



"You skillfully blended humor, hard times, straight facts, and creative coping to leave us inspired and ready to dive into our daily challenges. I could not have asked for a more wonderful way to open the conference."

~ Marsha Lambert, MAME President Elect

Conference Keynotes and Workshops

I am a frequent keynote speaker at library and teaching conferences. In addition, I also offer workshops at conferences. Some of my popular keynotes and workshops are listed below. Feel free to inquire about workshops based on your own needs and my areas of expertise.

Testimonials

"I was so impressed with the way you managed to combine practical information, inspiration and personalized ideas at our Maine Association of School Libraries conference on Saturday. Based on previous experience I expected you to be a wonderful and entertaining speaker, but your performance at the MASL conference exceeded my expectations. I wish every school librarian in the state of Maine could have been there. You did a great job!" ~ Donna Chale, MASL Treasurer

"I recently heard Toni Buzzeo speak at our statewide conference (VEMA - Virginia Educational Media Association) and she was awesome! She was upbeat, lively, yet able to tell it like it is! She gets the message across wonderfully and you come away knowing you have met someone who passionately believes in the power of being a librarian." ~ Cynthia L. Thompson, Jane H. Bryan Elementary School, Hampton, Virginia

"As a conference planner, I appreciated that you were flexible and willing to do a variety of presentations – keynotes, workshops and breakout sessions – and on a variety of topics with authority. (We got a lot of bang for the buck!) You are a true 'professional' – ready, dependable and unflappable – a true joy to work with." ~ Doug Johnson, MEMO Past President, Minnesota

"This session truly laid out what the foundations of collaboration [are] in order to understand the work between the teacher and the LMS as a team working towards the goal of student academic achievement. It also gave me the tools to

rev up that conversation during our planning staff meetings. This session was great in solidifying my understanding of collaboration between me and the teachers at school." ~ AASL session "Data Driven Collaboration: The Key to Measurable Improvement in Student Learning and Achievement" attendee

Keynotes

- ❖ **From Urban Legend to the Boy in the Tuxedo: Uncovering Character Identity**
Children's author Toni Buzzeo shares her journey from unique idea through successful publication of the 2013 Caldecott Honor book, *One Cool Friend*, elucidating the struggles and triumphs along the way and the search for character identity for the little boy in the spiffy tuxedo and his pet penguin.
- ❖ **From Librarian to Children's Author: A Life in Children's Books**
From lonely only child to Maine Library Media Specialist of the Year and award-winning Children's Author, Toni Buzzeo's life has been all about children's books. Come along on the journey as she shares her life story and the stories behind her stories!
- ❖ **Common Core State Standards: An Unparalleled Opportunity for School Librarians to Lead the Way**
As educators across the country roll out the Common Core State Standards, school librarians have a choice. Will we stand at the sidelines as our classroom colleagues engage with the new standards and change their teaching practice or will we become leaders in the roll out, employing our knowledge and skills in inquiry to assist our colleagues in effective CCSS instruction?
- ❖ **For the Love of Books: Keeping Story Alive in an Age of High Stakes Testing**
The power of story is timeless and undeniable, even in an age of high stakes testing. Award-winning children's author, lifelong educator, and honored school librarian Toni Buzzeo cares deeply about books in the lives of children and reminds her audience that it is the love of story that keeps children engaged in reading and coming back to the printed page every day of their lives. With humor and passion, Toni will inspire listeners to hold sacred their duty as educators to keep story alive.
- ❖ **Collaborating from the Center of the School Universe**
Imagine the school as a universe. While there is a temptation to imagine that we've reached a time of collapse in that universe, as federal law drives our practice and measures our outcomes, perhaps our schools will, instead, expand and grow in positive ways, our students' learning and achievement accelerating as they do. To ensure this positive outcome, the essential response of the school librarian is effective collaborative practice. Acclaimed

author and school librarian Toni Buzzeo will inspire you to collaborate from the center of your school universe!

❖ **Libraries: Soil for Growth and Updrafts for Flight**

Libraries provide both the soil for young minds to take root and grow and the rarified air in which imagination and new learning take winged flight. In our roles as Literacy Leaders, Collaborating Teachers, and Keepers of the Information Castle, we school librarians serve our students as they take root and as they fly. As a result, says award-winning author and school librarian, Toni Buzzeo, a passion for reading, for information, for thinking and wondering deeply, await the child who enters the library doors.

Workshops

❖ **Reading--The CORE of Learning: Rising to the Challenge of the Common Core State Standards in the Elementary Library**

CCSS—talk about challenges! Talk about opportunities! Toni discusses implementing the new standards for reading literature and reading informational text in elementary libraries. How does adoption of the CCSS change school librarians' methods for sharing books with students? Change the books selected for school libraries? Change schedule-related practices? How do the standards intersect with AASL's learning standards? There's so much to learn!

❖ **Common Core: An Unparalleled Opportunity for Librarians to Shine**

Never before has the national curriculum for Reading and Writing so closely matched the instructional knowledge base and skill set of school librarians as the new Common Core State Standards curriculum. Our opportunity to shine --and to become indispensable instructional leaders in our schools--is now. However, if we fail to engage, this may also be our last real opportunity to secure our essential roles in our schools. Join school librarian and author Toni Buzzeo in a lively discussion of the Common Core through the librarian lens.

❖ **You CAN Share Picture Books and Meet the Common Core State Standards: Author/Librarian Toni Buzzeo Shows You How**

Come meet acclaimed children's author and school librarian Toni Buzzeo and learn how you can meet Common Core Reading Literature (RL) standards while sharing Toni's picture books with your elementary students. You'll leave prepared to read and engage in CCSS discussions and activities that encourage complex thinking at every turn.

❖ **Readers' Theater: The Key to Fluency and Literary Engagement**

Literacy is our mission and Reader's Theater our vehicle to fun and excitement in the classroom or library. Engage in Reader's Theater pieces

and discuss the advantages of Reader's Theater for all learners. Extend and deepen student involvement with books and literacy starting tomorrow!

❖ **Overcoming Roadblocks to Collaboration**

Although obstacles litter the path, we benefit, our colleagues benefit, and above all, our students benefit from teacher/librarian collaboration. Gain practical ideas for overcoming the roadblocks to collaborative practice.

❖ **Collaborating to Meet Standards: Beyond the Basics to Advocacy**

You know what collaboration is, the levels of instructional partnership, and the benefits to all stakeholders. But NOW WHAT? How do you garner administrative support? How do you tackle entrenched school culture? How do you advocate for the growth of collaborative practice that will improve your library program and effect student achievement? Author of four books and countless articles on collaboration, Toni Buzzeo will share her best thinking as you formulate your plan to advocate for change.

❖ **Rev Up Collaboration, Literacy, and Critical Thinking @ Your Library: Author Studies Win The Race!**

Has Federal legislation impacted your teachers' participation in collaborative projects in your upper elementary or secondary school library? Do you want to provide additional opportunities for your students to learn and practice critical thinking skills? Are you an active player in the central literacy push in your school? Through collaborative author study projects, students can engage in exploration of favorite authors, explore critical response to their work, and discover connections between authors' lives and work.

❖ **Beyond Sharing the Book: Using Picture Books as Mentor Texts to Engage Students in Effective Reading and Writing**

Join award-winning children's author and school librarian Toni Buzzeo as she reveals how using her picture books as mentor texts can extend beyond simple sharing to actively engage your students in analysis of the traits of writing she employs. You will learn to use her picture books, and those of other authors, to encourage effective student reading/writing techniques.

❖ **Generating and Refining Ideas: Strengthening Student Writing before They Begin**

Join celebrated children's author Toni Buzzeo in exploring the essential aspect of idea refinement in which a writer refines a skeletal idea, impression, or premise to create a piece that is suitable to the assignment and the audience in form, mood, or function. Look at the author's own process and learn ways to adapt this process in the classroom.

❖ **Show, Don't Tell: A Writer's Workshop**

In this workshop, teachers and librarians will learn a method for teaching the "Show, Don't Tell" technique to students. You will teach them to let action and

dialogue reveal character motivation and advance plot. Most skilled writers reveal emotion, character traits, and even setting without telling. You can teach your students to do so too after experiencing this hands-on writing workshop.