

ILLINOIS READING COUNCIL JOURNAL



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Winter 2023

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ILLINOIS READING COUNCIL JOURNAL

Volume 52, Number 1 Winter 2023

Table of Contents

Articles

- 3 **Exploring Diversity in Economics and Financial Literacy for Young Literacy and Social Science Learners**
Laura Beltchenko and Megan Preis
- 24 **Five Sites of Resistance Against Censorship: Middle School Teachers Speak**
Melanie D. Koss and Kathleen A. Paciga
- 34 **Growing Modern Literacy Skills Through the Library Interactive Read-Aloud Framework**
Janice Mattheis, Margaret Mary Policastro, and Colleen Seick

Columns

- 47 **Finding Common Ground: Understanding Ourselves and the World Through Literature: Award-Winning Books**
Jung Kim and Deborah Augsburg
- 53 **Family Engagement in Literacy: Revisiting Some Tried-and-True Ideas to Promote Students' Reading at Home**
Laurie Elish-Piper
- 58 **Professional Development: Navigating the Path to Equity and Empowerment for All**
Sophie Degener, Adelfio Garcia, Ivy Sitkoski, and Martin Mireles
- 64 **Climate Justice Now: Lessons from a PreK Teacher Who Is Cultivating Sustainable Futures**
Kristine M. Schutz, and Rebecca Woodard with Eva Compisi
- 69 **Legacy Voices: Insights from Dr. Chris daSilva Iddings**
Steven L. Layne and Alexia Salzman
- 78 **The "Bates" Shop: Fishing for Primary Source Documents: The Importance of Multiple Perspectives – Part 2: The Wounded Knee Massacre**
David Bates
- 87 **Authors, Books, and Beyond: A Conversation with Traci Sorell About *Contenders: Two Native Baseball Players, One World Series***
Amina Chaudhri
- 97 **Calls for Contributions for Future Issues of the *Illinois Reading Council Journal***

The *Illinois Reading Council Journal (IRCJ)* is published quarterly and is distributed as a service to all members of the Illinois Reading Council. Membership in the Illinois Reading Council can be obtained through local and special interest reading councils in Illinois. For information, contact the Illinois Reading Council at 1100 Beech Street, Building 8, Suite 2, Normal, IL 61761. IRC staff may also be reached by telephone at (309) 454-1341. Libraries and educational institutions can subscribe to *IRCJ* at an annual rate of \$50.00; address inquiries to the Executive Director at the IRC office. Because the *IRCJ* serves as an open forum, its contents do not necessarily reflect or imply endorsement or advocacy by the Illinois Reading Council, its officers, or its members.

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Publication services for the *IRCJ* are provided by Sandra K. Larimer, Copy Editor, and Shanee J. Plate, Layout/Design. Morgan Kail-Ackerman and Kate Quick are graduate assistants to Editor Roxanne Owens.

About the Cover Artist

Claire Salmon

Claire Salmon grew up in the non-districted part of the swamp in The Acreage, Florida, where you will find more canals than roads—a place with plenty of room for making up worlds, searching for fossils, and learning mixed martial arts. Pursuing writing and art from a young age, she attended Dreyfoos School of the Arts for painting and illustration before being accepted at selective writing programs at Kenyon College and Duke University. After graduating from Florida State University's College of Motion Picture Arts with a specialization in screenwriting, she racked up hundreds of hours on film sets, serving both as gaffer and screenwriter, dependent on the shoot. After a brief stint of living on a Marine Corps base and writing remotely, she moved back to West Palm Beach where she now serves as the Director of the BAM Festival, a books, art, and music foundation bringing 20 to 50 award-winning and bestselling authors and illustrators from across the globe each year to the children and teens who love them. As an SCBWI member, she illustrates children and young adult book covers, works as author Neal Shusterman's assistant/creative director, and is the special projects/content creator and muralist for Kijana Educational Empowerment Initiative in Kenya. Her portfolio can be found at clairesalmon.com.



Front Cover: “Midnight Imaginings”

Back Cover: “Skate-o-saurus”

Other artwork by Claire can be found on pages 52, 57, 63, and 76.

ILLINOIS READS

A READING STATE OF MIND



Saturday, February 3, 2024

Westmont High School
909 North Oakwood Drive
Westmont, Illinois
10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Join IRC at the 2024 Illinois Reads Book Festival! Plan now to bring your families, students, and all book lovers to this fun and free event. Many authors will be present. Bring your books and have them signed at this event! Books will also be available for purchase from Anderson's Bookshops.

Visit our website for more information at www.illinoisreads.org

Birth-4

My Hair Is Like the Sun
by St. Clair Detrick-Jules and
illustrated by Tabitha Brown
Mine!
by Candace Fleming and
illustrated by Eric Rohmann
No Fair!
by Jacob Grant
You Are New
by Lucy Knisley
A Book About You and All the World Too
by Jean Reidy
Ethan and the Strays
by John Sullivan

K-2

Lila Greer, Teacher of the Year
by Andrea Beaty
3x4: TOON Level 1
by Ivan Brunetti
The New Bicycle
by Darcy Day Zoells
Not a Monster
by Claudia Guadalupe Martinez
You Are A Story
by Bob Raczka
How to Explain Coding to a Grown-Up
by Ruth Spiro

3-5

Cornbread & Poppy at the Museum
by Matthew Cordell
The Enchanted Bridge
by Zetta Elliott
Etta Invincible
by Reese Eschmann
Josephine and Her Dishwashing Machine
by Kate Hannigan
Mayor Good Boy Turns Bad
by Dave Scheidt and Miranda Harmon
The Stupendous Switcheroo: New Powers
Every 24 Hours
by Mary Winn Heider and Chad Sell

6-8

The Bravest Warrior in Nefaria
by Adi Alsaid
It Found Us
by Lindsay Currie
Restoring Prairie, Woods, and Pond: How a
Small Trail Can Make a Big Difference
by Laurie Lawlor
Lo & Behold
by Wendy Mass and
illustrated by Gabi Mendez
World Made of Glass
by Ami Polonsky
The Lost Ryū
by Emi Watanabe Cohen

9-12

Messenger: The Legend of Muhammad Ali
by Marc Bernardin
Wolfpack: A Novel
by Amelia Brunskill
Saint Juniper's Folly
by Alex Crespo
Whalefall: A Novel
by Daniel Kraus
Graceland Cemetery: Chicago Stories,
Symbols, and Secrets
by Adam Selzer
If I Have To Be Haunted
by Miranda Sun

Adult

Good Night, Irene: A Novel
by Luis Alberto Urrea
A Taste for Poison: Eleven Deadly Molecules
and the Killers Who Used Them
by Neil Bradbury, Ph.D.
King: A Life
by Jonathan Eig
I Have Some Questions for You: A Novel
by Rebecca Makkai
Ghostly: A Collection of Ghost Stories
by Audrey Niffenegger
On Rotation: A Novel
by Shirlene Obuobi

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**The Illinois Council for Affective Reading Education
and
The Illinois Reading Council**

STATIC STICK DECAL CONTEST

The Illinois Council for Affective Reading Education (ICARE) and the Illinois Reading Council (IRC) invite **YOU** to design a STATIC STICK DECAL that encourages children to read.

QUALIFICATIONS

You must be a student in grade 4, 5 or 6 in a school in the state of Illinois.

GUIDELINES

Make your original design in the 4 inch square on the back of this sheet.

(Teachers may copy the application form as many times as needed.)

Invent an **original** character(s) to include in your design. You may **NOT** use any published cartoon or comic characters (including characters such as Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Super Heroes, Pokémon, etc.) nor any computer-generated art.

Develop an **original** saying or slogan.

You are limited to three colors plus black and white. The label with Illinois Reading Council and Illinois Council for Affective Reading Education must be on the STATIC STICK DECAL design but it may be moved from the location on the application form.

Complete the application form on the back of this sheet. Mail it with your design to:

Illinois Reading Council
Attn: Kathleen Sweeney
1100 Beech Street
Building 8, Suite 2
Normal, IL 61761

ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN JANUARY 15!

THE STATIC STICK DECAL CONTEST WINNER WILL RECEIVE:

An autographed book by a well-known children's author.

An invitation for the winner and his/her parents to be our guests at the Friday Luncheon at the annual Illinois Reading Council Conference. The winner will sit in a place of honor and be introduced during the luncheon.

30 STATIC STICK DECALS with the winning design to distribute to classmates.

TIPS

Don't forget – The work MUST BE ORIGINAL. You may not use any published trademark, cartoon, comic characters or computer-generated art.

Keep the art work simple and positive. Too much detail within the space provided may result in a smeared look when the cling is reproduced.

Fine line markers, pens and pencils work the best. Crayon is usually difficult to read. A white background provides a cleaner design.

Spelling must be standard and correct.

The Illinois Council for Affective Reading Education and The Illinois Reading Council

STATIC STICK DECAL CONTEST APPLICATION

Illinois Reading Council Illinois Council for Affective Reading Education

Student Name _____

Grade _____ Age _____

Teacher's Name _____

School _____

School Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

School Phone _____ Email _____

Parent/Guardian's Name _____

Home Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Email _____

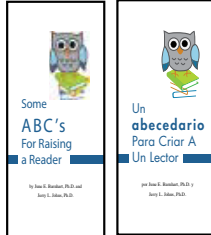
Mail entries no later than **January 15** to:

Illinois Reading Council
Attn: Kathleen Sweeney
1100 Beech Street, Building 8-2
Normal, IL 61761

IRC PUBLICATIONS ORDER FORM

The Illinois Reading Council offers many resources to their members. Take advantage of these great materials to share with organizations, parents, or teachers! The items listed below can be ordered by fax at 309-454-3512, by returning the form by mail, or online at www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org.

BROCHURES:



Some ABC's for Raising a Reader (*In English*)

Un abecedario Para Criar A Un Lector (*In Spanish*)

Parents are their child's first teachers, and it's never too soon to introduce your child to books. By reading aloud to your child, you provide the sounds of written language, demonstrate book handling skills, develop your child's expectation that the print and pictures carry a message and build positive attitudes toward reading. Use this ABC listing of ways that you can encourage a love of reading and make reading fun for your child. *Also available in Spanish.*

QUANTITY **PRICE**

One brochure - \$.50
25 brochures - \$ 8.00
50 brochures - \$15.00
100 brochures - \$25.00

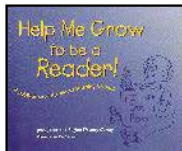


Attempting Unknown Words: Suggestions for Parents

As the parent of a young child, you are a very important person for your child's reading and language development. You are your child's first teacher! This tri-fold brochure will provide strategies to aid your child as they attempt unknown words.

One brochure - \$.50
25 brochures - \$ 8.00
50 brochures - \$15.00
100 brochures - \$25.00

BOOKLETS:



Help Me Grow To Be A Reader

This little 16-page booklet helps parents understand how children grow to be readers, as told from the child's point of view. Strategies for helping young readers develop their reading skills are outlined in a fun format.

One booklet - \$1.00
25 booklets - \$15.00
50 booklets - \$25.00
100 booklets - \$50.00

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED:

\$ _____

SHIP TO:

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Make checks payable to IRC and return this form and payment to:

Illinois Reading Council
1100 Beech Street, Building 8, Suite 2
Normal, IL 61761

Paying by credit card? A \$2 service charge is added.

Order by Fax: 309-454-3512

Or order online at www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org

Method of Payment: ☐ Check to IRC ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express
(Sorry, no P.O.'s accepted.)

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Cardholder's Address _____ Expiration Date _____ CVV Code _____

IRC Awards & Grants

Are you interested in learning how to nominate individuals from your area for IRC awards or how to benefit from grant money that is available each year for various educational activities? To find out more about these IRC Awards and Grants, please visit the IRC website at www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org.

Barack Obama Library Award. This award is a classroom library, valued at over \$1000, which was created in 2006 through a generous gift to the IRC from (then) Senator Obama. This collection is comprised of carefully selected literature that is “culturally relevant” for African-American readers and targets students in the middle-school (5th-8th) grade range. The award will go to a teacher in a predetermined IRC Region. Each year, the region will be announced on the IRC Website. Nominations are due by November 1st.

Family Literacy Award. This award recognizes an IRC member who promotes and supports parent involvement in children’s reading. Proposals should be postmarked by November 1st.

Gene Cramer ICARE for Reading Award. The Illinois Council for Affective Reading Education recognizes an educator who has performed in an outstanding manner to show concern for the affective domain and who has performed lifelong reading habits among students. The Nomination Form is due by November 1st.

Hall of Fame Award. The IRC has designed the Hall of Fame to recognize significant contributions to reading or reading education. The award will be given at the annual conference. The immediate Past President shall receive the nomination forms and final determination will be made by the Executive Committee no later than 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting. Deadline: All Nomination Forms must be received by November 1st.

International Grant. The International Committee of the Illinois Reading Council has created a grant to promote literacy projects internationally. The maximum amount per grant is \$1,000. The application deadline is May 1st.

IRC Service Award. The IRC will present the IRC Service Award (formerly known as the Certificate of Recognition) at the annual statewide conference. Certificates are awarded to the most deserving individuals who meet the criteria listed. Deadline: All Nomination Forms must be received by November 1st.

Jerry Johns Reading Educator of the Year Award. This award recognizes outstanding teachers who make contributions in promoting literacy among students, colleagues, and school communities. Application Form, letters of recommendation, and your philosophy statement are due by November 1st.

Literacy Support Grant. The Illinois Reading Council will award financial grants to local and special interest councils and individual council members for the purpose of promoting literacy development in the school and community, and/or providing professional development opportunities related to the improvement of reading and writing instruction. Application deadline will be May 1st.

Prairie State Award for Excellence in Writing for Children. This award recognizes an Illinois Children's Young Adult Author whose body of work demonstrates excellence, engenders a love of literature, and embraces an important part of the mission of the Illinois Reading Council—to promote lifelong literacy. All Nomination Packets must be postmarked by June 15th.

Static Stick Decal Design Contest. Students in grades 4, 5, or 6 are encouraged to create an original design promoting reading. The winning design is printed on static stick decals. Entries must be postmarked no later than January 15th.

Calls for Contributions for Future Issues of the Illinois Reading Council Journal

The *Illinois Reading Council Journal* seeks manuscripts dealing with topics, issues, and events of interest to educators involved in literacy programs at all levels of education.

About The Review Process

The complete review process takes approximately 10 to 16 weeks. Upon receipt of a manuscript, an initial review will be conducted and feedback sent to the author. Manuscripts accepted for peer review will be evaluated by at least two reviewers who are uninformed as to the identity of the author. The editor will compile notes from the reviewers and send feedback to the author, including whether the article has been accepted for publication and any requests for revision. Manuscripts are evaluated in terms of interest, quality of writing, appropriate documentation of ideas, uniqueness, and needs of the journal. Research articles should include a clear description of the methodology and should be written in a style that will be readable by classroom teachers. The final decision for acceptance of manuscripts resides with the editor. Please review articles in the journal before submitting manuscripts for consideration. Any questions about the submission process should be directed to Roxanne Owens, *IRCJ* Editor, by e-mail at ircjournal@illinoisreadingcouncil.org.

Short Submissions

For each issue, short items such as original poems, cartoons, artwork, or personal anecdotes may appear throughout the journal. Such submissions should be one-half page to one page in length, double-spaced, and word-processed. Front and back cover art is also accepted. The editor selects these items.

If you have questions about the submission process, please e-mail Roxanne Owens, *IRCJ* Editor, at IRCJournal@illinoisreadingcouncil.org.

IRCJ Submission Guidelines

Article submissions should be eight to 25 double-spaced pages, including references. Please prepare and submit your manuscript consistent with the following guidelines.

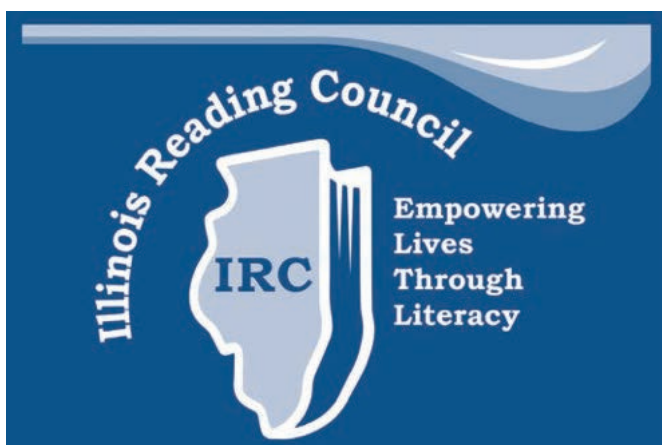
Manuscript Submission Guidelines

NEW! You can now submit your article online at <http://illinoisreadingcouncil.org/ircjournalsubmission.html>:

- *Anonymize the Manuscript Text:* Remove any names or references to the author(s) and affiliated institutions (clearly marked placeholders may be employed, e.g., [Author Name]; [Name of Institution]).
- *Text Formatting:* In general, apply APA style guidelines (7th ed.) to your text (e.g., Times New Roman 12 point or a similar serif font, double spaced, 1-inch margins, etc.).
- *File Type:* Save the manuscript as a MS *Word* document .doc or docx. (MS *Word* is used to provide in-text comments and revisions, so please do not submit pdf., .pages or .rtf.)
- *File Name:* This should conform to the following format:
article v1_{title of article}_mm-dd-yy
Example: article v1_Reading is essential_5-10-20
- Download the cover letter template from the submission webpage and fill it out.
- Rename the cover letter file name as follows:
cover_{title of article}_mm-dd-yy
- Example: cover_Reading is essential_5-10-20

Additional questions can be sent to

IRCJournal@illinoisreadingcouncil.org



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and join us on Facebook!

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MEMBERSHIP FORM

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Normal, IL 61761

Phone: 309-454-1341
Fax: 309-454-3512

Email: irc@illinoisreadingcouncil.org
Web: www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org

1 Please print or complete the form online.

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle Initial _____
Address _____ E-mail _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ County _____
Home Phone () _____ Bus. Phone () _____
School Name _____ District _____ City _____
or
Business/Institution _____ City _____
Are you a Preservice Teacher? ____ yes ____ no College/University _____

2 List the council(s) you wish to join.

When you join, you receive membership in the IRC, as well as membership in a local or special interest council. You must select at least one of the councils listed on the back.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

3 List the dues amount of each council you are joining.

\$50 - One year membership for IRC and one council. If you join more than one council, each additional council is \$15.
\$30 - Preservice Teacher membership and \$5 for each additional council.

4 Option to Purchase Print Journals.

IRC Membership comes with online access to the *IRC Journal*. Current issues will also be sent by email quarterly to you. If you wish to purchase a print journal, it is an additional \$20 per year.

Total Before Optional Print Journal _____
Add \$20 Fee for Print Journal _____
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE _____

5 Return this form with payment to:

Illinois Reading Council
ATTN: Membership Dept.
1100 Beech St, Building 8, Suite 2
Normal, IL 61761

Method of Payment:
(Sorry, no P.O.'s accepted.)

☐ Check to IRC ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

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Paying by credit card? A \$2 service charge is added.

Join Online or Fax: 309-454-3512

Cardholder's Address _____ Expiration Date _____

Mo. _____ Yr. _____
CVV Code _____

6 In our continuing effort to provide meaningful services to our members, IRC requests the following information.

Are you a member of the International Literacy Association (ILA)?

a. ____ yes membership # _____ expiration date _____
b. ____ no

Age

a. ____ 18-24
b. ____ 25-39
c. ____ 40-54
d. ____ 55 and over

Years in Education Profession

a. ____ 0-4
b. ____ 5-14
c. ____ 15-29
d. ____ 30 and over

Highest Degree Earned

a. ____ Bachelors
b. ____ Masters
c. ____ Doctorate

Present Position

Classroom Teacher:

a. ____ preschool
b. ____ K-3
c. ____ 4-6
d. ____ middle school/jr. high
e. ____ high school
f. ____ post Secondary

Administrator:

a. ____ curriculum/reading supervisor
b. ____ building principal
c. ____ superintendent
d. ____ other _____

Other:

a. ____ librarian
b. ____ parent
c. ____ special ed. teacher
d. ____ gifted/talented teacher
e. ____ Title I/remedial
f. ____ reading specialist
g. ____ retired

Professional Areas of Interest (Check 3)

a. ____ administration
b. ____ adult literacy
c. ____ affective reading
d. ____ assessment
e. ____ children's literature
f. ____ comprehension
g. ____ content area reading
h. ____ family literacy
i. ____ holistic reading
j. ____ multilingual/multicultural
k. ____ newspapers in education
l. ____ parents and reading
m. ____ reading for gifted students
n. ____ research
o. ____ study skills
p. ____ teacher education
q. ____ technology in reading
r. ____ Title I/remedial reading
s. ____ young adult literature
t. ____ young authors/writing

Illinois Reading Council Membership

Locations of IRC Local & Special Interest Council Regions by Counties

The annual membership of \$50 includes membership in the Illinois Reading Council **and** a local or special interest council. The annual preservice teacher membership is \$30 for one who has not been certified in the teaching profession and is working toward an initial teaching certificate. Please select the council(s) you wish to join from the list below. Residence in any of the designated council counties you join is not required. If you join more than one local or special interest council at this time, each additional council is \$15. Preservice teachers pay \$5 for each additional council. IRC Membership comes with online access to the webinars, book clubs, *IRC Journal*, and more. The *IRC Journal* and other membership benefits will also be sent by email to you. If you wish to purchase a print journal, it is an additional \$20 per year. Follow the steps on the front of this form.

REGION 1	REGION 4	REGION 7
<p>___ Northern Illinois Reading Council - (Boone, DeKalb, Winnebago, Eastern Lee & Ogle)</p> <p>___ Northwestern Illinois Reading Council - (Jo Daviess, Stephenson, Carroll)</p> <p>___ Sauk Valley Reading Council - (Eastern Whiteside & Henry, Western Lee, Ogle, & Bureau)</p> <p>___ Starved Rock Reading Council - (LaSalle, Grundy, Kendall, Livingston, Eastern Bureau)</p>	<p>___ Black Hawk Reading Council - (Rock Island, Mercer, Western Henry & Whiteside)</p> <p>___ Illinois Valley Reading Council - (Stark, Putnam, Marshall, Peoria, Woodford, Tazewell, Eastern Fulton, Mason)</p> <p>___ Mississippi Valley Reading Council - (Adams, Brown, Pike, Scott, Greene, Calhoun)</p> <p>___ Western Illinois Reading Council - (Henderson, Warren, Knox, McDonough, Hancock, Schuyler, Western Fulton)</p>	<p>___ East Central-EIU Reading Council - (Moultrie, Shelby, Cumberland, Coles, Clark, Edgar, Douglas)</p> <p>___ Illini Reading Council - (Champaign, Piatt, Southern Ford)</p> <p>___ Vermilion Valley Reading Council - (Vermilion)</p>
REGION 2	REGION 5	REGION 8
<p>___ Chicago Area Reading Association (CARA) - (Chicago Area - Cook County within the Chicago city limits)</p> <p>___ Lake Area Reading Council - (Western Lake, McHenry, Northwestern Cook)</p> <p>___ Suburban Council of IRA (SCIRA) - (Eastern Lake, Northern Cook)</p>	<p>___ South Suburban Reading Council - (Those parts of Cook Co. bounded on west by Will-Cook Rd., north by 115th St., and/or Chicago City limits)</p> <p>___ Two Rivers Reading Council - (Kankakee, Iroquois, Northern Ford)</p> <p>___ Will County Reading Council - (Will)</p>	<p>___ Lewis and Clark Reading Council - (Macoupin, Jersey, Madison, St. Clair, Monroe, Washington, Clinton)</p> <p>___ National Road Reading Council - (Bond, Effingham, Fayette, Marion)</p>
REGION 3	REGION 6	REGION 9
<p>___ Fox Valley Reading Council - (Kane)</p> <p>___ Prairie Area Reading Council - (Western DuPage County)</p> <p>___ West Suburban Reading Council - (DuPage County east of Route 83 and those parts of Cook County west of Austin Boulevard excluding all areas within the Chicago city limits)</p>	<p>___ Central Illinois Reading Council - (Logan, Menard, Cass, Morgan, Sangamon, Christian, Montgomery)</p> <p>___ Macon County Reading Council - (Macon)</p> <p>___ MID-State Reading Council - (McLean, DeWitt)</p>	<p>___ South Eastern Reading Council - (Lawrence, Richland, Crawford, Jasper, Edwards, Clay, Wabash, Wayne, White)</p> <p>___ Southern Illinois Reading Council - (Jefferson, Randolph, Perry, Franklin, Williamson, Saline, Gallatin, Union, Johnson, Pope, Alexander, Hardin, Pulaski, Massac, Jackson, Hamilton)</p>
REGION 10		
<p>___ CIRP - (College Instructors of Reading Professionals)</p> <p>___ ICARE - (Illinois Council for Affective Reading Education)</p> <p>___ ILLC - (Illinois Language and Literacy Council)</p> <p>___ SRL - (Secondary Reading League)</p>		

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