Making Time for Poetry and Connecting with Common Core Standards

Register Now ($109)

Keynote Speakers
Donalyn is the author or co-author of several books about creating engaging and inclusive reading communities for all children. In her first book, *The Book Whisperer* (Jossey-Bass, 2009), Donalyn reflects on her journey to become a reading teacher and describes how she inspires and motivates her middle school students to read 40 or more books a year.

Donalyn is an award-winning teacher, author, and staff development leader who has taught fourth, fifth, and sixth grade language arts and social studies in the Fort Worth, Texas area. Library Journal said, “Her approach is simple yet provocative: affirm the reader in every student, allow students to choose their own books, carve out extra reading time, model authentic reading behaviors, discard timeworn reading assignments such as book reports and comprehension worksheets, and develop a classroom library filled with high-interest books.”

*The Book Whisperer* has been translated into several languages including French and Chinese.

Her teaching awards include TCTELA’s Elementary Language Arts Teacher of the Year (2011), Keller ISD Elementary Teacher of the Year (2010), ESC Region XI Teacher of the Year (2010), TEA State Finalist Texas Elementary Teacher of the Year (2010), Trinity Meadows Intermediate School Teacher of the Year (2010), and Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented Region XI Rising Star Teacher (2008). In 2018, Donalyn was awarded TCTELA’s Edmund J. Farrell Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award for her contributions to the language arts teaching profession.
We are no longer accepting breakout session proposals. You may still submit a poster session proposal.

About the Conference

This year, our conference is November 1 and is being held at:

Provo Marriott Hotel & Conference Center
101 West 100 North
Provo, UT 84601
(801) 377-4700

Educators

$109

Register
Do you want to make poetry so fun and engaging that your students will ask for more? Here are some simple activities to get you started.

1. **Blackout Poetry**

College basketball's March Madness is the perfect time to pit poet against poet for some exciting classroom debates, but any time of year teachers can create a similar feel by putting poets head to head and comparing their power. Kids love competition. Creating competition with poetry naturally adds excitement and connects a sometimes intimidating genre with something familiar. How do you implement a poet vs poet match up in your classroom? You could use an already created tool (see Poet Vs Poet here) or create your own match ups.

**Common Core Standards. Escape Room. Feedback.**