

# September 2022 ECHO

South Dakota Council of Teachers of English

## Hello SDCTE Friends!

I hope this letter finds you having a great beginning of the year!

Here are just a few tidbits to share with you today!

- 1. We had a successful conference in June in Chamberlain!** We hosted 47 ELA teachers from across our great state. We met some new friends and shared great memories with old friends. Some highlights this year included: visiting with Dave Stuart, Jr., honoring Author of the Year Helen Frost, enjoying a showing of *Come From Away*, visiting the 9/11 museum through a virtual event, sharing so many teaching ideas on Shakespeare, Pop-Up Debates, helping students find their voice in poetry, competency and equity in grading, sessions from the Family Center for Engagement and the Title III Consortium, and so much more! Use this link to access the conference site and materials from the sessions:  
<https://sites.google.com/k12.sd.us/2022-sdcte-conference/conference-schedule>.
- 2. Summer YOUNiversity 2022 highlighted literature centered around the events of September 11, 2002.** 19 teachers joined SDCTE this summer to read, discuss, and create lessons on this difficult topic. One of the most rewarding aspects of this book study was hearing the perspectives of educators from different generations share about the events of this day. Some of us were already seasoned veteran teachers; some were just starting their teaching careers, and some were in high school or even younger. We spent time online with Caroline Brooks DuBois, the author of *The Places We Sleep*, and journalist Bill Nemitz. Next year's theme will focus on Native American Literature and will feature tribes of the Great Plains.
- 3. Join us on September 24, 2022, in Brookings for an Author of the Year luncheon.** In conjunction with the South Dakota Festival of Books, SDCTE will host a luncheon for the four past authors of the years presenting this year. See the flier below for details and registration information!
- 4. We gained 8 new members with our "Sponsor a New Member" Event in August!**  
**Congratulations to Ashlyn Christianson and her sponsor Nicole Finnesand!** Ashlyn won the free conference 2023 registration, and Nicole will receive a discount on her conference fee!
- 5. SDCTE is growing!** Our membership has reached just over 80 people! Is there anyone you know who would benefit from the professional development opportunities or networking our

group offers? Ask them to join us today! Is your membership expiring soon? Email [sdcte.echo@gmail.com](mailto:sdcte.echo@gmail.com) to check! Yearly membership is \$30. Use this link to join our group! <https://sdcteecho.eventsmart.com/events/sdcte-annual-membership/>

6. **Our Spring Professional Development Book Study title will be *4 Essential Studies: Beliefs and Practices to Reclaim Student Agency* by Penny Kittle and Kelly Gallagher.** This will start in February 2023. More information will come out soon!
7. **We will start exclusively using our [sdcte.echo@gmail.com](mailto:sdcte.echo@gmail.com) account to email our members.** If you have your K12 email as our contact email for you, you will need to be sure to accept the Gmail account as safe; otherwise, our emails will go to your Junk mail or Other folder. I will send out one last email from my K12 account letting everyone know when this change officially happens so you can find the [sdcte.echo@gmail.com](mailto:sdcte.echo@gmail.com) email.
8. **If you have any questions, comments, concerns, ideas for events, or suggestions** on how SDCTE could help you or your teaching community, please email us at [sdcte.echo@gmail.com](mailto:sdcte.echo@gmail.com). We are always looking for new ideas and ways to help the ELA teaching community in South Dakota and the surrounding areas!

Enjoy the rest of your week!

Listening for the ECHO,  
Corrine Kallemeyn  
SDCTE President

## Highlights from Conference 2022



### Author of the Year: Helen Frost

<https://www.helenfrost.net/>

Helen Frost was born in Brookings, South Dakota, the fifth of ten children. When she was 11, her family moved to Wilbraham, Massachusetts, where she spent her teenage years. Frost Arena on the SDSU campus is named after her dad!

She has always loved poetry, and she especially loves sharing poetry with children through writing and teaching. She taught elementary school



### Keynote Speaker: Dave Stuart, Jr.

<https://davestuartjr.com/>

We first met Dave in the summer of 2022. He graciously agreed to spend an online session at our virtual conference that summer. The following spring SDCTE hosted our first professional development book study using Dave's book *These 6 Things*. He helped us wrap up the book study with another online session. He promised to come to visit South Dakota as soon

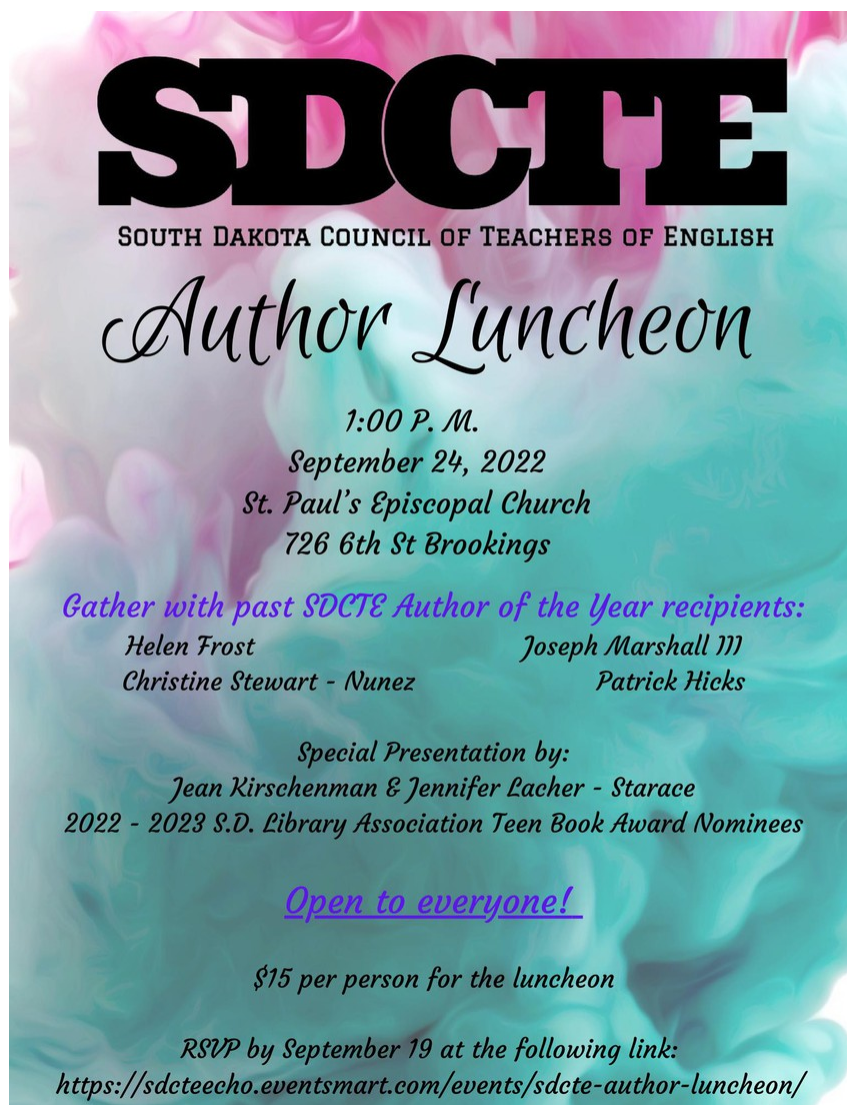


### Teacher of the Year: Sharon Prendergast

Sharon has dedicated nearly 40 years to teaching English, theatre, and speech/speech activities to students in South Dakota. She currently teaches in the Sisseton School District. Former student and friend Kama Konda-Varilek and current teaching colleague and friend Janelle Bakke nominated Sharon for Teacher of the Year. "The SDCTE community "has been changed for good" because of her."

in Massachusetts, Vermont, Scotland, and Alaska, and now lives and writes in Fort Wayne, Indiana. She is the author of eleven novels-in-poems and six picture books. She loves to travel, and has been to 48 states and 13 countries.

as he could. He joined us this year in person to talk about his book. His blog is a must for all ELA teachers!



**SDCTE**  
SOUTH DAKOTA COUNCIL OF TEACHERS OF ENGLISH

*Author Luncheon*

*1:00 P. M.*  
*September 24, 2022*  
*St. Paul's Episcopal Church*  
*726 6th St Brookings*

*Gather with past SDCTE Author of the Year recipients:*

<i>Helen Frost</i>	<i>Joseph Marshall III</i>
<i>Christine Stewart - Nunez</i>	<i>Patrick Hicks</i>

*Special Presentation by:*  
*Jean Kirschenman & Jennifer Lacher - Starace*  
*2022 - 2023 S.D. Library Association Teen Book Award Nominees*

*Open to everyone!*

*\$15 per person for the luncheon*

*RSVP by September 19 at the following link:*  
<https://sdcteecho.eventsmart.com/events/sdcte-author-luncheon/>

#### Event Information

### Author Luncheon and the South Dakota Festival of Books

Join the South Dakota Council of Teachers of English as we gather with our Current AotY - Helen Frost and Past AotYs - Christine Stewart Nunez (2018), Joseph Marshall III (2006), and Patrick Hicks (2016). Each of these authors will be presenting at the South Dakota Festival of Books on Sept. 22 - 24, 2022.

The fee for this event is \$15 and will be used to cover the cost of the meal.

You can register here:

<https://sdcteecho.eventsmart.com/.../sdcte-author->

[luncheon/](#)

When?

Saturday, Sep 24, 2022, 01:00 PM

Where?

726 6th Street, Brookings, SD, USA

 [Open maps](#)

## Summer YOUiversity Winners for *The Places We Sleep* by Caroline Brooks Dubois

**Congratulations to the five winners below!**

*We will have these for you at the Sept. 24 event in Brookings or contact Susan Farrell-Poncelet to make arrangements for pick up or mailing.*

As part of our annual professional development Summer YOUiversity, SDCTE purchased 25 copies of Caroline Brooks Dubois' *The Places We Sleep*. Each winner will receive 5 copies to use in Literature Circle studies in their classrooms! We were honored to meet with Caroline online and discuss her book this summer!

From Amazon.com:

**A family divided, a country going to war, and a girl desperate to feel at home converge in this stunning novel in verse.**

### Selected for Kids Indies Introduce List AND Kids Indie Next List

It's early September 2001, and twelve-year-old Abbey is the new kid at school. Again.

*I worry about people speaking to me / and worry just the same / when they don't.*

Tennessee is her family's latest stop in a series of moves due to her dad's work in the Army, but this one might be different. Her school is far from Base, and for the first time, Abbey has found a real friend: loyal, courageous, athletic Camille.

And then it's September 11. The country is under attack, and Abbey's "home" looks like it might fall apart. America has changed overnight.

*How are we supposed / to keep this up / with the world / crumbling / around us?*

Abbey's body changes, too, while her classmates argue and her family falters. Like everyone around her, she tries to make sense of her own experience as a part of the country's collective pain. With her mother grieving and her father prepping for active duty, Abbey must learn to cope on her own.

Written in gorgeous narrative verse, Abbey's coming-of-age story accessibly portrays the military family experience during a tumultuous period in our history. At once personal and universal, it's a

perfect read for fans of sensitive, tender-hearted books like *The Thing About Jellyfish*.

An NCTE Notable Book in Poetry

A Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year

WINNER(S):

Victoria L Gleason

Nicole Finnesand

Janelle Bakke

Kelsey Beckman

Melissa A Olson

Total names: 16

Date: 2022-09-06 20:28

commentpicker.com



#SDCTE2023

# Multimodal Literacy

So Much More Than  
Words on a Page

**JUNE 14–15, 2023**

ARROWWOOD RESORT AND  
CONFERENCE CENTER  
OACOMA, SD



Event Information

## **Multimodal Literacy: So Much More Than Words on a Page**

Add these dates to your calendar and tell your friends!

Call for Presenters will be opening soon!

We would LOVE to see you there!

When?

**Wednesday, Jun 14, 2023, 09:00 AM**

Where?

**Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center at Cedar Shore,  
Shoreline Drive, Oacoma, SD, USA**

 [Open maps](#)