Adel West, author of *Saving Ruby King* and *The Two Lives of Sara*. Catherine's own mother worked as a teacher and principal, and she spoke honestly about the sacrifices that we teachers make for our students while reminding us that we need to do a bit better when it comes to caring for ourselves.

At the conclusion of the conference, District Leaders met to discuss upcoming events and opportunities. We are fortunate to have many dedicated leaders, but we are also looking to fill some [positions listed here.](#) If you are interested in serving in this role, please contact District Leader Coordinator Delores Robinson at [delores\\_robinson@ivcc.edu](mailto:delores_robinson@ivcc.edu). If your district is not in need of a new leader, but you're interested in the opportunity to serve as a leader within our organization and profession, please consider serving on any of our [Committees](#). If you see one that seems like a great fit, please reach out to President Besty Geiselman at [betsy.geiselman@cchs165.com](mailto:betsy.geiselman@cchs165.com).

Throughout the conference, attendees were able to purchase from [The Literary](#), an independent bookstore out of Champaign. Please join the broader Campaign-Urbana community at The Literary for books, brunch, or cocktails! If you're not located in the area, please support your local, independent book sellers!

We hope that this year's conference left attendees recharged and inspired for the rest of this year! We hope you met someone new and left ready to try something new.

Please join us next October for "Cultivating Humanity: Refining Our Literary Traditions to Forge a Better Future"! 2nd Vice President Andrew Rodbro will be serving as the 2024 Conference Chair.

# Robin Ha: Comics as Retreat and Creative Space

BY BETSY GEISELMAN, PRESIDENT

Robin Ha charmed and delighted listeners at the Friday luncheon as she shared the story of her move from Seoul, South Korea to the United States (and more specifically, Huntsville, Alabama) as a 14 year old. Robin described her disorientation and isolation with her new home and discussed the challenge of knowing minimal English when she arrived. Through comic books and comic-con events, Robin gradually began to feel less alone as she made friends and found solace in reading comics and creating illustrations. Her love of comics stemmed from her childhood when her single mother, a full time hairdresser, needed to find creative ways to keep Robin occupied while she worked. Robin noted



that her mother realized the “power of comics to anchor a kid for hours.” From this practical maneuver on her mom’s part, Robin developed a love of the illustrated and written word. Robin shared several works that were inspirational and fundamental to her growth as an illustrator, and noted that in looking back at some of her early favorites that there was a connection between the works she loved: many of them had a common theme of displacement as they featured a girl cast out and finding a new home in a new land.

Fortunately for Robin (and for us!), her mother nurtured her love of comics. She entered her into a comics class and took her to Anime conventions. This nurturing of her love of comics led Robin to pursue a degree in Illustration at the Rhode Island School of Design. Following graduation, Robin was not sure how to become established as a comic book illustrator and author, so she took jobs working for Ralph Lauren and American Apparel. As these jobs became increasingly unsatisfying for her, she realized that she needed to take a risk and make a change. Robin discovered that she won a cartoon comic contest in Italy, but realized that she would have to quit her job to be able to attend the award ceremony. It was at this point that Robin decided to take the leap and commit to writing comics full time. Her willingness to take a major risk to pursue what she loved is inspiring. Robin’s leap of faith gradually paid off as she was discovered at a comic book convention from her short comic “Banchan in Two Pages” which is an illustrated Korean guide.

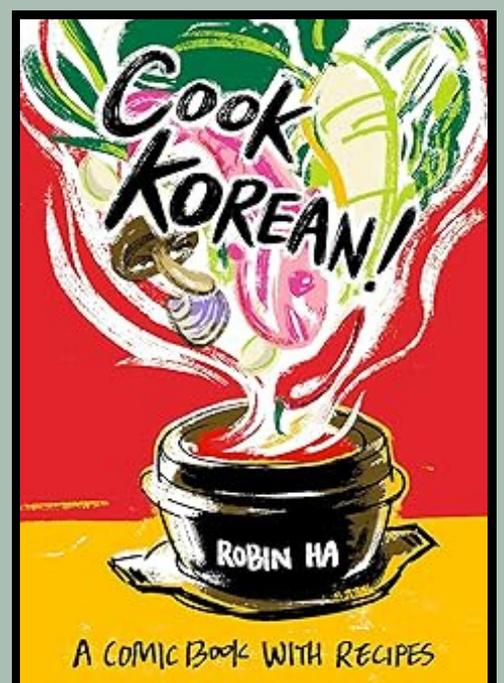
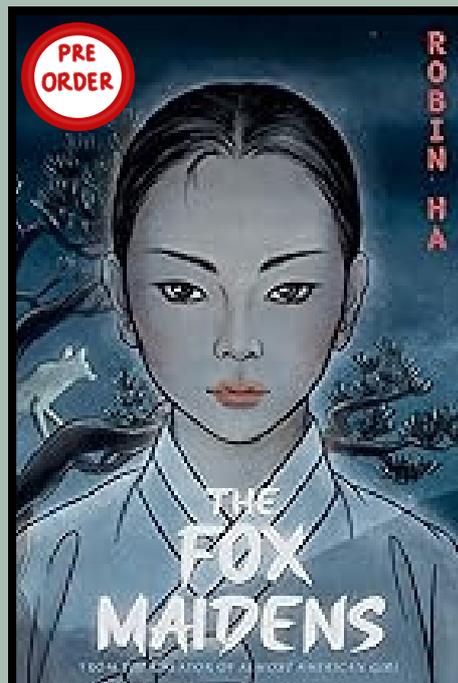
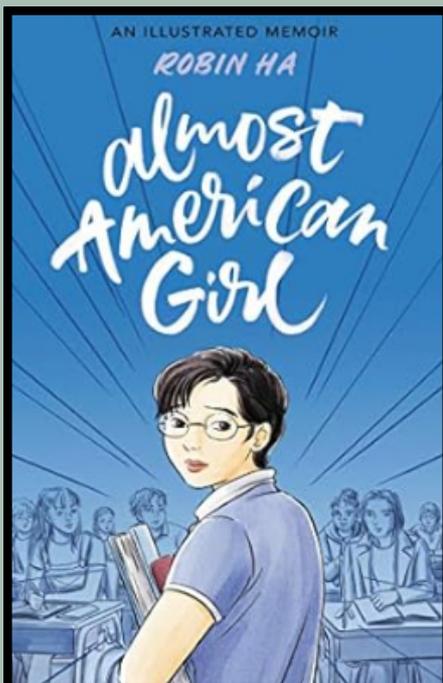
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# Robin Ha: Comics as Retreat and Creative Space, Cont.



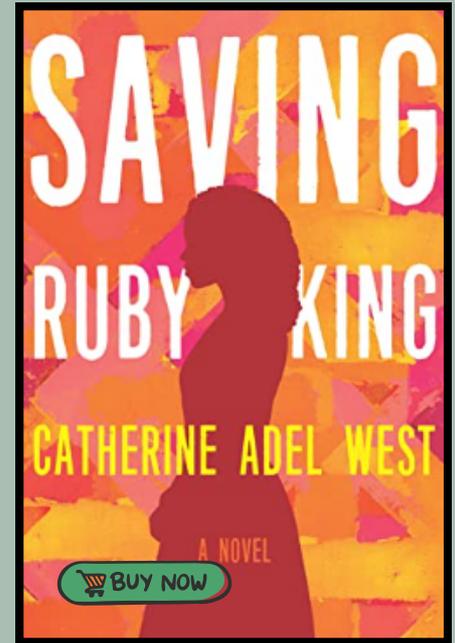
Robin has since published *Cook Korean* and *Almost American Girl*; her third comic, *Fox Maidens*, will be released in February of 2024.

If you would like to learn more about Robin Ha, check out her website at: <https://robinha81.wixsite.com/robinha/about>. To purchase copies of Robin Ha's books, click the images below.



# Keynote Author, Catherine Adel West

BY JEN GOUIN, IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT



At the Saturday afternoon Past President’s Luncheon, attendees had the pleasure of listening to a keynote by author Catherine Adel West. West is the author of *The Two Lives of Sara* and her debut novel *Saving Ruby King*, which was named a Most Anticipated Book of 2020 by Ms. Magazine, Book Riot, The Rumpus, Library Journal, PureWow, The Every Girl, Parade, and others. She talked a bit about her books and the writing process, but the focal point of her presentation was about teachers and their lasting impact. In her keynote, she emphasized the importance of teachers taking care of themselves, as she noted that we all get an “F-” in self-care and that we need to realize that we make a difference. Growing up, she watched her mother’s dedication as a teacher and principal (sometimes both at the same time), so she knows the hard work that goes into the profession.

She discussed how her most impactful teachers had different teaching styles, but they had several qualities in common, including passion for the subject they taught and innovative ways to reach students. She noted that we often do not know our impact for many years, and that she would not be standing here, as an author and presenter, if it were not for her teachers along the way.

Her infectious enthusiasm and love for educators made this a wonderful end to our 2023 conference. Thank you to Ms. West for an invigorating and encouraging final session on “Authenticity in Action.”

# Session Spotlight - “Going Gradeless”

BY GIANNA CASSATA, CENTRAL DISTRICT

On Friday’s session “Going Gradeless” led by Milikin’s very own professor, Dr. Kaitlin Glause, conference attendees had the pleasure of learning strategies and looking at real-life experiences of going gradeless in the English Language Arts classroom. During this session, Dr. Glause informed us that the point system is indeed arbitrary. Attendees looked at different ways for equitable assessment within the classroom and how educators can take diverse frameworks and philosophies around equitable assessment and relate them to their own pedagogical values.

Attendees were informed about research done by Asao B. Inoue that shows that if educators focus on: de-emphasizing final grades, de-emphasizing teacher as knowledge holder, focusing on feedback over time instead of right away after something is turned in, valuing students labor and student-led assessment reflection, as well as allowing student voice, then assessment will be valued much deeper by students in the classroom.

Attendees shared their own experiences of going gradeless in the classroom, and many educators have said that their schools have switched to what is known as “Competency Based grading” where the grade scale is as follows: 1-4 Scale of Mastery. Through these real life experience discussions, attendees noted that when students can advocate for themselves on their grade and provide a rationale as to why they should get that grade, they feel better about their work done in the classroom.

For example, when instructing and assessing students on a writing assignment, such as a research paper, educators can work with students on improving writing and helping students see that writing is a process, not something done once and will never be returned too. Including writing conferences with students that provide formative feedback and checkpoints to ensure parts of the essay are there instead of arbitrary points for completion, can ensure a better student learning environment when it comes to writing. I myself have already been implementing this style of assessment within my own classroom for my students’ research project.

Thank you, Dr. Glause, for informing educators on going gradeless and its success within the classroom.

If you have a session that stood out to you,  
consider writing it up for the Newsletter!

# IATE Author of the Year, Jessamine Chan

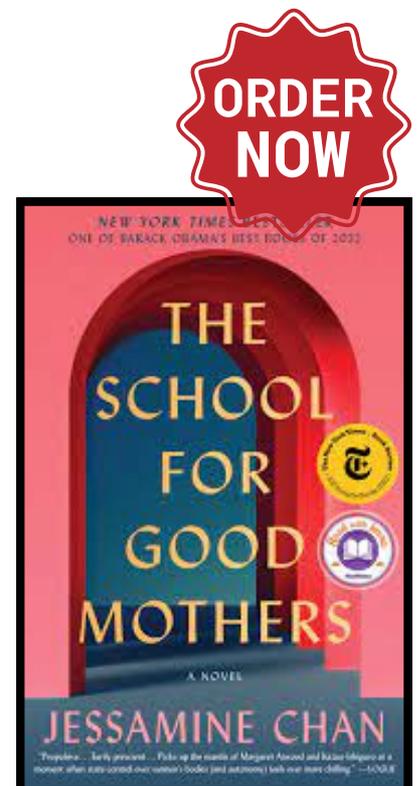
BY GENEVIEVE SHERMAN, HONORARY AWARDS

This year's Illinois Association of Teachers of English conference in Decatur, Illinois proved to be the October pick-me-up that teachers needed, from the sessions, to the speakers, to the surprisingly tasty conference food. At Friday night's author of the year award ceremony, Jessamine Chan helped teachers see the how authentic voices come through in texts. Thanks to Lake-Cook Distributers, Inc., every conference attendee was gifted a copy of The School for Good Mothers, and Jessamine spent the time to have personal conversations with every person as she signed their books.

In her interview, Jessamine discussed the similarities between the family court system in the real world and the family court system in her book; unfortunately, there are many. She explained the imbalances in the way different genders are treated in the court system. As I read this book, I felt every emotion towards Frida (the mother), the court system, and even the school for good mothers...and fathers!

Jessamine's delightful demeanor and down-to-earth personality easily won our hearts. I cannot wait to see what she writes next!

If you would like to nominate an author who lives in, has lived in, or was born in Illinois, follow this [link](#).



# District News Needed!

BY DELORES ROBINSON, DISTRICT LEADER COORDINATOR

Autumn has always been my favorite season, both personally and professionally. All of the many enjoyable accompaniments to cooler weather (colorful falling leaves and the rustling sound they make, savory crockpot stews with root vegetables like parsnips and carrots, and cozying up under a couple afghans with my cat, Stanley) make weekend time WONDERFUL.

But the autumn months are also an ideal time professionally. My students are no longer unknown entities. I've had time at this point to read enough of their writing to recognize their author voices and individual writing styles. I know what we need to work on, and I'm aware of the specific challenges some of them face as they work through lessons and strive to meet the learning objectives. Plus, we all get to enjoy all the extras of the season: prep football and other fall sports, marching band, Homecoming, the fall play, community harvest and pumpkin festivals, and Halloween). Everyone has settled into a groove, and we're not yet at that stressful down-to-the-wire end of the semester when so many of them worry about final grades.

Sidenote: I had a meeting of the minds with another attendee at the IATE fall conference at Millikin where she said to me, "Students don't think they've learned unless they get a letter grade. It's like they don't trust (or can't identify?) their own progress unless it's validated by some percentage or letter on the work." That observation felt so true to me, and I hope that fellow teacher takes me up on my suggestion that she write more about that and submit her piece to the IATE Newsletter where it might inspire some of you to then share some of your own feelings and experiences surrounding your students and grades.

The conference also gave me a chance to get to know some fellow District Leaders who have been only names on emails thus far: we're such a large state that I have to rely on the District Leaders to share information about particular schools, programs, landmarks, attractions, teachers, and events from their area of Illinois. While at the conference, I enjoyed not only some very thought-provoking break-out sessions but I also got the opportunity to make connections with fellow educators between sessions, at the delicious meals (thanks, Millikin food service and staff, for those outstanding offerings!), and before and after the keynote speaker presentations. I'm already looking forward to seeing some of those new friends at the next IATE gathering!

So let me end this District Leader Coordinator column with some gratitude challenge. First, I sincerely thank all the current District Leaders for their

(Continued page 10)

## District News Needed, Cont.

service to IATE. Your work is appreciated! Not only do District Leaders champion the benefits to be had with membership in IATE to the teachers of their district, but they also share back with the rest of us information about worthwhile events and interesting people from their areas of Illinois. Learning with and about each other helps us all to grow stronger as a community of professional educators. Second, I challenge all of you reading this to become a more active part of our organization. Reach out to your District Leader and introduce yourself. Offer to meet for a cup of coffee and a quick brainstorm conversation about ways to strengthen IATE's presence in your part of the state. Submit articles to future Newsletters or to the Illinois English Bulletin. Talk with your colleagues or others about possible conference session proposals for the October 2024 gathering. Submit your students' writing to the upcoming Poetry & Prose Contest. Have you read a great book (or watched a play, movie, or concert)? Write up a brief review and share with the rest of us! Are you in a part of Illinois currently without a District Leader? Contact me, and I'll tell you more about how you can help!

IATE is all of us; how can we help each other to face the challenges and to more deeply experience all the joys of the classroom?

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## District Leader Openings

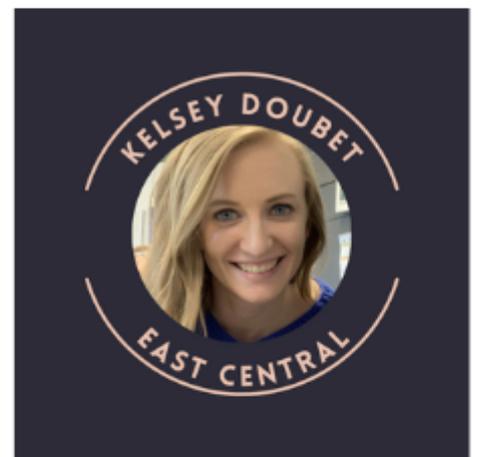
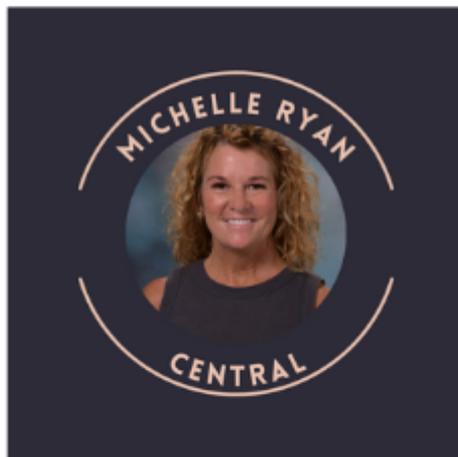
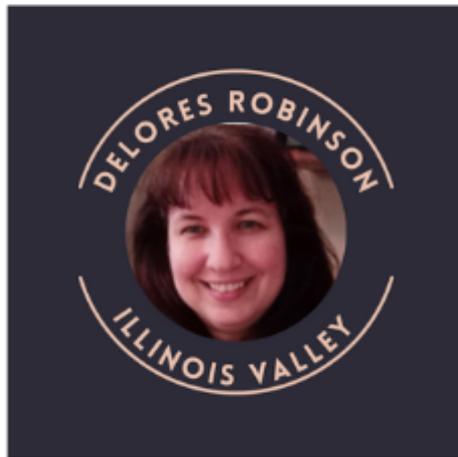
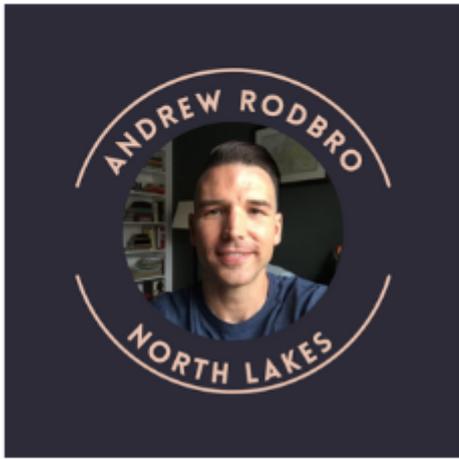
Are you ready to develop your leadership skills and support other teachers in your area? If so, please consider signing up as a district leader! Many districts can have additional leaders, and the districts below all need your leadership. Please reach out to [Delores Robinson](#) if you are interested.

Next to each open district, you will see the counties it encompasses.

Open districts are as follows:

- Northwest Suburban: Bounded on the south by Hwy 19, on the north by Lake County Line Road, on the east by Lake Michigan, and on the west by Cook County Line
- Metro North & West: City of Chicago north of I55 and Parochial Schools in City of Chicago
- Northeastern: Kane, Kendall, McHenry, Will
- Northwestern: Boone, Carroll, JoDaviess, Stephenson, Winnebago
- Black Hawk: Rock Island, Henry, Mercer
- Rock River: DeKalb, Lee, Ogle, Whiteside
- Western: Fulton, Henderson, Knox, McDonough, Stark, Warren
- Mississippi Valley: Adams, Brown, Hancock, Pike, Schuyler
- Wabash Valley: Clay, Crawford, Edwards, Lawrence, Richland, Wabash, Wayne, White

# District Leader Introduction



# District Leader Introduction, Cont.



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## Membership

IATE membership works toward maintaining and advancing the professionalism of the English/Language Arts field. Your membership benefits you through:

- Providing a means to make your concerns heard by state officials
- Expanding your network of educational contacts across the state
- Keeping you up-to-date through the annual IATE Fall Conference and IATE publications like the Illinois English Bulletin and the IATE Newsletter
- Promotion the recognition of outstanding members of our profession

Did you know that we offer a free, one-year membership to all teachers who have not previously been a member of IATE and to students?

You can become a member by clicking here: [iateonline.org](http://iateonline.org).

# Officers for 2023-2024

President - Betsy Geiselman, Carbondale Community High School

First Vice-President - Kim Kotty, Fenwick High School

Second Vice-President - Andrew Rodbro, Fenwick High School

Secretary - Jennifer Gouin, Lincoln Community High School

Treasurer - Michelle Ryan, Lincoln Community High School

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## Interested in a Leadership Position?

IATE is a 100+ year organization. We have a tradition of great leadership. We would love the opportunity to mentor new individuals to join us as we continue to serve as the oldest English professional organization in the state of Illinois. If you are interested in a leadership position, following is information summarized from the IATE Constitution that will be helpful.

1. To be eligible for office, an individual must have been a member for at least five years preceding the year in which nominated.
2. For any vacant positions, including the Second Vice President, the chair of the Nominating Committee will seek nominations. Each nominee must submit a vita to the committee.
3. The committee will submit one nominee for each office to the Executive Committee for approval. At least one nominee per position must be approved by the Executive Council.
4. If someone would like to be nominated from the floor, they need to present a signed petition (25 signature minimum) at the Annual Fall Conference.

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## Meet the Second Vice President Nominee



Andrew J. Rodbro is currently a teacher in the English Department at Warren Township High School, in Gurnee, Illinois. He has 26 years' experience teaching high school and middle school English language arts. Andrew began his involvement in IATE in 2018, when he was invited to present at the Fall Conference and then subsequently appointed District Leader of the North Lakes District in 2019. Outside of class, Andrew can be found reading urban fiction from the early twentieth century or a good detective story or thriller.

When he doesn't have his nose buried in a book, he has his hands buried in the soil or some bread dough while he engages in one of a variety of hobbies, including gardening and bread-baking. Andrew lives in Chicago with his husband, Tom, their dog, Ellie, and their cat, Lily.

# 2024 Conference Theme

BY ANDREW RODBRO, SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

As the new Second Vice President, I am excited to start working on the 2024 Fall Conference, “Cultivating Humanity: Refining Our Literary Traditions to Forge a Better Future.”

In “The End of the English Major” (The New Yorker, 27 February 2023), Nathan Heller reported that colleges and universities across the country are eliminating majors in the humanities, including English. Some of our colleagues in the IATE are experiencing such a loss at their institutions. The NCTE’s English Journal even has an upcoming issue devoted to the question, “What is English?” So the value and relevance of the humanities are being challenged. With the cultural push toward STEM fields of study, the humanities face a crisis of identity.

Such a turn of events is rather deplorable. Teachers in the humanities preserve the accumulated knowledge of the past three millennia and pass that knowledge on to the next generation. Moreover, the value of the humanities--the value of English, especially--is that it helps us make sense of our world and where we fit in relation to others. Knowing where people fit in relation to others has important public policy ramifications. It involves knowing who the “haves” and “have-nots” are, which subsequently determines where resources are allocated, to whom, and for what.

Thus, the theme for the 2024 Fall Conference: “Cultivating Humanity.” As teachers we cultivate the minds of young people. In cultivating those minds, we instill humanity--a humane ethics.

In cultivating humanity we also interrogate our traditions. One hundred years ago the humanities saw a shift from studying the works of classical antiquity to the study of the core subjects we have today. Since then, some features of that core curriculum have been roundly and justly criticized (e.g., the “dead white men” canon).

Nevertheless, we have a lot of traditions that are valuable and worthwhile. English provides students with ways to ask important questions that engage them with conflicts in the world. The theme of the 2024 Fall Conference is a call to action to make the value of English known and keep that value in the public’s view.

## SEE YOU IN OCTOBER 2024

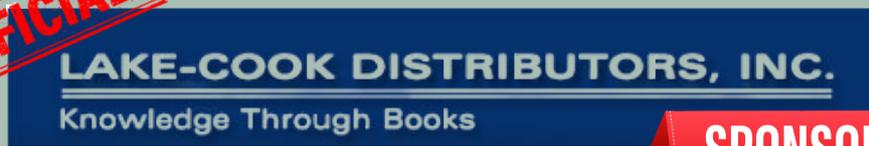
# Conference Materials

We are fortunate to have had 18 presenters upload their materials to our Session Material Archive (<https://iateonline.org/session-materials-for-fall-2023-iate-conference/>).

The link will remain available (to logged-in, paid attendees only) through the conference archive page. Here is the link to the conference archive:

Conference Archive: <https://iateonline.org/2023-fall-conference-archive>

Take a look at what you may have missed when you were visiting other sessions on Friday or Saturday. Unable to access the materials, be sure your membership is up-to-date. You can find details about IATE membership below.



# Conference Vendors

IATE would like to express our appreciation for our 2023 conference vendors and sponsors. Without the support of these businesses and programs, our conference would not be as affordable for our attendees.

Thank you to our primary sponsor Lake-Cook Publishers for their continued support of our organization. In addition to a yearly monetary donation, they provide each attendee with a complimentary copy of a novel by our IATE Illinois Author of the Year. This year, each attendee received a copy of Jessamine Chan's *The School for Good Mothers*. Access their website at <https://www.lake-cook.com/> or email them at [sales@lake-cook.com](mailto:sales@lake-cook.com) with your paperback classroom set needs.

Thank you to our exhibitors in the Oberhelman Center for Leadership Performance: EIU Writing Project, Millikin University, Roxy & Lola jewelry, and The Literary bookstore. We had a great time talking with you and/or buying from you. For additional information and/or shopping opportunities, visit the following links:

[EIU Writing Project](#)

[Roxy & Lola](#)

[The Literary](#)

# Conference Vendors, Cont.

Thank you to the organizations that advertised in our program and/or conference swag bag:

Illinois Retired Teachers Association

In Motion Counseling

Creative Communication

DePaul University Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and Discourse

Illinois Valley Community College Fine Arts Department

Sarah's Inn

In Motion Counseling also provided a notebook and a snack break for attendees, a much appreciated afternoon pick-me-up. The American Writers' Museum provided a free membership for a year, to be awarded to one of our Chicago-area attendees. NCTE provided books to give away to our conference attendees as well, and Roxy & Lola donated \$140 worth of jewelry to our basket raffle.

A huge thank you to all of our vendors and sponsors; you help to fund this wonderful event each year. To our membership, please remember these businesses and organizations for your future needs.



sarah's inn



# Minority Scholarship



**IATE  
MINORITY  
SCHOLARSHIP**

**About**  
IATE is proud to award two \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors who come from an under-represented group within our field. The scholarship may be used toward any professional expense to start a career.

**Deadline**  
March 1, 2024

For More Information  
Email Shannon Radcliffe  
[sradcliffe@lchsailers.org](mailto:sradcliffe@lchsailers.org)



Visit here to nominate a deserving candidate.

On Friday evening during the cocktail hour, conference attendees had the opportunity to purchase raffle tickets for baskets donated by the Executive Council members. Baskets included goodies such as a Kindle, copious amounts of food and beverages, cuddly blankets, candles, school supplies, jewelry, and our favorite item of all, BOOKS!

Attendees had a great time choosing which baskets to try to win. The drawing was held at the end of the evening's festivities and was emceed by Genevieve Sherman, Honorary Awards chairperson. Winner or not, everyone had fun, and the raffle benefitted an important cause.

The basket raffle raised over \$500 for our annual Minority Scholarship recipient. Nominees must be a December 2023 or May 2024 English Education graduate who identifies with a minority group. We will be accepting nominations for this scholarship from English Education professors. To nominate a student, please fill out the Google Form found using the QR code below. If you have any questions, please email [sradcliffe@lchsailers.org](mailto:sradcliffe@lchsailers.org). Please submit your nominations by March 15, 2024.



# In Motion Counseling

**Moving you to better health**

We are a fully virtual practice that provide services via telehealth to all residents of Illinois. It's ok to ask for help. Reach out to schedule your free consultation.

## Specialties include, but not limited to:

- Anxiety
- Depression
- Work related stress
- Life Changes
- Trauma
- Relationship Issues

## Payment Options:

- Aetna PPO
- Blue Cross Blue Shield PPO
- Cigna
- United
- Self Pay



# IATE Poetry & Prose Contest

## Deadline: January 31

Visit [iateonline.org](http://iateonline.org) for details

# Remember



**Defending Pension and Health  
Insurance Benefits for  
Retired Educators!**

[www.irtaonline.org](http://www.irtaonline.org)



DEPAUL UNIVERSITY

## WRITING, RHETORIC, & DISCOURSE MASTER OF ARTS



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DEPAUL UNIVERSITY

Department of Writing, Rhetoric, & Discourse  
2320 N. Kenmore Ave  
Schmitt Academic Center, Room 350  
Chicago, IL 60614

Contact us:  
773.325.4180  
[wrd@depaul.edu](mailto:wrd@depaul.edu)  
[wrd.depaul.edu](http://wrd.depaul.edu)

The **Writing, Rhetoric, & Discourse (WRD) graduate program at DePaul University** is Chicago's only Master's program that focuses on the pedagogy of writing, rhetoric, and composition. Through a solid theoretical foundation in rhetoric paired with practical training, the Master's in WRD will help you to become a better writer and to learn new ways to teach the craft, history, and politics of writing. We provide a supportive environment for all students, including members of historically underrepresented groups, and encourage multiple perspectives on writing and writing pedagogy.

With the option to concentrate in **Teaching Writing & Language** or **Professional & Digital Writing**, you will develop professional skills invaluable to your career as a writing teacher.

# IATE NEWSLETTER

## Column Opportunities

IATE is interested in articles of general interest as stand alones or for recurring columns. You may also submit manuscripts/column ideas on any topic that will appeal to Newsletter readers. Articles centered on classroom practice and current issues in our field will be given priority. The Newsletter is published monthly September through May. Current columns listed below. Inquires should be sent to Michelle Ryan, [mryan@chsrailers.org](mailto:mryan@chsrailers.org).

### TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM

(250-500 words) - Submissions for this column could include reviews of devices, programs, and/or apps for the classroom, as well as lesson ideas utilizing technology in the classroom. Submissions should include the name of the technology, as well as any cost associated with it.

### TEACHER CREATORS

We teach in the English classroom, but we also have passions and talents outside of those four walls. Share your work with us. We invite submissions of original poetry and prose, photography, cartoons, art. You name it. Your submission should include your name, affiliation, and a brief statement accompanying your piece.

### TEACHING TODAY

(250-500 words) - Submissions can address any critical issues in the English classroom/field today. These can include all academic areas: middle school, high school, and post-secondary school.

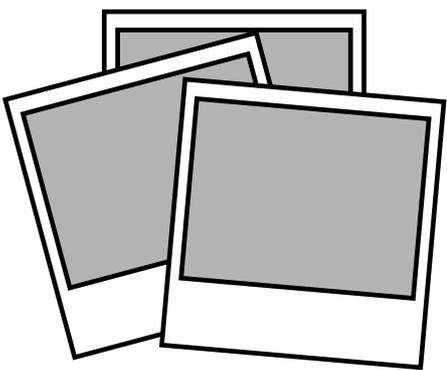
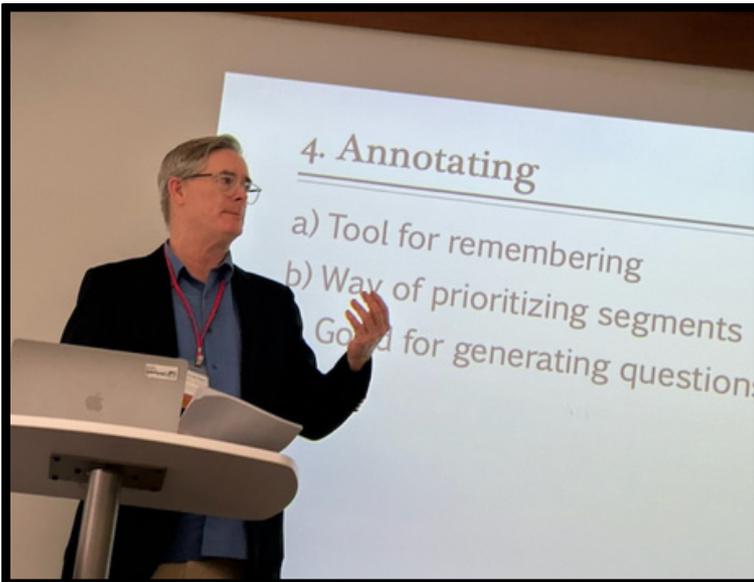
### IATE READS

(400-600 words) - This column is devoted to building our libraries, both professionally and for our students. You might consider sharing books that are great for read-alouds or First Chapter Fridays, books that speak to our students and their experiences, or books for our professional libraries. Submissions might also include ideas for teaching specific books, places to find affordable books, discipline specific books to create cross-discipline connections, and other ideas for creating lifelong readers. When sharing recommendations and ideas, please include the text title, author, and publisher, as well as a "recommended for."

### BUT WHAT ABOUT?

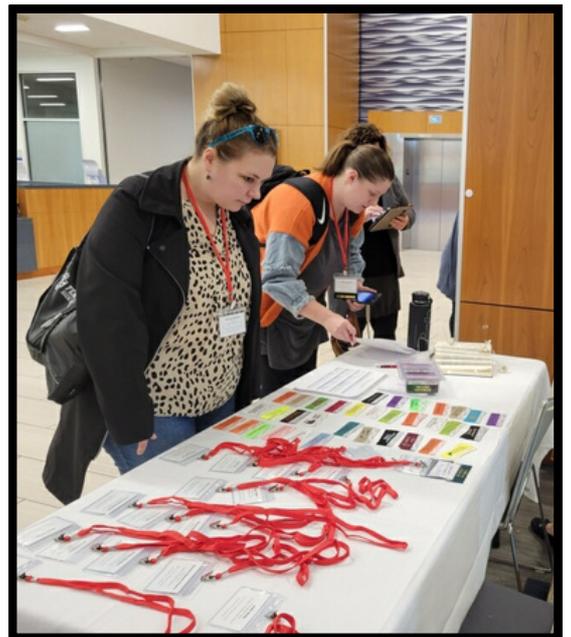
(100 words) - This column is devoted to all of those questions we have as educators, whether we are new or veterans. Send in your questions and we'll provide the platform for sharing ideas and answers to your most pressing issues, even if it's as simple as maintaining your classroom library or how to make time for that bathroom break.

# Conference Memories

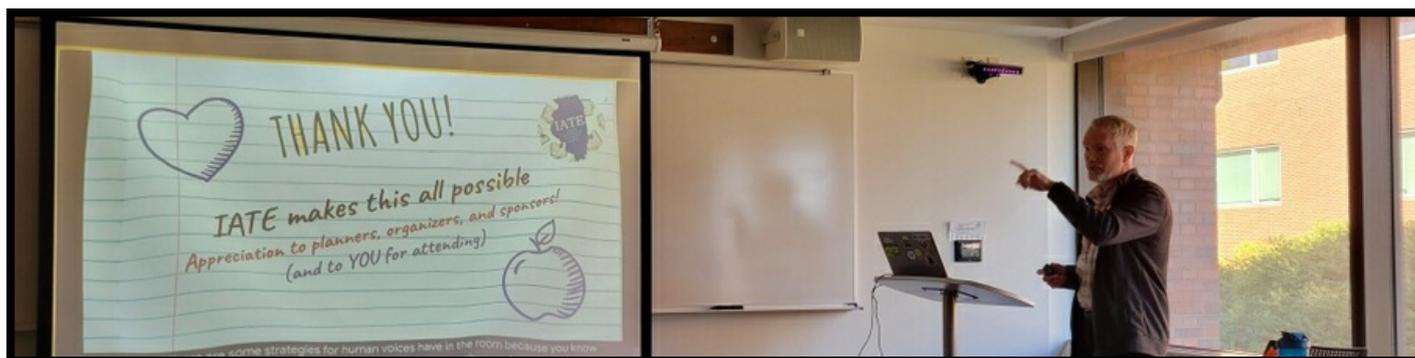


If you have pictures you would like to see included in the newsletter, send them to [mryan@lchsrailers.org](mailto:mryan@lchsrailers.org).

# Conference Memories



# Conference Memories



# THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING IATE CONFERENCE 2023!