



International Reading Association

A membership organization of literacy professionals

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Terrell A. Young

Terrell A. Young, professor of literacy education at Washington State University, will serve as a member of the International Reading Association Board of Directors from 2009–2012.

In addition to serving on a number of IRA committees, Young was president from 2000–2001 of the Washington Organization for Reading Development (WORD), the Washington State IRA affiliate. He also served as president of the IRA Children's Literature and Reading Special Interest Group from 2004–2006, and the NCTE Children's Literature Assembly from 2006–2008. He has been a member of many children's book awards committees, including the IRA Children's Book Awards, the Notable Books for a Global Society, the Notable Children's Books in the Language Arts, the NCTE Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction in Children's Literature, and the Washington Children's Choice Picture Book Award. The chair of the 19th West Regional IRA Conference, Young has been honored with the IRA Outstanding Teacher Educator in Reading Award in 2006, and he was inducted into the WORD Hall of Fame in 2007.



Young received his B.S. from Kansas State University, his M.Ed. from Utah State University, and his Ed.D. from Brigham Young University. He taught grades 2-6 in Utah, Wyoming, and Venezuela. Young's scholarly interests include literature-based practices, English-language learners, and the creative process of authors and illustrators. His articles have appeared in many journals including *Language Arts* and *The Reading Teacher*. He coauthored or edited *Caught in the Spell of Writing and Reading: Grade Three and Beyond* (Richard C. Owen, 2006), *Supporting the Literacy Development of English Learners: Increasing Success in All Classrooms* (IRA, 2006), *Happily Ever After: Sharing Folk Literature with Elementary and Middle School Children* (IRA, 2004), and *Literature-based Instruction with English Language Learners, K-12* (Allyn & Bacon, 2002).

Statement of Philosophy

Long a powerful advocate of literacy through literate environments, IRA must reaffirm its principled stand on what knowledgeable teachers and educators have learned: Literacy is nourished by language—and some of the best written language is found in the pages of children's literature. Readers need quality books, and our job is to foster a lifelong love of reading. We must support teachers at all levels, advocating for children's literature, student choice, and engagement. Marginalized by government policies and mandates, the very heart and soul of reading is now at risk. Sadly, it is often those who most need positive experiences with literature who lack the opportunities to interact with today's wonderful poetry, fiction, and nonfiction. We must speak up for literacy, for children, teachers, reading, and books. *What children read matters.*

Presentation Topic

Classroom Libraries
Current Children's Trade Books
Engaging Students with Informational Text
Reading Aloud Nonfiction
Selecting Books for English Language Learners
Vocabulary Strategies

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