

AACAE & ALA CONFERENCE**Thursday, October 26, 2023**

<i>Location</i>	<i>General Session 9 am – 10:30 am</i>	<i>Breakout 1 10:45 am – 11:45 am</i>	<i>Lunch & Awards 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm</i>	<i>Breakout 2 1:45 pm – 2:45 pm</i>	<i>Breakout 3 3:00pm – 4:00pm</i>
Robinson Center Ballroom A-C	<i>General Session</i>		<i>Lunch & Awards</i>		
Salon A		Debbie Feagin: Discover Your Next “Creativity with Canva”		Kathryn Rasure: Aztec GED Flash to Increase Student Testing Confidence	Amanda Moore: Mastering Social Media for Adult Education Success: A Step-by- Step Guide
Salon B		Abtin Mehdizadegan Keynote Speaker		LaJuana Delph: Discovering Your Next: The Building Blocks of Workplace Competencies	Tad Meyer: A Teacher’s Dozen: Activities to Engage Your Learners
Salon C		Daniel Lee: Using LACES and YouTube to Achieve Student Success		Christina Miller: Engaging and Motivating Learners to Improve Outcomes	Janice Ellis: ELL Conversation Class
Riverside East		Kenda Grover: Your Next Step: Obtaining Your Adult Education License		Chasity Wright: TABE Testing Updates and Overview of the New TABE Workforce Readiness Portal	Debi Faucette: “Discover Your Next” with GED Testing Service
Riverside West Literacy Councils		Alejandra Garza: Diverse Recruiting and Multilingual Resources		Jenny Walker: Culture Begins with Leadership	Nancy Leonhardt: Literacy Council Best Practices and Ideas Panel

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AACAE & ALA CONFERENCE**Friday, October 27, 2023**

<i>Location</i>	<i>Membership Business Meeting, 8:30 am - 9:15 am</i>	<i>Breakout 4 9:30 am – 10:30 am</i>	<i>Breakout 5 10:45 am – 11:45 am</i>
Salon D	Membership Business Meeting	Amanda Kuttenkuler Mental Health	
Salon A		Christina Miller: Reading to Learn - Strategies for the Struggling Reader	Anne Bonkofsky: Teaching Skills That Matter
Salon B		Ashley Hammond: Pharmacy Tech...Discover Your Next IET!	Charlie Weeks: Best Practices for Increasing Engagement and Outcomes with Online Curriculum
Salon C		Anthia Ratna: Teaching Literacy to Young Learners in Non-NES Country	Dianne Doyle: All About Accommodations
Riverside East		Brandy Chronister: Draw Arkansas	Sulideisi Camacho: Empowering Futures: Build Rapport to Guide Students in Discovering Their Next Steps
Riverside East Literacy Councils	Dixie Evans: Leveraging Your Local Imagination Library Program for Family Literacy & Parent Engagement Programs	Literacy Council Roundtable	Literacy Council Roundtable

Breakout 1: Thursday, October 26th, 10:45 am to 11:45 am

Discover Your Next “Creativity With Canva”

Debbie Feagin, Director, EACC Adult Education & Literacy, dfeagin@eacc.edu

Chantil Newmon, Instructor

Briley Padilla, Instructor

Canva is a free popular graphic design platform that allows users to create various content like social media graphics, posters, presentations, and more. Canva offers many additional features, like animations, which allows you to share your design directly on social media or download it for other purposes. This session will show you how to create a Canva account, choose a design type, customize the design, and save and export your creation.

Abtin Mehdizadegan

Abtin Mehdizadegan, Attorney at Law, Hall Booth Smith, P.C., abtin@hallboothsmith.com

Using LACES and YouTube to Achieve Student Success

Daniel Lee, Adult Education Instructor, ASU-Newport, daniel_lee@asun.edu

Explore useful tools and resources to unlock each student's learning potential and to achieve high retention and pass rates.

Your Next Step: Obtaining Your Adult Education License

Kenda Grover, Associate Professor, University of Arkansas-Fayetteville, kgrover@uark.edu

Marsha Taylor, Director, AALRC, marsha@aalrc.org

This session will provide instructors and administrators with information about the online Master of Education degree in Adult and Lifelong Learning offered at the University of Arkansas and details about completing the coursework necessary for licensure in adult education. Content will focus on the admission process, the nature of required coursework, and procedure for applying for licensure. Information will also be provided about the Doctor of Education degree in ADLL.

Diverse Recruiting and Multilingual Resources

Alejandra Garza, Co-Director River Valley Adult Learning Alliance/GED Spanish, Russellville Adult Education Center, areyes149@gmail.com

Emely Rincon, GED Student

This presentation will describe best practices in multicultural and multilingual awareness-raising strategies used to recruit students. Materials will also be provided in Spanish, one of the most demanding languages used in the state.

Breakout 2: Thursday, October 26th, 1:45 pm to 2:45 pm

Aztec GED Flash to Increase Student Testing Confidence

Kathryn Rasure, Instructor/WAGE Coordinator, Lonoke/Prairie County Adult Education Center, kathryn.rasure@lonokeschools.org

Tracy Donahoe, Instructor, Lonoke Adult Education

Are you using Aztec Flashcards as your final step to prep your students for the Ready Test or to increase GED test scores? If you aren't, you are missing an opportunity to build testing confidence with your students that are right on the 435 passing line. We will share our student success statistics and how we use the flashcards to build testing confidence with our students.

Discovering Your Next: The Building Blocks of Workplace Competencies

LaJuana Delph, Adult Education Workforce Development Coordinator, Adult Education Section, Division of Workforce Services, ajuana.delph@arkansas.gov

LaTasha Dale-Warren, Adult Education Section, Division of Workforce Services

Phyllis Fitzpatrick, Adult Education Section, Division of Workforce Services

The Arkansas Adult Education's Workforce Preparation and Training Program (WAGE) utilizes the Workforce Industry Competencies; the Competency Model Clearinghouse to develop contextualized instruction, IETs, and workplace classes. This training session will focus on knowledge, skills, and abilities such as interpersonal skills, integrity, professionalism, initiative, and adaptability in the classroom. Incorporates the Building Blocks Model in Adult Education that reflects the foundational knowledge and skills needed by today's workforce or assists in the development of curriculum that connects with everyday job positions available across the state.

Engaging and Motivating Learners to Improve Outcomes

Christina Miller, National Consultant, Aztec, chmillerconsulting@gmail.com

Engaging learners through interactive classroom activities will increase motivation, improve critical thinking skills, and lead to higher learner achievements and outcomes. Research shows a direct correlation between the power of motivating learners through active learning strategies and the impact that motivation has on learning characteristics such as attention and memory. The focus of this session will be to provide the fundamentals of how learning happens, what impacts learning, and building a learning climate in the classroom that yields results.

TABE Testing Updates and Overview of the New TABE Workforce Readiness Portal - Aligning TABE Scores to Career Skills from O*Net

Chasity Wright, Assessment Solutions Consultant, Data Recognition Corporation, chwright@datarecognitioncorp.com

This session will review updates and best practices for TABE testing, including Off-Line Testing, plans for TABE 13/14 and discuss the use of TABE CLAS-E Online that can support ESL programs. We will review new alignments to Grade Ranges and the Concordance of TABE 11/12 to available High School Equivalency tests. We will also explore the new TABE Workforce Portal that aligns TABE Scores to over 900 of the Bright Outlook careers posted in the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Network (O*Net).

Culture Begins with Leadership

Jenny Walker, Executive Director, Literacy Council of Bowie and Miller Counties, jenny@literacytxk.org

A positive culture improves recruitment, retention, and completion among program participants and volunteers, but creating that culture does not happen by accident. Learn about intentional strategies Literacy Council leaders can implement to develop a culture that makes everyone feel safe, welcome, and loved.

Breakout 3: Thursday, October 26th, 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Mastering Social Media for Adult Education Success: A Step-by-Step Guide

Amanda Moore, Instructional Specialist and WAGE Coordinator, SAU Tech Adult Education, amoore@sautech.edu

Get ready to roll up your sleeves and dive into a practical, hands-on tutorial that equips you with the skills to harness the true potential of social media in adult education. In this interactive session, we will unveil the secrets to leveraging your digital imprint for marketing and retention, providing you with actionable steps to implement immediately..

A Teacher's Dozen: Activities to Engage Your Learners

Tad Meyer, Customer Manager, BurlingtonEnglish, tad.m@burlingtonenglish.com

Rebekah Van Lare, BurlingtonEnglish

Join our session to learn about multilevel classroom practices to differentiate instruction and adapt activities to keep all students engaged and appropriately challenged. We will share ideas and strategies to meet the diverse learning needs of each of your English Language Learners and enrich your multilevel classroom. Participants will leave full of new strategies to support their English language learners. Join our conference classroom and sweeten your day with the BurlingtonEnglish team!

ELL Conversation Class

Janice Ellis, Faculty, NorthWest Arkansas Community College, jwhite39@nwacc.edu

Ed Rogers, ELL Team, NorthWest Arkansas Community College

Doranely Perez, ELL Team, NorthWest Arkansas Community College

Vicki Johnson, ELL Team, NorthWest Arkansas Community College

Ideas to use when facilitating an ELL Conversation Class.

“Discover Your Next” with GED Testing Service

Debi Faucette, Senior Director, GED Testing Service, debi.faucette@ged.com

GED Testing Service welcomes the partnership with educators and learners to “Discover Your Next!” We constantly strive for “the next” innovations or enhancements to existing resources and services for learners and educators. Join us to discover the exciting new innovations: the GED Mobile App coming soon, new partnerships to open additional doors for our learners, and ways to address IET requirements. Refresh your knowledge regarding all things GED with updates in the tools and resources you use every day. From research outcomes to instructional strategies, the focus is always on the learner, and we at GED Testing service understand that focusing on dedicated educators is our path to maintain the focus on the learner.

Literacy Council Best Practices and Ideas

Nancy Leonhardt, Executive Director, Adult Learning Alliance, nancyleonhardt@arkansasliteracy.org

Debbie Feagin, Mary Katy Martin, Jessica Blasingame, Diedra Gunnels, and Sarah Richardson

Hear some new best practices and ideas from the Directors of literacy councils in Eastern Arkansas, Mississippi County, Crawford County, Columbia County and Garland County.

Friday, October 27th, 8:30 am – 9:15 am**AACAE Membership Business Meeting**

AACAE and ALA Members

The primary objective of the AACAE business meeting is to provide AACAE members with an opportunity to communicate and discuss ideas, plans, and decisions relevant to the organization.

Leveraging Your Local Imagination Library Program for Family Literacy & Parent Engagement Programs

Dixie Evans, Executive Director (Former), Literacy Council of White County, dixie.evansconcretellc@gmail.com

Learn how to leverage the free books through the statewide Arkansas Imagination Library Program to develop comprehensive Family Literacy and Parent Engagement programs. Additional tools, resources, and program information will be shared on how Literacy Council of White County used Imagination Library to enhance adult learning and parent participation.

Breakout 4: Friday, October 28th, 9:30 am – 10:30 am

Amanda Kuttenkuler

Amanda Kuttenkuler, Vice President of Programs, Arkansas Rural Health Partnership, amanda@arruralhealth.org

Reading to Learn - Strategies for the Struggling Reader

Christina Miller, National Consultant, Aztec, chmillercounseling@gmail.com

Adult education teachers come from diverse educational backgrounds. Not all teachers are trained to help struggling readers navigate reading across the different subject areas. We will preview several strategies of teaching academic reading that will help teachers provide learners with a better understanding of how to approach science, social studies, and other academic subjects and will give learners a more organized way to approach learning course content. Active learning strategies presented in this session will help participants understand the transition from “learning to read to reading to learn.”

Pharmacy Tech...Discover Your Next IET!

Ashley Hammond, Lead Teacher/ADA Coordinator/Distance Learning Coordinator, UAM McGehee, hammond@uamont.edu

Come discover an IET to increase overall enrollment, improve your distance learning clientele, and grow your retention rates. The Pharmacy Technician program from Aztec is what you are looking for in your next IET. This session will explain the procedures, structure, and resources we provide in our LEA to make Pharmacy Technician Training a successful IET.

Teaching Literacy to Young Learners in Non-NES Country

Anthia Ratna, EFL Teacher, Khon Kaen University Demonstration School International Division, Thailand, ratnaanthia@gmail.com

The session will talk about stages of literacy development, how to plan the game-based lesson, planning the curriculum, and how literacy activities should be introduced.

Draw Arkansas

Brandy Chronister, Russellville Adult Education Center, ESL Instructor, brandy.cunningham@rsdk12.net

Amanda Moore, Brandi Ricks, and Browder Swetnam

Discover digital resiliency skills through the DRAW program.

Breakout 5: Friday, October 27th, 10:45 am – 11:45 am

Teaching Skills That Matter

Anne Bonofsky, WAGE Coordinator, Russellville Adult Education Center, anne.bonkofsky@rsdk12.net

Jane Baldwin, Deanna Bruce, Dana Rockwell, Russellville Adult Education Center

The Teaching Skills That Matter in Adult Education project (TSTM) trains teachers to integrate the skills that matter to adult students using approaches that work across critical topics. Using the project's tools and training, adult education teachers can teach the transferable skills students need in these critical contexts.

Best Practices for Increasing Engagement and Outcomes with Online Curriculum

Charlie Weeks, Director of Client Success, Essential Education, charlie@essentialed.com

Do you need to get your students up and running with Essential Education or expand your current usage of online curricula in general? If so, this session is for you. This session will go over best practices that educators can implement in their classrooms immediately. If you do not use Essential Education software, there will still be great takeaways and ideas to implement into any classroom. This list of best practices has been compiled through research and feedback from teachers and programs across the country. Topics to be discussed include: student orientation, feedback, monitoring progress, practical strategies and activities to use Essential Education in your classroom, teachers' presence, persistence and engagement, and more. Come learn ways to better utilize this awesome learning tool in and out of the classroom. You will leave with a more focused approach when blending online curriculum in your classroom.

All About Accommodations

Dianne Doyle, HSE Coordinator, Adult Education Section, Division of Workforce Services, dianne.doyle@arkansas.gov

Wendy Bryant, ADA Coordinator, Adult Education Section, Division of Workforce Services

This session will discuss the accommodations process for high school equivalency testing, including new changes and how to be an effective advocate for the test taker.

Empowering Futures: Build Rapport to Guide Students in Discovering Their Next Steps

Sulideisi Camacho, Adult Education Section, sulideisi.camacho@arkansas.gov

This workshop will focus on building rapport to create a positive and nurturing environment where students feel empowered to explore their interests, skills, and passions. Furthermore, this workshop will explore career exploration methodologies to assist students in identifying and aligning their skills with potential job and career opportunities.