

WELCOME from MSLA President, Gerri Fegan

It is my great honor to welcome you all to the 2009 Massachusetts School Library Association's Annual Conference! The Conference Committee listened to all your comments after last year's conference and has made many changes to enhance your experience of networking with colleagues. Our speakers this year will be providing a wide variety of knowledge and expertise in many aspects of librarianship and literature because NOW, MORE THAN EVER, these skills will be important to whole child education and cannot be lost in the shuffle. I applaud all of you for your stamina, fortitude, and plain old determination as this school year unfolds. As you learn from your colleagues during this conference, I hope that NOW, MORE THAN EVER, you become the most valued member of your school community and are rewarded for your excellence. **United, we are strong!**



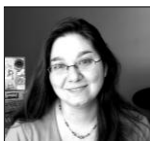
**Use the L4L Shift Key to Make the Shift;
Paradigm, that is!**
Sunday, 10 AM-12:00 Noon and 1:00-3:00 PM
Valerie Diggs and Sue Ballard



We are all familiar with the shift key on a computer keyboard. What does it do? The shift key can be used in combination with other keys to produce various modifications. It also gives other keys alternate meanings - in the case of L4L, hitting shift for number 4, converts it to L\$! Susan Ballard, Chair of AASL's Standards and Guidelines Implementation Task Force, and Valerie Diggs, MSLA Coordinator for L4L, will provide participants with information and strategies to implement AASL's *Standards for the 21st Century Learner and Empowering Learners: Guidelines for School Library Media Programs*. Focus will be on examining existing programs in order to identify key areas to modify and will also address the need to identify and overcome perceived barriers - including economic challenges.



Board Gaming and 21st Century Literacies
Sunday, 10 AM-12:00 Noon & 1:00-3:00 PM
Beth Gallaway



Learn how to launch tabletop gaming at your library, no matter what your size, space, staff or budget! Board games are a resource with curriculum tie-ins that library teachers can collect, circulate, and use in programming. The session includes justification for adding board games to your collection, advocacy tips for promoting games, an overview of home board games connected to educational standards, and a presentation of best practices in literacy based tabletop gaming in US libraries. Time to try hands-on board gaming will be provided; several games will be raffled off to participants.

Books Between Cultures
Sunday, 10 AM-12:00 Noon
Mitali Perkins



A growing number of kids in our schools straddle two cultures. Author Mitali Perkins will start with a personal, humorous case study of growing up between cultures, discuss the "pop culture push," and show how stories help kids stay balanced. Participants will leave with guidelines for evaluating and selecting fiction that empowers rather than alienates young people who might already feel marginalized. She was born in Kolkata, India and immigrated at age seven to the States with her family. She studied political science at Stanford University and public policy at U.C. Berkeley, surviving academia thanks to a steady diet of children's and YA books from libraries. Mitali's award-winning books for young readers include *Monsoon Summer*, *The Sunita Experiment*, *Rickshaw Girl*, *Secret Keeper*, and the *First Daughter* books. She posts at Mitali's Fire Escape, mitaliblog.com, where she invites discussion about books and life between cultures. Mitali speaks frequently at schools, conferences, and libraries.

**Beneath the Moon and Among the Stars:
A Novelist takes a Detour from His Wicked Orbit**
Sunday, 1:00-3:00 PM
Greg Maguire



Gregory Maguire, best known for *The Wicked Years*, his adult novel sequence which has collectively sold five million copies and inspired the Broadway musical, "WICKED", considers what it means to work creatively and even collaboratively in and with the shadow-light of masters such as L. Frank Baum, Hans Christian Andersen and Maurice Sendak. Gregory Maguire, a founding co director of Childrens Literature New England 1987 to the present, is a novelist for adults and children, critic and reviewer for the Sunday New York Times Book Review, and a popular lecturer internationally. His life and work has been featured in recent years in *Sunday New York Times Magazine* profile, on "Oprah", and on National Public Radios, "All Things Considered," to which he contributed and performed an original story that aired on December 25, 2008.

**MSLA Annual Meeting &
Awards Banquet**
Sunday, 5:00 PM
Mitchell Chester, Honoree Janet Allison, Honoree

Mitchell Chester is the Massachusetts Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is charged with the responsibility of ensuring improved teaching and learning in all of the Commonwealth's public schools. A Connecticut native, Chester began his career as an elementary school classroom teacher and has worked at the state level in Connecticut and Ohio.



Janet Allison is the Interim Director of the Commission on Public Secondary Schools (CPSS) for the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) where she has served for more than twenty years. Previous to her work with the Commission, Janet was a Social Studies teacher and an assistant principal in New Hampshire and Georgia public high schools. She earned her Masters of Education in Administration from Northeastern University, her BA from the University of New Hampshire.



Sunday Evening 7:30 - 9:00 PM: Job Alikes

Discussion Groups:

Elementary, Middle, and High School

Have an after-dinner discussion with your colleagues on issues that are unique to your level. Share your best practices, ask questions and come away with some great ideas.