



CT-CTE Chronicle

Connecticut Council of Teachers of English

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What an exciting year for the Connecticut Council of Teachers of English! Our NCTE affiliate status was renewed, our first conference was a success, and membership in both the organization and the Executive Board are on the rise.

Mark your calendars! Preparations for our 2019 conference have already commenced. The location, Central Connecticut State University, is the same as last year. The date is March 30th. Look for more information and details as we plan the event over the next few months on our [website](#).

But, before we get too far ahead of ourselves, let's take a look back at last year's success. Many thanks to Dr. Kim Parker and Kate and Maggie Roberts for their inspiring words and to all of our presenters and attendees. Here are just a few of the positive things we received in our feedback survey:

"CCSU is great spot for the conference. The format was easy to follow and not overwhelming."

"... Saturday morning was excellent. I could spend the morning learning and still have the rest of the weekend."

"Execution of the conference was very well done." | "I wish I could have participated in more than two sessions!"



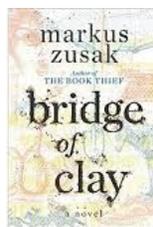
"Keynote speakers were each wonderfully inspiring!!!" | "Keynote speakers were outstanding!"

"I look forward to next year!" | "This was a very motivational day!" | "It was great!"

In sticking with the theme of looking back and looking ahead, we are sharing some of our favorite books from 2018 (so far) and the books we are most looking forward to this school year. Click the title links for more info. (Note: Descriptions come from *Random House*, *GoodReads*, *Publisher's Weekly*, and *TeenReads*).



[The Beauty that Remains](#) by Ashley Woodfolk. Told in lyrical prose and shifting points of view, this is the story of three music lovers who each lose someone and now wonder what their lives would have been if tragedy never struck.



Coming in October... [Bridge of Clay](#) by Markus Zusak. Five brothers raise each other in a world run by their own rules. The Dunbar boys love and fight and learn to survive, then discover the moving secret behind their father's disappearance.

[Love, Hate and Other Filters](#) by Samira Ahmed. 17-year-old Maya Aziz is torn between her parents' path for her and her own dreams. Meanwhile, a horrible crime miles away rips apart the community Maya has been part of since birth. A timely, coming-of-age story about how fear can breed hate.



Coming in November... [The Wren Hunt](#) by Mary Watson.

Every Christmas, Wren is chased through the woods near her isolated village by her family's enemies—the Judges—and there's nothing that she can do to stop it. Once, her people, the Augurs, controlled a powerful magic. But now that power lies with the Judges, who are set on destroying her kind for good. In a desperate bid to save her family, Wren takes a dangerous undercover assignment ...



[Children of Blood and Bone](#) by Tomi Adeyemi. Zélie Adebola remembers when the soil of Orïsha hummed with magic. But everything changed the night it disappeared. Under the orders of a ruthless king, maji were killed, leaving Zélie without a mother and her people without hope. She has one chance to bring back magic, but will she be able to control her

powers and her growing feelings for the enemy?

[Steal This Country: A Handbook for Resistance, Persistence, and Fixing Almost Everything](#) by Alexandra Styron. A walk-the-walk, talk-the-talk, say-it-loud handbook for activist kids who want to change the world! Stirring call for resistance and citizen activism for young people who don't accept "it is what it is."



Coming in December... [Deadfall](#) by Stephen Wallenfels. Twin brothers Ty and Cory are on the run when they encounter a wrecked car that seems empty ... until they hear a sound coming from the trunk. What they discover puts them in the crosshairs of something darker and more sinister than their wildest nightmares.

January of 2019... [Even If I Fall](#) by Abigail Johnson. Brooke loses everything when her older brother confesses to the murder of his best friend Calvin, and she and her family become social pariahs. When Brooke encounters Calvin's younger brother Heath on the side of the road and offers him a ride, everything changes.



[A Girl Like That](#) by Tanaz Bhathena. "Some people hide, some people fight to cover up their shame," Zarin explains. "I was always the kind of person who fought." Readers know from the outset that Zarin and Porus die in a car accident, and their post-death narratives share space with chapters written from the perspectives of others.

Publish and Flourish

Finding time to write and publish is incredibly difficult; congratulations to these Connecticut educators!

Meredith Sinclair, Assistant Professor of English at Southern Connecticut State University, published “Decolonizing ELA: Confronting Privilege and Oppression in Textual Spaces” in the *English Journal*.

Meghan Mizak of Woodstock Academy appeared in *The Leaflet*: “Inquiry-based Learning in the ELA Classroom.”

Rob Ford and Megan Lee of North Branford High School appeared in the *English Journal* for “Fostering a New Approach to Vocabulary, 30 Years in the Making.”

Associate Professor of Education at Eastern Connecticut State University, **Susannah Richards**, published “Something Old & Something New: Integrating Young Adult Literature in the English Classroom” in *The Leaflet*, as well.

Had an article published recently?

Send an email to ctctela@gmail.com to let us know.

Upcoming Events

September

29th: [#TheEdCollabGathering](#)

29th: [NJ CTE Conference](#); Tabernacle, NJ

October

15th: EdAdvance Language Arts Council Meeting

16th: EASTCONN Language Arts Council Meeting

17th-19th: [NY CTE Conference](#); Albany, NY

19th-20th: [NEATE Conference](#); Mansfield, MA

20th: [National Day on Writing](#)

21st-22nd: [CASL Conference](#); Ledyard, CT

November

7th-8th: [CRA Conference](#); Cromwell, CT

15th-18th: [NCTE](#); Houston, TX

19th-20th: [CEL](#); Houston, TX

December

10th: ACES Language Arts Council

