

Golden Heart Reading Council

February is Love of Reading Month



Please join us to celebrate the love of reading by attending two Golden Heart meetings. We will kick off the month celebrating non-fiction with a visit to the Library Media Center from 3:30-5:30. What will you do to celebrate? Come and brainstorm an idea. Then, we'll draw two names at our February 27 meeting.

We end our month fractured! Fractured in fairy tales that is! We'll meet at the Noel Wien Library from 5:00-6:00. Susan Jones will treat us to new ways to use these timeless, but important stories. At this meeting we will have two \$50 cash prizes in a drawing for members who celebrated the love of reading.

What Are You Reading?

Wintertime is a time to snuggle in with a good read. Over the break, I read Dick Allington's newest book on Summer Reading Loss. It's all about getting books in kids' hands. Lesa's reading a book called Teach Your Children Well. It's full of practical knowledge about educating today's kids. We will share these books at the LMS meeting. -Ronda

Save the Date!

LMS

Friday, February 1

3:30-5:30

Embracing Non-Fiction

**Noel Wien
Library**

Wednesday, February 27

**5:00-6:30 Fractured Fairy
Tales with Susan Jones**

IRA in San Antonio

Have you ever wanted to attend a fabulous conference? This year, the International Reading Association is being hosted by the beautiful city, San Antonio. Golden Heart will sponsor one lucky member with a \$600 stipend. The conference is in April this year so mark your calendars. More information can be found on <http://www.reading.org>.

Golden Heart Reading Council Members Conference Application

1-\$600 Stipend to attend the International Reading Conference in San Antonio, April 19-22, 2013

Deadline for stipend applications is Friday, March 8, 2013. (To Sue McIntosh, Curriculum Dept. susan.mcintosh@k12northstar.org)

Obligations:

1. Confirm leave from your school for the conference dates, then submit your name and school to Susan McIntosh via email. (susan.mcintosh@k12northstar.org)
2. Submit a written summary of a conference event, such as a sectional presentation, speaker summation, author/book discussion. Photos are welcome. The written summary may be published in the Golden Heart newsletter and/or the ASLA newsletter.
3. Within one month of the conference, submit a copy of your receipt(s) totaling stipend amount to GHRC treasurer, Sue McIntosh through school mail, or mail your receipts to Sue at 1170 CTS, North Pole, AK 99705.



Reflections by Molly



An enduring conversation

The October 19th and 20th Alaska State Literacy retreat conference at Alyeska Resort was scenic, and refreshing. Being with liked-minded peers is always a delight and especially enjoyable in the fresh snow. Sessions included Susan Ebbers with Vocabulogic: (<http://vocablog-plc.blogspot.com/>); Cristina Hernandez with CRISS overviews and much more.

As always, the before, between and after session conversations and connections serve to enliven, extend and invigorate as much as the more formal sessions. One such talk for me was with Jay Blanchard current IRA board member. When I entered the conversation Dr. Blanchard was explaining his ongoing work with Native American Nations across the southwestern United States. A particularly salient series of points Dr. Blanchard made was in response to one teacher's statement about the importance of digital reading methods and their motivational impact for at-risk readers. His thoughtful, quietly passionate response about the importance of schools (and homes) being firstly supplied with consistent electrical power, reliable education and healthcare funding, daily transportation for more rural students resonated with us all. He did not diminish the power of technology but rather highlighted the need for a more equitable and balanced approach for *all* students. Food for thought as I return to my well equipped, wired, warm classroom.
