

January 2016

## President's Message

Lisa Rivard

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# President's Message...

by Lisa Rivard, President 2015-2016

"Today's school leaders must be capable of preparing thoughtful, productive, literate citizens who contribute individually and collectively to the future well-being of all, and who are positioned to succeed in a global environment" (Lewis-Spector & Jay, 2011, p. 3).

The intricacy of educational leadership in this century presents challenges that are more overwhelming than ever before. Whether you have been appointed a teacher, principal, curriculum director, or other, you have a vital leadership role to play in ensuring that all students develop the necessary skills to be successful in all disciplines within Michigan's curriculum. Shared leadership among stakeholders both within our districts and beyond our own communities is necessary in order to actualize educational goals that promote 21st century learning. This widened approach creates opportunities to partner with others to promote change and rigor.



Lisa Rivard

Each year, Michigan Reading Association strives to grow and build a strong and healthy membership, and it is our goal to offer valuable opportunities and benefits to empower and engage the literacy leaders in our state. All leaders need a springboard to open the discussion with their faculties, staff, and greater communities about literacy related topics, and there is no better way to provide research and best practice information than providing our colleagues with *Michigan Reading Journal*. If you know someone who would benefit from the news and research within the pages of *MRJ*, please get the journal into their hands. Good leaders often lead through advancing others in an effort for the greater good.

There is an increasing realization that our world is moving through an era of fundamental change. How will you know how to navigate in this increasingly complex world? Please know that MRA is here to support you in the literacy experiences you envision for yourself, your students, your school, and your community. The future is here and your leadership is important in reshaping instruction in our Great Lakes State.

Enjoy this edition of the *MRJ*!

Lisa Rivard, PhD

*Dr. Lisa Rivard is the 2015-16 President of the Michigan Reading Association. Lisa is employed as a Language Arts Consultant at the Macomb Intermediate School District and assists regional schools in developing effective literacy plans. Dr. Rivard is a graduate of Michigan State University's nationally recognized College of Education. Most recently, Lisa completed a PhD in instructional technology from Wayne State University where she teaches classes for district and building level administrators.*

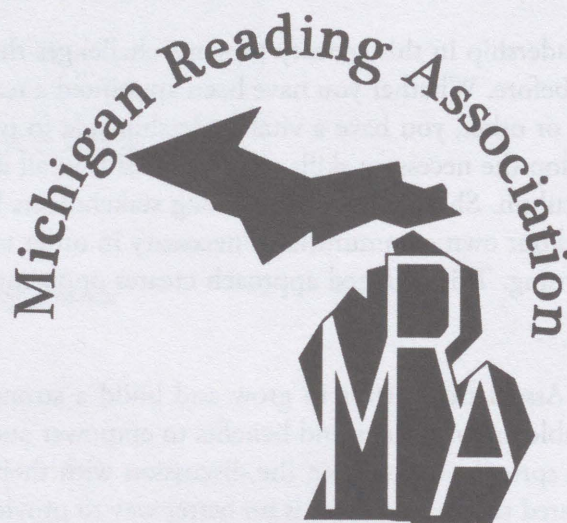
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Lewis-Spector, J., & Jay, A. B. (2011, April). Leadership for literacy in the 21st century. White Paper published by the Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers.



# Voting Opens

## February 5, 2016



### 2016 MRA Election

### 3 Ways to Vote

1. Vote online at [michiganreading.org](http://michiganreading.org). All current members with a valid email address will be sent a link for easy electronic voting.
2. Request a paper ballot by contacting the MRA Office at (616) 647-9310.
3. Vote at the MRA Annual Meeting during the Annual Conference. The Annual Meeting will be held Saturday, March 19, 2016 at 4:00 PM at the Cobo Center.

**Please take the time to read each candidate's bio and vote.  
Your vote is important to the future of the  
Michigan Reading Association.**

Online voting is open February 5 - March 13



Michigan Reading Association

READING

ALL

STARS

#MRADiamond



Devin Scillian



Alfred Tatum



Donalyn Miller

March  
18-21  
2016

Diamond Anniversary

Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center & Cobo Center  
Conference Luncheons & Events

Luncheon with Christopher Paul Curtis - \$30 - Saturday, March 19  
See 2015 Gwen Frostic Award honoree Christopher Paul Curtis in his ONLY appearance at the 60th Annual Conference! Following lunch and an address by this beloved Michigan All-Star, Mr. Curtis will participate in a book signing EXCLUSIVELY for attendees.

60th Anniversary Celebration - \$15 - Saturday, March 19  
At Comerica Park, featuring MRA's Past Presidents  
Come to the Tiger's Den at Comerica Park for a jubilee celebration commemorating the legacies of two fine Michigan institutions: the Michigan Reading Association and the Detroit Tigers! Enjoy a buffet of ballpark themed treats, a cash bar, socializing with Michigan's literacy leaders and maybe a Tigers' legend or two.

Brunch with the Authors & Illustrators - \$25 - Sunday, March 20  
Brunch will be served in the company MRA's diverse slate of award-winning and up-and-coming authors and illustrators of books for children and young authors. Dine with an author/illustrator and receive an exclusive signed copy of his/her book.

Kaleidoscope 25th Anniversary Banquet - \$25 - Sunday, March 20  
Meet the very best of Michigan's student authors & illustrators in the 25th annual showcase of creativity. Ryan Hipp will be on hand to speak about his inspirations and how he developed from a prodigious young writer to the 2012 MRA Gwen Frostic Award honoree.

Grand Slam Reception - FREE - Sunday, March 20  
After the Sunday General Session, stick around for a free, informal reception with Michigan authors/illustrators and Great Lakes/Great Books honorees. Light snacks will be served.

Conference Registration

Onsite Registration

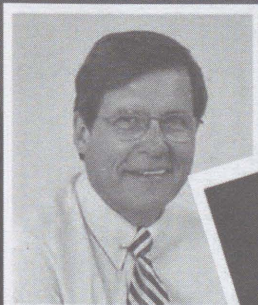
Online Registration closes 3/1; Onsite Registration available starting Friday, March 18 from 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM.

Members

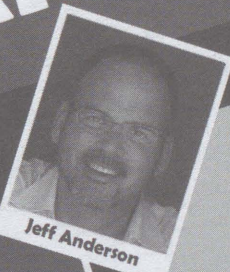
3 Day Registration - \$215  
1 Day Registration - \$170  
Membership Fee - \$35  
\*discounted retiree & student rates available

Non-Members

3 Day Registration - \$295  
1 Day Registration - \$220



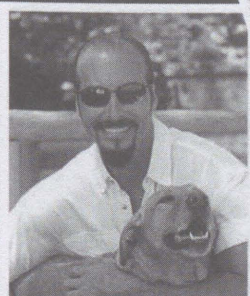
Rick Lavoie



Jeff Anderson



Nell Duke



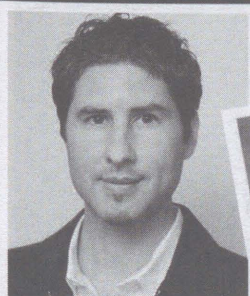
Johnathan Rand



Christopher Paul Curtis



James Bucky Carter



Matt de la Peña



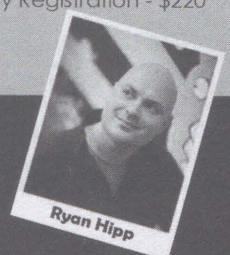
Sharon Flake



Jane Feber



Sharon Draper



Ryan Hipp



# Teaching All Stars

Creating Classroom Environments to Meet the  
Needs of Students with Learning Disabilities  
featuring Rick Lavoie



March 18, 2016 \* Detroit, MI



## Schedule

8:30 AM - 10:30 AM - Rick Lavoie Keynote 1  
10:45 AM - 11:45 AM - Breakout Sessions  
11:45 AM - 1:15 PM - Lunch  
1:15 PM - 2:15 PM - Breakout Sessions  
2:30 PM - 4:30 PM - Rick Lavoie Keynote 2

## Breakout Sessions

Breakout Sessions by SLD Read & other literacy experts.

The Importance of Phonological  
Awareness Instruction beyond  
Kindergarten

Multisensory Syllabication Strategies  
for Reading and Writing

Assessment of Reading  
Comprehension Difficulties:  
Beyond Decoding and Fluency  
Living with Dyslexia

Preparing Students with  
Reading Disabilities for the  
"Real World"

Supporting Students with Dyslexia

EmPOWERing Struggling  
Adolescent Readers:

Intervention Strategies that Work

Is it too Late? Reading Remediation  
at the Secondary Level

5, oops, I mean 6 Big Ideas of  
Literacy

Acting Out: Three Strategies that  
Work in the Inclusive Classroom

Three Activities a Day to Keep  
Reading Difficulties Away

Classroom Interventions for  
Struggling Readers

Reading/Writing Workshop in  
the Co-Taught Classroom

Development of Literacy  
Teaching Expertise for  
Optimum Collaboration

For Your Ears Only: The Difference  
Between Phonological  
Awareness, Phonemic  
Awareness, and Phonics

Multisensory Activities for  
Strengthening Phonological  
Awareness in Pre-Readers

## Objectives

- The learner will understand the ineffectiveness of common "time out" strategies and learn effective alternatives to this technique.
- The learner will understand common but faulty language arts techniques and will learn effective alternative strategies.
- The learner will master twelve behavior management techniques that can monitor and modify children's behavior at home and in the classroom.

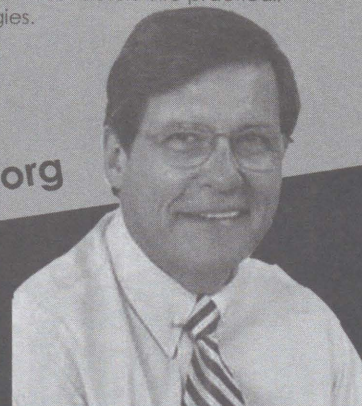
## Rick Lavoie's Afternoon Keynote

**The Motivation Breakthrough:  
6 Secrets to Turning On the Tuned-Out Child**

## Objectives

- The participants will understand the three basic truths about classroom motivation.
- The participants will re-examine the basic classroom approaches (e.g., competition, punishment, reward systems, etc.) and recognize the relative ineffectiveness of these strategies.
- The participant will recognize the six factors that motivate human beings (gregariousness, autonomy, etc.).
- The participant will translate these factors into practical, pragmatic classroom strategies.

Register at [michiganreading.org](http://michiganreading.org)



SLD Read &  
Michigan Reading Association