

IATE NEWSLETTER

Monthly Newsletter of the Illinois Association of Teachers of English

NEWS & FEATURES

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IT'S TIME FOR
Authenticity in Action

IATE Fall Conference Campus Information for Millikin University

Conference Events are located in University Commons

- Registration and Vendors - Oberhelman Center for Leadership Performance (main floor)
- Sessions - 1st floor classrooms (see conference schedule)
- Meals/Events - 3rd floor banquet hall

Conference Overview

BY KIM KOTTY, CONFERENCE CHAIR

Today in my inbox, I had a communication from my children's school district explaining the process for registering for next school year, followed by a letter from my dentist introducing the newest hygienist. I opened Instagram and found a hilarious post from Merriam-Webster that explained the use of "expletive infixation"—a concept in linguistics where profanity is inserted into the middle of a word for emphasis. When we think about these everyday genres, we can see the tools of literacy at work. Each author wrote in a mode appropriate for the task, considered their audience and purpose, aligned their communication with the norms of their chosen genre, and employed various rhetorical appeals they likely learned in their 10th grade English class.

Writers communicate with a variety of purposes and audiences in mind, and never before have the modes writers employ and the mediums they use to reach audiences been so diverse. Our students exist in a text saturated world. They spend countless hours buried in their devices, and consume media at unprecedented rates. Their ability to read with a critical eye is perhaps more important than ever as social media has become an increasingly rich tool for communicating information and developing arguments. Additionally, we must teach our students how to navigate both traditional and digital landscapes and help them develop the literacy skills needed to be content creators and not just content consumers. They need the rhetorical flexibility to write everyday texts in genres that have yet to be developed. Beyond this, we must encourage them to do more with these tools than simply entertain others; we must empower our students to use their voices to build a better world.

It is with this idea of appreciating diverse writing and engagement approaches that we invite you to join IATE 2023: Authenticity in Action to consider what it means to engage students with authentic literacy practices.

Conference Information

This year's conference will be held on Friday, October 20 and Saturday, October 21 at Millikin University in Decatur, IL. You will have the option to attend one day or both days, though we hope that you join us for the full conference experience!

Friday will begin at 8:30 a.m. with a Welcome Session followed by Breakout Sessions A, B, and C in the morning. Lunch will feature Robin Ha who is a graphic novelist and the author of *The Almost American Girl*. She will be signing books after her keynote address. The afternoon will include

(Continued page 3)

Conference Overview, Cont.

Breakout Sessions D, E, F and will be followed by Cocktails and Conversations and the Dinner Award Ceremony featuring the Illinois Author of the Year, Jessamine Chan as our keynote speaker and the presentation of the IATE Lifetime Membership Award. All attendees are invited to a social gathering at the Homewood Suites Hotel in the evening.

Saturday will start at 8:30 a.m. with a Welcome Address from Illinois Teacher of the Year Briana Morales and will be followed by a brief IATE Business meeting. Breakout Sessions G, H, I, and J will take place in the morning. Lunch will include Catherine Adel West, author of *Saving Ruby King*, as a keynote speaker who will sign books after her talk. The Fall Conference will conclude by 2:30 p.m.

The IATE Executive Board and District Leader Meeting will take place following the book signing.

Featured Speakers

This year we are fortunate to have two featured speakers: Robin Ha and Catherine Adel West.

Robin Ha is a cartoonist and the author of the widely acclaimed graphic novel, *Almost American Girl*. Her work has been recognized with a 2020 Harvey Award Nomination and a 2021 Walter Award Honor, and was a 2021 Project Lit Book Club Selection.

Chicagoan and University of Illinois alum, Catherine Adel West is the author of *Saving Ruby King* and *The Two Lives of Sara*, both of which were named the most anticipated books of the year by Ms. Magazine, The Root, Popsugar, and Bustle, among others.

Both authors will be signing books after their keynote addresses.

Illinois Author of the Year

Our Past Presidents' Luncheon on Saturday will honor those English professionals who have served our organization in the past, and will recognize the Illinois Author of the Year, Jessamine Chan. Her debut novel *The School for Good Mothers* is a New York Times Bestseller and was included on The Today Show host Jenna Bush Hager's "Read with Jenna" book list.

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Conference Overview, Cont.

Conference Hotel

IATE Conference attendees will receive a discounted rate at the Homewood Suites in Forsyth, IL. Your stay includes breakfast at the hotel and free parking. Bring your running shoes or swimsuit as the hotel has a fitness center and indoor pool. We will also be meeting back at the hotel for a social hour. Bring your drinks, snacks, and conversation!

CPDUs

Once again this year, teachers needing Professional Development Units can verify their conference attendance by collecting signatures on the CPDU Signature Form in their registration packets. The IATE is an approved CPDU provider, and the 2023 Conference is the easiest way to earn a number of units in two short days. Please bring your Illinois Educator Identification Number (IEIN) with you.

Illinois is a large state, and IATE has many districts!

BY DELORES ROBINSON, DISTRICT LEADER COORDINATOR

What's it like teaching English in the very southernmost tip of our state? What about in a magnet school in Chicago? What similarities exist in classrooms and students among the varied locales of Illinois: rural, suburban, exurban and urban?

These are fascinating questions, but traveling and observing in person the states' many thousands of English classrooms is impossible. Therefore, IATE exists via a healthy network of members across our twenty-one districts, a network of teachers who tune in to what's happening to colleagues near and far and who likewise share information about their own teaching challenges and celebrations.

Ideally, each of the twenty-one districts would have 1-2 district leaders actively serving IATE by keeping their district's members updated on issues and by keeping IATE leadership informed about any localized issues: being the liaison between their district and the rest of Illinois' districts. Unfortunately, there currently are several districts in need of district leaders. Can you help?

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Illinois is a large state, and IATE has many districts!, Cont.

We recognize that families, classrooms, and schools (really, any group of people working together) all function more effectively when communication abounds. In fact, if you're reading this newsletter, then I can confidently say that you love the power of communication so much that you made it your career to help others learn how to better harness that power of communication with their reading and writing!

Below are listed IATE's hard-working and passionate English educators who volunteer to serve their districts. Search out any of these district leaders at the Millikin conference. Talk to them about your district and discover how to get more involved with IATE (your professional organization) and how to help your English teacher colleagues around the state (and how to receive support, in turn). What do you need to enhance your professional life? Chances are, IATE can provide it.

You will also find a list of districts who need district leaders. We would love to have you join us!

I can vouch that participation in IATE is rewarding and fun, and I look forward to visiting with as many fellow Word Nerds as possible during our upcoming gathering in Decatur!



District Leaders Wanted

- 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.



Conference Information: The Daily Details

This year's conference will be held on Friday, October 20 and Saturday, October 21 at Millikin University in Decatur, IL. You will have the option to attend one day or both days, though we hope that you join us for the full conference experience!

Friday will begin at 8:30 a.m. with a Welcome Session followed by Breakout Sessions A, B, and C in the morning. Lunch will feature award winning author, Robin Ha, which will be followed by time for book signing. The afternoon will include Breakout Sessions D, E, F followed by Cocktails and Conversations and the Dinner Award Ceremony featuring the Illinois Author of the Year, Jessamine Chan as our keynote speaker and the presentation of the IATE Lifetime Membership Award. Attendees are invited to a social gathering at the Homewood Suites Hotel in the evening.

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KEYNOTE SPEAKERS AND AUTHOR OF THE YEAR

Featured Speakers

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Campus Information for Millikin University

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Registration - Oberhelman Center for Leadership Performance (main floor)

Vendors - Oberhelman Center for Leadership Performance (main floor)

Sessions - 1st floor classrooms (see conference schedule)

Meals / Events - 3rd floor banquet hall

Campus parking is available at the following locations (see campus map):

- Lot M8 - University Commons
- Lot M9 - Decatur Indoor Sports Complex
- Lot M11 - First Presbyterian Church

Additional locations for food:

Near campus: <https://millikin.edu/visit/area-information>

Decatur / Downtown:

<https://business.decaturchamber.com/list/ql/restaurants-food-beverages-22>



MILLIKIN UNIVERSITY CAMPUS MAP

millikin.edu/tour

Academic / Administration

- 1 ADM-Scovill Hall
Hub School of Business, Center for Entrepreneurship, SCORE
- 2 Alumni/Development Center
- 6 Dolson Hall *Office of Residence Life*
- 24 Exercise Science & Sport Pavilion
- 3 Gorin Hall *Admission Office, Registrar, Marketing*
- 4 Griswold Physical Education Center
- 10 Hub *Business Incubator*
- 5 Leighty-Tabor Science Center
- 13 Millikin/DMH Health Clinic
- 8 Perkinson Music Center
- 7 Pilling Chapel
- 11 Center for Theatre & Dance
- 9 Shilling Hall
- 12 University Commons & Staley Library

Athletics

- 16 Bartlett Tennis Courts
- 17 Decatur Indoor Sports Center (DISC)
- 14 Department of Athletics
- 18 Frank M. Lindsay Track & Field
- 4 Griswold Physical Education Center
- 19 Workman Family Softball Field
- 20 Workman Family Baseball Field

Dining

- 12 Dining Hall - University Commons
- 1 Café ala Carte - ADM-Scovill Hall
- 10 Domino's, Subway, University Dogs
- 9 Einstein Bros Bagels - Shilling Hall (North Entrance)
- 28 Jimmy John's

Housing

- 29 Alpha Chi Omega
- 31 Aston Hall
- 32 Blackburn Hall
- 33 Delta Delta Delta
- 6 Dolson Hall
- 38 Huss House
- 37 Millikin East & West Apts.
- 41 New Hall 4
- 42 Pi Beta Phi
- 43 Sigma Alpha Epsilon
- 44 Tau Kappa Epsilon
- 45 Walker Hall
- 46 Weck Hall
- 42 The Woods at Millikin Apartments

Fine & Performing Arts

- 9 Albert Taylor Theatre
- 23 3D Arts & Theatre Center
- 22 Kirkland Fine Arts Center
- 25 Old Gym
- 40 Percussion House
- 8 Perkinson Music Center
- 7 Pilling Chapel
- 24 Pipe Dreams Studio Theatre
- 24 SPEC

Handicapped parking available in all lots.

Public Safety

Emergency

Dining



MILLIKIN UNIVERSITY

1184 W. Main St. Decatur, IL 62522

Officer Slate 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

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.

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.

Basket Raffle



Be sure to bring a little extra cash conference weekend for our basket raffle! Tickets are \$1 each, 6 for \$5, or an arms length for \$20...and you can pick the arm we use to measure!

We will have baskets chock full of goodies such as Italian food and spices, books, tea, pet supplies, wine, and even a Kindle Fire! Will you choose our "Where the Wild Things Are" basket? "Let's Get Cozy"? Maybe the "New Teacher Survival Kit" basket?

Purchase your raffle tickets during our cocktail hour, with proceeds benefiting our Minority Scholarship fund. This year we'll be awarding a \$500 scholarship to two deserving English Ed. graduates. The basket drawing will be after Friday's dinner.

Minority Scholarship

IATE understands the importance of diversity in education and that both our schools and our organization would be enhanced by the addition of more diverse voices.

We will be offering scholarship(s) for graduating seniors (December or May) who identify with a minority group and will be entering the English Education profession. These scholarships can be used for professional clothing, moving expenses, graduation expenses, or anything the new educator will need as they start their career.

We will be accepting nominations for this scholarship from English Education professors. To nominate a student, please fill out this Google Form (QR Code Below) or draft a letter of recommendation and send it to sradcliffe@lchsrailers.org.



IATE Fall Conference 2023 Draft Program

Friday

IATE Fall Conference 2023 Program (Draft)

Final program available on the website a week before conference

Friday Sessions, October 20

Registration Open 8:00 a.m.
Conference Begins with a Welcome Address 8:30-8:55 a.m.

Breakout Session A 9:00- 9:50 a.m.

Asset-based Literacy: Problem-solving Engagement Tim Pappageorge	Interviews and Cross-curricular Writing Nicoline Shoffer	Growing Up Is Hard To Do Shawn Price	Shaking up Shakespeare: Bringing the Play Back into Shakespeare's Plays Shannon Radcliffe
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Breakout Session B 10:00- 10:50 a.m.

Ditching Multiple Choice Tests: Using Problem Based Learning as measurements of student learning through the use of Real World Experiences. Angela Nina Escanilla	Authentic Classroom Management Strategies for the High School ELA Classroom Angie Heiser	Adventures in Empathy: Inviting Videogames into First Year Writing Mark Brand and James Drown	Teacher 101 John Barrett	Teaching Consent Through YA Literature Genevieve Sherman and Deborah Althoff Will
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IATE Fall Conference 2023 Draft Program

Friday, cont.

Breakout Session C 11:00-11:50 a.m.

Choosing Literary Texts that Matter Now and Writing About Them in a Way that Does, Too: A Writing-to-Learn Activity that Deepens Analysis, Reflection, and Community	What's In Your Bag? Unpacking Implicit Bias	Inquiry & Literacy: Using Authentic Problems and Real Student Conversations to Engage Students	"Authentic Responses to Refugee: Pre-service Teachers, Social Activism, and Assessment Design"
Kate Sjoström	Stephanie Gates	Mark Patton and Nicole Boudreau Smith	E. Mariah Spencer, Chrissie Durbin, Brianna Zangara, and Sincere Williams

Friday Lunch Keynote, Robin Ha 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Book Signing to Follow

Breakout Session D 1:30-2:20 p.m.

Fostering Resilience: utilizing differentiated strategies to support all students in cultivating a growth mindset and becoming metacognitive readers and writers	Producing Podcasts as an Alternative Assessment	How many ways can we come to know a text?	Building Students' Cultural Competence through Writing
Nicole Lombardo	Kate Whitman	Timothy Duggan	Elizabeth Jorgensen

IATE Fall Conference 2023 Draft Program

Friday, cont.

Breakout Session E 2:30-3:20 p.m.

Featured Author Session: Memoir Graphic Novel Workshop		Art as Entryways and Escape Routes	Neurodivergent: Walking the Walk of Authenticity	What is "real," anyway? Creating a new 12th-grade ELA course to align with college composition
Robin Ha		Keisha Rembert and Briana Morales	Vicky Gilpin	Sarah Pittman and Jason Evans

Breakout Session F 3:30-4:20 p.m.

Let's Talk Narrative	Teaching Students About "Asians"	IL State Readers' Choice Awards	The Ethical Frame: Understanding the Relationship of Discourse and the Ethical Basis of an Argument	American Blackness in Film
Paige Timmerman and Kourtney Hake	Jeremy Quach	Nichole Folkman	Andrew Rodbro	J'Nae Lee

Cocktail Hour and Raffle 4:30-5:55 pm

Friday Dinner Keynote, Jessamine Chan, Illinois Author of the Year 6:00 - 7: p.m.

BYOB Social Event at Homewood Suites in Forsyth, IL to follow.

IATE Fall Conference 2023 Draft Program

Saturday

Saturday Sessions, October 21

Saturday Business Meeting and Welcome 8:30 - 8:55 a.m.	
Keynote Speaker, Briana Morales, Illinois Teacher of the Year.	

Breakout Session G 9:00- 9:50 a.m.

Teaching Authentic Reading with Metacognitive Tools: The Double-Entry Research Log	Community in Action	To Build a Story: Eleven Questions for Beginning Fiction Writers	Designing Assignments that Resist ChatGPT	Building Authentic Collaboration: Our Experiences as Dual-Enrollment Instructor and Embedded Librarian
Kayla Greenwell	Alyssa Staley	Randal Hendee	Jennifer Connolly	Delores Robinson and Jayna Leipart-Gutilla

Breakout Session H 10:00 am-10:50 a.m.

From Voices on Paper to Voices in the Room	A Small Place in the U.S.	Sharing the Reader's Journey: Facilitating Book Club Podcasts	SEL as a Lens to Analyze Literature	Culminating Activities to Provide Connections
John Hayward	Brittany Neil	Laura Kammes-Bumm	Jeremy Robinson, Kyle Fitzmyer, and Megan Delaney	Kristin Runyon

IATE Fall Conference 2023 Draft Program

Saturday, cont.

Breakout Session I 11:00 am-11:50 a.m.

Featured Author Session: Celebrating the Victories	Communicate Extraordinarily with Tier 2 Vocabulary	AP Language: High Stakes + Low Stress= Remarkable Success	Going "Gradeless:" Equitable Assessment Strategies for the Reading and Writing Classroom	This Speaks to Me
Catherine Adel West	Dr. Andrea Parker	Jodie Seipp and Tracy von der Linden	Kaitlin Glause and Carin Houser	Sheila Yarbrough

Breakout Session J 12:00 p.m.-12:50 p.m.

The Larry Johannessen New Teacher Forum	Keeping it Real: Shaping Adolescents' Identity and Agency With YAL & Action Research	Authenticity as Method: Keeping it Real with Students	Kindness: Can It Be Taught? Using Kindness As an Instructional Tool	
Elizabeth Kahn	Cindi Koudelka and Katie Russell	ChrisTina Edwards Angelo Bonadonna, Norman Boyer	Sophia Smith and Alexandria Ellison	

Past Presidents' Luncheon 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Keynote Speaker, Catherine Adel West

Book Signing 2:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Featured Author Speaker

District Leader Meeting

2:30 - 3:30

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

Presenter Information: Conference Materials

Please bring your materials on a flash drive so that you can use the already built-in laptop and projector that Millikin is providing. Wi-fi is also set up, so you will have access to any websites that you need. Also, when you are able, please upload any materials you plan to share with attendees to the conference website.

Final Notes

We are so excited that you are joining us at the IATE 2023 Annual Fall Conference. When packing, be prepared for our crazy October weather. Always dress in layers!

Keep in mind that we aren't staying in the same place as our conference, so you'll want to be sure to put any essentials you need in your car. It's not a far drive from the hotel, but you hate to miss any of what this professional development has to offer, including cocktail hour!

Don't forget to check out our vendors! We are so lucky to have a books to purchase and other fun things to shop for!

If you need anything while at our conference, look for those of us who are sporting Executive Committee ribbons. We will be able to help you with most anything, and if we don't know something, we'll track down the answers.

See you soon!