

South Carolina Council of Teachers of English  
2025 Annual Conference

Gather  
Together

Grow  
Together



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## About SCCTE

Established in 1947, SCCTE is an organization devoted to helping teachers grow professionally, from building professional networks to sharing the latest information on literacy, our organization is focused on sustaining the work of our exemplary teachers across South Carolina. We are a nonprofit, state affiliate for the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), dedicated to its mission of "...the development of literacy, the use of language to construct personal and public worlds and to achieve full participation in society, through the learning and teaching of English and the related arts and sciences of language."

SCCTE membership provides you with powerful teaching tools, practical information, and inspiration from other teachers who are committed to the teaching of English Language Arts. If you believe that one teacher can make a real difference, then imagine what you can do in collaboration with your colleagues throughout the state! If you're not a member yet, visit our website [www.sccte.org/membership](http://www.sccte.org/membership) and join today.

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SCCTE would like to thank our 2025 conference exhibitors and advertisers for their generous support of English language arts education in South Carolina!



## Welcome to SCCTE 2025!

The South Carolina Council of Teachers of English is excited to welcome you back to Kiawah Island West Conference Center for the 2025 SCCTE annual conference! We selected our conference theme “Gather Together, Grow Together” because as educators ourselves, we know that it takes collaboration, research, and innovation to support our students and to develop our craft. We are thankful you could join us and appreciate all you do to serve students, schools, districts, and communities across our state.

Our focus on growth is about embracing sustainable change for ourselves, our profession, and our students. The primary goal of this conference is to support your efforts to provide the space, time, and nurturing needed to help us grow each day. We are excited to learn alongside you because we know our profession does not exist in a vacuum; we sincerely thank you for sharing your creativity, research, and honest reflection. Our conference theme hopes to bring you inspiration as well as challenge, support as well as advocacy, and instruction as well as discussion.

This year, our conference hosts keynote speakers, spotlight sessions, concurrent sessions, roundtable discussions, poster presentations, and exhibitor sessions. These represent a collection of voices and expertise that range from elementary to college. We hope that the time you spend and the connections you make offer a renewed energy for this school year!

**Please share insights from sessions and help promote our conference on social media by tagging us and using the hashtag #SCCTE2025.**

Welcome, we're glad you're here!

Dr. Kayla Hostetler, SCCTE 2025 Co-President

Dr. Mary Styslinger, SCCTE 2025 Co-President

Melissa Tucker, SCCTE 2025 Conference Chair/President-Elect

April Harmon and Dr. Allison Thompson, SCCTE 2025 co-VP of Programs

***SCCTE is committed to supporting and enhancing the remarkable literacy educators of South Carolina. To continue this good and thoughtful work, we need your creativity, leadership, and support. Learn about available board seats, committees, and more during our SCCTE sessions, sprinkled throughout the conference. And, as always, you can reach us at [scteachersofenglish@gmail.com](mailto:scteachersofenglish@gmail.com).***



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## South Carolina English Teacher

We're excited to invite you to read the latest issue of [South Carolina English Teacher \(SCET\)](#), South Carolina Council of Teachers of English's professional journal on our website. *SCET* welcomes contributions that represent varied perspectives, formats, and voices focusing on the teaching of English in our state. *SCET* publishes teacher research, critical essays, teaching strategies, bibliographies, interviews, personal essays, short stories, poetry, and other creative works including photography and drawings. Submissions are blind peer reviewed. Visit our website [sccte.org/publications](http://sccte.org/publications) for archived issues.

### SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- Each manuscript should be no more than 12 double-spaced, typed pages in current APA style.
- Author's personal and institutional identification including an email address on the cover page
- Attach a copy of your manuscript in Word, subject heading "SCET," to co-editors Dr. Mary Styslinger ([mstyslin@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:mstyslin@mailbox.sc.edu)) and Dr. Matthew Nelson ([mnelson@fmarion.edu](mailto:mnelson@fmarion.edu)).



## 2024-25 SCCTE Executive Board Members

### Co-Presidents

Kayla Hostetler  
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9 AM - 12 PM

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RSVP Here

## SCCTE Past Presidents

1947	Susie Osteen, Sumter	1976	Joye Pettigrew, Rock Hill	2000	Eudora Dickey, Spartanburg
1948	Susie Osteen, Sumter	1977	Alvin Rucker, Greenwood	2001	Kelly McGuire, Spartanburg
1949	Mary Wilds, Greenville	1978	Marguerite McCaskill, Columbia	2002	Hope Spillane, Columbia
1950	Ruth Riddle, Laurens	1979	Nancy Thompson, Columbia	2003	Lynn Harrill, Woodruff
1951	Frances M. Todd, Augusta	1980	Bela Herlong, Saluda	2004	Terry Filippo, Anderson
1952	Lillian Killingsworth, Abbeville	1981	Patsy Candal, Georgetown	2005	Bob Hanley, Anderson
1953	Alice Blanton Carter, Columbia	1982	Bettie Horne, Greenwood	2006	Rebecca Kaminski, Greenville
1954	J. M. Ariail, Columbia	1983	Margot Rochester, Lugoff	2007	Mike Ward, Charleston
1955	Marguerite McCaskill, Columbia	1984	Lynn Harrill, Woodruff	2008	Nancy Swanson, Clemson
1956	Isabel W. Foster, Columbia	1985	May Jones, Sullivan's Island	2009	Patricia Davis, Clemson
1957	M. A. Owings, Clemson	1986	E. Lee Craig, Columbia	2010	Mary Styslinger, Columbia
1958	Marjory Good, Columbia	1987	Curt Elliott, Columbia	2011	Matthew Nelson, Florence
1959	Marjory Good, Columbia	1988	Nell Braswell, Rock Hill	2012	Charlotte Bruner, Central
1960	Wilson Snipes, Spartanburg	1989	Jim Wilhide, Columbia	2013	Ginger Dunker, Aiken
1961	Wilson Snipes, Spartanburg	1990	Eve Coleman, Charleston	2014	Dawn Althen, Charleston
1962	Mrs. Walter McKinney, Columbia	1991	Janet West, Rock Hill	2015	Sarah Hunt Barron, Spartanburg
1963	Mrs. Walter McKinney, Columbia	1992	Janet West, Rock Hill	2016	Amy McAllister Skinner, Lake City Leigh Underspan, Kingsport, TN
1969	Henry Rollins, Columbia	1993	Sue Mellette, Columbia	2017	Meredith Love, Florence
1970	William B. McColly, Columbia	1994	Janet Sanner, Florida	2018	Dawn Hawkins, Clemson
1971	Winifred Johnson, Greenville	1995	Marty H. Trifiletti, Georgetown	2019	Dawn Hawkins, Clemson
1972	Nettie Parler, Orangeburg	1996	Libby Carnohan, Columbia	2020	Matthew Nelson, Florence
1973	Betty Hodges, Lancaster	1997	Bea Cain Naff Bailey, Pickens	2021	Matthew Nelson, Florence
1974	Harris Chewning, Spartanburg	1998	Terrell Tracy, Fountain Inn	2022	Mathew Nelson, Florence
1975	Marianna Davis, Columbia	1999	Barbara Goggans, Pawleys Island	2023	Kimberly Alexander, Conway Kay Sellers, Myrtle Beach



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## DON'T MISS FURMAN'S SPOTLIGHT SESSION:

**Cultivating Critical Readers  
and Change Makers**

Featuring Dr. Katie Kelly,  
Professor of Education  
and Literacy Program  
Coordinator



*with*

Furman alumna Katelyn  
Barnett and Furman  
Education senior Emma Begg

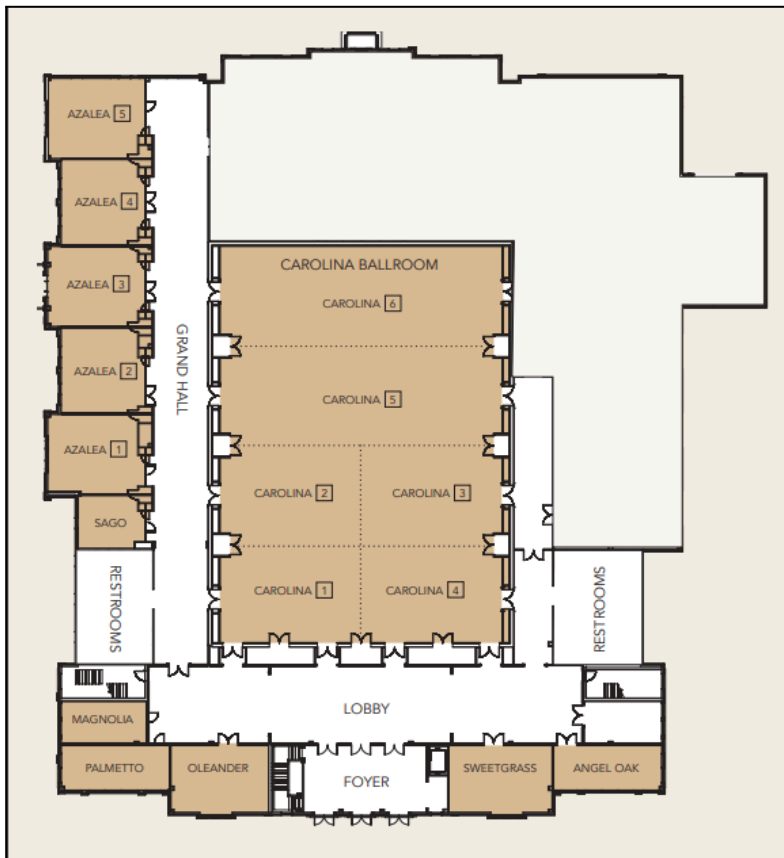
## 2025 SCCTE Conference Schedule At-A-Glance

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2025		SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2025	
8-9am	Registration & SCCTE apparel sales	7:45-8:15am	Registration & apparel sales
9-9:30am	Conference kickoff & welcome	8:30-10am	Keynote breakfast Susan Barber & Melissa Smith
9:45-10:30am	Breakout session A	10:15-11am	Breakout session E
10:45-11:30am	Breakout session B	11:15am-12pm	Breakout session F
11:45am-1:15pm	SCCTE announcements Keynote luncheon with poet Jay Ward	12:15-1:45pm	SCCTE awards Keynote luncheon with Lorena Germàn
1:30-2:15pm	Breakout session C	2-2:45pm	Breakout session G
2:30-3:15pm	Breakout session D	3-3:45pm	Breakout session H
3:30-5pm	SCCTE announcements Keynote closing with Rebecca Harper		
DON'T FORGET: OUR EXPANDED SPONSOR EXPO IS AVAILABLE BOTH DAYS!			

## Audience Codes for Sessions

G=General   E=Elementary   M=Middle School   H=High School   C=College

## KIAWAH ISLAND WEST CONFERENCE CENTER MAP



- Registration & SCCTE info: Lobby
- General sessions: Carolina 05-06
- Exhibitor area: Carolina 01-04
- Concurrent sessions:
  - Carolina 02-03
  - Azalea 01-05
  - Sweetgrass
  - Oleander
- Round table sessions:
  - Palmetto
- Poster sessions: Lobby
- Book signings: Lobby

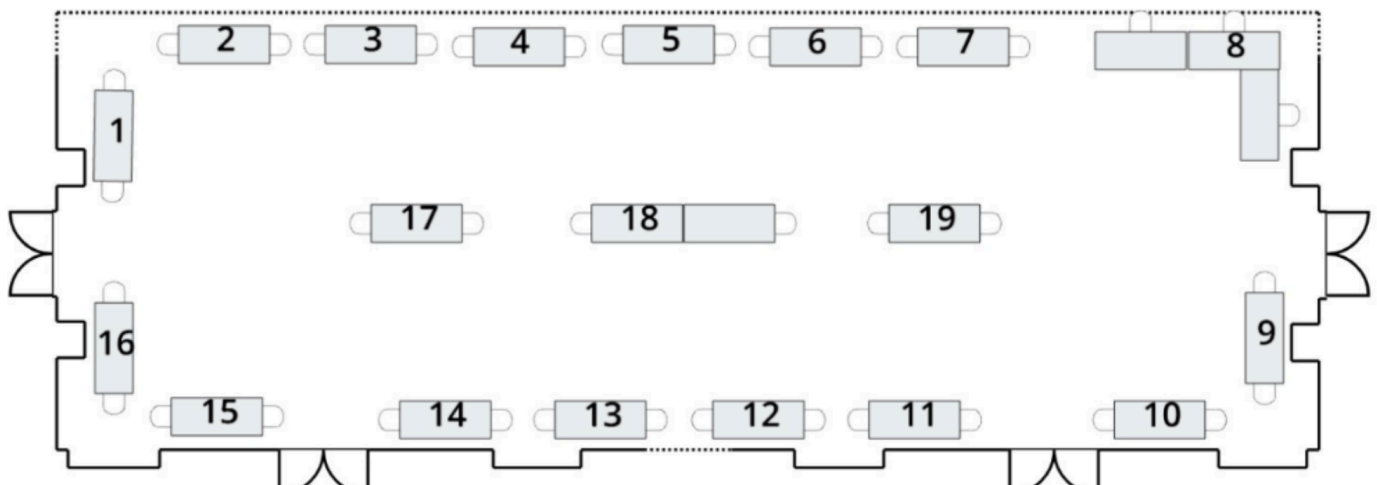
See conference schedule at-a-glance for registration time(s). Be sure to visit our expanded exhibitor area, available throughout the conference.

## EXHIBITOR AREA INDEX

01 Sphere Education  
 02 EF Tours (Friday only)  
 03 USC School of Information Science  
 04 Empowering Writers  
 05 Rock Hill School District  
 06 SC Council on the Holocaust  
 07 North Greenville University

08 GG's Library (Independent bookseller)  
 09 Frank Baker  
 10 Charleston Co. School District (Friday)/  
 Luke Fundak (Saturday)  
 11 The SCEA  
 12 Converse University  
 13 Discus

14 South Carolina Chic  
 15 Furman University  
 16 PSTA  
 17 South Carolina Talking Books  
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*Please note: Book signings will take place in the lobby. See schedule for times and authors.*





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## Grab your text & have it signed!

This year, we're excited to share book signings as part of our exhibitor space. See the schedule below for each author. Please follow the signs for the designated area, entering the exhibitor area from the lobby between tables 01 and 16 (See exhibitor area index.)

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

- 9:30-10am: Mary Styslinger
- 11-11:30am: Jay Ward
- 1:30-2pm: Katie Kelly

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1

- 10-10:30am: Rebecca Harper
- 11:30am-12pm: Lorena Germàn & Roberto Germàn
- 2-2:30pm: Susan Barber & Melissa Smith



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# FRIDAY GENERAL SESSIONS



**JAY WARD (@JWard2030)**

## Igniting the Small, Invisible Flame

Junious 'Jay' Ward is a poet and teaching artist from Charlotte, NC. He is a National Slam champion (2018), an Individual World Poetry Slam champion (2019), author of *Sing Me A Lesser Wound* (Bull City Press 2020) and *Composition* (Button Poetry 2023). Jay currently serves as Charlotte's inaugural Poet Laureate and is a 2023 Academy of American Poets Laureate Fellow. Ward has attended Breadloaf Writers Conference, Callaloo, The Watering Hole and Tin House Winter Workshop. His work can be found in Columbia Journal, Four Way Review, DIAGRAM, Diode Poetry Journal and elsewhere.



**LUNCHEON KEYNOTE**  
11:45AM-1:15PM

**REBECCA HARPER**  
(dr.harperwritingdiva)

## The Write Life: Finding the Joy in Teaching Writing

Dr. Rebecca G. Harper is a Professor of Language and Literacy in the College of Education and Human Development at Augusta University where she teaches courses in literacy, qualitative research, and curriculum, and serves as the EdD program director. Her research focuses on writing and critical literacy, and the ways in which authentic literacy can foster engagement, agency, and empathy in students. She is the Director of the Augusta University Writing Project and the author of *Content Area Writing that Rocks (and Works)!*, *Write Now and Write On: 37 Strategies for Authentic Daily Writing in Every Content Area*, *Writing Workouts: Strategies to Build Students' Writing Skills, Stamina, and Success*, and *Literacy Practices in Sports and Coaching: Developing Literacy Competencies in Interdisciplinary Environments*.



**CLOSING KEYNOTE**  
3:30-5PM

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**SCCTE is committed to supporting and enhancing the remarkable literacy educators of South Carolina. To continue this good and thoughtful work, we need your creativity, leadership, and support. Join one or more of our SCCTE Board concurrent sessions, spread throughout the conference. We'll discuss available board seats, committees, and more!**

**Check out one or more of our amazing spotlight sessions, spread throughout the conference!**



**JAY WARD**

*The Student, the Teacher, and the Poem: What is Required?*  
 Friday session "A"



**MARY STYSLINGER**

University of South Carolina  
*Anti-Racist ELA Curriculum and Teaching*  
 Friday session "B"



**KATIE KELLY**

Furman University  
*Cultivating Critical Readers and Change Makers*  
 Friday session "C"



**PATRICK KELLY**

Palmetto State Teachers Asso.  
*The PSA Approach to Educational Advocacy*  
 Friday session "D"



**LORENA GERMÁN**

Multicultural Classroom  
*Textured Teaching for These Times: Implementing a Culturally Sustaining Practice*  
 Saturday session "E"



**SUSAN BARBER**

Midtown High School  
*Loving Literature Matters*  
 Saturday session "F"



**MELISSA SMITH**

Lake Norman Charter  
*#TeachLivingPoets: Complicating the Cannon and Empowering Students through Poetry*  
 Saturday session "F"



**REBECCA HARPER**

Augusta University  
*We Are Family: Literacy Events and Engagements that Embrace Families and Communities*  
 Saturday session "G"



## FRIDAY, JANUARY 31 CONFERENCE WELCOME 9-9:30am

Join Co-Presidents Kayla Hostetler and Mary Styslinger, as well as President-Elect Melissa Tucker, in the Carolina Ballroom to kick off our 2025 Conference! We'll update you on some conference changes, general announcements, and begin the nominations for the 2025-26 Vice President of Programs (2026 Conference Chair).

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 31 "A" SESSIONS 9:45-10:30am

### **Session A.1 EXHIBITOR SESSION** ***Mindfulness for Educators***

**Azalea 01 Audience: G**

Teaching is stressful. From the stresses of duty to the larger stresses of school violence, educators are under pressure. Many outstanding educators leave the profession within their first five years. Those that remain in the profession can easily become burned out. In this session, we will learn about free, easy, and secular approaches to managing stress that are scientifically validated.

**Exhibitor presenter: Todd Scholl, The SCEA's Center for Educator Wellness and Learning (CEWL)**

### **Session A.2 SPOTLIGHT SESSION** ***The Student, the Teacher, and the Poem: What is Required?***

**Carolina 02 Audience: G**

What makes a poem good? What makes a poem good to teach in school? Here's why we care; Audre Lorde said "poetry...is a vital necessity of our existence." If that's true (it is), what should we rightly expect of a poem and how do those expectations play a role in the classroom? As a student/teacher, what do we require of the poem we are reading/teaching? This session poses a lot of questions. We'll work through the answers together.

**Keynote presenter: Jay Ward**

### **Session A.3 The Three C's: Collaboration, Culture, and Choice**

**Azalea 02 Audience: M/H**

In this session we will share the three C's that we hold on to in our classrooms: collaboration, culture, and choice. These strategies and tips aid us in creating a positive and productive learning environment for our students. We will share our best methods for encouraging positive student-to-student and teacher-student collaboration, culture building, and choice opportunities for students. Presenters: Janessa Dixon and Beth Wiggins

### **Session A.4 Gather and Grow: In-Class Book Clubs** **Azalea 03 Audience: M**

Are you in a book club or have you ever been in one? We all know they focus on novels, but they also provide much-needed social interaction and an opportunity to share perspectives. Would you like to provide that for your students? In this session, participants will learn how to create and manage in-class book clubs. Everything from book lists, structure, rotating roles, and group projects will be shared. Come see what it's all about, and take whatever pieces you can to enhance your teaching! Presenter: Teresa Strait

### **Session A.5 The Interdisciplinary Teaching Toolbox** **Azalea 04 Audience: M**

This concurrent session will model how to develop innovative and culturally responsive interdisciplinary curriculum. The SC State Standards in focus will be middle level ELA and Social Studies. Teachers will have the opportunity to collaborate with other teachers across the state to develop interdisciplinary curriculum, explore teaching strategies, and access new instructional tools/resources. Presenter: Allie Landry & Sarah Olenchak

### **Session A.6 Growing Creative Writing in the ELA Classroom**

**Azalea 05 Audience: G**

In the ELA classroom, creative writing is often an add-on to an otherwise packed curriculum, making it difficult to approach poetry, fiction and/or creative nonfiction within such a limited timeframe. Faculty members from the SC Governor's School for the Arts & Humanities will offer strategies and tools to incorporate creative writing smoothly and quickly into regular classroom offerings. Presenters: Scott Gould, Alan Rossi, and Emily Cinquemani

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 31 "A" SESSIONS 9:45-10:30am

### Session A.7 SCCTE Leadership interest meeting\*

Sweetgrass Audience: G

Based on your feedback from previous conferences, we are offering concurrent sessions during the conference to outline the leadership roles, responsibilities, and benefits of volunteering as an SCCTE Board Member. We'll discuss current available leadership and volunteering opportunities. We'll also provide time for Q&A regarding the goals, programs, activities, and needs for SCCTE. We would love for you to join us, helping to continually improve and enhance our organization!

Presenters: Kayla Hostetler and Melissa Tucker

\*Recurring session

### Session A.9 Comprehending Informational Text

Lobby Poster Session Audience: E

This paper explores the pivotal role of informational text in enhancing reading comprehension skills among learners. It examines a graphic organizer strategy and instructional approaches aimed at optimizing comprehension of informational texts. The study focused on a fourth-grade class in the southeastern U. S. during the 2023-2024 academic year. Over a four-week period, I implemented a graphic organizer strategy to promote critical thinking.

Presenter: Jessica McCormick

### Session A.8 The Power of Pilgrimage

Sweetgrass Audience: H

Using the Camino de Santiago as an example, this session explores the potential travel (pilgrimage) has upon educators as professional development, pedagogical framework, experiential education, and a literary lens. Emphasizing movement as a vital component of collaborative work, the facilitator engages participants in vital practice, transformative conversation, and reflection. Presenter: Jennifer Elsdon

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 31 "B" SESSIONS 10:45-11:30am

### Session B.1 EXHIBITOR SESSION

*Build Your Middle School Civil Discourse Toolkit8*

Azalea 01 Audience: M

Build your toolkit with a collection of practical techniques and resources to enhance respectful dialogue, critical thinking, and effective communication in middle school and late elementary ELA classrooms. We incorporate five key instructional tactics for educators to build foundations of Viewpoint Diverse Civil Discourse and Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) around courageous conversations in their classroom.

Exhibitor presenter: John Snoad, Sphere Education

### Session B.2 SPOTLIGHT SESSION

*Anti-Racist ELA Curriculum and Teaching*

Carolina 02 Audience: H

How can we design a language arts curriculum that promotes anti-racist values and fosters an inclusive learning environment? This panel, comprised of teachers, will introduce practical strategies that educators can implement to engage students in critical conversations about race and racism and empower them to advocate for justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Spotlight presenter: Mary Styslinger, Kayla Hostetler, and Kerwin Johnson

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 31 "B" SESSIONS 10:45-11:30am

### **Session B.3 *The Essential Role of School Librarians*** Azalea 02 Audience: G

This session will provide valuable insight and practical information for teachers and administrators to better understand and support their school librarians. Additionally, educators considering a transition into school librarianship will gain a clear understanding of the pathways and opportunities available in this dynamic and impactful profession.

Presenters: Valerie Byrd Fort and Jenna Speiring

### **Session B.4 *Growing in Revision: Collaboration with Tutors*** Azalea 03 Audience: M/H

A collaborative session with an experienced undergraduate tutor and Writing Center director on methods, ideas, and activities for helping students grow in reading and writing. Hear from higher education and high school experiences tutoring to learn ways to engage students in their ELA growth.

Presenter: Brittany Cuenin

### **Session B.5 *Cultural Authenticity as a Pedagogical Tool*** Azalea 04 Audience: G

Integrating multiculturalism into English college curricula is essential but challenging. This presentation addresses obstacles in incorporating culturally relevant content into first-year composition courses, focusing on cultural impact and stereotype threat. It proposes a genre-based approach to embed diverse cultural perspectives into writing assignments, enhancing engagement, self-representation, and stereotype challenge.

Presenter: Jennifer Weed

### **Session B.6 *Growing Pre-Service Teachers for Literacy Impact*** Azalea 05 Audience: C

A goal at The Center of Excellence for Advancement of Reading and Literacy Instruction at Lander University is to guide pre-service teachers to know their impact. This session will focus on how field training is used as a method for supporting pre-service teachers in developing knowledge of literacy content, and a clear vision of effective literacy instruction. Data will show growth in student reading achievement as well as pre-service teacher growth in literacy content.

Presenters: Dawn Hawkins and Sara Hunt-Barron

### **Session B.7 *It IS All About You! Be Accountable, Be Successful*** Oleander Audience: M

During this session, participants will explore the importance of student accountability in the classroom. The presenters will share relevant research as well as practical ideas and strategies to increase student accountability in the learning process. The presenters will also share evidence of tried and true classroom strategies that have been implemented in middle school classrooms. Participants will walk away with new inspiration and ideas they can immediately implement in their classrooms!

Presenters: Leslie Carraway and Avery Shorts

### **Session B.8 *Incorporating Play Into Secondary ELA Classrooms*** Palmetto Round Table Audience: H

Play is integral for physical, cognitive, and emotional development in children, but it is also beneficial for teenagers and young adults. This session will explore strategies to incorporate play into secondary ELA classrooms.

Presenter: Brittany Beeker

### **Session B.9 *Empowering Student Writers through R.A.C.E. Lobby Poster Session*** Audience: E

This session will explore the RACE strategy (Restate, Answer, Cite, Explain) as a powerful tool for improving students' analytical writing. Participants will learn how to effectively integrate RACE into writing instruction to help students construct clear, evidence-based responses. Through hands-on activities, real-world examples, and classroom-tested techniques, educators will leave with practical strategies to enhance their students' writing proficiency and confidence.

Presenter: Taneshia Bridges

### **Session B.10 *Breaking Barriers via Collaboration in Classrooms*** Lobby Poster Session Audience: M

This session explores collaborative strategies that drive student growth by breaking academic anxiety, fostering critical thinking, deconstructing texts, and enhancing reading skills. By working together, students build confidence, deepen analysis, and achieve success, emphasizing the importance of collaboration in their academic journey.

Presenters: Kiel Ropa and Deidre Moore

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## MEET THE AUTHOR

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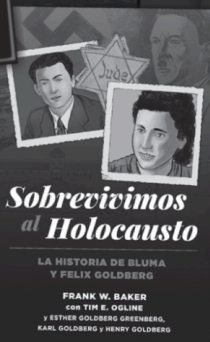
### *We Survived the Holocaust*

THE BLUMA AND FELIX  
GOLDBERG STORY

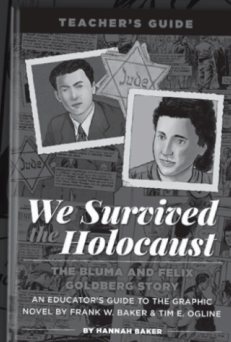
FRANK W. BAKER  
with TIM E. OGLINE  
and ESTHER GOLDBERG GREENBERG,  
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## FRIDAY, JANUARY 31 LUNCHEON KEYNOTE 11:45am-1:15pm

### *Igniting the Small, Invisible Flame with Jay Ward*

Carolina 05-06 Audience: G

Together we'll explore the power of language and the significance of an education that fosters creativity, collaboration, and curiosity. We'll also examine contemporary poems and song lyrics specifically as a way to give context to "older" poems that might otherwise be hard for students to access. Our goal is to introduce students to a lifetime love of literature—how can we light that fire? In part, this is a tribute to the tireless dedication of educators, but also a call to continue the seemingly impossible; growing the self while also nurturing the minds of tomorrow.

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 31 "C" SESSIONS 1:30-2:15pm

### **Session C.0 OFF-SITE SESSION\*\***

*(Un)archiving Joy and Teaching with the Fragments (a tour the Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture)*

Avery Research Center Audience: G

A three-part workshop designed for conference attendees to think about the art of archiving and unarchiving. In this session, educators will work with members of the Avery Research Center's Archivists and Executive Director to learn about the pedagogical possibilities of archives across the African diaspora. The workshop includes a self-guided tour and conversations about archival projects, initiatives, and collectives that can be incorporated into K-12 classrooms.

**Off-site presenter: Dr. Tamara Butler, Executive Director of the College of Charleston's Avery Research Center**

**\*\*Prior registration required via Eventbrite.**

### **Session C.1 EXHIBITOR SESSION**

*Leveraging Discus with New ELA Standards; K-5*

Azalea 01 Audience: E

In this training session, we will explore the wealth of resources available through Discus and discuss practical ways to integrate them into your ELA curriculum. We will specifically focus on how resources such as TeachingBooks and The Mailbox Plus align with and support the new ELA standards, enabling you to meet the diverse needs of your students while promoting critical thinking, literacy skills, and digital literacy.

**Exhibitor presenter: Tyler Edmond, South Carolina State Library**

### **Session C.2 SPOTLIGHT SESSION**

*Cultivating Critical Readers and Change Makers*

Carolina 02 Audience: E

Join us as we gather to explore ways to help students grow as critical thinkers and change makers through the examination of multiple perspectives. Learn how to help students think critically about whose stories are/were told, whose remain untold, and how they can advocate for change for a more equitable and just future. Classroom examples and book recommendations will be shared.

**Spotlight presenter: Katie Kelly with Emma Begg and Katelyn Barnett**

### **Session C.3 Cooperative, Collaborative, Coteaching**

Azalea 02 Audience: M

The session will take participants on a journey through defining co-teaching, exploring different models, planning for instruction, and implementing effective strategies. This session is effective for teams, individual teachers, instructional coaches, or administrators hoping to improve co-teach classrooms.

**Presenters: Megan Lanham and Brianna Krushefsky**

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 31 "C" SESSIONS 1:30-2:15pm

### **Session C.4 *Let's Get Physical: Taking ELA Outside***

Azalea 03 Audience: H

Reading and writing are sedentary activities, right? Maybe not. Taking students outside for kinesthetic writing activities has the potential to activate numerous productive writing habits. Experience writing that starts with a natural artifact and see where it leads in this session that focuses on developing creative and practical writing skills for all learners. Participants will do some writing, but they will also leave with lesson ideas that can be applied to today's ELA requirements.

Presenter: Kristie Camp

### **Session C.5 *Worried about Book Bans and Curriculum Censorship?: Get the Real Scoop About Legislation and How to Ensure Support for Your Diverse Classroom***

Azalea 04 Audience: G

In this session, experts on state legislation, school board regulations, and classroom practices supporting diverse student populations will share legislative updates, your rights as a teacher, and practices for ensuring that every student knows they, their families, their communities, and their histories are valued.

Presenters: Josh Malkin, Susi Long, Eliza Braden

### **Session C.6 *Rooted in a Reading-Writing Connection for Success***

Azalea 05 Audience: G

Discover an effective, time-saving approach to teaching literacy: integrating reading and writing seamlessly into just one streamlined lesson. Enhance student engagement, gain time, and empower teachers! Join this session to reclaim the joy of teaching and nurture vibrant learning communities, all with reduced teacher stress. Save time, elevate learning, and reignite joy in literacy instruction!

Presenter: Michelle Ruhe

### **CANCELLED SESSION**

~~Session C.7 *Partnering With Preservice Teachers*~~

~~Oleander Audience: M/H~~

~~Support from K12 mentor teachers is essential in building confidence in preservice teachers. This session will use research and interviews from recent PSTs to discuss best practices for maximizing the preservice teacher experience in our classrooms.~~

~~Presenter: Allison Thompson~~

### **Session C.8 *Volunteer with SCCTE Membership & Marketing***

Sweetgrass Audience: G

A focused SCCTE Board session about volunteering with our membership or marketing committees. Our Vice President of Membership and Regional Directors will discuss current available leadership and volunteering opportunities. We'll also provide time for Q&A regarding recruitment, retention, and communication with our SCCTE members.

Presenters: Kerwin Johnson, Gina Turner, and Gretchen Ayers

*Did you know?*



We are excited to announce that *Carolina Writes*, our K-12 literary magazine, is back! Many thanks to Dr.

Meg Wagner taking on the editor leadership role. Guidelines and deadlines will be posted to [SCCTE.org](https://www.sccte.org) soon. Contact us at [scteachersofenglish@gmail.com](mailto:scteachersofenglish@gmail.com) if you're interested in reading submissions or helping with the literary magazine.

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 31 "D" SESSIONS 2:30-3:15pm

### **Session D.1 EXHIBITOR SESSION** *Civil Discourse Through the Lens of Literature*

**Azalea 01** Audience: H

Explore strategies for navigating a contentious educational landscape in the ELA classroom while fostering civil discourse among students. Participants will gain practical techniques for addressing controversial topics, engaging students in respectful dialogue, and maintaining a safe and inclusive learning environment. Suitable for ELA teachers, administrators, and instructional coaches.

**Exhibitor presenter: John Snoad, Sphere Education**

### **Session D.2 SPOTLIGHT SESSION** *The PSA Approach to Educational Advocacy*

**Carolina 02** Audience: G

The need for educator advocacy continues to grow, but not all advocacy efforts are equally effective. This session leads participants in evaluating the importance of educator advocacy as well examining the three keys to being an effective and efficient advocate on behalf of students, colleagues, and the education profession in South Carolina.

**Spotlight presenter: Patrick Kelly, Director of Governmental Affairs for PSTA**

### **Session D.3** *Building a Community of Communicators!* **Azalea 02** Audience: H

How can we encourage students to actively engage in conversation? In this session, participants will be introduced to a variety of engagement strategies that are designed to increase communication, critical thinking, and collaboration in the classroom. This session includes strategy descriptions, video examples, and sample student work. Participants will leave with multiple strategies that will build a community of communicators. Presenter: Jennifer Howard

### **Session D.4** *Power in Paideia: Creating Opportunities for Student Agency*

**Azalea 03** Audience: G

In this session, we will discuss the process of Paideia and participate together in the transaction of learning, which can be really beautiful, fun, and liberating. In this session, we'll examine a text together and discuss how we can grow students' agency and power as communicators. After the seminar, we will debrief and discuss how Paideia is one actionable way to put theory into practice. Presenter: Mary Roueche

### **Session D.5** *Students in the Shadows: Community-based strategies*

**Azalea 04** Audience: H

They're in every classroom: the students in the shadows. Each year, students bring new social, emotional and academic issues that may feel like an impossible barrier to move beyond. This session will challenge the traditional idea of classroom community and will use teacher experience and research-based practices to show how using community-based instructional strategies and assessment opportunities can draw even our most burdened students out of the shadows and into success. Presenter: Lauren Gehr

### **Session D.6** *Open Inquiry and Productive Struggle in ELA* **Azalea 05** Audience: H

Want your students to take more risks, engage in productive struggle, and work on critical thinking skills? We will discuss ways to task students with open inquiry while keeping the recursive process sustainable for the teacher. We will look at some typical challenges the high schooler encounters- the research paper, an English "puzzle," and hard questions in poetry. Presenter: Tarin Lewis

### **Session D.7** *The Fresh Prince of ELA: Fostering Agency* **Oleander** Audience: M

How do you build engagement in your classroom? How can your personal narrative inform your pedagogy? In this session, participants will learn how a first-year educator was able to make literacy relevant through Culturally Sustaining Pedagogies (CSP). Presenter: Avery Shorts

### **Session D.8** *Averse to Verse? A Novel Approach to Grow Readers*

**Sweetgrass** Audience: M/H

This session will engage middle and secondary teachers by demonstrating how poetry may be taught through verse novels. Presenters illustrate the benefits of verse novels that bridge poetry and traditional literature. The presenters will demonstrate strategies to incorporate verse novels into lessons while providing an understanding of the rich cultural and community connections of verse novels. Presenter: Michelle Rasheed

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 31 CLOSING KEYNOTE 3:30-5pm

*The Write Life: Finding the Joy in Teaching Writing* with Rebecca Harper

Carolina 05-06 Audience: G

Finding the joy in teaching writing means leaning in to its nebulous and complex nature. Forever fluid and dynamic, writing is the one academic skill that can create a space for reflection, serve as a means for change and action, offer respite, and guide us through even the most rudimentary tasks. Yet many of our learners and teachers have yet to experience the joyful nature of writing. Eclipsed by scripts, standards, and assessments, many have missed out on the writing that empowers, engages, and encourages. Centering writing around authentic, relevant, and personal experiences can begin to unearth the joy and love of writing.

**DON'T FORGET: SCCTE EXHIBITOR AREA IS OPEN UNTIL 5PM!**

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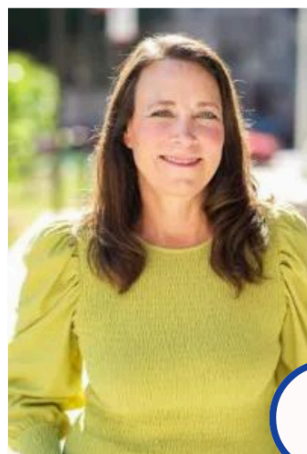


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# SATURDAY GENERAL SESSIONS



## SUSAN BARBER (@SusanGBarber)

Susan Barber teaches AP English Literature and Dramatic Writing for TV, Film, and Theatre at Midtown High School in Atlanta, GA and serves as the co-chair of the Test Development Committee for College Board's AP Literature. She has offered training at NCTE, GCTE, and the Folger Shakespeare Library. Her work has been featured in the *New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Atlanta Journal Constitution*, *Edutopia*, and she is the co-author of *The Norton Guide to AP Literature* and *100% Participation*, a forthcoming book from Corwin. She also co-edits *MuchAdoAboutTeaching.com*. Susan, however, is most proud of the work she does on a daily basis in E216 and never tires of the beauty and chaos of the classroom.



### Optimizing Student Engagement

BREAKFAST KEYNOTE 8:30-10AM

## MELISSA SMITH (@MelAlterSmith)

Melissa Alter Smith is a College Board AP® Consultant and a National Board Certified high school English teacher in Charlotte, NC. She is the founder of #TeachLivingPoets and co-author of *The Norton Guide to AP Literature: Writing & Skills* (W.W. Norton, 2022) and *Teach Living Poets* (NCTE, 2021). She is featured on *LitHub.com*, in *The New York Times*, *MindShift KOED*, NCTE's Council Chronicle, ASCD's *Education Update*, and more. Melissa earned her M.A. in English from Ohio University. Her work is focused on complicating the canon, supporting teachers, and empowering students through poetry.



## LORENA GERMÁN

### Textured Teaching for These Times: Implementing a Culturally Sustaining Practice

Lorena is a three time nationally awarded Dominican American educator focused on anti racist education. She has taught English Language Arts from 6th through 12th grades in both public and private schools. Her work has been featured in the *New York Times*, *NPR*, *PBS*, *Rethinking Schools*, *EdWeek*, *Learning for Justice Magazine*, and more. She published *The Anti Racist Teacher: Reading Instruction Workbook*, and *Textured Teaching: A Framework for Culturally Sustaining Practices* about curriculum & lesson development focused on social justice. She's a co-founder of #DisruptTexts through which she encourages teachers to work toward an inclusive ELA curriculum. As Co-Founder and Academic Director at *Multicultural Classroom* she leads professional development for teachers and creates teaching materials with and for leading literacy organizations. Lorena is also the Chair of NCTE's *Committee Against Racism and Bias in the Teaching of English*. She lives in Tampa, Florida.



LUNCHEON KEYNOTE  
12:15-1:45PM

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1 BREAKFAST KEYNOTE 8:30-10am

### **Optimizing Student Engagement with Susan Barber and Melissa Smith**

Carolina 05-06 Audience: G

Now, maybe more than ever, school has become an albatross of boredom for many students, and despite our best efforts, they won't engage with us, with each other, or with the subject matter. How do we make the process of thinking, questioning, and expressing ideas welcoming and invigorating again? How do we capture students' attention, engaging them in thought and wonder, opening their eyes to new capacities for hope and possibility, especially when that work is much harder than ever before?

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1 "E" SESSIONS 10:15-11am

### **Session E.1 EXHIBITOR SESSION** **Maximizing Discus Resources for ELA Standards**

Azalea 01 Audience: M/H

Enhance curriculum delivery and student learning with Discus resources! This training session is aimed at educators teaching middle to high school English. It focuses on integrating Discus resources such as TeachingBooks and Bloom's Literature to cover areas like reading comprehension, writing skills, critical analysis, and media literacy of the 2023 ELA standards.

**Exhibitor presenter: Sarah Pellerin, South Carolina State Library**

### **Session E.2 SPOTLIGHT SESSION** **Textured Teaching for These Times: Implementing a Culturally Sustaining Practice**

Carolina 02 Audience: G

This session offers a glimpse at the luncheon keynote, focused on developing literacy skills and character. Literature and classrooms are a great avenue for this study! The session includes templates, sample lessons, and hands-on activities that support culturally sustaining pedagogies and build knowledge and community around standing up for love.

**Keynote presenter: Lorena Germàn**

### **Session E.3 Nurturing Students as Agents of Change** Carolina 03 Audience: H

In today's rapidly changing world, it is increasingly important for English teachers to equip students not only with language skills but also with the ability to critically engage with society and advocate for positive change. This session aims to explore strategies and approaches for nurturing students into advocates through English education.

**Presenter: Kayla Hostetler**

### **Session E.4 Stories of Resilience and Sustained Growth** Azalea 02 Audience: C

Join a collaborative session to explore strategies that build collective efficacy and resilience in learners from high school to teachers in the classroom. This session will emphasize how resilience and a growth mindset are used to learn from others and strengthen literacy content knowledge. Participants will have the opportunity to consider their audience and how they can develop an environment that fosters collective efficacy and resilience for sustained growth.

**Presenters: Dawn Hawkins and Sarah Hunt-Barron**

### **Session E.5 Reading together, Growing together** Azalea 03 Audience: H

This session explores the implementation of high school literature circles, emphasizing the theme "Gather Together, Grow Together." Participants will learn how these collaborative reading groups foster critical thinking, deeper comprehension, and a love of reading. The session provides practical strategies for setting up and facilitating literature circles, addressing challenges, and building a supportive classroom community focused on mutual growth.

**Presenters: Jenn Myers and Kristina Gray**

### **Session E.6 Characterization Middle Level Direct and Indirect**

Azalea 04 Audience: M

The session will explore how these forms of characterization contribute to a reader's understanding of a story and its themes. By examining the interplay between direct and indirect characterization, educators can guide students to a more nuanced interpretation of characters and their roles within the narrative.

**Presenter: Kendrick Barnes**

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1 “E” SESSIONS 10:15-11am

### Session E.7 *Growing through Reflection*

Azalea 05 Audience: G

This interactive presentation will explore ways that teachers may reframe their lives and practices as storied experiences, employing reflection not only to recognize our limits and limitations, but discover our potential for transformation within and beyond the classroom. By re-memembering voices of the past we may find courage, hope, and enlightenment for the journey ahead.  
Presenter: Lochran Fallon

### CANCELLED SESSION

### Session E.8—EXHIBITOR SESSION

### *A Graphic Novel: Teaching YA about The Holocaust*

~~Oleander—Audience: H~~

~~In an age when most young people don't understand the scope of the Holocaust, comes an engaging graphic story, detailing the journey two Polish Jews made from Europe to South Carolina.  
Exhibitor presenter: Frank Baker~~

### Session E.9 *Write with SCCTE: South Carolina English Teacher & Carolina Writes*

Sweetgrass Audience: G

A focused SCCTE Board session about writing for and/or volunteering with our publications. Our SCCTE editors will discuss guidelines, deadlines, and volunteering opportunities. We'll also provide time for Q&A.  
Presenters: Mary Styslinger and Meg Wagner

### Session E.10 *Unlocking Vocabulary through Morphemic Analysis*

Lobby Poster Session Audience: E

This session explores the transformative power of morphemic analysis in enhancing vocabulary and reading comprehension. Discover practical strategies through graphic organizers and classroom routines. Witness firsthand demonstrations showcasing the technique's effectiveness. Take away sample organizers to seamlessly integrate this impactful method into your teaching, enriching student learning experiences.  
Presenter: Javion Simpson



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## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3 “F” SESSIONS 11:15am-12pm

### **Session F.1 EXHIBITOR SESSION** ***Voices United: America's Civil Rights Movement***

*Azalea 01* Audience: M/H

Delve into the struggle for equal rights and the Civil Rights movement with this complete collection of lessons suitable for all classrooms. Challenge students to explore social and historical significance of legislation protecting civil liberties and rights through primary sources, literature, and multimedia resources. Foster critical thinking as students reflect on the themes of equality and a just society with strategies to build evergreen spaces for viewpoint diverse civil discourse.

**Exhibitor presenter: John Snoad, Sphere Education**

### **Session F.2 SPOTLIGHT SESSION** ***Loving Literature Matters***

*Carolina 02* Audience: G

Beyond the standards, the skills, and the assignments, reading fiction is of the most importance in today's society. This session will offer practical ideas for creating and fostering a love of literature in classrooms, schools, and students.

**Keynote presenter: Susan Barber**

### **Session E.3 SPOTLIGHT SESSION** ***#TeachLivingPoets: Complicating the Cannon and Empowering Students through Poetry***

*Carolina 03* Audience: G

This session will offer collaborative activities and classroom-tested strategies that complicate the canon, build community, and foster student discovery. Through interacting with sample lessons, mentor texts, and poetry analysis strategies, participants will be provided with fresh ideas and resources they can take back to their classrooms and implement tomorrow.

**Keynote presenter: Melissa Smith**

### **Session F.4 A Cross-Curricular Nonfiction Annotation System**

*Azalea 02* Audience: M/H

Need a simple nonfiction annotation system that can be used across content areas? This session is for you. Modifications for different content areas will also be discussed. At MMC, we are using this in several different disciplines. Real success stories from students enrolled in dual enrollment classes will also be presented.

**Presenter: Laura Peterson**

### **Session F.5 Gather Round! Storytelling, Community & Your Class**

*Azalea 03* Audience: G

Gather Round folks! Join us for an informative and fun session about how to develop reading communities, experiences, and ideas for your students. We'll share how stories emerge from collective storytelling and its impact as well as activities and ideas to use in the classroom. We'll talk about great books titles and how to foster reading communities with your students.

**Presenter: Brittany Cuenin and Jeannette Triplett**

### **Session F.6 Creating Authentic Literacy Gatherings**

*Azalea 04* Audience: M/H

Move students away from the computer screen and towards authentic gatherings with their texts, their peers, and their teachers. Watch students bloom together as they participate in authentic gatherings around reading and writing in any content area classroom. Learn concrete strategies to implement in any classroom looking for authentic engagement with text.

**Presenter: Dianne Hartness**

**Just a reminder that professional development certificates will be sent via email from [scteachersofenglish@gmail.com](mailto:scteachersofenglish@gmail.com). Check your email after the conference for a link to the survey to receive your certificate for your time. We appreciate your feedback and continued support of our annual conference!**



## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3 "F" SESSIONS 11:15am-12pm

### Session F.7 *An Educator's Guide to Artificial Intelligence* Azalea 05 Audience: G

This presentation offers a practical introduction to integrating AI into the planning and teaching process. The session includes a brief overview of AI and an exploration of AI-powered tools that can enhance lesson planning, grading, and student engagement, illustrating how these tools can streamline administrative tasks and improve teaching efficiency. Ethical considerations, including bias and equitable access, will be discussed to ensure that AI is used responsibly.


Presenter: Ann Aust

### Session F.8 *Reimagining and Reimagining Canonical Texts* Palmetto Round Table Audience: G

This round table session will explore innovative approaches to teaching canonical literature in secondary English classrooms through the lens of social justice and anti-racist pedagogy. The presentation will feature future English teachers, who have developed and workshopped unit plans that integrate supplemental texts, diverse perspectives, and activities designed to challenge traditional narratives, foster critical thinking, and promote equity in the classroom.

Presenters: Kayla Hostetler, Rose Branton, Payton Clark, Allison Coombe, Anna Henderson, and Saorla Steves

Did you know?



The SCCTE Board began our first series of #SCCTEReads book studies this fall, featuring the publications of some of our keynote speakers. We would love to continue the book studies-- and maybe help you with your TBR list! Let us know what texts you'd like to explore and whether you would like to host a book study. Contact us at [scteachersofenglish@gmail.com](mailto:scteachersofenglish@gmail.com).

### Session F.9 *SCCTE Leadership interest meeting\**

Sweetgrass Audience: G

Based on your feedback from previous conferences, we are offering concurrent sessions during the conference to outline the leadership roles, responsibilities, and benefits of volunteering as an SCCTE Board Member. We'll discuss current available leadership and volunteering opportunities. We'll also provide time for Q&A regarding the goals, programs, activities, and needs for SCCTE. We would love for you to join us, helping to continually improve and enhance our organization!

Presenters: Mary Styslinger and Melissa Tucker

\*Recurring session

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# South Carolina Talking Book Services



*Did you know?*



The SCCTE Board has created a new Facebook Group "SCCTE Classroom Collaborations," a private forum for SCCTE members. The group is intended as a space for educators to post ideas, collaborate on units, discuss vertical skills, and more. Our primary goal is to support SC ELA educators in creating inclusive and sustainable practices that benefit all stakeholders.

# Empowering<sup>®</sup> Writers

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## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY LUNCHEON KEYNOTE 12:15-1:45pm

### *Textured Teaching for These Times: Implementing a Culturally Sustaining Practice* with Lorena Germàn

Carolina 05-06 Audience: G

Developing literacy skills should involve developing character. The two are not mutually exclusive and this notion of a "neutral" education hasn't worked for us as a nation. It's time we boldly stand for truth and narrow our skills so that students can engage others responsibly and humanely. Literature and classrooms are a great avenue for this study! Let us ask ourselves: how can I make sure this content is engaging and relevant to their lives? How can I make sure this content helps them see the humanity in others? How can I make sure this content helps them make sense of the world around them? In this session, participants will gain a clear context for why teaching about these issues matters, they'll gain skills for how to do it, and learn about strategies they can implement immediately.

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1 "G" SESSIONS 2-2:45pm

### **Session G.1 EXHIBITOR SESSION** ***CHUTZPOW! Engaging Readers in Holocaust Literature***

Azalea 01 Audience: M/H

Participants will be lead in a discussion of the challenges of reaching all learners with engaging age appropriate texts on the Holocaust. They will learn of the diversity of quality literature that is available including graphic novels, memoirs, historical narratives and how they can get them for their classrooms for FREE!

**Exhibitor presenter: Scott Auspelmyer, South Carolina Council on the Holocaust**

### **Session G.2 SPOTLIGHT SESSION** ***We Are Family: Literacy Events and Engagements that Embrace Families and Communities***

Carolina 02 Audience: G

Building student literacy competencies in reading and writing takes more than just commitment in the academic and school-based classroom. Instead, it relies on partnerships and collaboration between educators across disciplines in the school building, but also with parents, caregivers, community organizations, and individuals that are part of the education of the whole child.

**Keynote presenter: Rebecca Harper**

### **Session G.3 *Feedback and Reflection to Increase Student Agency***

Azalea 02 Audience: G

Looking for ways to make your feedback to students more effective? Want to incorporate more peer feedback? Interested in how to use student reflections in meaningful ways? Come learn various ways to incorporate feedback and reflection into your classroom to grow deeper learning, enhance problem solving, and develop more critical thinking. After all, Feedback + Reflection = Increased Student Agency.  
Presenter: Kimberly Clark

### **Session G.4 *Literacy Intervention at the Secondary Level*** Azalea 03 Audience: M/H

Literacy intervention has primarily been seen in elementary schools. However, learners often continue to need these supports as they continue through the rest of their school tenure. Join me in discussing the importance and implementation of various intervention strategies, including those that are interdisciplinary in nature. Help make students stronger readers, no matter the setting!  
Presenter: Grace Barry

### **Session G.5 *The kids are okay, are you?*** Azalea 04 Audience: G

Refilling the cup you pour from helps you manage work related and personal stressors. This allows you to be the best teacher you can be. This session will offer you multiple ways to introduce self-care into your daily routines to improve your mental health.  
Presenter: Hayley Altman

### **Session G.6 *Growing Grammatically: An Inquiry-based Approach***

Azalea 05 Audience: M/H

This session explores student-centered ways to teach grammar in the writing classroom. Participants will learn how multi-sensory methods paired with inquiry practices support students' writing in middle and high school classrooms. Educators will leave this session with practical ideas to apply on Monday morning.  
Presenter: Emily Kimpton

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1 "G" SESSIONS 2-2:45pm

### Session G.7 *Travel + Learning = Inspirational Growth*

Oleander Audience: M/H

If you could combine two loves--traveling and learning--where could that take you? Come explore what the professional development world has to offer teachers, from someone who has experienced several of those opportunities. From summers-only Master's degree programs to national and even international professional developments, scholarships and grant monies exist to take YOU on adventures that will fan the flames of your passion for the content you teach.

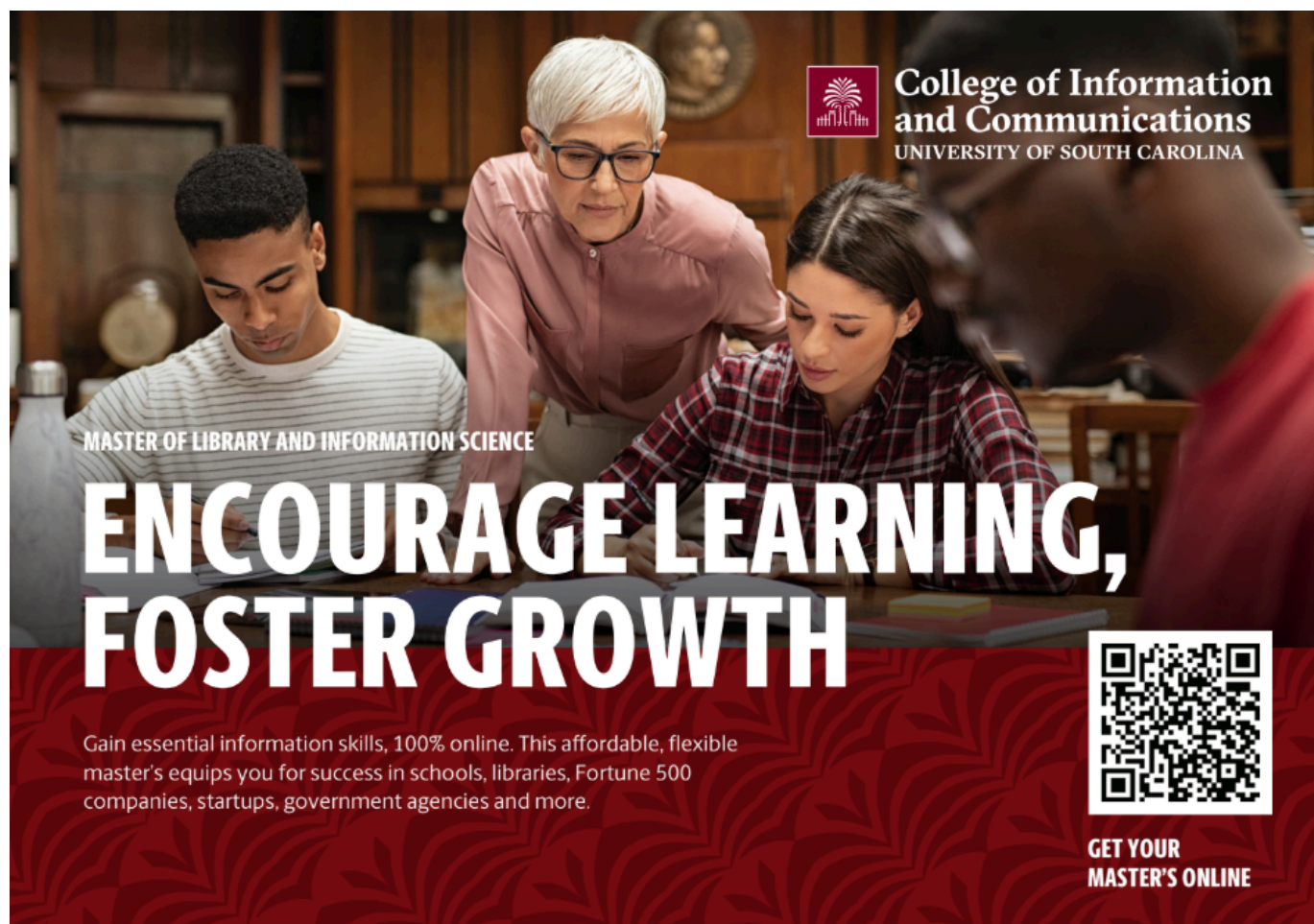
Presenter: Cynthia Lehr

### Session G.8 *Growing Our Mindset: Writing Our Way to Change*

Sweetgrass Audience: H

Participants will explore what it means to cultivate mindsets through journal writing. Journal writing is a low-stakes way to invite students to share their thoughts and feelings while examining personal beliefs and values they may not have previously contemplated. Instead of focusing on the growth mindset model, we will help students (and educators) grow their mindsets. This slight shift in rhetoric makes room to examine factors that often hinder success, despite hard work and determination.


Presenters: Amanda Nelson and Matthew Nelson




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# 2025 SCCH Summer Institutes

South Carolina Council on the Holocaust will host two Summer Institutes.

## **I. Foundations of Teaching the Holocaust**

June 9-13

## **II. Media and the Holocaust: Using Literature, Propaganda, and Film to Teach the Holocaust**

June 23-27



South Carolina  
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- **FREE GRADUATE CREDITS!!**

Teachers can earn 3 graduate credit hours from the University of South Carolina for each course and the cost of each course for each

- teacher will be covered by the SCCH.

Teachers will receive hands-on training in

- content, pedagogy, and methodology.

For more information visit  
[www.scholocaustcouncil.org/programs.php](http://www.scholocaustcouncil.org/programs.php)

or scan this code  
with your phone's camera





## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1 “H” SESSIONS 3-3:45pm

### **Session H.1 EXHIBITOR SESSION**

#### ***Four Steps to Transforming Your Writing Classroom***

**Azalea 01** Audience: E

Join a workshop on a proven approach 4-Step method, using literature, direct instruction, modeling, and sharing to enhance writing. Not only will students become better writers but strategic readers with the foundational skills for response to text tasks. By reading like authors and understanding genres, teachers and students boost literacy. Leave with immediate writing instruction techniques.

**Exhibitor presenter: Nicole Pegan, *Empowering Writers***

### **Session H.2 *Literacy with Engagement and Student Success***

**Azalea 02** Audience: M

Join us as we share several highly engaging literacy practices that help students grow and achieve! You will be able to integrate and implement these practices right now in your classrooms to help your middle level students become better readers, writers and thinkers.

**Presenters: Kimberly Murray and Tara Sargent**

### **Session H.3 *Achieve Together: Literacy Growth Strategies***

**Azalea 03** Audience: H

This session equips educators with strategies to boost student Lexile levels using Achieve 3000. The session emphasizes personalized instruction, collaborative learning, and practical literacy strategies, adaptable to various texts not just Achieve 3000 articles. Additionally, the session will offer resources and examples of successful implementation, giving educators the confidence to apply these strategies in their own classrooms.

**Presenters: Jennifer Myers and Kristina Gray**

### **Session H.4 *SC Teachers' Perspectives on AI in the Classroom***

**Azalea 04** Audience: M/H

This poster presents data from a survey of teachers in South Carolina, investigating how teachers are using or resisting AI, how they are responding to students' use of AI, and how contexts such as State standards and local conditions affect what teachers are doing in the classroom in response to AI. This data can inform teachers' decisions about how to use (or resist) AI in their own classrooms.

**Presenter: Sara Hamson**

### **Session H.5 *So You Attended A State Conference (now what?)***

**Azalea 05** Audience: H

What do we really do, when we return to our schools after a state conference? This session explores how teachers from the same Title 1 high school put ideas into action following their experiences as new 2024 SCCTE presenters and attendees. Facilitators will share the realities of their collaborative attempts to apply what they learned from last year's sessions, ultimately yielding success.

**Presenters: Jennifer Elsdon, Blake Bowens, and Amy George**

### **Session H.6 *Elevating Vocabulary Through Morphemic Analysis***

**Oleander** Audience: E

Explore the transformative impact of morphemic analysis on vocabulary and reading comprehension in this session. Discover practical strategies using graphic organizers and classroom routines, supported by video demonstrations and examples. Take away sample organizers to seamlessly integrate this powerful technique into your teaching, enhancing student learning experiences.

**Presenter: Javion Simpson**






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The SCCTE Board has added both webinars and a new blog “Classroom Connections” at [SCCTE.org](http://SCCTE.org) to better support you. Board members and content experts explore research, strategies, and more! Is there is a topic you’d like to learn or discuss? Contact us at [scteachersofenglish@gmail.com](mailto:scteachersofenglish@gmail.com).

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# Thank you!

We are so glad you joined us for our "Gather Together, Grow Together" SCCTE 2025 Conference. We hope the sessions, speakers, collaboration and fellowship brought some inspiration and resources for you and your students. Our board is already making plans for SCCTE 2025, so stay tuned for more information. We wish you safe travels home and a fabulous spring semester!

2025-26 SCCTE PRESIDENT

Melissa Tucker  
Rock Hill High School



## NOTES