

**A Newsletter of the International Literacy Association's  
Language Experience Special Interest Group**

**Issue 4  
Summer 2018**

Newsletter Editor: Dr. Debra Jo Hailey



**Jerry Pollotta, LESIG Keynote Speaker**

“Using Popular Children’s Literature as a Bridge to the Language Experience Approach: Making Reading Personal and Successful for ALL Learners” is the title of this year’s presentation by your Language Experience Approach Special Interest Group. It will be worth attending this session if only to hear Jerry Pollotta speak about his methods and thought processes as he writes wonderful children’s books. Teachers everywhere love his collection of ABC books featuring simple non-fiction themes like ocean animals and construction sites. I have to admit, though, my favorites are his “Who Would Win” series that I buy for my great nephew every chance that I get! Looking for biographies for young children? He has those too! His young, adoring fans like the way he tickles their funny bone, as well!

**At the ILA conference in Austin  
Sunday, July 22, 2018  
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
Austin Convention Center, Room 13**

**ILA LESIG Presentations**

The Language Experience Approach is an engaging, personalized, supportive reading approach that highlights the connection of reading and writing. Following Jerry's keynote, additional adaptations of LEA for English Language Learners and preservice teachers will be shared by LESIG members.

*Fan Fiction and Language Experience with English Language Learners*

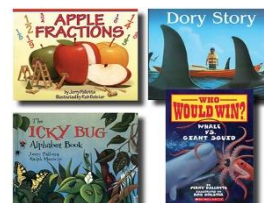
Dr. Leslie Haas, Buena Vista University,  
Assistant Professor

*Using the Language Experience Approach to Establish Shared Meanings as Teaching Dispositions are Developed*

Dr. Debra Jo Hailey, Assistant Professor of  
Early Childhood Education, Southeastern  
Louisiana University

Dr. Stacy Garcia, Instructor of Early Childhood  
Education, Southeastern Louisiana  
University

Dr. Michelle Fazio-Brunson, Director of  
Graduate Programs in Early Childhood  
Education, Northwestern State University  
Patricia Alexander, Kindergarten Teacher,  
Natchitoches Parish Schools



## **Your LESIG Officers 2017-2018**

**President**-Dr. Stacy Garcia, Southeastern Louisiana University

**Vice-President**-Dr. Dorothy Idris, Laboratory Charter School for Language and Communication

**Secretary\***-Dr. Jane Moore, Dallas

**Treasurer\***-Dr. Sheri Vasinda, Oklahoma State University

**Journal Editor**-Dr. Michelle Fazio-Brunson, Northwestern State University

**Newsletter Editor**-Dr. Debra Jo Hailey, Southeastern Louisiana University

**Webmaster**- Dr. Leslie Haas, Buena Vista University

**Member-at-Large\***-Brian Thompson, Oklahoma State University

### **Annual Meeting and Officer Elections**

Want to play a more active role in your LEA Special Interest Group? As per LESIG by-laws, vacant positions shall be filled through an election during the annual meeting held at the International Literacy Association Conference. New officers are elected to two-year terms. Listed above are your current officers. Those positions with an asterisk next to them have been dutifully attended to for two years by the person currently in that position. Those positions will be open for election at the annual meeting prior to presentations.

**What:** Annual Meeting and Election of Officers

**Where:** ILA annual conference  
Austin Convention Center, Room 13

**When:** Sunday, July 22, 2018  
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

**Immediately prior to presentations.**



### **Become a LESIG Member for Free!**

There are many benefits to membership in the oldest Special Interest Group of ILA including opportunities to present and publish internationally.

Want to know more about this group before joining? Go to our website at [languageexperienceapproach.weebly.com](http://languageexperienceapproach.weebly.com) to read our purpose, by-laws, and to meet the officers.

Join us for the LESIG presentations at the conference and save money.  
Attendees are rewarded with  
FREE membership.

### **Call for Proposals will open in Fall**

Want to share your research-based language experience activities with others? We would love to hear about it! Here are two ways to share:

Round Table poster presentation  
Round Table oral presentation

**Deadline to be announced in next newsletter!  
Be on the lookout!**

### ***Language Experiences Forum***

The Language Experience Special Interest Group's electronic international journal is peer-reviewed and published once per year with occasional special issues. What a wonderful opportunity to share your classroom stories and experiences. Go to [languageexperienceapproach.weebly.com](http://languageexperienceapproach.weebly.com) to see archived journals.

Next journal deadline to be announced in next newsletter.

***Just a few examples of books by Jerry Pollotta!***



**Check out the new dates for the **2019** International Literacy Conference!**

What: The ILA 2019 Conference

Where: New Orleans, Louisiana

When: October 10-October 13

This marks two important changes to our annual conference, beginning in 2019:

- Moving from July to October
- Shifting from a Friday start date to a Thursday start date