



November Newsletter

Fox Valley Reading Council

Letter from the President

"The greatest discovery of all time is that a person can change his future by merely changing his attitude." -Oprah Winfrey

In this time of leaves changing, daylight savings time change, and political changes, we need to continue our positive attitudes. For Illinois Reading Council, that means joining them for their 2023 IRC Conference: Revolution: A Change Is Gonna Come! The conference will be held March 9-10 in Springfield. There is nothing better than becoming refreshed by attending some wonderful professional development offered by some amazing authors and our peers. Do yourself a favor and consider registering now as registration is open and hotels fill up quickly.



Here is the registration link: https://irc.memberclicks.net/index.php?option=com_mcform&view=ngforms&id=2140118

Here is the preliminary program link: <https://www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org/assets/docs/2023%20Preliminary%20Program.pdf>

Other positive attitudes/congratulations that FVRC would like to share are awards for our members:

- Kathleen Sweeney, former Regional Director of Region 3 of IRC, has received the 2023 IRC Hall of Fame award.
- Steven Layne, current Professor of Education at Wheaton College and former Judson director

of the Master of Education
the IRC Prairie State
now to attend that luncheon!



able author, has received
ence. You can sign up

- Kristen Walsh, FVRC membership board member, has received the Mary F. Roe Award for Equity in Literacy.
- Fox Valley Reading Council has received the IRC Council of Excellence award.

By the time you read this newsletter, FVRC will have celebrated Illinois Reads at the Santori Public Library in Aurora on Nov. 12. The Board gave age-appropriate books by IL authors, highlighted as IL Reads authors, to students who came to the library. They also offered multiple guided stations for kids to investigate science and focus on reading. It was an annual event that was well attended and fun!

Finally, enjoy your holidays as you spend time with your family. As you are with them, here is some food for thought:

“I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples.” -Mother Teresa

Your co-presidents - Camille Lutz & Dawn Lutz



**Mary F. Roe Award for
Kristen Walsh**



**FVRC Board of Directors
at Illinois Reads**

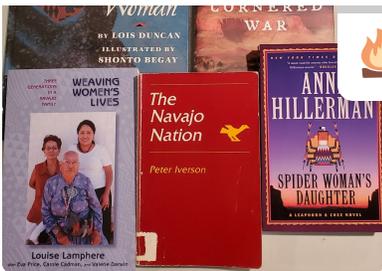


**Fossil Dig at Illinois
Reads**

IRC Intra-National Project



FVRC gave a donation to purchase books as part of the IRC's Intra-National Project to high school students on a Navajo reservation. Through council donations, IRC provided over 80 books (\$1500) for the Monument Valley High School, Four Corners, Utah. All materials are culturally relevant as the wish list

**smore**

Share

e Language teacher.
Ol Owles at the end of

August. A very exciting contribution to a community in need!

Love Smiles

Fox Valley Reading Council is taking on a new literacy project. We have recently become aware of a local organization that does good work for hurting families. We are going to collect new books for ALL ages of children. During the current Christmas drive, they are also collecting coloring books and supplies. Please bring donations to any of our in-person events this year. If you would prefer to donate cash, we will order from the list they have on the website.

Love Smiles is an Illinois-based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to bringing awareness to pediatric cancer while providing moments of peace to those diagnosed and their families.

Love Smiles is a pediatric cancer foundation that works with children's authors to provide special moments for children and their families fighting pediatric cancer.

Love Smiles partners with authors and publishers to share their stories and activities with pediatric cancer patients. Families can access videos of authors reading their books, or teaching how to draw a character from their book and other activities on the Love Smiles app. Love Smiles hopes that these stories and activities will bring some moments of peace during these busy, stressful times.

Fox Valley Reading Council gave 18 books at the end of the summer. A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to the members who donated books and a cash donation that bought a little fox!

For more information, check out:

<https://www.love-smiles.org/>

[Send a Fox | Love Smiles \(love-smiles.org\)](https://www.love-smiles.org/)

Membership

Membership News



 Share



We want to thank our members for renewing their yearly Fox Valley Reading Council membership. Each month, a winner will be randomly drawn out of those individuals that renewed their membership to win a Starbucks gift card. Our monthly winners are as follows:

September: Megan Truax

October: Maria Walther

Book Recommendations

Primary Book

Keepunumuk By: Danielle Greendeer, Anthony Perry, and Alexis Buten

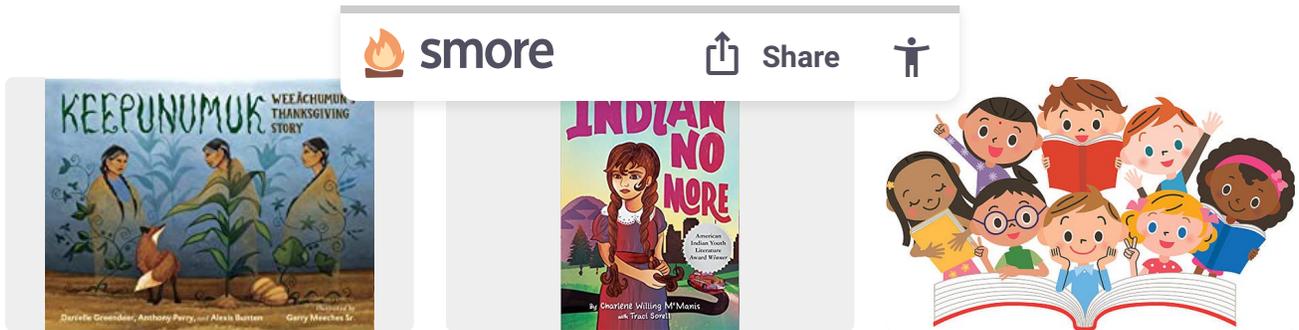
Illustrated by: Garry Meeches Sr.

This beautifully illustrated book tells the story of the first Thanksgiving from a Native American perspective. Multiple Native American creators weave a story together in words and pictures about a modern-day Wampanoag family and the tale about Keepunumuk, the time of Harvest.

Middle Grades Book

Indian No More By: Charlene Willing McManus with Traci Sorell

Regina Petit's family is Umpqua and has always lived on the Grande Ronde Tribe's reservation. It is all Regina has ever known until the federal government enacts a law that says Regina's tribe no longer exists. Because they are forces from their homeland, Regina's father signs the family up for the federal Indian Relocation Program and they move to Los Angeles, where Regina comes face to face with the viciousness of racism for the first time. This middle-grade novel draws upon Umpqua author, Charlene Willing McManus's own tribal history, and leaves Regina asking: Is she Indian? American? Both?



Literacy Support Grant Winners

Congratulations to our very own Literacy Support Grant winners!!!

Dawn Wolber \$1250 Book of the Month

Allison Thomas \$500 Research Workshop Text Sets

We encourage members to apply for these grants before the May 1st deadline!



Fox Valley Reading Council

Fox is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

Created with  **smore**

Communicate quickly and effectively with interactive newsletters.

Smore empowers educators to connect with their community, streamline school communications, and increase engagement.

[Create a newsletter](#)

