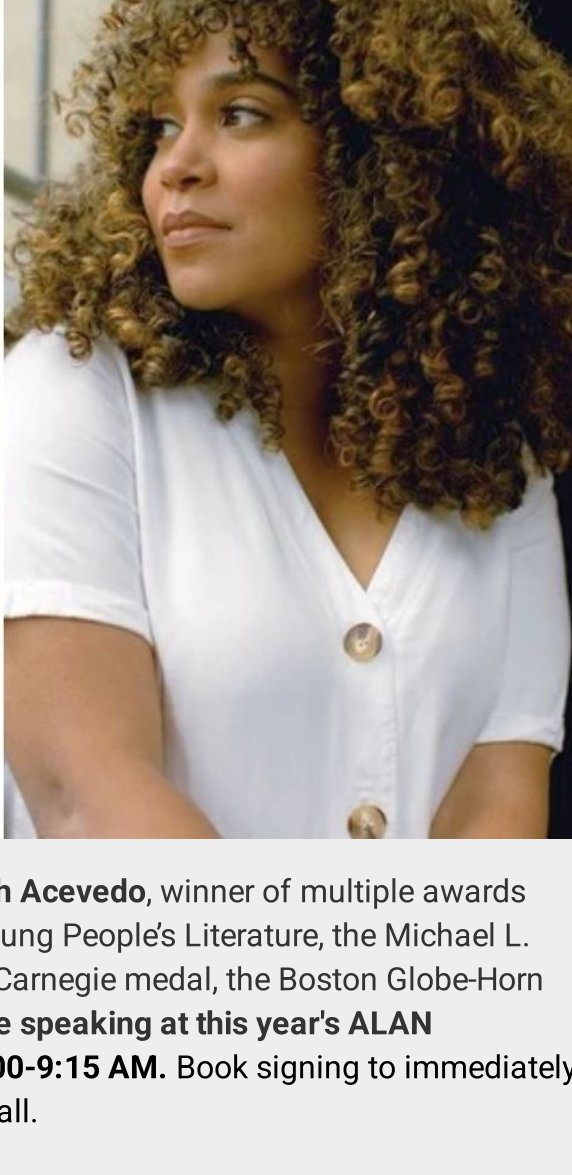




Assembly on Literature for Adolescents of NCTE

August 2026 Newsletter

ALAN Breakfast Keynote Speaker



We are excited to announce that **Elizabeth Acevedo**, winner of multiple awards including the National Book Award for Young People's Literature, the Michael L. Printz Award, the Pura Belpré Award, the Carnegie medal, the Boston Globe-Horn Book Award, and the Walter Award, **will be speaking at this year's ALAN Breakfast on Saturday, November 21 7:00-9:15 AM**. Book signing to immediately follow at the ALAN Booth in the Exhibit Hall.

Don't wait! Click [here](#) to register.

The ALAN Breakfast is an NCTE registration add-on \$52.00.

ALAN Workshop

Dates & Times

Dear ALAN members.

Please note that the workshop schedule is flipped this year: the half-day program will be on Sunday, immediately followed by the ALAN Author Reception, and the regular full-day program will be on Monday. The workshop will be located in the Pennsylvania Convention Center.

- Workshop Day 1 (half day) - Sunday, 11/22 from 2 pm to 6 pm.
- Workshop Day 2 (full day) - Monday, 11/23 from 8 am to 5pm.

Keep reading for a sneak peak at the opening panel, the closing keynote speaker, and the workshop schedule-at-a-glance.

I look forward to "Forging New Futures" through YA literature with you in November.

Sybil Durand

2026 ALAN President

Upcoming Events

Tuesday 9/15
Applications for [The Smith-Carlson Grant](#) and the [The Cart-Campbell Grant](#) are due

Saturday 9/26
[#ALANreads Virtual Book Club - Libertad by Bessie Flores Zaldivar](#)

Friday 11/20 ALAN Roundtable Session @NCTE

Saturday 11/21
ALAN Breakfast @NCTE

Sunday 11/22
ALAN Workshop Day1

Monday 11/23
ALAN Workshop Day 2

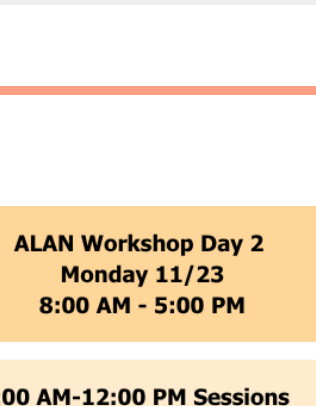
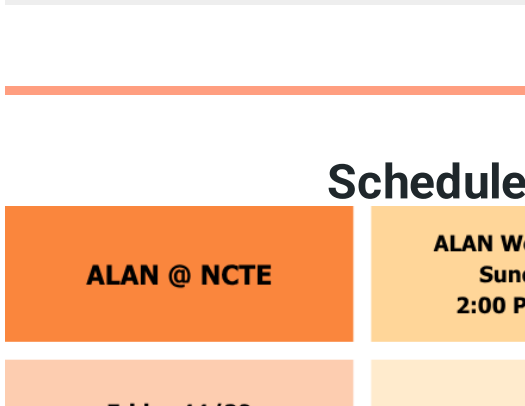
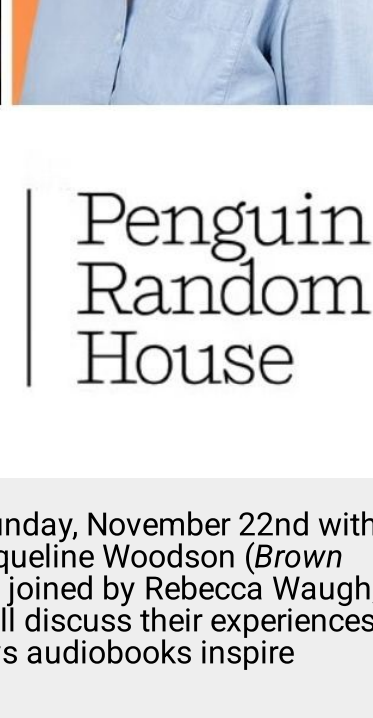
2026 ALAN Workshop Preview



Opening Panel

In Conversation: IT DOES COUNT!

The Power of the Audiobook



The 2026 ALAN Workshop will launch at 2 pm on Sunday, November 22nd with a conversation between award-winning authors Jacqueline Woodson (*Brown Girl Dreaming*), and Joy McCullough (*Suffer a Witch*), joined by Rebecca Waugh, editorial director of Listening Library. The authors will discuss their experiences narrating autobiographical works and the many ways audiobooks inspire readers.

Schedule At-A-Glance

ALAN @ NCTE	ALAN Workshop Day 1 Sunday 11/22 2:00 PM - 7:30 PM	ALAN Workshop Day 2 Monday 11/23 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Friday 11/20 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM Roundtable Session Current Conversations about Young Adult Literature in the Classroom	1:00 PM Doors open	8:00 AM-12:00 PM Sessions • Morning Keynote Address • 1 Featured Author • 6 Author Panels • 3 Educator Presentations 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Lunch
Saturday 11/21 7:00 AM - 9:15 AM ALAN Breakfast Keynote: Elizabeth Acevedo	2:00 PM - 5:00 PM • Opening panel with Jacqueline Woodson, Joy McCullough, & Rebecca Waugh • 2 Featured Authors • 4 Author Panels • 2 Educator Presentations • Closing Keynote	1:00 PM - 5:00 PM Sessions • 1 Featured Author • 7 Author Panels • 2 Educator Presentations • Closing Keynote: A.S. King
Saturday 11/21 5:45 PM - 7:00 PM SIG Meeting Craft & Creativity Workshop with Author Daniel Nayeri	6:00 PM - 7:30 PM ALAN Reception	

ALAN Workshop Closing Keynote Speaker



Beloved author **A.S. King**, winner of multiple awards including the Michael L. Printz Award and the Margaret A. Edwards award, **will be the closing Keynote speaker for the ALAN Workshop on Monday November 23 at 4:35 PM**.

2026 ALAN Workshop Registration

The ALAN leadership team has been hard at work to keep registration costs from increasing this year. We made some changes to meet this goal:

- **Registration for the Workshop will no longer include a box lunch.** The Workshop will be held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, right next to the [Reading Terminal Market](#) which has over 75 family-owned eateries and craft stores.
- **Registration will not include a membership.** Instead, ALAN members will receive a discount code for the Early Bird registration price. Don't know when your membership expires? Click [here](#) to check and renew!
- **Book boxes will be limited to the first 250 people who register.** There will be book giveaways at ALAN events at the NCTE Convention (e.g. the ALAN Breakfast, the ALAN Booth, and more) as well as during the Workshop.

Click [here](#) to register today.

ALAN members received a discount code in a separate email. Please reach out to ALANYAmembership@gmail.com if you haven't received it.

- Members - Early Bird: \$285
- Members - Regular: \$325
- Student Members - Early Bird: \$130
- Student Members - Regular: \$150

Grants for New Attendees

[The Smith-Carlson Grant](#) supports the attendance of a graduate student working in English Education, Literacy Education and/or Young Adult Literature to attend the ALAN Workshop with a complimentary registration.

[The Cart-Campbell Grant](#) offers a complimentary registration for practicing librarians toward attendance at the annual two-day ALAN Workshop.

Application deadline: September 15

The ALAN Review

Call for Manuscripts
Submissions due on or before November 1, 2026

54.3 – Summer 2027
War and Peace in YAL: Civic Education in the ELA Classroom

Young adult literature provides young people with the opportunity to see and contend with the world in a way that is relevant to them. This can include addressing the many conflicts that surround us. More recently, YAL has centered stories of war that have been previously elided or marginalized such as Standing Up Against Hate (Farrell, 2019), We Are Not Free (Chee, 2020), and Ruta Sepetys's Between Shades of Gray (2011), Salt to the Sea (2016), and The Fountains of Silence (2019).

For this issue, we are examining how YAL can provide a space for helping readers make sense of war as well as a place where authors articulate the complexities and histories of conflict. This examination aims to challenge simplistic notions of victims and aggressors, soldiers and noncombatants. We encourage submissions that highlight perspectives of peoples previously overlooked or conveyed as singular (e.g., a simplistic hero/villain narrative), as well as articles that critically engage YAL texts presenting experiences of combat and diplomacy. We are particularly interested in how shared reading of YAL can serve as a catalyst for strengthening conflict resolution and civic education, such that democratic values of tolerance, openness, and pluralism can be practiced by readers.

We encourage submissions that are connected to transformative classroom practices that actively engage learners in multiple meanings of peace and war, and how exploring these concepts sustain and strengthen democracy and civic participation. We are especially interested in articles that offer a compelling argument for the intentional use of YAL to interrogate, reimagine, understand, and examine the United States' history of conflict engagement through intersectional and multivocal lenses.

Authors might consider the following critical questions:

- How have the YAL depictions of America's role in historical conflicts changed in ways that tell richer, multivocal, and more nuanced perspectives? For example, consider the different perspectives, voices, and themes across novels linked by the Revolutionary War context: Johnny Tremaine (Forbes, 1943), My Brother Sam is Dead (Collier & Collier, 1974), Chains (Anderson, 2008), Sophie's War (Avi, 2012), The Fighting Ground (Avi, 1984), and The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, Traitor to the Nation, Vol. I: The Pox Party (Anderson, 2006).
- How does YAL explore the perspectives of adolescents involved in conflict, including military-engaged combatants and victims who seek refuge?
- What instructional strategies have you found to encourage students to examine and respect multiple perspectives? What strategies and dialogic routines foster productive, respectful conversations in your classroom, especially around complex and challenging historical or political topics?
- How does the current state of conflict influence how educators discuss and/or select texts for discussion of historical events related to war and diplomacy?
- How do you incorporate conflict-related nonfiction texts, especially speeches, news media, memoirs, and essays into your classroom?
- What does young adult literature still lack in the realm of diverse perspectives of peacemaking and authentic conveyance of conflict engagements? Why are those elements important, and what prevents them from being represented?

The editorial team is excited to have Dr. Julianna Lopez Kershen join them as a guest editor for this issue. [Click here](#) for more information. Send your submission to alanrevieweditors@gmail.com

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