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Barbara Walker- IRA President
Ashley Bryan
Mike Wimmer
Timothy Rasinski
Tim Shanahan
Mike Shoulders

Mo Willems
Dick Allington
Frank Keating
Kathleen Duey
Rich Long
.....and many more!

Ashley Bryan was born in New York City and now lives on a small island off the coast of Maine, where he writes and illustrates books most of the year. A former teacher at Dartmouth College, he has compiled, written and illustrated numerous books, many of them African folktales, such as Ashley Bryan's African Tales, Uh Huh and The Story of Lightning and Thunder, and collections of spirituals such as All Night, All Day: A Child's First Book of African American Coretta Scott King Award for Illustration, and Lion and the Ostrich Chicks was a Coretta Scott King Honor Book.



Timothy Rasinski is a professor of education in the Department of Teaching, Leadership, and Curriculum Studies. Dr. Rasinski teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in literacy education. His major interests include working with children who find reading difficult, phonics and reading fluency instruction, and teacher development in literacy education. He has published over 100 articles and 10 books on various aspects of reading education.



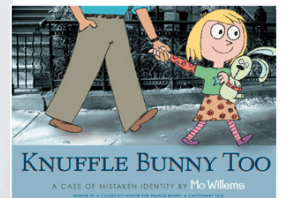
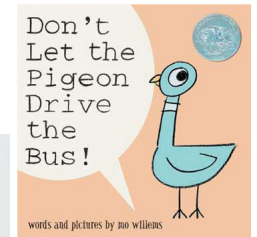
A past editor of *The Reading Teacher*, the most widely read journal in reading education in the world, Dr. Rasinski is currently an editor for the *Journal of Literacy Research*.

Rasinski has served as president of the College Reading Association and he currently serves on the Board of Directors of the International Reading Association. He earned bachelor degrees in economics and education at the University of Akron and the University of Nebraska at Omaha. His master's degree in special education also comes from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Dr. Rasinski was awarded the Ph.D. from The Ohio State University.

IRA Southeast Regional Conference

READING: A Bridge to the Future

December 7-10, 2008
Nashville, Tennessee
Nashville Convention Center
&
Renaissance Hotel



#1 New York Times Bestselling author and illustrator **Mo Willems** is best known for his Caldecott Honor winning picture books *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* and *Knuffle Bunny: a cautionary tale*. In addition to such picture books as *Leonardo the Terrible Monster*, *Edwina the Dinosaur Who Didn't Know She Was Extinct*, and *Time to Pee!*, Mo has created the *Elephant and Piggie* books, a series of early readers, and published *You Can Never Find a Rickshaw When it Monsoons*, an annotated cartoon journal sketched during a year-long voyage around the world in 1990-91. The *New York Times Book Review* called Mo "the biggest new talent to emerge thus far in the 00's." Mo began his career as a writer and animator for television, garnering 6 Emmy awards for his writing on *Sesame Street*, creating *Cartoon Network's Sheep in the Big City* and head-writing *Codename: Kids Next Door*. He lives in Brooklyn, New York with his family.

