



*Long Island Language Arts Council
Nassau Reading Council
Annual Spring Conference - March 22, 2019
Literacy, Empathy, Social Justice
Keynote Speakers:
Jay Heinrichs and Kathryn Otoshi*

**CONFERENCE
COMMITTEE**

Conference Chairs
Kathleen Conway-Gervais
516-483-3784
watcher@optonline.net

Karen Meier
516-433-0896
kar18@aol.com

Workshop Chair
Anja Groth
631-849-7562
agroth@rockypoint.k12.ny.us

Exhibitor Chair
Kristina Cope
631-969-5010
kcope@bayshore.k12.ny.us

Publications Chairs
Kerry Vann
631-472-7850
kvann@bbpschools.org

Nicole Waldbauer
631-821-8202
nwaldbauer@swr.k12.ny.us

Special Projects Chairs
Regina O'Connor
Reginaqueen06@optimum.net

Dr. Roberta Robinson
Rrobinson1978@gmail.com

Donna Tassone
516-775-1142
DT210@aol.com

Treasurer
Dr. Louisa Kramer-Vida
516-299-2150
lkramervida@aol.com

October 30, 2018

Dear Colleague:

On Friday, March 22, 2019, LILAC and NRC will host our annual spring conference at the Melville Marriott from 7:15 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. This year’s conference theme is “Literacy, Empathy, Social Justice.” We are very excited to announce our keynote speakers for this year:

Jay Heinrichs’ *New York Times* bestseller, *Thank You for Arguing: What Aristotle, Lincoln, and Homer Simpson Can Teach Us about the Art of Persuasion*, published in twelve languages and three editions, is the leading modern work on rhetoric, as well as one of the top ten books assigned at Harvard. In his recently published primer on rhetoric and argument, *How to Argue with a Cat: A Human's Guide to Persuasion*, Jay teaches readers how to persuade cats—the world’s most skeptical and cautious negotiators. Middlebury College in Vermont named him Professor of the Practice of Rhetoric and Oratory. Jay, a content and editorial consultant who specializes in persuasive engagement and conflict resolution, serves clients ranging from NASA to Southwest Airlines to the Wharton School of Business. Jay spent twenty-six years as a writer, editor, and magazine-publishing executive before becoming a full-time advocate for the lost art of rhetoric. He also runs the language blog figarospeech.com.

Kathryn Otoshi is a multi-award winning author/illustrator and national/international speaker. Best known for her character-building, number, and color book series, *Zero, One, and Two*, Kathryn explores the issues of bullying, tolerance, acceptance, and the power of one voice. Travelling to schools across the United States, Kathryn encourages children to develop strong character traits and helps teachers find creative ways to engage and connect with students through art, reading, and the power of literature. She and Bret Baumgarten co-authored, *Beautiful Hands*, a call-to-action picture book reminding kids to use their hands in positive and inspirational ways for each other and our communities. *Draw the Line*, a wordless picture book, addresses boundaries and conflict-resolution. Through her exquisite illustrations in *Maneki Neko: Tale of the Beckoning Cat*, Kathryn, a cat lover who has always wanted to create a children’s picture book based on her Japanese heritage, brings a legend to life.

We hope that you will take this opportunity to share best practices, inspiring ideas, and your passion for English language arts and literacy with your colleagues across Long Island.

We invite you to submit a workshop proposal related directly to our theme or another timely topic. There will be twenty workshops, spanning grades K–12. We make every effort to choose a variety of workshops and present the most appealing choices for conference attendees at all levels of instruction.

The registration fee for the **first two presenters** of a group is the discounted fee of **\$50** per presenter. Additional presenters must pay the **\$85**-member fee or **\$120**-non-member fee. At least one presenter per workshop must be a **current LILAC or NRC member**.

Kindly email your workshop proposal to agroth@rockypoint.k12.ny.us by 12/7/18. If you have any questions, please email or call me at **631-849-7562**.

Sincerely,

Anja Groth

Workshop Chair