

# THE COMMON CORE

## A UNIVERSE OF READING AND WRITING

A Conference for Teachers of English and All Who  
Teach Reading and Writing in Any Content Area

SEPTEMBER 26-28, 2014

**ASILOMAR63**  
THE LANGUAGE ARTS CONFERENCE



# THE COMMON CORE

## A UNIVERSE OF READING AND WRITING

SEPTEMBER 26-28, 2014

This is the 63rd annual conference coordinated by the Curriculum Study Commission and the Central California Association for the Teachers of English.

Teachers attending will meet over the 3 days in small groups, each of which will be focused on a single issue involved in teaching reading and writing as part of the common core, in language arts and in other content area classes.

Groups will focus on:

- the reading/writing connection
- cross-curricular implementation
- close reading
- use of technology
- use of discussion to deepen student understanding
- bringing the common core to life with culturally responsive learning

Deadline for early registration and guaranteed placement in selected group-May 31, 2014.

# ASILOMAR63

## THE LANGUAGE ARTS CONFERENCE

### SPEAKERS

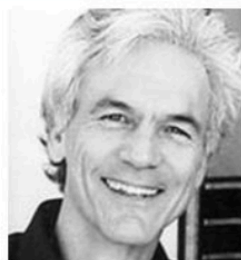
#### Gene Luen Yang

Gene Luen Yang is an award-winning graphic novelist and comic book artist. His book **American Born Chinese** was the first graphic novel nominated for a National Book Award and the first to win the American Library Association's Printz Award. He teaches at Bishop O'Dowd High School in Oakland, and he also teaches as part of the MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults program of Hamlin University.



#### Brian Thomas Swimme

Brian Thomas Swimme is a professor at the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco. He received his Ph.D. from the Department of Mathematics at the University of Oregon in 1978 for work in gravitational dynamics. He brings the context of story to our understanding of the 13.7 billion year trajectory of cosmogenesis. Such a story, he feels, will assist in the emergence of a flourishing Earth community.



Swimme is the author of **The Hidden Heart of the Cosmos** and **The Universe is a Green Dragon**. He is co-author of **The Universe Story**, which is the result of a 10 year collaboration with the cultural historian, Thomas Berry. Swimme is also the creator of three educational video series: **Canticle to the Cosmos** (1990), **Earth's Imagination** (1998), and **The Powers of the Universe** (2006).

He lectures widely and has presented at conferences sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, The World Bank, UNESCO, The United Nations Millennium Peace Summit, and the American Museum of Natural History.

### SATURDAY NIGHT AROUND THE HEARTH

Join in discussions of best practices and major issues in education today at Around the Hearth. This Asilomar tradition provides two sessions for spirited discussions in larger groups. Choose from a variety of topics. No sign-ups necessary; follow your interest Saturday night and benefit from the communal exchange.

Session I: 7:15 – 8:30

Session II: 8:45 – 10:00



We invite you to bring your school or district team and create your own session for program planning around the Common Core. Discount offered for groups of 5 or more.



## SESSIONS

### 1. The Reading/Writing Connection

GRADES 9-COLLEGE GENERAL ENRICHMENT TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED  
USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS ENGLISH LEARNERS DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION  
A hands-on workshop, which emphasizes the reading/writing connection. Participants will read and write and read; write and read and write.

### 2. Using the Common Core to Discover the True Core: The Case for Classroom Depth

GRADES 9-COLLEGE GENERAL ENRICHMENT TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED  
USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS ENGLISH LEARNERS DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION  
Had enough shallow “reform” from the “top”? Our session turns on a renovated understanding of depth in learning. Sampling practices to explore three course/program design principles—pervasive questioning, sustained reflection, and active cultivation of wisdom—we prepare to guide students to rise to Common Core expectations by engaging deeper rigors: discovering and living values.

### 3. Teaching and the Art of Self-Renewal

GENERAL ENRICHMENT TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL FOR NEW  
TEACHERS DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION  
Mary Rose O’Reilly asks, “How can we get ourselves, our disciplines and our students to retain hidden freshness?” We will explore this question and write and reflect on the art of self-renewal. Each session will include short texts from O’Reilly and prompts for writing.

### 4. Together We Are An Ocean

GRADES 9-12 GENERAL ENRICHMENT TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL  
FOR NEW TEACHERS ENGLISH LEARNERS DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION  
This session focuses on the importance of secondary teachers working together to implement Common Core. We will explore a process for integrating curriculum across disciplines and learn how to plan and implement powerful interdisciplinary activities that incorporate close reading strategies to address text complexity consideration and text-based questions.

### 5. River of Words: Teaching the Language of Landscape

GRADES K-COLLEGE GENERAL ENRICHMENT TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED  
USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS ENGLISH LEARNERS DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION  
Learn fun and engaging ways to spark your students’ (and your own) imaginations by writing poetry that informs and inspires. This poetry session will offer techniques to help students create poems that reflect and enhance their understanding of the grounds on which they live. Participants will write and share poems they write. This section can be particularly helpful to elementary teachers who want to incorporate poetry lesson in our Common Core dominated curriculum. RIVER OF WORDS is a place-based k-12 program created to promote watershed awareness, literacy and the arts.

### 6. Becoming Our Selves: Personal Narrative and Persona Poetry

GRADES 4-12 TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS  
ENGLISH LEARNERS DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION  
Our students become their authentic selves through discovery of their true voices, facilitated by our CCSS instruction in personal narrative. One time-honored way to discover, connect, and reveal these voices is through “persona poetry,” as exemplified by the work of Troy Jollimore and other poets. Come prepared to explore, read, write, and share!

### 7. The Art of Close Reading, K-4: A view in Light of the Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking about Fiction and Informational Texts

GRADES K-3 GENERAL ENRICHMENT TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED  
USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS GENERAL ENRICHMENT DIFFERENTIATED  
INSTRUCTION  
Both shared reading and close reading represent well-worn teaching tools that have an impact young children and teens, alike. Done well, both procedures have the potential to impact the development of all the CC Language Arts Standards. With guidance, participants will develop lesson plans using two texts common to the group, then move toward using their own, grade-level texts for personal lesson planning.

### 8. At the Core: Civility and the Common Core

GRADES 9-12 TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS  
ENGLISH LEARNERS DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION  
In this session, you will learn to facilitate difficult conversations about race, culture, class, and gender as a way of considering what it means to be human. From building civil community through challenging the use of the N word to learning about life through the speeches of our greatest leaders, you will learn how to help students investigate the (Common) core of themselves in relationship to others. You will come away with high school appropriate resources.

### 9. Reading the Word and the World: Deepening the Critical Lens Through Which Students Read and Produce Texts

GRADES 9-12 USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION  
In this session, participants will explore the teaching of closer reading with increased engagement and social relevancy. Participants will analyze a series of politically—and socially-themed visual texts that encourage students to critique our culture and society. The latter part of the workshop will focus on using this skill to teach close reading of more traditional texts and to help students produce more critical writing. By teaching young people to closely read texts with more of a critical lens, the hope is that they will develop a deeper awareness of the world around them.

### 10. Teaching English with Technology

GRADES 4-12 TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS  
ENGLISH LEARNERS DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION  
We’ll share strategies to engage the digital natives that we all teach. Participants will first experience the writing process in Google Apps. We’ll also look at digital publication and presentation tools. Please bring your own ideas about how best to leverage technology in English classes. Participants will need a laptop/tablet with wireless capability and a Google Drive account.

### 11. It’s NOT Whatever: ARISE Up as a School Community of Critical, Caring, and Culturally Responsive Educators Because Our Lives Depend On It

GRADES 9-COLLEGE TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL FOR NEW  
TEACHERS  
DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION  
The Common Core Standards ask students to be able to “Demonstrate knowledge of eighteenth to twentieth-century foundational works of American literature, including how two or more texts from the same period treat similar themes or topics.” What constitutes “foundational” American literature, especially as we strive to include gender and race diversity in our teaching?

### 12. Deepening Reading Comprehension Through Student Discussion and Technology

GRADES 9-12 GENERAL ENRICHMENT TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL  
FOR NEW TEACHERS  
In this workshop, you will learn how to foster dialogue via technology and seminar/literature circle formats while using classic texts and non-fiction. This workshop is the product of three masters theses. Participants will receive access to hard copies and digital resources for immediate use across varied curricula.

### 13. Writing on the Road

GRADES K-COLLEGE GENERAL ENRICHMENT USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS  
Teachers of writing rarely have time to practice the craft of writing themselves. Participants select a local destination and are given time to write. Group members respond to one another’s drafts. Spend a weekend writing in the beautiful environments surrounding Asilomar and brushing up on how to get students to respond to one another’s writing.

### 14. Do Your Own Thing! Team Planning Session

GRADES K-COLLEGE  
School or district teams can use the conference time to plan their own Common Core implementation. Discounts offered for groups of 5 or more.



# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

## Friday, September 26

3:30-9:00 Registration in Fred Farr Forum  
4:30-5:30 No Host Reception in Fred Farr Forum  
6:00-7:00 Dinner\* (Dining room stops serving at 7)  
7:15-8:45 GENERAL SESSION A in Fred Farr Forum  
9:00-10:00 GROUP SESSION #1

## Saturday, September 27

7:30-9:00 Breakfast  
8:00-5:45 Bookstore Open  
9:00-10:30 GROUP SESSION #2  
10:30-10:45 Coffee Break  
10:45-12:00 GROUP SESSION #3  
12:00-1:00 Lunch  
1:15-2:30 GROUP SESSION #4  
2:45-4:00 GENERAL SESSION B in Fred Farr Forum  
4:00-5:45 No Host Reception and Book Signing  
6:00-7:00 Dinner  
7:15-8:30 Around the Hearth Sessions I  
8:45-10:00 Around the Hearth Sessions II

## Sunday, September 28

7:30-9:00 Breakfast  
8:00-9:00 Bookstore Open  
9:15-10:30 GROUP SESSION #5  
10:30-10:45 Coffee Break  
10:45-12:00 GENERAL SESSION C in Fred Farr Forum  
12:00-1:00 Lunch

## ASILOMAR 63 is brought to you by the Curriculum Study Commission

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FOR CONFERENCE UPDATES AND ADDITIONAL INFO, VISIT

[curriculumstudy.org](http://curriculumstudy.org)