

## Conference Update:

FCTE's **Institute for Professional Development** will be held October 12-14 at the Orlando Renaissance at the Airport. Featured speakers include: Brod Bagert, Edward Bloor, Michael Cart, Lynne Cox, Lois Duncan, Adrian Fogelin, Patricia Hermes, Linda Oatman High, Robert Lipsyte, Ben Mikaelson, Donna Jo Napoli, Marilyn Reynolds, John H. Ritter, Neal Shusterman, William Sleator, Eleanora E. Tate, and Rita Williams-Garcia.

In addition, **Kylene Beers** will present a reading workshop on Thursday, October 14. We also just received word that sponsor **Holt, Rhinehart & Winston** has graciously offered to provide lunch and an afternoon cookie break for all reading workshop participants! Seating for the workshop is limited, so please register early!

---

**Click here to read a recent Lois Duncan interview conducted by Book Loons:**

<http://www.bookloons.com/cgi-bin/Columns.asp?name=Lois%20Duncan&type=Interview>

---

### \*\*\*\*Idea Exchange\*\*\*\*

If you're interested in participating in the conference idea exchange, please bring 100 copies of a one-page lesson plan to share with other participants.

---

This year's conference is the first time that FCTE has devoted a session to all five of the Florida Writing Projects (FWP) in the state. They are:

- FWP/FSU: "CSI-Teaching Descriptive Writing through a Forensic Scientist's Eyes" – Karen Kirkendoll & Racquel Harrell (Florida State University)
- FWP/UCF: "Mission Possible! Emulating Writers' Craft, Style, and Technique" – Jennifer Morar (University of Central Florida)
- FWP/USF-TBAWP: "The Power of One: Using Service Learning to Integrate Reading, Writing, and Researching Skills" – Holly Atkins (University of South Florida)
- FWP/FGCU: "The Write, the Wrong, and the Ugly!" – Sara Draheim (Florida Gold Coast University)
- FWP/SFWP: The Triple Braided Cord—Dialogue-Ideas-Poetry: A South Florida Writing Project Demonstration Lesson - Andrea Hanna, Donna Cardwell, & Linda Goldsmith (Nova Southeastern University)

---

Allen J. Gorney of Orlando, Florida, won the NCTE Leadership Development Award supported by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) and Prentice Hall-Pearson Education. The program, which was developed to nurture new leaders, provides early career teachers with \$500 to attend the NCTE Annual Convention in Nashville, Tennessee, November 16-21, 2006.

---

I have attached a letter from our conference chairperson, Dr. Joan F. Kaywell. Take the time to read it, as it outlines this year's conference. I have also attached a conference flyer, as well as other conference forms.

---

Paula Clements  
FCTE Executive Secretary  
Reading Teacher  
Lake Region High School  
863-297-3099

---

# A Letter From Conference Chairperson, Dr. Joan F. Kaywell

Dear FCTE Members and English Language Arts/Reading Teachers,

When I started planning for the 2006 FCTE Professional Development Institute, I tried and so many of you helped me try to get Oprah Winfrey to attend. Who better than Oprah for a conference with a theme, “Saving Our Students with Literature and Laughter”? Although I was only successful at getting the attention of Harpo Studios, the experience made me determined to honor Florida teachers by developing a very special conference. I wanted to bring something to Florida that I have the wonderful opportunity of being able to attend each year—that is, the National Council of Teachers of English Conference (NCTE) and NCTE’s Assembly of Literature for Adolescents (ALAN) Workshop. As I tell my students when I teach methods of teaching English to prospective teachers, NCTE is the heart of our profession. The Florida Council of Teachers of English (FCTE) is the bloodline to and from NCTE with all the local councils in our State, serving as continuous arteries. ALAN is the energy or personality of our profession because it is through literature that we come to know ourselves as teachers and our students as individuals. As a former President of ALAN and its current Membership Secretary (go to [www.alan-ya.org](http://www.alan-ya.org) if you want to join), I have the unique privilege of knowing so many wonderful authors of children’s and young adult literature. As a result, I am delighted that 17 award-winning novelists have agreed to attend. Rather than include their bios here and because this FCTE Newsletter is being sent electronically, I’ve included their website addresses so you can conveniently check out who’s coming this year.

### Florida Authors:

Ed Bloor - <http://www.edwardbloor.net>

Lois Duncan - <http://loisduncan.arquettes.com>

Adrian Fogelin - <http://www.adrianfogelin.com>

### Authors from All over the United States and One from Thailand:

Michael Cart - <http://aolsvc.teenreads.aol.com/authors/au-cart-michael.asp>

Lynne Cox - <http://www.lynnecox.org>

Patricia Hermes - <http://www.authorsillustrators.com/hermes/hermes.htm>

Robert Lipsyte - <http://robertlipsyte.com>

Ben Mikaelson - <http://www.benmikaelson.com>

Donna Jo Napoli - <http://www.donnajonapoli.com>

Marilyn Reynolds - <http://www.marilynreynolds.com>

John H. Ritter - <http://www.johnhritter.com>

Neal Shusterman - <http://www.storyman.com>

William Sleator – website unavailable/author of *Interstellar Pig*, *House of Stairs* and too many more to list

Eleanora E. Tate - <http://www.eleanoraetate.com>

Rita Williams-Garcia - <http://www.ritawg.com/>

### And Two Poets:

Brod Bagert <http://www.brodbagert.com>

Linda Oatman High <http://www.lindaoatmanhigh.com>

All of this literature isn't worth much if we don't have students who can read text. With the emphasis currently being placed on reading, we decided to open the conference with an *affordable* PRE-Conference Workshop from the leading reading expert on teaching SECONDARY students who are struggling readers (emphasis intended). We are honored to have **Dr. Kylene Beers**, the Senior Reading Researcher at Yale University and author of *When Kids Can't Read: What Teachers Can Do*, co-author (Carol Jago) of *Cohesive Writing: Why Concept Is Not Enough*, program author of *Elements of Literature, Grades 6-12*, and co-editor (Bobbie Samuels) of *Into Focus: Understanding and Creating Middle School Readers*. Kylene won this year's NCTE election and will become the next NCTE President.

For those who cannot attend this PRE-Conference 5-hour workshop, Kylene will open the 2006 FCTE Institute for Professional Development on Thursday evening. After the opening session, teachers will then enjoy a cocktail party where they can talk informally to authors and presenters and then attend a special Preview screening of the not-yet-released film of the classic *Charlotte's Web*.

We start the morning with a kick off session by leading middle school reading expert **Dr. Janet Allen**. Janet is an international consultant, researcher, author, innovator, veteran educator, and has become a major force in literacy work with at-risk students. She has written numerous

groundbreaking books on literacy; these are just the titles since 2001: *Reading History: A Practical Guide to Improving Literacy*, 2005; *Tools For Teaching Content Literacy*, 2004; *Reimagining Reading: A Literacy Institute*, 2002; *Using Literature to Help Troubled Teenagers Cope with End-of-Life Issues*, 2002; *It's Never Too Late: Leading Adolescents to Lifelong Literacy*, 2001; and *There's Room for Me Here*, 2001.

Throughout the day, participants will have to choose between listening to the aforementioned authors or attending several first-rate presentations by excellent teachers, educators, and consultants. Because adolescent literature complements the classics of literature ([http://www.christopher-gordon.com/Authors/kaywell\\_thmb.shtml](http://www.christopher-gordon.com/Authors/kaywell_thmb.shtml)), I am happy that a representative from the **Folger Shakespeare Library** will be here to give a workshop that gives teachers techniques and materials to engage students of all ability levels with Shakespeare's plays. Because of the popularity of **Elizabeth Thomas** (<http://www.upwordspetry.com>), she is coming back to present how to maximize poets/poetry in classrooms. The day is packed with sensational sessions that address the teaching of all of the language arts: reading, writing, speaking, listening and viewing. **Randy Testa** from Walden Media (<http://www.walden.com/web/teach/home>) will present a three-hour workshop on the use of film in the classroom. This year for the first time ever, there is a strand specifically for the **Florida Writing Project**. Finally, political minded people will enjoy the "fishbowl session" where award-winning educator **Dr. Bob Probst** will moderate a conversation among middle and secondary teachers of English and reading with Department of Education (DOE) representative and FCTE member-at-large **Susan Watt** (English), DOE representative **Dr. Evan Lefsky** (Just Read, Florida), and DOE representative and FCTE Facilities Chair **Kevin Smith** (Just Read, Florida).

We will close Friday with lots of laughter. Long time educator and comedian, **Barry Lane** (<http://www.discover-writing.com>) will dazzle us with "Reading, Writing, and Laughing across the Curriculum." In the evening, a band from **Rock'n'Write** (<http://educators.rocknwrite.com>) will put students' poetry—and a special surprise—to music for our listening pleasure.

We open Saturday with a breakfast and **Dr. Doug Fisher's** keynote address on how we create literacy rich schools for adolescents. Doug is a former secondary school teacher, author, and professor in the Department of Teacher Education at San Diego State University. He has published numerous articles and books on reading and adolescent literacy and has been recognized with an International Reading Association Celebrate Literacy Award and a Christa McAuliffe award for excellence in teacher education. After another amazing day of sessions, **Dr. Beverly Chin** will end the conference with the closing keynote, "Inspiring Our Students through Multicultural Literature." Beverly Ann Chin (Montana) is Professor of English, Director of English Teaching Program, and former Director of Montana Writing Project at the University of Montana, Missoula. She has served as President of NCTE, Board Member of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS), and Secretary of the Conference on English Education (CEE). Currently, she is Member-at-Large for the Conference on English

Leadership (CEL) and the Senior Project Consultant for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Writing Assessment in 2011.

So now you can see why I am excited about this year's FCTE Professional Development Institute, and I hope you are too. Please, while you're thinking about it, go to the **FCTE website** (<http://www.fcte.org>) and register for the conference. I hope to see you on October 12-14 at the Renaissance Hotel Orlando Airport, 5445 Forbes Place, Orlando, FL 32812. When you call for reservations at 1-800-228-9290 or 407-240-1000 be sure to ask for **FLORIDA ENGLISH TEACHER RATE!** The hotel rate is \$110/night single or double occupancy.

Create peace,  
me

Joan F. Kaywell, Ph.D.  
ALAN Membership Secretary  
2006 FCTE Program Chair  
Professor of English Education  
University of South Florida  
PHONE: 813-974-3516  
kaywell@tempest.coedu.usf.edu

# Florida Council of Teachers of English

## SPECIAL PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP:

Kylene Beers, author of *When Kids Can't Read What Teachers Can Do*, teaches comprehension, vocabulary, and fluency strategies to help support our struggling readers. See registration form for further information.

## 2006 Annual Conference for Professional Development

*Saving Our Students With Literature and Laughter*

October 12-14, 2006  
Renaissance Orlando Hotel  
Orlando, Florida

Member registration: \$100.00  
Non-member registration: \$120.00  
Registration deadline: By October 1  
On-site registration: \$20 additional fee

For more information, visit:  
[www.fcte.org](http://www.fcte.org)

### Professional Development Sessions Focused On:

- Implementing engaging new reading strategies into the current curriculum
- Assisting struggling readers with difficult texts
- Incorporating authentic writing assignments to improve writing abilities
- Incorporating the Sunshine State Standards into everyday lesson planning
- Effective grammar instruction
- Teaching across subject lines
- Best practices for improving FCAT scores
- Using creative writing, art, poetry, and drama to engage readers

### Administrators:

### *Top Five Reasons to Send Your English Teachers*

1. Hour-long sessions provide attendees with hundreds of lesson ideas, handouts, and resources that deal with state-wide reading and writing initiatives. Sessions are presented by middle and high school English teachers from all over the state, including those with National Board certification. Also, professors from major universities present findings on recent studies and proven methods of learning which can be applied in the classroom.
2. Dozens of publishers set up on-site, allowing attendees to preview and sample new materials aimed at helping Florida's students in reading, writing, grammar, vocabulary and standardized testing.
3. Attendees may participate in the Idea Exchange, which enables a person to leave the conference with dozens of new ideas and reproducible handouts created by Florida's best teachers.
4. Attendees have the opportunity to communicate and share best practices, helping to create connections between schools and counties.
5. Attendees learn of the hottest new books to appeal to young adult readers, as well as hear popular authors speak about their craft and their novels.



*"Saving Our Students with Literature and Laughter"*

2006 Institute for Professional Development

October 12-14, 2006

Renaissance Orlando Hotel

Registration Form

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ School/Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_ This is my first FCTE conference.
- \_\_\_ I am a presenter.
- \_\_\_ I became a NBCT in \_\_\_\_\_ (year).
- \_\_\_ I am a local council officer.
- Title of office: \_\_\_\_\_
- Name of council: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ I plan to participate in the IDEA EXCHANGE.
- \_\_\_ I am a student attendee with sponsoring professor's signature below:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Sponsoring Professor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of College/University

Enclose a check or money order made payable to FCTE.  
No purchase orders allowed. Payment due with form.  
Registration postmarked on/before October 1, 2006.

Member\* \$100.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Member \$120.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Student\*\* \$40.00 \_\_\_\_\_

(\*\*full-time, degree seeking student)

On-site registration. (Do not mail after 10/1/06.)

Member\* \$120.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Member \$140.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Student\*\* \$40.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Friday Luncheon \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

\*FCTE membership year runs from Oct 1 to Sept 30.

**GENERAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION**

- All breakout session presenters must be registered conference participants.
- Purchase orders will NOT be accepted.
- Receipts will be in registration packets.
- All refund requests must be made in writing.
- No refunds will be made after October 1, 2006.
- No confirmations will be sent.
- Students attending conference must have a sponsoring professor sign registration form.
- Pre-conference Workshop: Use separate registration form.

**Free Events---Please reserve your place!**

Thurs. evening reception \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no

Thurs. evening movie event \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no

Friday evening event \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no

Saturday breakfast \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no

Send registration form and payment to:

FCTE 2006 Conference

10921 Pine Acres Road

Jacksonville, FL 32257

Pre-Conference Workshop with **Kylene Beers** -- Thursday, October 12

Come to a five hour workshop with the author of When Kids Can't Read What Teachers Can Do.

**Separate registration form MUST be completed.**



*Pre-conference Workshop with **Kylene Beers**, author of  
When Kids Can't Read What Teachers Can Do*

Thursday, October 12, 2006  
10:00 to 4:00

**Workshop Description:**

**Closing the Reading Achievement Gap: Strategies that Build Success**

When kids can't read, students face more problems than just low grades and the threat of failing required tests. When kids can't read, they begin a downward spiral that at best results in on-going low-level literacy performances and at worst results in dropping out of high school. Stopping this downward spiral means helping these underachieving students gain needed strategies for not only catching up, but keeping up. This means teachers and principals must know how to accelerate comprehension, vocabulary, and fluency skills as well as build needed motivation. In this day-long workshop we'll examine the strategies that build those skills. We'll pay particular attention to comprehension strategies that help students understand narrative and expository texts, vocabulary strategies that build word knowledge across contexts, and fluency strategies that help both with word recognition and expressive reading.

**Workshop Cost:**

**Pre-conference workshop with  
Conference registration:**

- Member \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Student\* \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

(\*full-time, degree seeking student)

**Pre-conference attendance only:**

- Member \$125 \_\_\_\_\_
- Non-member \$145 \_\_\_\_\_
- Student\* \$50 \_\_\_\_\_

Please send in conference registration form and workshop form together.

Do not mail forms after 10/1/06.

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ School/Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

- General Conference Information and Rules Apply. See conference registration form.
- Seating will be limited to the first 250 paid registrations. On-site registration for Pre-conference workshop may not be available.
- Send this registration form and payment (check or money order made payable to FCTE. No purchase orders.) to:

FCTE 2006 Conference  
10921 Pine Acres Road  
Jacksonville, FL 32257



**FCTE 2006**  
**Saving Our Students**  
**With Literature and Laughter!!!**

# Membership Application

The membership year is from October 1, 2006 to September 30, 2007.

Dr.     Mr.     Ms.     Mrs.

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ Other Phone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*E-mail is required in order to receive FCTE correspondences such as the newsletter and Newsbox

Alternate E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

In some cases, servers block mass e-mails. In this case, FCTE will use the alternate address.

School Name \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Public     Private     Other \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

- New Member.....\$20.00
- Renewal.....\$20.00
- 2 Year Renewal.....\$35.00
- Retired.....\$10.00
- 2 Year Retired Renewal.....\$17.50
- Student (One Year).....\$10.00

**AFFILIATION**

- Administration
- Elementary
- Middle/Junior High
- High School
- Community College
- Four Year College/University

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Sponsoring Professor/school

Return this form with your check or money  
 Order (made payable to FCTE) to:  
 Paula Clements  
 4912 Toni Avenue  
 Lakeland, FL 33812

Are you...

- a member of NCTE?
- willing to become involved in FCTE?
- a member of a local council?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

- a local council officer?

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*FCTE will not distribute e-mail addresses to any other entity.**