

ALAN Review co-editor Dr. Steven Bickmore, along with the LSU School of Education, announces the premier “LSU Young Adult Literature Conference & Seminar” to take place June 2-6, 2014 in Baton Rouge, La.

The workshop hopes to bolster YAL as an academic pursuit and further bolster the best efforts of The ALAN Review, SIGNAL, NCTE and IRA to support the academic pursuits of those who teach and study YA literature. The conference provides academics who specialize in young adult literature the opportunities to collaborate on projects and publications that will advance the field. They will have the opportunity to work in writing groups, map out book projects, or finish a scholarly article. During the conference visiting faculty will facilitate a cohort of teachers for a week as they explore a topic of YA literature. As college professors and teachers work together, they will produce materials that will enhance the literacy skills of adolescents as they engage in this exciting literature. To achieve these goals, leading academics in the field will act as Instructors in Residence by leading daily, 2-hour sessions with secondary ELA school teachers and librarians and offer Break Out sessions on your topic of expertise and are invited to submit proposals at lsuyalit@lsu.edu. Review of submissions will begin Friday, February 21, 2014.

The week-long event will feature celebrated and award winning Young Adult (YA) authors including Kimberly Willis Holt, author of *My Louisiana Sky* and *When Zachary Beaver Came to Town*, Matt de la Pena, author of *The Living*, and Chris Crutcher, author of *Period 8*. Academic guest speakers Joan Kaywell, past president of the Assembly on Literature for Adolescents (ALAN) of the NCTE, past ALAN president and YA author Chris Crowe, and past president and current executive director of ALAN, Terri Lesesne, will also be presenting their work.

Dr. Bickmore is an assistant professor within the LSU College of Human Sciences & Education’s School of Education. He also has a joint appointment as assistant professor within the Department of English. He has 25 years of experience as a 9th-12th grade English teacher. His scholarly interests include: the induction process for early career English teachers, the mentoring of new teachers, the research and teaching of young adult literature, and how preservice English teachers perceive young adult literature and its value as an instructional tool in the secondary English Language Arts classroom.

Registration information will be available soon. To submit a proposal for either a workshop or breakout session or for more info about the conference, visit chse.lsu.edu/yalit