



# Golden Heart **Literacy** Council

## Your Votes Counted

Thank you for voting this spring. Golden Heart Reading Council has changed its name to Golden Heart Literacy Council. This is in keeping with our national organization which recently changed to the International Literacy Association.

Thirty five of our members voted on new officers for the 2014-2015 school year. Your new Golden Heart president

is Jeanne Ringstad. Treasurer remains Sue McIntosh. Membership is Katherine Petersen and Recording Secretary/Communication is Ronda Schlumbohm.

Lesa Meath will also represent Golden Heart next year in her role as secretary of the Alaska State Literacy Association.

Kathleen Wright will remain Alaska State Literacy Association's

treasurer for one more year.



Thank you for voting.

### Special points of interest:

- Have you heard of the Goodreads website? They recommend books for you based on your interests! [www.goodreads.com](http://www.goodreads.com)

## Summer Reading

Do you need a good book for the summer? Here are a few recommendations from your board members.

**Sue** recommends:

*Stop Talking: Indigenous Ways of Teaching and Learning* by Ilarion Mercurieff and Libby Roderick, published by University of Alaska, Anchorage.  
For fun, Sue recommends *A*

*Week in Winter* by Maeve Binchy

**Molly** recommends:

**Personal**

For pure mesmerizing content



## Summer Reading

and genuine style: *The People In The Trees* by Hanya Yanagihara. I stumbled onto this gem at the public library in the new fiction section and didn't put it down for several hours! Here is the review from the Guardian: <http://www.theguardian.com/books/2014/jan/10/people-in-trees-hanya-yanagihara-review>

### Professional

I've been planning for a longtime to do more outdoor education. These books guide and inspire my intentions while giving my concrete ideas for classroom work: *Keeping A Nature Journal*, by Leslie and Roth; *Into The Field*, by Leslie, Tallmadge and Wessles; *The Alphabet of the Trees* Ed. By McEwen and Statman and *How to Keep a Naturalist's Notebook* by Tomlinsom.

### Children's Literature

My go-to site for beautiful and innovative children's literature: <http://blaine.org/sevenimpossiblethings/> The reviews and author discussions on this site, "Seven Impossible Things Before Breakfast," are often insightful and useful for sharing with students. \*WARNING - Plan to spend plenty of time here.

For YA here are some recent encounters that are ripe for read-aloud, close reading and pure enjoyment:

*Code Name Verity* by Elizabeth Wein. The ending in this historical fiction story resonates with me still.

*Eleanor and Park* by Rainbow Rowell. A

first-love love story that is honest and touching. Not much more to say...

Finally, here is NPR's 2012 list, in case your readers need a starting point: <http://www.npr.org/2012/08/07/157795366/your-favorites-100-best-ever-teen-novels>

### Lesla recommends:

**Professional:** *Assessment in Perspective* by Clare Landrigan & Tammy Mulligan I am loving this book and their blog, "teachers for teachers" which is a daily dose of brief, practical and inspirational tidbits. The book is comprehensive and provides lists of common assessments, honest description of their uses, and has a great chapter on triangulating assessment. They use the CAFE menu by "The Two Sisters," as an interactive display, conferring notes, data walls, graphs and tools to get a full picture of the students' literacy. The authors provide tips on assessing authentically every day and also using the ipad for taking electronic notes for easy storage and sharing with others involved with a particular student. I highly recommend this book, tons of ideas and accessible for early career teachers and veterans alike!

### Non-Professional: *The Fault in Our Stars* by John Green

Had to read this at the recommendation of my teen daughter who knows I appreciate a good cry :) Once I

began, could not put it down and finished around 2:00 a.m.

### Ronda recommends:

#### Children's Literature

For a good nonfiction read, *Behold the Beautiful Dung Beetle* by Cheryl BarDoe. This book has high interest for children who love facts and insects.

Another great nonfiction read for kids is Cynthia Rylant's *The Journey: Stories of Migration*. This book has several stories of migrating animals. Rylant covers air, land and sea migrations. This book has been out for a few years and is worth the read.

#### Professional

*The Forest Unseen: A Year's Watch in Nature* by David George Haskell. I am reading this book for a STEAM class. It is all about looking at nature and will meld perfectly into place based education.

#### Non-Professional

*The Snow Child* by Eowyn Ivey. I have had this book since it came out and I can't wait for a rainy day to dive in!



Make thyme to read this summer!