

# Joyful Literacy!: Supporting Children's Interests to Bring Joy Back to Literacy Learning

*Sponsored by:*

University of Maine College of Education and Human Development,  
Correll Professorship in Early Literacy, and Raising Readers



**Eighth Annual Correll Early Literacy Conference**  
**March 22, 2019**  
**Wells Conference Center**

## Conference Overview

The eighth annual Correll Conference will focus on using literacy to help young children find their voices.

Dr. Timothy Reagan, Dean of the College of Education and Human Development, will give the opening remarks at the conference.

Dr. Susan Bennett-Armistead, Chair of the Correll Award Selection Committee and Associate Professor of Literacy Education, will speak briefly to participants to discuss the goals of the conference and set the scene for the day.

The conference will run in two sessions. Each session offers participants a choice of three workshops from which to choose based on particular interests. Information about the workshops and presenters are included in this flyer on page 2. The conference schedule and registration form can be found on page 3.

Books will be available for purchase from the Briar Patch before the conference and during the lunch break.

## ***Raising Readers:***

*Raising Readers is a state-wide initiative that supports the language and literacy development of our youngest learners by partnering with health agencies and literacy groups, like this one, throughout the state. We appreciate their generous support of this conference and recognize the powerful work they are doing to Raise Maine's Readers!*

## Correll Book Award

This national award is designed to focus attention on outstanding informational texts published for young children from birth to 8 years old. The Correll Book Award raises awareness of the need for producing informational texts that build young children's world knowledge.



Young children in local area schools were asked to design the Correll Book Award symbol. Previous winners include Gail Gibbons, Melissa Stewart, Ted Lewin, and Ingo Arndt.

The committee considered two categories for the award. One for birth to 3 and the other for 4-8 year old children. The authors will Skype into the conference to share remarks.

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## Morning Sessions

### 1) The Beginning of a Beautiful Friendship: Partnering with Your Library to Support Literacy

Modern libraries welcome the boisterous nature of children and are making strides to support literacy through story time, STEM programming, and other family events. Librarians want to be your partner in educating our children wherever they may be – so let's talk about programming, circulating kits, outreach visits, online resources, and other library services that can serve as a starting point for collaboration.

*Stephanie Schott, Early Literacy Specialist, Maine State Library*

### 2) Why Should We Use Poetry and Nursery Rhymes to Create a Love for Reading? Because We Can!

This presentation will examine the benefits of reading and singing nursery rhymes and poems with young learners. Poetry has been viewed as a genre that helps young readers develop a love of reading, writing and playing with language. The rhyming, rhythmical language of poetry provides the perfect backdrop for teaching word families (rimes/phonograms). Poetry also helps young readers develop fluency through the use of beautiful, melodic language that begs to be read repeatedly, which helps develop prosody and a lifelong love for literacy. This presentation will explore how can we help young learners joyfully use poetry and other forms of rhythmical language to instill a lifelong love for literacy.

*William Dee Nichols, Literacy Professor at the University of Maine; Rachael Kellogg, Doctoral student at UMaine*

### 3) More Than Just a Read Aloud: Connecting Visual Art and Literacy in Your Classroom

Take a fresh look at the ways children respond to text in your classroom. Literacy development doesn't just happen during read alouds, at the writing table, or in the class library. Literacy happens at the art easel, at the sensory table, and during interactive circle time. Come learn how to weave literacy rich opportunities into every corner of your classroom. We will discuss how children use art to demonstrate understanding of early literacy. We will examine the importance of children's choice in the classroom, and learn how to incorporate these concepts into your existing curriculum.

*Jenica Frazier, B.S., Lead Teacher at Katherine Miles Durst Child Development Learning Center, Masters Student in Human Development; Morgan Robinson, M.Ed., Pre-K Teacher for Hermon School District*

## Afternoon Sessions

### 1) Joyful Literacy Throughout the Day

Participants in this session will be inspired to bring out the natural joy and wonder within each child by exposing children to multiple literacy moments throughout the daily schedule and routines. This family child care provider has been providing care and joy for children for more than 40 years, and through her nature-based programming has capitalized on children's interests in the world around them, as well as promoting literacy through the playful, purposeful exploration of their world.

*Sandy Taylor-Wittaker, Owner, Pickard Hill Child Care, Newburgh*

### 2) Digging Up the Dead Dog. How Teachers & Caregivers Can Expand Upon Children's Interest to Extend, and Enrich Children's Joyful Learning

We know how important it is to teach through the interests of our students. In this interactive session we will discuss how we can initiate learning through interests, and expand on them to bring our students into new learning that is intentional, purposeful, meaningful, and joyful. The session will include time for browsing and discussing children's books.

*Jane Wellman-Little, Literacy Lecturer at the University of Maine*

### 3) "The Best Day Ever!" Learning to Work with the Children with the Greatest Potential

Participants will learn about finding the joy while working with the most challenged young learners, and how this seasoned early educator draws on more than 20 years of experience to create a classroom environment that strives to make every day the Best Day Ever! The presenter shares her experiences working for six years in an Early Reading First program, as a certified HighScope trainer, implementing a nature-based program, and how she's built relationships with families.

*Shelly Wilbur, BroadReach Community Services in Belfast*

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## SCHEDULE

- 8:30 - 9:00 a.m. Registration, Continental Breakfast  
9:00 - 9:20 a.m. Welcome  
9:30 - 11:00 a.m. Morning Session Workshops  
11:15 - 12:00 p.m. Correll Book Awards Announcement - Dr. Susan Bennett-Armistead  
12:00 - 12:45 p.m. Lunch  
1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Afternoon Session Workshops

Credit hours: 4 training hours, .4 CEUs for completed conference. The CEU application will be in your folder at the conference. You are responsible for filling out the form, getting a signature from us, and mailing it along with \$20 to the University of Maine, Orono.

**Admission is limited, so please don't delay in registering!**

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## Registration Form 8th Annual Correll Early Literacy Conference March 22, 2019

(Please print legibly)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you need special accommodations (physical, dietary, etc.)? Please describe:

\_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate your workshop choice for each session: Morning session:  1  2  3  
Afternoon session:  1  2  3

Conference fee of \$55.00 is due by March 12, 2019.  
Conference fee includes continental breakfast and lunch.  
No refunds, no walk-ins.

Send registration form with check or purchase order payable to University of Maine to:

Kathie Wing, 5766 Shibles Hall, University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469-5766  
Phone: (207)581-2493/Fax: (207)581-9052

# Joyful Literacy!: Supporting Children's Interests to Bring Joy Back to Literacy Learning

Directions to the University of Maine and Wells Conference Center:

From the South Exit 193:

Coming from the south on I-95, take Stillwater Ave Exit #193.

Turn right at end of the exit ramp.

Drive 1 mile to the fifth set of traffic lights (near McDonalds), turn right onto College Avenue.

Turn left at Long Road (by Alford Sports Arena), parking is on the right after Munson Road - Wells Conference Center is located behind Dunn and Corbett Halls.

From the North Exit 193:

Coming from the north on I-95, take Stillwater Ave Exit #193.

Turn left at the end of the exit ramp.

Drive 1 mile to the fifth set of traffic lights (near McDonalds), turn right onto College Avenue.

Turn left at Long Road (by Alford Sports Arena), parking is on the right after Munson Road - Wells Conference Center is located behind Dunn and Corbett Halls.

Maps of the University of Maine campus are available at [umaine.edu](http://umaine.edu) - at bottom of the web page click on UMaine Map. Parking permits are not needed for this event.

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University of Maine  
College of Education & Human Development  
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