Breakout Sessions  
September 20, 2019

Session One

Mighty Girls History Forgot

Claudia Swisher  
National Board Certified Teacher

Come and explore the vibrant new picture-book biographies about women history forgot. Mathematicians. Scientists. Artists. Adventurers. Women ahead of their times. Women whose accomplishments have been overlooked. These women deserve their place in your classroom library, in your school library, and in your curriculum.

Session Two

Engaging Diverse Readers through Rich and Powerful Literature

Incorporating Culture and Creativity with Literature

Trey Hays  
Elementary Music, Art, Gifted and Talented Teacher

This session will feature three children’s/middle grade/young adult books recently published by Chickasaw/White Dog Press. Learn how to creatively use shadow puppets to re-enact Mr. Hays book, Little Loksi. This session will show how anyone can use art and music to accompany any book.

Cultural Modeling: Effective Measures for Engaging Black and Brown Readers

Dr. Kimberly J. Stormer  
Department Chair Educational and Professional Programs  
School of Education and Behavioral Sciences  
Langston University

In this session, participants will explore cultural modeling (Lee, 2007) as a method for engaging Black and Brown readers in literacy practices. Recommendations for selected literature and instructional design that is culturally responsive will be made.
Session Three

**Literacy for Students who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, or Blind**

**Kristen Akerman**
Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services
Oklahoma School for the Deaf
Strategies and tips for teaching reading to deaf and hard of hearing students.

**Samantha Charles and Cassie Shelton**
Oklahoma School for the Blind
Learn about the Oklahoma School for the Deaf and the Oklahoma School for the Blind. Discover how literacy is learned and taught in these very important needed areas.

Session Four

**Overcoming the Effects of Poverty through Literature Rich Reading Instruction**

**Dr. Lea Ann Garcia**
Assistant Professor, University of Central Oklahoma

**Dr. Ira Harris**
Chair of Education, Southwestern Christian University

**Dr. Kathren Stehno**
Assistant Professor, Southwestern Christian University

As of the 2017-18 school year, 61.28 percent of Oklahoma students participated in the federal government’s Free & Reduced-Price Lunch program. Of those students, 72 percent scored below proficient in Reading/ELA on the 2018 Oklahoma State Testing Program (OSTP). It is estimated that 50-80% of children in poverty have also experienced trauma. This presentation informs participants of the current reality of students in poverty in Oklahoma and the negative effects on students’ academic achievement specifically in learning to read and reading to learn. The presenters suggest specific strategies coupled with diverse literature as a healing balm that inspires hope for poverty’s children.