


2023 AFRICAN AMERICAN READ-IN REPORT CARD



AFRICAN AMERICAN READ-IN

HOSTING ORGANIZATION
#AARI23

NCTE



For more than 30 years, the National African American Read-In (AARI) has been a groundbreaking effort that encourages communities to read together, centering African American books and authors.

Established in 1990 by the Black Caucus of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), AARI was intended to make literacy a significant part of Black History Month. Since then, the initiative has reached more than 6 million participants worldwide.

2023 RESULTS

From book discussions to author interviews, this year's AARI saw great diversity in activity.

JOIN US FOR A STUDENT-CENTERED EVENT!



Nana Ekua Brew-Hammond
Author



Ayanna F. Brown
Moderator

Blue: A History of the Color as Deep as the Sea and as Wide as the Sky

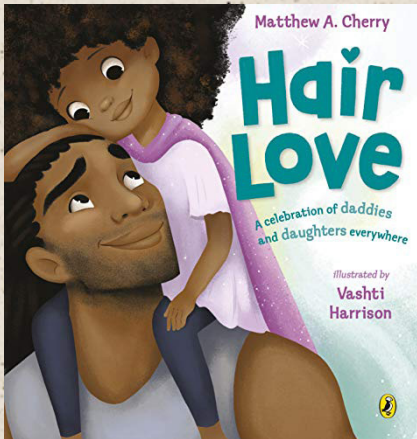
Tuesday, February 28, 1:30 p.m.-2:15 p.m. ET



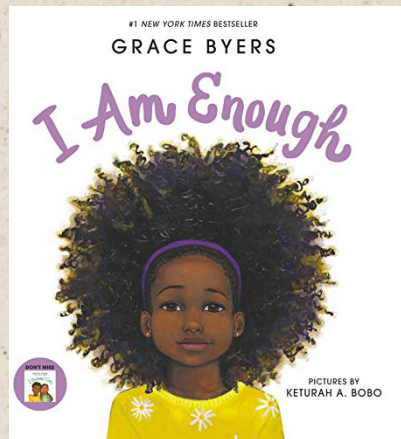
- 295,521 total participants attended an AARI event—the highest number of participants in the past 10 years!
- 537 total AARI events were held, including 25 virtual events
- 37 states represented holding events
- 1,185 different book titles
- 95 community events
21 of which came from libraries
- 44 higher education events
- 522 K–12 classroom events
- 62 from high school
- 93 from middle grades
- 411 from elementary grades

BOOK LIST

Of the books read this year, these were the top 5 beloved titles:



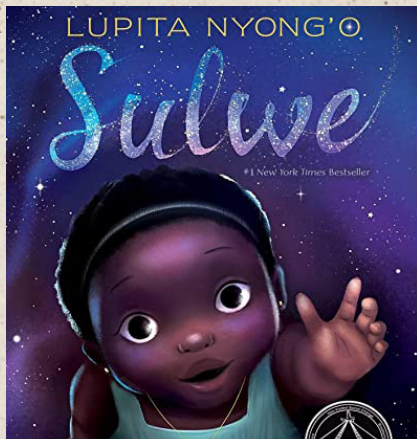
Hair Love, written by Matthew A. Cherry and illustrated by Vashti Harrison, mentioned 35 times



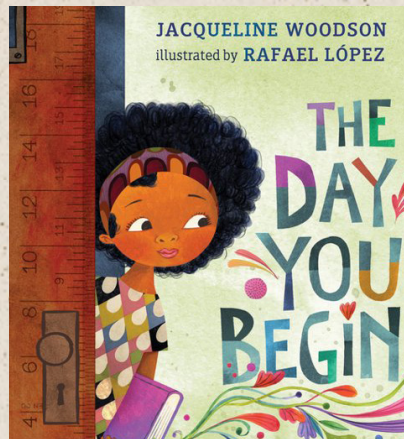
I Am Enough, written by Grace Byers and illustrated by Keturah A. Bobo, mentioned 32 times



Change Sings: A Children's Anthem, written by Amanda Gorman and illustrated by Loren Long, mentioned 31 times



Sulwe, written by Lupita Nyong'o and illustrated by Vashti Harrison, mentioned 25 times



The Day You Begin, written by Jacqueline Woodson and illustrated by Rafael López, mentioned 22 times

OTHER POPULAR TITLES INCLUDED:

- *Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race*, written by Margot Lee Shetterly
- *Stacey's Extraordinary Words*, written by Stacey Abrams and illustrated by Kitt Thomas
- *I Promise*, written by LeBron James and illustrated by Niña Mata
- *I Am Every Good Thing*, written by Derrick Barnes and illustrated by Gordon C. James
- *The Year We Learned to Fly*, written by Jacqueline Woodson and illustrated by Rafael López

You can purchase these books and many more through the NCTE Bookshop page:
<https://bookshop.org/lists/african-american-read-in-2023>

CALABOOSE AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MUSEUM EVENT—SAN MARCOS, TX

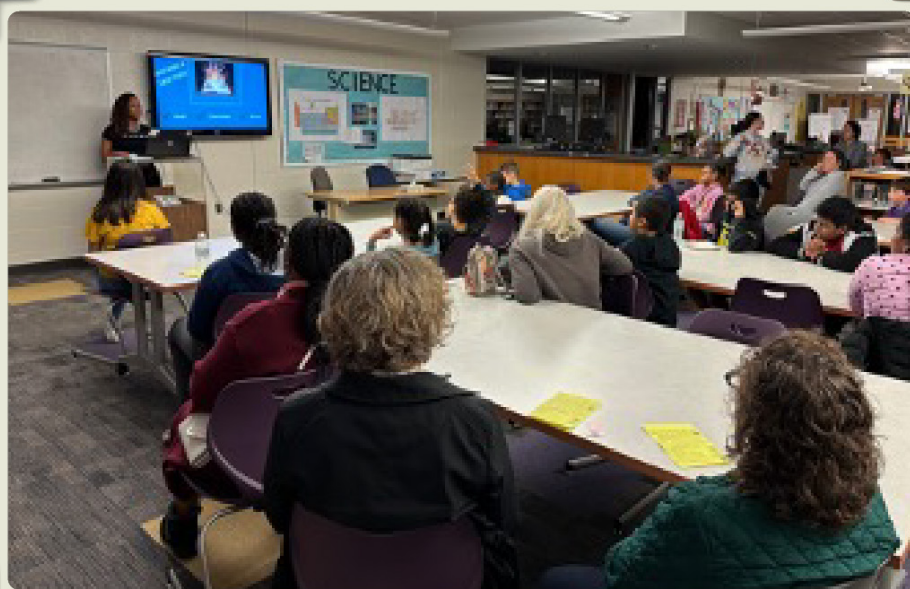
Elementary teacher and NCTE member **Diana Garcia** hosted one of her two AARI events at the Calaboose African American History Museum, where a San Marcos Baha'i Children's Class joined as part of their values class on Saturday mornings.

“When they showed up ready to read, my heart filled with joy,” shared Garcia. “We will definitely host another event next year and hope to bring in even more.”

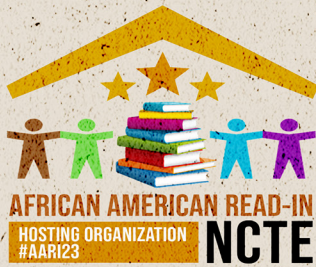


UPPER MORELAND MIDDLE SCHOOL AARI EVENT —HATBORO, PA

Upper Moreland School District hosted its first National African American Read-In, led by grade 6 ELA teacher and NCTE member Sarah Levy. The event featured two local authors, Karema Farmer and Lance Steven. Attendees participated in a variety of activities, entered book raffles, ate delicious refreshments, Zoomed with author Chris Singleton, and enjoyed the musical talents of some middle school band members.



While AARI is focused on the month of February, NCTE is committed to the awareness and support of African American authors and books throughout the entire year—not just one month. As you seek to expand AARI opportunities beyond February, please leverage the aforementioned book list and all resources NCTE has to offer on our website: <https://ncte.org/get-involved/african-american-read-in-toolkit/>



READ-IN PARTICIPANTS 295,521

CITY	EVENT LOCATION
ALABAMA	
Auburn	Auburn, AL, Residence
Birmingham	National Hook-up of Black Women, Inc. - Birmingham Chapter
Jacksonville	Jacksonville State University
Montgomery	Continental Societies, Inc. Montgomery, AL Chapter
Tuscaloosa	Murphy Collins House
ARIZONA	
Mesa	Mountain View High School
ARKANSAS	
Conway	University of Central Arkansas
Little Rock	Christ Temple Cathedral COCHUSA
Little Rock	Continental Societies, Inc. Little Rock, AK Chapter
Little Rock	Dunbar Magnet Middle School -
	P.R.I.D.E. Overtime Afterschool 21st CCLC
Little Rock	Little Rock Southwest Magnet High School Media Center
North Little Rock	North Little Rock High School
CALIFORNIA	
Davis	Patwin Elementary School
Hayward	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School, Hayward Unified School District
Oakland	Claremont Middle School
San Jose	San Jose Public Library, Willow Glen Branch
Stockton	Humphreys University, Department of Liberal Arts
Tracy	Central Elementary
COLORADO	
Lakewood	Bear Creek High School
CONNECTICUT	
New London	The Center: A Drop-In Community Learning and Resource Center, Inc.
North Franklin	Franklin Elementary School

CITY	EVENT LOCATION
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	
Washington	Continental Societies, Inc. Metropolitan Capital City, DC Chapter
Washington	DC International Public Charter School
DELAWARE	
Wilmington	Continental Societies, Inc. Delaware Area, DE Chapter
FLORIDA	
Bradenton	Palmetto, South Manatee and Braden River Libraries
Chattahoochee	Chattahoochee Elementary School
Chattahoochee	Chattahoochee, FL, Residence
Daytona Beach and DeLand	Volusia County Schools and The Boys and Girls Club of Volusia/Flagler
Fernandina Beach	Nassau County Public Library
Gadsden	National Hook-Up of Black Women, Inc. - Gadsden Chapter
Greensboro	Greensboro Elementary School
Havana	Annette Village Learning Center
Havana	Havana Magnet School
Melbourne	Suntree Elementary School
Miami	Continental Societies, Inc. Greater Miami, FL, Chapter
Miramar	Continental Societies, Inc. North Dade-Broward County, FL Chapter
Quincy	Crossroads Academy Charter School
Quincy	Gadsden Elementary Magnet School
Quincy	George W. Munroe Elementary School
Quincy	National Hook-Up of Black Women, Inc. - Gadsden Chapter
Quincy	Quashier Strouble Residence
Quincy	Quincy Public Library
Quincy	Quincy, FL, Residence
Quincy	Stewart Street Elementary School
Rockledge	Ronald McNair Magnet Middle School
Saint Petersburg	Shorecrest Preparatory School
Tallahassee	LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library
Tampa	Progress Village Middle Magnet School
GEORGIA	
Athens	Greater Bethel A.M.E. Church
Atlanta	Continental Societies, Inc. Atlanta, GA Chapter
Atlanta	Georgia State University, Urban Literacy Collaborative & Clinic
Atlanta	National Hook-Up of Black Women, Finch Elementary School
Avondale Estates	National Hook-Up Black Women, Peachtree Academy Daycare Center
College Park	Continental Societies, Inc. College Park East Point, GA Chapter
Columbus	Continental Societies, Inc. Columbus, GA Chapter
Decatur	National Hook-Up Black Women, Wadsworth Magnet School for High Achievers
Decatur	Peachcrest Elementary Media Center and Teacher's Classrooms
Douglasville	New Manchester High School

CITY	EVENT LOCATION
LaGrange	Continental Societies, Inc. LaGrange, GA Chapter
Lithonia	National Hook-Up Black Women, Browns Mill Elementary School
Lithonia	National Hook-Up Black Women, Rock Chapel Elementary School
Newnan	Continental Societies, Inc. Newnan, GA Chapter
ILLINOIS	
Richton Park	Neil Armstrong Elementary School
Champaign	National Council of Teachers of English
Chicago	Continental Societies, Inc. Chicago, IL Chapter
Glen Ellyn	Glenbard West High School
Joliet	NHBW Headquarters, Central High School, School Districts 70C, 86 and 204, Brown Chapel AME Church
Life Center Church Of God In Christ and Prodigy Child Learning Center	
Naperville	NHBW Inc, Chicago Chapter
University Park	North Central College, Black Student Association Governors State University
INDIANA	
Bloomington	Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center, I. ndiana University Bloomington
Evansville	Ivy Tech Community College, Evansville Campus
Gary	National Hook-Up of Black Women, Inc. Northwest Indiana
Indianapolis	College Park Elementary School
Indianapolis	Spring Mill Elementary School
Indianapolis	Ujamaa Community Bookstore
Muncie	Northside Middle School
IOWA	
Pleasant Hill	Southeast Polk Junior High
KANSAS	
Wichita	Continental Societies, Inc. Wichita Area, KS Chapter
Wichita	The Kansas African American Museum
KENTUCKY	
Bowling Green	Southcentral Kentucky Community and Technical College
Elizabethtown	Elizabethtown Community and Technical College Library
MARYLAND	
Accokeek	Accokeek Academy
Adelphi	Adelphi Elementary School
Adelphi	Cool Spring Elementary School
Anne Arundel	Continental Societies, Inc. Anne Arundel County, MD Chapter
Baltimore City	Continental Societies, Inc. Baltimore County, MD Chapter
Beltsville	Beltsville Academy

CITY**EVENT LOCATION**

Bladensburg	Bladensburg Elementary School
Bowie	Bowie High School, Prince George's County Public Schools
Bowie	Heather Hills Elementary School
Bowie	High Bridge Elementary School
Bowie	Northview Elementary School
Bowie	Pointer Ridge Elementary School
Bowie	Rockledge Elementary School
Bowie	Star of Bethlehem COGIC, National Hook-up of Black Women
Bowie	Tulip Grove Elementary School
Bowie	Yorktown Elementary School
Brandywine	Brandywine Elementary School
Brandywine	Waldon Woods Elementary School
Camp Springs	Princeton Elementary School
Capital Heights	Doswell E. Brokks Elementary School
Capitol Heights	Bradbury Heights Elementary School
Capitol Heights	Robert R. Gray Elementary School
Chestertown	Kent County Public Library, Washington College
Cheverly	Gladys Noon Spellman Elementary School
Clinton	Clinton Grove Elementary School
Clinton	Francis T. Evans Elementary School
Clinton	James Ryder Randall Elementary School
College Park	Hollywood Elementary School
College Park	Mary Harris "Mother" Jones Elementary School
Columbia	Continental Societies, Inc. Columbia, MD Chapter
District Heights	Francis Scott Key Elementary School
Forestville	Longfields Elementary School
Fort Washington	Avalon Elementary School
Fort Washington	Fort Foote Elementary School
Fort Washington	Fort Washington Forest Elementary School
Fort Washington	Indian Queen Elementary School
Glenn Dale	Glenn Dale Elementary School
Greenbelt	Springhill Lake Elementary School
Howard	Continental Societies, Inc.
	Southeastern Howard Laurel, MD Chapter
Hyattsville	Cherokee Lane Elementary School
Hyattsville	Langley Park McCormick Elementary School
Landover	Highland Park Elementary School
Landover	William Paca Elementary School
Landover Hills	Cooper Lane Elementary School
Lanham	Academy of St. Matthias the Apostle School
Lanham	Catherine T. Reed Elementary School
Lanham	James McHenry Elementary School School
Lanham	Magnolia Elementary School
Laurel	Greenbelt Elementary School
Laurel	Laurel Elementary School
Laurel	Montpelier Elementary School
Mitchellville	Woodmore Elementary School
Mitchelville	Kingsford Elementary School
Montgomery	Continental Societies, Inc. Montgomery County, MD Chapter

CITY	EVENT LOCATION
Morningside	Benjamin D. Foulois Creative and Performing Arts Academy
Mt. Rainier	Mt. Rainier Elementary School
New Carrollton	Carrollton Elementary School
New Carrollton	Lamont Elementary School
Oxon Hill	Barnaby Manor Elementary School
Oxon Hill	Oxon Hill Elementary School
Oxon Hill	Valley View Elementary School
Prince Georges County	Continental Societies, Inc. Prince Georges County, MD Chapter
Riverdale	Riverdale Elementary School
Riverdale	Templeton Elementary School
Seabrook	Robert Goddard Montessori
Silver Spring	Montgomery Blair High School Media Center
Suitland	William Beanes Elementary School
Takoma Park	Carole Highlands Elementary School
Upper Marlboro	Mattaponi Elementary School
Upper Marlboro	Perrywood Elementary School
Upper Marlboro	Phyllis E. Williams Spanish Immersion
Upper Marlboro	Kettering Elementary School
Upper Marlboro	Rosaryville Elementary School
MASSACHUSETTS	
Boston	Community Academy
Weston	The Cambridge School of Weston
MICHIGAN	
East Lansing	MacDonald Middle School
Novi	Novi High School
Petoskey	North Central Michigan College
Port Huron	St. Clair County Community College Fine Arts Theatre
MISSISSIPPI	
Laurel	Continental Societies, Inc. Birmingham, AL Chapter
Meridian	Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church
MISSOURI	
Kansas City	Miller Nichols Library, University of Missouri-Kansas City
Lebanon	Trinity Episcopal Church
Saint Louis	Continental Societies, Inc. Saint Louis, MO Chapter
St. Ann	Buder Elementary
St. Louis	Maryville Library
St. Louis	St. Louis Public Library
St. Louis	Woodland Elementary School, Jennings School District
Warrensburg	University of Central Missouri
MONTANA	
Missoula	ATG-Cognizant

CITY	EVENT LOCATION
NEW HAMPSHIRE	
Bow	Bow High School
NEW JERSEY	
Asbury Park	Acelero Learning
Asbury Park	Asbury Park Public Library
Asbury Park	Asbury Park Senior Center
Asbury Park	Boston Way Social Room
Asbury Park	Jersey Shore Adult Day Care Center
Asbury Park	Oceans Family Success Center
Chesilhurst	Grant African Methodist Episcopal Church
Long Branch	CheConnects LLC
Long Branch	Gregory Elementary
Neptune	Asbury Park Library
Neptune	Continental Societies, Inc. North Jersey Shore, NJ Chapter
Neptune City	Encounter Christ Global Fellowship
Pleasantville	Faith Baptist Church Library
Red Bank	T. Thomas Fortune Cultural Center
Short Hills	Pingry School Lower School Library
Teaneck	Bryant Elementary School
Teaneck	Hawthorne Elementary School
Teaneck	Lacey Elementary School
Teaneck	Lowell Elementary School
Teaneck	Thomas Jefferson Middle School
Teaneck	Whittier Elementary School
West Orange	West Orange High School
Willingboro	Presbyterian Church of Willingboro
NEW YORK	
Amherst	The Park School of Buffalo
New Lebanon	Heyniger Memorial Library, Darrow School
New Rochelle	Isaac E. Young Middle School Humanities Department
New Rochelle	New Rochelle High School
Oneonta	SUNY Oneonta
Pelham	Pelham Public Schools
Plattsburgh	SUNY Plattsburgh
Rochester	BCC Software
ochester	Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church
NORTH CAROLINA	
Bladenboro	First Missionary Baptist Church
Charlotte	Johnson C. Smith University
Durham	Continental Societies, Inc. Durham, NC Chapter
Durham	Northern High School Media Center
Elizabeth City	College of the Albemarle
Fayetteville	Fayetteville State University
Fayetteville	Fayetteville State University English Department
Goldsboro	Continental Societies, Inc. Goldsboro, NC Chapter
Greensboro	North Carolina A&T State University,

CITY	EVENT LOCATION
Mount Airy	Child Development Laboratory
New Bern	Mount Airy Museum of Regional History
Raleigh	Continental Societies, Inc. New Bern, NC Chapter
Raleigh	Garner Road Community Center
Raleigh	Saint Mary's School
Salisbury	Underwood G. T. Elementary School
Smithfield	Livingstone College
Winston-Salem	Johnston Community College Daycare Center
Winton	Reynolds House Museum of American Art
	Hertford County Public Library
OHIO	
Akron	Litchfield CLC
Akron	Litchfield Middle School
Cleveland Heights	Heights Libraries, Noble Neighborhood Branch
Columbus	Columbus City School
Columbus	Columbus Online Academy
Columbus	Columbus State Community College
Columbus	Marion-Franklin High School
Columbus	SproutFive
Cuyahoga Falls	Unified Solutions Behavior Support
Delaware	RB Hayes High School
Gahanna	Kent State University
Kent	Kent State Library
Kent	Kids Kare Kent Campus
Litchfield	Litchfield Middle School
Munroe Falls	Small Steps Big Strides
Stow	Stow, OH, Residence
OKLAHOMA	
Oklahoma	Continental Societies, Inc. Oklahoma City, OK Chapter
Wilburton	Eastern Oklahoma State College
OREGON	
Corvallis	Oregon State University, School of Writing, Literature, and Film
Portland	The Cottonwood School of Civics and Science
Tualatin	Arbor School of Arts and Sciences
PENNSYLVANIA	
Abington	Abington Middle School
Abington	Highland Elementary School, Abington School District
Abington	Overlook Elementary School
Doylestown	Delaware Valley University
East Stroudsburg	East Stroudsburg University
East Stroudsburg	Resica Elementary School
Farrell	Farrell High School Library
Farrell	Stey Nevant Farrell Library
Glenside	Copper Beech Elementary School
Harleysville	General Nash Elementary
Kennett Square	Kennett High School Library

CITY	EVENT LOCATION
North Wales	Montgomery Elementary
North Wales	North Wales Elementary School
Philadelphia	Continental Societies, Inc. Philadelphia, PA Chapter
Philadelphia	Unitarian Society of Germantown
Pittsburgh	Duquesne University
Wayne	Wayne Elementary School
RHODE ISLAND	
Providence	Johnson & Wales University
SOUTH CAROLINA	
Charleston	Meeting Street Academy - Charleston
Greenville	Christ Church Episcopal School
Ruffin	Bells Elementary School
Seneca	Seneca City Museums
Sumter	Fayetteville State University English Department
TENNESSEE	
Greeneville	Tusculum University
Knoxville	Cedar Bluff Elementary
Knoxville	Hardin Valley Academy
Memphis	Germantown Middle School
Nashville	Belmont University, English Club
Nashville	Bordeaux Library
Nashville	Jere Baxter Middle School
Nashville	Mount Zion Baptist Church
Nashville	Nashville, TN, Residence
Whites Creek	Mt. Zion Baptist Church
TEXAS	
Cedar Hill	Kidz-Zone/NHBW, Inc. Mid Cities Chapter
Corinth	Corinth, TX, Homeschool
Dallas	Continental Societies, Inc. Dallas, TX Chapter
Grand Prairie	International Leadership of Texas
Grand Prairie	International Leadership of Texas/NHBW, MID CITIES
Grand Prairie	National Hook-Up Black Women, Inc., Mid Cities Chapter
Houston	Continental Societies, Inc. Houston Metropolitan Chapter
Humble	Oak Forest Elementary
Lubbock	Wayland Baptist University Lubbock
Plano	NHBW North Central TX Chapter
San Marcos	De Zavala Elementary
San Marcos	The Calaboose African American History Museum,
	The Dr. Skyller Walkes Library of African American Studies
	at Cephas House, The Cephas House
Spring	Enrichment and Brotherhood Organization of Northwest Youth (E.B.O.N.Y.) & Harris County Barbara Bush Library
UTAH	
Salt Lake City	Salt Lake Community College

CITY**EVENT LOCATION****VIRGINIA**

Alexandria

Ashburn

Ashland

Bridgewater

Charlottesville

Chesapeake

Dumfries

Newport News

Norfolk

Portsmouth

Portsmouth

Richmond

Richmond

Richmond

Roanoke

Continental Societies, Inc. Northern Virginia, VA Chapter

Broad Run High School

Virginia Association of Teachers of English

Bridgewater College

Charlottesville High School Media Center

Thurgood Marshall Elementary School

Continental Societies, Inc. Aquia, VA, Chapter

Continental Societies, Inc. Newport News-

Hampton, VA, Chapter

Slover Library

I.C. Norcom High School

Manor High School

Continental Societies, Inc. Richmond, VA Chapter

St. Michael's Episcopal School

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

Continental Societies, Inc. Roanoke, VA Chapter

WASHINGTON

Kirkland

Tacoma

Vancouver

Northwest University

Pierce County Library System

Washington State University Vancouver

WISCONSIN

River Falls

University of Wisconsin-River Falls, Teacher Education