

VATE 2008 Annual Conference: Call for Proposals

Virginia Association of Teachers of English
Welcomes you to our
94th Anniversary Year
39th Annual Conference

Wyndham Roanoke Airport
2801 Hershberger Rd.
Roanoke, VA 24017
October 24-26, 2008



In today's global community, where the longest distance is that between an index finger and the send button on a computer, and where anyone can post practically anything on the Internet, how do we teach kids the fine line between truth and fiction? To what extent is nonfiction truth? And what elements of truth allow fiction to be realistic?

Clearly, critical thinking is an absolute for today's children if they are to become critical consumers of the widely available and variant information in today's global community. How do you help students to become these critical thinkers and consumers? What strategies do you use to help students evaluate resources, determine credibility of source, and to see past the words on the page? How do you teach students the significance of cultural context and author's purpose and craft? In what ways do your students play with words, exploring the nuances of language? Indeed, how do you help students understand the duality of truth and fiction in everything?

Do you have a lesson or unit that brings to light the fiction in journalism, documentaries, web sites, or other nonfiction text? How do you incorporate aspects of technology to help kids see this fine line? What experiences allow students to find true elements in fiction? We seek proposals addressing this duality of story in all areas of language arts.

Speakers

Dr. Sara B. Kajder, author of *Bringing the Outside In: Visual Ways to Engage Reluctant Readers* and *The Tech-Savvy English Classroom*, will share her expertise with technological tools that engage writers and readers.

Susan Campbell Bartoletti, Newbery Honor winner and Sibert Award winner for *Hitler Youth*, and Orbis Pictus Award winner and Sibert Award winner for *Black Potatoes*, will share insights about her research process to record history and to make that history accessible to students.

K.K. Bruno, author of *Mischiefs and Miseries: A Novel of Jamestown 1607*, will address the balance of fact and fiction in historical fiction.

Sara Holbrook, author of *Practical Poetry* and *Outspoken: Improving Communication Skills through Poetry Performance*, as well as numerous poetry collections, will perform her own poetry and share insights about teaching and performing poetry.

Sandra Whitaker
VATE Vice President
Albemarle County Public Schools
401 McIntire Rd., Charlottesville, VA 22902
434-296-5820
Sandra@sandrawhitaker.net



VATE PROGRAM PROPOSAL

Suspending Our Disbelief: Truth in Fiction - Fiction in Truth

Please complete all parts of the proposal. **Proposals must be received no later than June 20, 2008.** The program committee will consider all proposals that arrive on time and will contact all applicants via email. All conference presenters must pay registration fees. Mail or email proposal to:

Sandra Whitaker

VATE Vice President
6-12 Language Arts Curriculum Coordinator
sandra@sandrawhitaker.net

Albemarle County Public Schools
401 McIntire Rd., Charlottesville, VA 22902
434-296-5820

Person submitting the proposal:

Dr. Mr. Mrs. Ms.

Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial
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Institutional Affiliation: _____

Position/Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address (required): _____

Phone Number: (w) _____ (h) _____

Local Affiliate of VATE (if known) or School District/County: _____

Co-presenters:

Name	Institutional Affiliation	Email Address

Type of Presentation (check only one):

- 50 minute session (provides an overview of a topic through presentation & discussion)
- 75 minute workshop (uses an interactive format to engage audience in work with a topic)
- ½-day institute (3 hours – provides hands-on experiences)
- full-day institute (6 hours – provides extensive hands-on experiences)
- poster session (provides an overview of a topic)

Strand (check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Young Adult Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children’s Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historical Fiction | <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Communication |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-cultural Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Technology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traditional Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Differentiation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Censorship | <input type="checkbox"/> ESL/ESOL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: please describe: _____ | |

Intended Audience (check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elementary grades | <input type="checkbox"/> College |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Middle grades | <input type="checkbox"/> Administrators |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Secondary grades | <input type="checkbox"/> Alternative Education |

Audiovisual Equipment (check all that apply):

- Overhead projector
- TV/VCR
- Screen
- Internet access

NOTE: VATE cannot provide LCD projectors or laptop computers, document cameras/projectors, flip charts, markers, or transparency sheets.

On behalf of the presenter(s) listed on this proposal, I understand that I (we) must pre-register for the conference and be responsible for all conference registration fees and other expenditures for the Virginia Association of Teachers of English Annual Conference to be held at the Wyndham Hotel Airport, Roanoke, VA, on October 24-26, 2008.

Signature of Person Submitting Proposal

Date

Please attach a one-page description that includes the following:

- Session Title
- Objectives
- Abstract (30-50 words to be used in the conference program)
- Narrative Description of Session
- Materials/resources to be used

Biographical Information

Please provide biographical information no longer than 50 words for each presenter. This will be read by the session chair at the beginning of your session.

We welcome proposals and give each serious consideration. Please note the conference theme and ensure that your proposal addresses the theme. You are encouraged to submit your proposal early. As a professional nonprofit organization, VATE cannot reimburse program participants for travel, hotel, or other conference expenses. All presenters must register for the conference.

If you have questions/concerns, please contact Sandra Whitaker at sandra@sandrawhitaker.net.