



# Literacy, Language & Culturally Responsive Teaching

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER

## TEACH WITH PURPOSE

IN LITERACY LANGUAGE AND CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TEACHING  
MA DEGREES, GRADUATE CERTIFICATES AND ENDORSEMENTS (WITH ONLINE OPTIONS)

Become endorsed as a Reading Teacher through  
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**For Teens, Library Staff,  
and Educators**

**30<sup>th</sup> Annual**



**Saturday • April 14 • 2018**

**Tivoli • Auraria Campus**

**900 Auraria Pkwy • Denver • Downtown Denver**

[coteenlitconf.wixsite.com/ctlc](http://coteenlitconf.wixsite.com/ctlc)

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#CTLC2018

**Join us for the 31<sup>st</sup> Colorado Teen Literature  
Conference on Sat., April 13, 2019**

Presented by:

**CLAS**  
Colorado Language Arts Society



University of Colorado  
Denver  
School of Education  
& Human Development



METROPOLITAN  
STATE UNIVERSITY  
OF DENVER



# Schedule

**Registration Opens**  
..... 7:30 a.m.

**Welcome, Announcements  
and Keynote + Raúl the Third**  
..... 8:30 - 9:15 a.m.

**Book Sales <sup>and</sup> Exhibits**  
..... 9:15 - 9:45 a.m.

**Session I** ..... 9:45 - 10:45 a.m.

**Session II** ..... 11 a.m. - noon

**Lunch** (Book Sale <sup>and</sup> Exhibits)  
..... 12:15 - 12:45 p.m.

**Keynote + Simone Elkeles**  
..... 12:45 - 1:15 p.m.

**Session III** (Includes Local Author Panel)  
..... 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

**Teen Connection Panel** (All ages welcome)  
..... 2:45 - 3:45 p.m.  
<sup>\*\*</sup> Raúl the Third <sup>\*\*</sup> Simone Elkeles

**Book Signings by Featured Authors**  
..... 4 - 4:30 p.m.

# Sessions

Room	Session 1 9:45 - 10:45	Session 2 11 - noon	Session 3 1:30 - 2:30	Teen Connection Panel 2:45 - 3:45
<b>261</b> Roger Braun Multicultural Lounge	<b>Teens Only</b> Raúl the Third	<b>Book Talk Karaoke</b> Headrick	<b>Teens Only</b> Simone Elkeles	
<b>320 A</b>	<b>Interactive Booktalking</b> Burns	<b>What's New in YA?</b> Kaehny	<b>Local Author Panel</b>	<b>Teen Connection Panel</b>
<b>320 B</b>	<b>Comic Con</b> Williamson	<b>Help! I Need More Ideas!</b> Rose		
<b>320 C</b>	<b>Diversity on Your Shelf</b> Baylor	<b>Writing to Be Published</b> Kroeoffs		
<b>329</b> Senate Chambers		<b>When Girls Learn to Fly</b> Elizabeth	<b>Writing Realistic Fiction</b> Reid	
<b>440</b> Adirondacks	<b>Impromptu Book Club</b> Philipson	<b>Like, Try, Why</b> Boddie	<b>Indie Publishing 101</b> Garr	
<b>442</b> John Good	<b>Coding Programs</b> Bloom	<b>Creating Buzz</b> Lucero		
<b>444</b> Lorraine Good	<b>Identity at Play</b> Swanson	<b>Poetry Slammin' and Open Mic</b> Payne		



## Keynote Speakers



### Raúl the Third

#### Morning Keynote

Raúl the Third is the Pura Belpre award winning artist of *Lowriders to the Center of the Earth*. He has been awarded fellowships from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, Artadia, and the Brother Thomas Fellowship Fund.

Raúl visits classrooms throughout the country where he spreads his love of drawing and comicbooks to students of all ages. He is currently working on *Lowriders Blast from the Past* with Cathy Camper and Chronicle Books, *Clockwork Curandera* with David Bowles and Tu Books, *SpongeBob Squarepants Comics*, and his first picture book.

He was born in the desert city of El Paso, Texas under the watchful eye of the Thunderbird on the mountain. He was raised to love reading and drawing when his mother, Olga, took him and his brothers, Danny and Ruben, to the library. He discovered comicbooks all by his lonesome at the local 7-11. Raúl makes his home in Medford, MA with the artist Elaine Bay and their amazing son Raúl the Fourth who as of this writing enjoys drawing tools and making toys.

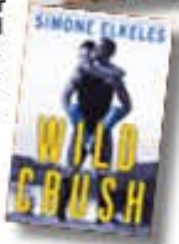


### Simone Elkeles

#### Lunch Keynote

Simone Elkeles is a *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of novels for teens. Simone's books have won many awards including being YALSA Top Ten Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers, being named to the YALSA Popular

Paperbacks and Teens Top Ten lists, and added to the Illinois "Read for a Lifetime" Reading List. Simone also won the coveted RITA award from the Romance Writers of America for her book *Perfect Chemistry*. Simone is especially proud of the fact that the Illinois Association of Teachers of English named her Author of the Year.



### Dominique Burns

#### Interactive Booktalking

Come participate in an interactive booktalk and learn how to do one yourself! In this presentation you will get to not only learn about cool young adult books, but also be an active participant in a booktalk. Librarians, teachers, and teens are all welcome to join. There will be stickers, free bookmarks, possibly dancing, definitely movement, and yelling (because it is fun to yell in quiet areas)!

*Dominique Burns is the Youth Services Librarian at the Lafayette Public Library and has a Master of Library and Information Science degree from SJSU. She works with kids and teens to create programs for youth in the Lafayette community. Fun fact: her first job after undergrad was working for Disney to create interactive and educational programs for kids and teens that could be used in schools, libraries, and museums. She is also a fan of unicorns and comics!*

### Tara Bannon Williamson, Adam Kullberg

#### Denver Comic Con: Now 20% Cooler

Participating in Denver Comic Con for the last five years, Tara the Librarian has participated on panels about *My Little Pony*, *Adventure Time*, *Doctor Who*, *Supernatural*, and *Luke Cage*. Find out how the organizers of Denver Comic Con, Pop Culture Classroom, use the event to inspire a love of learning, increase literacy, celebrate diversity, and build community!

*Tara Bannon Williamson started working at the public library when she was 14 years old. Now she is in charge of the Park Hill Branch Library, teaches at the University of Denver, and leads panels on Pop Culture topics she loves. Dreams do come true!*

*Adam Kullberg is the Education Program Manager at Pop Culture Classroom, the nonprofit that puts on Denver Comic Con. Since joining PCC in 2014, he has helped develop PCC's pop culture-based workshops and curricula, including a range of educational programs at Denver Comic Con offered each year to teachers and students of all ages.*



**Erika Bayler, Elena Cabodevilla, Kathryn Ricks**  
**Diversity on Your Shelf**

Representation matters! Representation has the power to show us our own potential; whether it is in big triumphs or in small moments that remind us that we are not alone in our experiences. It also has the ability to let you walk a mile in someones shoes. Come and talk with us about ways to diversify your collection and discuss some books that have impacted you or others through representation. We will also discuss ways to ensure that your library or school is a safe space for all.

*Kathryn Ricks' essays and poetry have been published in Burner Mag, Rational Faiths, Vocal Media, and Bank Heavy Press. She recently received her MA in Professional Fiction Writing from the University of Denver, and currently works as a librarian. After a long period as an expat in Germany, Israel, and Australia, she has returned home to the Rocky Mountains of Colorado.*

*Elena Cabodevilla holds Bachelor's degrees in Gender and Women's Studies, Spanish, and Sociology; and a Master's degree in Counseling Psychology with a multicultural emphasis. As an avid consumer of media who embodies both marginalized and dominant identities, she strives to be aware of the ways in which different groups are represented or not represented on screen, in sound recordings, and in print. Elena likes reading, music, houseplants, and the Oxford comma.*

*Erika Bayler is a self taught philosopher, activist, comedian and poet. She is a dino loving, tabletop gaming, fighter for justice and education. She also happens to be a Library Specialist Lead and Volunteer Coordinator for the Southglenn Library. She is constantly working to fix broken systems and build safe, inclusive spaces within her library. She spends her days empowering fellow staff and patrons to fight for what's right.*

**Becca Philipson**  
**Impromptu Book Club**

Read a new book you can WAIT to tell someone about? Or maybe you HATED that best seller everyone else loved? Come share all the feels you have about books at Impromptu Book Club! It's a safe place to be real about the books you've been reading. We'll spend the time comiserating about the books we should have DNF'ed, and reveling in the books we want to re-read all over again! No stuffy questions or formalities here!

*Becca Philipson is a Teen Librarian at Pikes Peak Library District in Colorado Springs. She loves talking about books, but kind of hates traditional book clubs. She spends most of her energy on keeping her small child alive, but in spare moments she likes sewing, hiking, and coffee with friends.*

**Britt Bloom, Meagan Huber**  
**Coding Programs and Resources for Educators**

Overview of high quality free coding resources and how to utilize them in a school/library setting

- Being comfortable facilitating as a non-expert
- Types of programs that can be used for various settings and demographics
- Evolution of coding programs in Pikes Peak Library District
- Lessons learned from implementing various programs utilizing different resources
- Discussion of how participants feel they might be able to utilize resources in their locations
- Presentation will end by having participants create an action item with a deadline. The action item will be either to learn more about coding personally or setting up a program for their location

continued on page 7



continued from page 6

**Meagan Huber** is a Senior Library Associate for Pikes Peak Library District. She enjoys reading, writing, and drawing. She got interested in learn-to-code programming because she wanted to know more about the topic and because teens were interested in learning more about the topic.

**Britt Bloom** works for Pikes Peak Library District's Young Adult Services department in beautiful Colorado Springs. While she's relatively new to library work, she's been facilitating and designing programs for teens for almost a decade. None of those programs had anything to do whatsoever with coding or computer science, but it turns out that both are more fun and up her nerdy alley than she would have anticipated! In her spare time, she likes to play outside in the mountains in her backyard and, of course, read.

**Juleah del Rosario Swanson**

### **Identity at Play: Racial and Ethnic Identity Theory in Libraries and Classrooms**

Librarians and educators are being asked critical questions about their own role in moving forward as an inclusive and diverse community for students, patrons, and teens. Who is represented in our collections? Who is reflected as gatekeepers in publishing, libraries, and classrooms? But why is representation in a book or in the real world so impactful to teens? Racial and ethnic identity theory can help us begin to articulate the "why". It can begin to illustrate what might be at play when teens "see themselves" in the books they read, reflected in the librarians they interact with, and the teachers they encounter. This presentation will apply the framework of racial and ethnic identity theory to better recognize, understand, and support experiences and interactions with students, patrons, and teens.

**Juleah del Rosario Swanson** is an assistant professor and librarian at the University of Colorado, Boulder with a research focus on professional, racial, and ethnic identity of librarians of color. She is also the author of a forthcoming young adult novel to be published by Simon & Schuster in fall 2018 titled *500 Words or Less about a high school senior who writes her Ivy League-obsessed classmates' college admissions essays.*

### **Christy Headrick, Jonathan Headrick Booktalk Karaoke**

Christy will demonstrate how to create a super short book talk and give the participants an outline to follow with things to include and then she will invite them to craft and deliver a book talk about the last book they read. She will do several of her own as well.

**Christy Headrick** has been the Youth Instructor & Research Librarian at Berthoud Community Library District for over six years where she builds and presents all the teen programming, including "Fabulous Fandoms" and a zombie-themed escape room. Christy has presented at the Denver Comic Con and the Ft. Collins Comic Con for the past three years. Her dream superpower would be to exact Twilight Zone retribution to the bad guys. Barring that, she reads.

### **Karen Hartman, Sheila Kaehny What's New in YA?**

Join us as we book talk new Young Adult Literature we think will engage young readers and have them asking for more good titles from their teachers and/or librarians.

### **Erica Rose, Cathy McMahon, Rachelle McPhillips, Jennifer Maley Help! I Need More Ideas!**

Do you ever feel exhausted at the thought of having to create one more program? Do you think of programming and come down with a case of decision fatigue? Take heart: we all suffer from this from time to time, but there is a cure! Sometimes the best medicine is spending time with your tribe, discussing what ails you, what fills you, and what puzzles you. This program will feature a panel of public and school librarians, each with a different story to tell. Each panelist believes strongly in creating experiences that foster a deep connection between teens and literature. Collectively, we have implemented programming in school libraries, classrooms, public libraries, parks, pools, Pizza Huts and beyond. During this roundtable discussion we will share specific ideas and success stories about ways in which we have facilitated experience based literature programming. Additionally, we will take time to let YOU share with each other. What are your challenges? What are your celebrations? Let's talk with each other and benefit from our collective body of knowledge!



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**Jim Kroepfl, Stephanie Kroepfl**  
**Writing to be Published**

This two-part lecture will first explore how a writer can use simple low-tech tools and structural techniques to conceive and write a well-developed YA novel, saving weeks, months or even years. The second part of the lecture will provide an inside look at the business of getting a book published, including querying, pitching and submitting a manuscript to agents and publishers, giving a YA manuscript the best chance for success in today's challenging publishing environment.

*Jim and Stephanie Kroepfl are a husband-and-wife team who write YA novels and stories of mystery and adventure from their mountain cabin in Grand Lake, Colorado. Their short stories and articles have been published in literary journals in the U.S. and England. Their most recent YA novel, Merged, was recently acquired by Month9Books and will be published in the Spring of 2019. You can find them at jimandstephbooks.com.*

**Shantel Elizabeth**  
**When Girls Learn to Fly**

Long gone are the days where girls are looked at as one-dimensional. Today's teen girl is multi-dimensional, has substance, and is powerful beyond belief. Sometimes it just takes girls learning to fly, to understand that they have wings, and that those wings hold infinite power. Weaving teen girl empowerment into young adult literature is necessary not only for teen girls, but for the masses. When teen girls are nurtured in every facet of media and literature, to hone their inner strength and activate the power they hold within, the world becomes a better place for us all!

*Shantel Elizabeth is the author of the young adult/teen girl empowerment non-fiction book, Give Yourself Permission to Fly – How I Did and How You Can Too, and the young adult fiction series, 5280 Academy. She is a licensed teacher (soon to have her principal's license), CU Denver Doctoral student of Education, and entrepreneur.*



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**Local Author panel****Ashlee Cowles**

Ashlee Cowles is the author of *Beneath Wandering Stars*, a Young Adult novel about a teen who walks the Camino de Santiago through Spain, which was selected as the Young Adult winner of the 2017 Colorado Book Award. She recently released the spin-off companion novel, *Below Northern Lights*. Raised in a military family without roots, Ashlee currently makes her home in Colorado Springs. When she isn't discussing classic literature with high school students as a teacher, Ashlee is likely traveling overseas or writing in a local coffee shop.

**Todd Mitchell**

Todd Mitchell is the award-winning author of the middle grade novels *The Last Panther* and *The Traitor King*, and the young adult novels *The Secret to Lying* and *Backwards*. He created the graphic series *Broken Saviors* and co-wrote the graphic novel *A Flight of Angels*. Currently, he serves as Director of the Beginning Creative Writing Teaching Program at Colorado State University. You can visit him (and learn about his squirrel obsession and bringing him out to your school) at [ToddMitchellBooks.com](http://ToddMitchellBooks.com).

**Colleen Oakes**

Colleen Oakes is the bestselling author of books for both teens and adults, including *The Queen of Hearts Series*, *The Wendy Darling Saga*, and the upcoming YA novel *The Black Coats*. She lives in North Denver with her husband and son and surrounds herself with the most lovely family and friends imaginable. When not writing or plotting new books, Colleen can be found swimming, traveling or immersing herself in nerdy pop culture.

**Heather Sappenfield**

Heather Sappenfield writes fiction and nonfiction for adults and kids. Her fiction has won or been a finalist for many awards, including the Danahy Fiction Prize, the Pushcart Prize, and the Flannery O'Connor Award. Her novel *Life at the Speed of Us* was a 2017 Colorado Book Awards Finalist. Heather loves mountains, so she lives in a log home in Vail, Colorado, where she teaches narrative writing at a school for future Olympic skiers. If you visit Vail, you might find her pedaling her mountain bike along its backcountry trails or schussing down its back bowls.



## Rest of Session 3 presenters

**Kimberly Reid**

### Writing Realistic Fiction

There is no shortage of ideas for writers of realistic fiction. We can mine our lives for inspiration, but novelists don't simply report the stories of other people or retell our own. We make things up, even when they sound a lot like the truth. We'll discuss the elements of writing that turn real-life events into marketable realistic fiction: finding the story's hook, nailing the setting, and placing ordinary characters in real-world situations that readers will care enough about to go along for the ride.

**Amber Garr and Sosie Nixon**

### Indie Publishing 101: What to Do With That Novel You Just Finished

So, you wrote a book. Now what? Do you shop for an agent, submit to editors, or do it on your own? This session will explore the pros and cons of the ever-evolving indie publishing world. Discussions on which platform to use, what expenses you should budget for, and how to build a marketing plan will help you take charge of your publishing career. Join these award-winning and multi-published authors as they share their experiences and knowledge with you. The members of POESIA, a teen critique writing group, have been indie published for two years and are currently working on their third book. Between them all, they have published over twenty-five novels and anthologies. As indie authors, the POESIA group not only has experience in writing and publishing, but also in marketing and cover design. They love to share their experiences and expertise and hope they can inspire other young writers to do the same.

# Thank You!

**Dr. Lori Elliott**

**Dr. Joan Foster**

Dean, Metropolitan State University of Denver College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

**\*Auraria Book Store Staff**

**Dr. Rebecca Kantor**

Dean of the University of Colorado Denver School of Education and Human Development

**Colorado Language Arts Society**

**Colorado Writing Project**

**Dr. Sherry Taylor**

**Dr. Sally Nathenson-Mejia**

Language, Literacy and Culturally Responsive Teaching Division

**Pikes Peak Library District**

**Richard Argys**

UCD-SEHD

**REFORMA**



### \*In Memory of Betty Ingels

General Book Buyer for Tivoli Station in gratitude of her support of teen readers and of the Colorado Teen Literature Conference.

### Colorado Teen Literature Conference Committee

Jill Adams, Angie Brown, Karen Bradley, Kimmie DePinto, Arra Katona, Sheena Kelly, Becca Philipsen, Kandy Timinski, Susan Person, Shannon Kincaid