

What's NEW in YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE and How to Use It In Your Program (Grades 6-12) — 2026 —



A Unique One-Day In-Person Seminar or Live Online Seminar Presented by

Karen Scott

Outstanding Librarian and Presenter

**Specifically Designed for Secondary Teachers,
School Librarians and Public Librarians**

A comprehensive overview of **the best, new books for young adults** published in the past year

Practical, ready-to-use ideas for selecting and utilizing the best, new young adult literature across your curriculum

Learn about new nonfiction titles that support your state standards for using informational text with students

An extensive young adult literature digital resource handbook filled with annotated booklists, ready-to-use ideas, themes, activities, and more

CAN'T ATTEND?

Order the recorded version and take the seminar online at your convenience (see page 6)

IN-PERSON SEMINARS

Connecticut

Hartford (Bristol) – March 3

New Jersey

Newark – March 5

New York

Albany (Troy) – March 4

Long Island (Holtsville) – March 6

Rhode Island

Providence (Warwick) – March 2

LIVE ONLINE SEMINARS

MARCH 19

**9 AM Central, 8 AM Mountain,
7 AM Pacific, 10 AM Eastern**

March 27

**9 AM Eastern, 8 AM Central,
7 AM Mountain, 6 AM Pacific**

CEUs and Graduate Credit Available
See page 6 for details

Ten Key Benefits of Attending

"I attend this every year and it never disappoints. Karen is such a wealth of information and we use this in our classroom to order for our libraries. Great presentation and ideas."

– LESLIE PILGRIM, TEACHER



Who Should Attend

Secondary Teachers,
School Librarians and
Public Librarians

- 1. Preview the Best, New Young Adult Books**
Thousands of new books for young adults are published annually ... Learn about the BEST of the most recently published young adult books and which upcoming books you should be on the lookout for
- 2. Incorporate the Best, New Books Into Your Classroom or Library Curriculum**
Learn innovative strategies for utilizing the best, new books for young adults to enhance content instruction as well as your library program
- 3. Discover the Best Realistic Fiction Novels for Teens**
One of the fastest growing genres in young adult literature is realistic fiction ... Hear about popular new titles and receive a listing of topics covered to share with students
- 4. Engage "Unimpressed" Teen Readers With Fast-Paced Titles**
Find out which new titles will captivate the interest of your reluctant teen readers
- 5. Web 2.0 ... Connecting Books and Technology**
Get students reading by using Web 2.0 tools such as podcasts to introduce the best young adult books to your classes ... Discover practical ways to use QR codes, Instagram and Twitter to promote current titles and new books with your students
- 6. Utilize Graphic Novels and Audiobooks to Improve Students' Comprehension**
Motivate readers of all abilities to improve their reading skills and comprehension with a list of newly published graphic novels and audiobooks that best support your state standards and can be used to encourage reading in classrooms
- 7. Encourage All Students to Read Diverse Books**
Learn about new titles of diverse books to motivate and encourage readers to broaden their world perspectives in our global society
- 8. New Ideas for Getting Teens to Talk About Books**
Research shows teens are influenced by peer book recommendations ... Get fresh ideas to encourage students to talk about books with each other, in classrooms and on social media
- 9. Discover Current Trends in Young Adult Literature**
Find out what is happening in the teen publishing world and how you can connect with top-notch online resources and the hot topics authors are writing about
- 10. Receive a Valuable Young Adult Literature Digital Resource Handbook**
Each seminar participant will receive a digital resource handbook filled with an extensive alphabetized and genre-oriented bibliography and ready-to-use activities and resources you can immediately apply

Outstanding Strategies You Can Use Immediately

What You Will Learn ...

- **The best, NEW literature** to use with teens and to recommend to teens
- **Practical ideas, tips, and suggestions** for incorporating relevant teen books across all content areas for Grades 6-12 learning environments
- **New titles by authors** who have proven their popularity with teens ... Gain ideas to tie these titles to the curriculum
- **How to find “appropriate age-level books” for your students** ... Get a list of the 2026 “appropriate age-level books” and learn the web resources that will help identify possible issues in specific teen titles
- **What’s new** in a variety of genres
- **Debut authors** teens don’t want to miss
- **Excellent novels to use in teaching young adults** in the classroom or library
- **Practical lesson ideas** that work with almost any book
- **Best online resources** for keeping current with young adult titles and ways you can get access to not yet published books
- **Extensive lists and annotated bibliographies** of authors and titles in a variety of genres
- **Non-fiction titles** that support state standards for informational text
- **Innovative strategies** and ideas for outstanding book talks by adults and teens
- **The best new books** to motivate “unimpressed” teen readers
- **The best new realistic fiction** titles to share with teens
- **How to get the most for your money** when purchasing young adult books
- **The diverse titles you need** to have on your shelf



“Amazing seminar! Karen is remarkable and we are very lucky to have her as a presenter.”

– JOANNA MCCLOSKEY, LIBRARIAN

Practical Ideas and Strategies

In this outstanding seminar, **KAREN SCOTT** will share the best, **NEW** books for young adults, all of which have just recently been published. Karen will go beyond familiarizing you with the best of the newly published titles to share practical strategies for using these outstanding books in your classroom or library.

This fast-paced day will be filled with great, new books, innovative and creative ideas, enthusiasm, exciting curriculum connections, and news about authors that are all too good for young adults to miss.

All participants will leave with extensive annotated bibliographies in a comprehensive digital resource handbook full of outstanding ideas that you can immediately put to use to motivate and inspire your young adult readers.



A Message From Seminar Leader, Karen Scott



Uniquely Qualified Instructor

KAREN SCOTT is an award-winning school librarian and is a frequent presenter at local, state, and national conferences. She is a current member of the Great Graphic Novels and Teens Top 10 committees, a past member of the Margaret Edwards Award Committee and the Amelia Walden Award Committee (ALAN and NCTE). She is a past member of the 2020 Newbery Committee. She is an active member of the American Association of School Librarians and previously served on AASL's 2023 National Conference Committee. She has previously served on YALSA's ALEX committee and AASL's Best Digital Tools Committee. She is an instructor of Young Adult Literature at the university level. Karen is a highly experienced secondary librarian, is considered an expert in the field by her peers and has been her school's Teacher of the Year. She has worked extensively with the library media standards of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. She has reviewed for *School Library Journal* and *Library Media Connection*. She has also served on the United States for Best Books for Youth's committee for Outstanding Books for Teens, and on the selection committee for *Wilson's Children's Catalog*.

Dear Colleague:

I'll admit it: I am, always have been, and always will be a reader. I have a TBR pile in every single room of my home. This passion for reading and books fueled my career choice as a school librarian. I spend much of my day talking about books, reading about books, and reading books to recommend which books you should read and teach next.

Like you, I understand the importance of reading. We all know readers are much more successful in school and on standardized achievement tests. More importantly, readers can see themselves in the situations and in the characters of books. Books allow readers to experience both a window and a mirror into their worlds.

Publishers produce an enormous and often overwhelming number of books each year. I know how challenging it can be to keep up with all those titles and that's why I'm here to help. I read extensively in all genres and will share with you the best books in those genres.

We will also discuss ways to use the best books with classrooms and students. We will combine reading with the best websites and apps you can use to engage all of your readers and learners. Building a culture of reading occurs when we are passionate about reading and can engage students with current and relevant titles. Our ultimate goal is to hook students on reading and my belief is it can happen with just the right book. I will share a diverse list of books to encourage reading and help you put just the right book in the hands of your students.

I cannot wait to spend the day with you sharing fabulous new titles already published and books you should be looking forward to. This day is about readers and doing what we love – exploring amazing books!

Sincerely,

Karen Scott

P.S. Come prepared for a **fast-paced, fun-filled day surrounded by the best new books!**

"I will share a diverse list of books to encourage reading and help you put just the right book in the hands of your students."

What Your Colleagues Say About Karen Scott

*"I love this day. The opportunity to hear from an educator about books that work and different ways they can be integrated. Just wonderful; **I come every year and always walk away inspired.**"*

– Sara Stensaas, English/Reading Teacher

*"Karen Scott is amazing. **She has such a comprehensive understanding of books for middle school and high school students.** I wish I could attend this every year!"*

– Matthew Corey, English Teacher

*"**Karen's expertise and practical knowledge has helped me,** and will continue to help me, incalculably. Thank you!"*

– Griffin Nyhan, Teacher

*"Great seminar! **I really enjoyed hearing Karen's summary of each book and appreciate her doing different levels as well.** Although I am at a high school, the MG books are great for our lower readers."*

– Brandi Kay, Librarian



*"I love listening to Karen talk about books – **she is so well read!**"*

– Melissa Palmer, English Teacher

*"**So many amazing options for books.** I took so many notes. Thank you so much Karen. I Love seeing the diverse characters in so many novels for MG and HS."*

– Alexandra Grant, Teacher/Grade 6 ELA

*"Karen does the best job at giving tons of recommendations and she's never wrong. **Fantastic presentation!**"*

– Michelle Bruno, Teacher

*"Seminar was great - as always. I've attended this seminar for YA Lit for years and **there are always such great take-aways in addition to the amazing books that are shared.**"*

– Emily Wells, Library Media Specialist

*"**Karen Scott did a fantastic job covering so many genres and so many titles.** Her presentation is so well organized and easy to follow and take notes from. I recommend her seminar to all my colleagues!"*

– Elizabeth Desmond, HS English Teacher

Special Benefits of Attending



"This was an excellent seminar. So informative and dotted with great ideas for the classroom. Thank you, Karen, for your summaries and critique of these outstanding novels. Can't wait for next year."

– VICTORIA KILPATRICK,
TEACHER

On-Site Training

Most BER seminars can be brought to your school or district in-person or online. See the options at www.ber.org/onsite or call 877-857-8964 to speak to one of our On-Site Training Consultants.

Extensive Young Adult Literature Digital Resource Handbook

You will receive a new, one-of-a-kind digital resource handbook featuring an annotated bibliography of the best, new young adult books published in the last year with practical strategies for using these titles in all areas of your program.

The handbook includes:

- Ready-to-use activities and resources so that you can immediately utilize the best, new books for teens in your program
- Extensive topic and subject-oriented annotated bibliographies along with review sources
- Book sharing ideas and resources
- Websites that enhance the reading experience for teens and keep you up to date

For in-person seminars, registrants will also receive a printed copy of the resource handbook as long as their registration is received in the BER office at least 15 calendar days before the event.

Share Ideas with Other Educators

This seminar provides a wonderful opportunity for participants to share ideas with other educators interested in the best, new books for young adults.

Meet Inservice Requirements / Earn State CEUs

Participants of In-Person Seminars, Live Online Seminars and those completing the Recorded Version online can receive a certificate of participation that may be used to verify five continuing education hours. For details about state CEUs available, visit www.ber.org/ceus

Earn One to Four Graduate Semester Credits



Up to four graduate-level professional development credits are available with an additional fee and completion of follow up practicum activities. Details may be found at www.ber.org/credit

Can't Attend?

Other Professional Development Options:



Recorded Version of the Seminar

Order the recorded version of this seminar to take online at your convenience. You'll have 90-day access to the entire course and to the extensive digital resource handbook. To enroll, see registration form on page 7, and for optional CEUs and graduate credit, please visit www.ber.org/credit



Related On-Demand Online Courses

Two related On-Demand Video-Based Online Learning courses, *MAKERSPACES: Creating Motivating, Engaging Work Spaces for Your Library*, for Grades K-12, and *Teaching Media Literacy Skills in a Fake News World*, Grades K-12, are available for immediate registration. To enroll, visit www.ber.org/online

What's NEW in YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE and How to Use It In Your Program (Grades 6-12) — 2026 —

Registration (BK66S1)

- ☐ 1. **Albany** (Troy), **NY** – March 4, 2026
- ☐ 2. **Hartford** (Bristol), **CT** – March 3, 2026
- ☐ 3. **Long Island** (Holtsville), **NY** – March 6, 2026
- ☐ 4. **Newark, NJ** – March 5, 2026
- ☐ 5. **Providence** (Warwick), **RI** – March 2, 2026
- ☐ 6. **LIVE ONLINE:** March 19, 2026 (Start time: 9 AM Central)
- ☐ 7. **LIVE ONLINE:** March 27, 2026 (Start time: 9 AM Eastern)
- or —
- ☐ 8. I'd like to order the recorded version of this seminar.

FIRST NAME M.I. LAST NAME

POSITION, SUBJECT TAUGHT GRADE LEVEL

SEMINAR NUMBER: _____ (Please see list above)

List additional registrants on a copy of this form

SCHOOL NAME

SCHOOL MAILING ADDRESS

CITY & STATE ZIP CODE

SCHOOL PHONE NUMBER HOME PHONE NUMBER

() ()

Registration confirmations and login details are sent via e-mail

E-MAIL ADDRESS (REQUIRED FOR EACH REGISTRANT)

HOME MAILING ADDRESS

CITY & STATE ZIP CODE

IMPORTANT – PRIORITY ID CODE: EBK66S1

METHOD OF PAYMENT – Team Discount Available

The registration fee is \$325 per person;

for teams of three or more registering at the same time, the fee is \$295 per person. **Payment is due prior to the program.** No cash, please.

- ☐ A check (payable to **Bureau of Education & Research**) is attached
- ☐ A purchase order is attached, P.O. # _____
(Be sure to include priority ID code on the P.O.)

Cards accepted: MasterCard, VISA, Discover, AMEX

Account # _____ Exp. Date: _____ MO/YR

Billing Zip Code: _____ 3 Digit CVV Code: _____
(Found on back of card)

Please print name as it appears on card

FIVE EASY WAYS TO REGISTER:



SCAN QR code or visit:
at.ber.org/regBK6



EMAIL this form to: **register@ber.org**



PHONE toll-free: **1-800-735-3503**
(Weekdays 5:30 am - 5:00 pm Pacific Time)



FAX this form to: **1-425-453-1134**



MAIL this form to: **Bureau of Education & Research**
915 118th Avenue SE • PO Box 96068
Bellevue, WA 98009-9668

Program Hours

- All **In-Person Seminars** are scheduled 8:30 AM – 3:15 PM
Check-in is 8:00 AM – 8:30 AM
- All **Live Online Seminars** are scheduled 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM in the time zone indicated. Check in 15 minutes prior. Registrants will be sent login information by email four days before their Live Online Seminar.

Fee

The registration fee is \$325 per person, \$295 per person for groups of three or more registering at the same time. Call us at 1-800-735-3503 for groups of ten or more. **Payment is due prior to the program.**

Fee includes seminar registration, a certificate of participation and an extensive digital resource handbook. The fee is the same for In-Person Seminars, Live Online Seminars or Recorded Seminars.

For In-Person Seminars, registrants will also receive a printed copy of the resource handbook as long as their registration is received in the BER office at least 15 calendar days before the event.

WA residents: visit www.dor.wa.gov/TaxRateLookup to find your required WA sales tax rate.

Meeting Sites and Hotel Accommodations

Seminars will be held at the following sites:

- Albany: Hilton Garden Inn – Troy, (518) 272-1700
- Hartford: DoubleTree – Bristol, (860) 589-7766
- Long Island: Holiday Inn – Holtsville, (631) 758-2900
- Newark: Holiday Inn – Airport, (973) 589-1000
- Providence: DoubleTree – Airport, (401) 739-3000

If needed, please make your own hotel reservations by calling the appropriate hotel listed above.

Cancellation/Substitutions

100% of your paid registration fee will be refunded if you can't attend and notify us at least 10 days before the seminar. Late cancellations made prior to the event date will be refunded less a \$15 service fee. Substitutions may be made at any time without charge.

Program Guarantee

We stand behind the high quality of our programs by providing the following unconditional guarantee: If you are not satisfied with this program, we'll give you a 100% refund of your registration fee.

Further Questions

Call the Bureau of Education & Research (800) 735-3503 or visit us online at **www.ber.org**

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The Best NEW Books for Grades 6-12 ALL NEW for 2026!

BK6651

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