Bearers of Light: The Caring Community of Young Adult Literature:
A Welcome from ALAN President Patty Campbell

In a dark world, young adult literature is a beacon of light for teens—books that help them through risky times with wisdom, beauty, and laughter. The authors who write these books, the publishers who produce them, the teachers and librarians who bring them to teens, all care about young people and their reading, and about each other, in a community of mutual respect and encouragement. This year the ALAN Workshop invites you to celebrate being part of this world, to hear a wide variety of YA authors speak about their joy in writing for young readers and their dedication to excellence, to meet and talk with these writers, to discuss current literary trends and issues of concern, to learn about the newest and best books for teens, and to encounter field-tested ideas for introducing YA literature to young people.

Anthologist and longtime ALAN member Donald Gallo will deliver the keynote address, and forty YA authors will appear as speakers and panelists, including Walter Dean Myers, Harry Mazer, Caroline Cooney, Laurie Halse Anderson, Joan Bauer, Annette Curtis Klause, Alex Flinn, Graham Salisbury, Nancy Garden, Han Nolan, Tom Barron, Michael Cadnum, Chris Lynch, Paul Fleischman, Lynne Cox, and many others. Panels will discuss an array of concerns such as “Caring about Books on War,” “Caring about Teens’ Search for Spiritual Truth,” “Beyond Chick Lit,” “Caring about Kids Who Don’t Like to Read,” “Caring about Hispanic Culture in YA Literature,” “Caring about Knowing the Past,” and “The Many Varieties of Speculative Fiction.”

On both days you will also be faced with a difficult choice among a variety of exciting and practical breakout presentations, with many handouts, on vital topics such as booktalking (Joni Richards Bodart), poetry (Bob Falls of Poetry Alive), the best new books (Walter Mayes, BER), Native Americans in YA lit (Jim Blasingame of Arizona State University and Kenan Metzger of Haskell Indian Nations University), religious themes in YA historical fiction (Joanne Brown, Drake University), and much more. As you can see, these small-group sessions will be conducted by leading authorities in the field. There will be opportunities for book signings during the workshop, and every attendee will receive a large bag of free books. As the frosting on this already rich cake, a group of teens from the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, under the direction of young adult librarian Robyn Hammer-Clarey, will perform an excerpt from a new play by Paul Fleischman.

The ALAN Workshop has been called “the best YA show in the world” and is an incomparable opportunity for professional growth. The audience planned is no more than 400, and in the past ALAN has had to turn away applicants beyond that number. Register early, don’t miss out!

(Early online registration is available at www.NCTE.org, at $150 for members, $160 for nonmembers, and $75 for students.)
The fall 2005 ALAN Workshop is scheduled for Nov. 21 and 22 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and the star-studded lineup is filled with well-known authors, publishers, and experts in the field of young adult literature. The activities actually kick off with the annual breakfast featuring Yann Martel, celebrated author of *The Life of Pi*, on Saturday, November 19, and a reception on Sunday evening, sponsored by publishers, will give all us ordinary folk a chance to chat with our favorite authors. Here’s a workshop preview showing what you can look forward to in Pittsburgh.—JB & LG

ALAN Workshop 2005
Bearers of Light: The Caring Community of Young Adult Literature
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
November 21-22, 2005

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21
8:00-8:10—WELCOME
Patty Campbell, ALAN President
8:10-8:40—KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Donald Gallo, Solon, Ohio
Courtesy of Candlewick
Chair: Sarah K. Herz, Westport, Connecticut
8:40-9:10—Joan Bauer
“Bearers of Light”
Courtesy of Penguin Putnam
Chair: Mary Arnold, Cuyahoga County Public Library, Cleveland, OH
9:10–10:00—CARING ABOUT BOOKS ON WAR
Moderator Marc Aronson, Candlewick
Paul Fleischman, Harry Mazer, Jim Murphy, Walter Dean Myers
Courtesy Candlewick, Simon & Schuster, Clarion, and HarperCollins
10:00-10:30—Nancy Gardner
Courtesy of Farrar Straus Giroux
Chair: James Cook, Dayton Metro Library, Dayton, OH
10:30-10:50—Coffee break
10:50–11:20—Alex Flinn
“Caring about Kids with Troubles”
Courtesy HarperCollins
Chair: Wendy Glenn, University of Connecticut
11:20-12:00—CARING ABOUT KNOWING THE PAST
Moderator Joanne Brown, Drake University, Des Moines, IA
Michael Cadnum, William Durbin, Jeanette Ingold, Graham Salisbury, Diane Lee Wilson
Courtesy of Scholastic, Harcourt, Random House, and Simon & Schuster
12:00-1:15—Lunch
1:15-1:55—CARING ABOUT HISPANIC CULTURE IN YA LITERATURE
Moderator Lori Marie Carlson, Henry Holt
Judith Ortiz Cofer, Pam Munoz Ryan, Benjamin Alire Saenz
Courtesy Henry Holt, Scholastic, Cinco Puntos
1:55-2:35—THE MANY VARIETIES OF SPECULATIVE FICTION
Moderator Diane Tuccillo, City of Mesa Library, Mesa, AZ
Tom Barron, Kathleen Jeffrie Johnson, Kenneth Oppel, Tamora Pierce, Marcus Sedgwick
2:35-3:00—Soda break
3:00-3:55—BREAKOUT SESSIONS
“Booktalking the 2005 ALAN Workshop Authors”
Joni Richards Bodart, San Jose State University
“Poetry Performance in the Classroom”
Bob Falls, Poetry Alive

“Hearing the Silent Voices: YA Literature by, for, and about Native Americans”
James Blasingame, Arizona State University
Kenan Metzger, Haskell Indian Nations University
Marlinda Kaulaity, Arizona State University
Wendy Kelleher, Arizona State University
Katie Mason, Arizona State University
Nina Murikami, Arizona State University

“Joyous Enlightenment: Introducing Future Teachers to Young Adult Literature”
Angela Beumer Johnson, Wright State University, OH

“The ALAN Foundation: Support for Your Research”
Gary Salvner, Youngstown State University, OH
John Noell Moore, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA
Mary Warner, San Jose State University
Jean E. Brown, Rhode Island College

“Teaching a Love of Reading: How to Rehabilitate Reluctant Readers”
Daria Plumb, Dundee Alternative High School, Dundee, MI

4:00-4:30—Paul Fleischman
“About Zap”
Courtesy of Candlewick
Chair: Patrick Jones, Richfield, Minnesota

4:30-5:00—AN EXCERPT FROM ZAP
Performed by the young adults of Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh
Robyn Hammer-Clarey, Young Adult Coordinator

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22
8:00-8:15—A WORD ABOUT ALAN MEMBERSHIP
Joan Kaywell, Membership Secretary, University of South Florida-Tampa
8:15-8:30—THE ALAN REVIEW
James Blasingame and Lori Atkins Goodson, Co-Editors

8:30-9:00—Laurie Halse Anderson
Courtesy of Penguin Putnam
Chair: Catherine Balkin, Balkin Buddies

9:00-10:00—CARING ABOUT TEENS’ SEARCH FOR SPIRITUAL TRUTH
Moderator Teri Lesesne, Sam Houston State University
Elsie Aidinoff, Pete Hautman, Han Nolan
Courtesy of HarperCollins and Simon & Schuster,

Harcourt
10:00-10:30—Chris Lynch
Courtesy of HarperCollins
Chair: Jeffrey Kaplan, University of Central Florida

10:30-10:50—Coffee break

10:50-11:30—BEYOND CHICK LIT: CARING ABOUT WHAT GIRLS READ
Moderator Michael Cart, UCLA
Caroline Cooney, Carolyn MacCullough, Sharon Flake, Mary Pearson, Fiona Rosenbloom
Courtesy of Random House, Roaring Brook, Hyperion, and Henry Holt

11:30-12:00—Lynne Cox—Swimming to Antarctica
Courtesy of Harcourt
Chair: Chris Crowe, Brigham Young University

12:00-1:15—Lunch

1:15-1:45—Annette Curtis Klause
Courtesy of Simon & Schuster
Chair: Linda Pavonetti, Oakland University, Rochester, MI

1:45-2:30—CARING ABOUT KIDS WHO DON’T LIKE TO READ
Moderator Ed Sullivan, Library Media Specialist, Knoxville, TN
Eloise Flood (Razorbill), Marilyn Reynolds, Alan Lawrence Sitomer, Andrew Wooldridge (Soundings)
Courtesy of Penguin Putnam, Hyperion, Orca

2:30-2:50—Soda break

2:50-3:10—BREAKOUT SESSIONS
“Walter’s Lively and Opinionated Look at the Best of 2005”
Walter Mayes, The Girls’ Middle School, Mountain View, CA

“Bearing Light, Exploring Darkness: Religious Themes in YA Historical Fiction”
Joanne Brown, Drake University, Des Moines, IA

“Creating Classroom Connections Between University and Secondary Students Through Young Adult Literature”
Lisa A. Hazlett, University of South Dakota
Judith Hayn, Loyola University, Chicago
Melissa Vatter-Miller, Reitz High School, IA

“New Kids on the Block: Shining a Light on First-time Writers for Young Adults”
Teri Lesesne, Sam Houston State University
Mary Arnold, Cuyahoga County Public Library, Cleveland, OH
Bonnie Kunzel, New Jersey State Library
“Hot-Burning Torches: Teaching YA Books that Sizzle with Controversy”
Toby Emert, University of Kentucky
Aaron Levy, Kennesaw State University
Kristi Piper, Danbury High School, Texas
Laraine Wallowitz, Adelphi University
Lana Taylor Warren, Obion County Central High School, Tennessee

“Reaching Diverse Communities with Young Adult Literature”
Steven Bickmore, University of Georgia
Melanie Hundley, University of Georgia

3:15-3:55—SPOTLIGHT ON NEW AUTHORS
Andrew Auseon, Alfred Martino, Stephanie Hemphill, and Linda Oatman High
Courtesy of Harcourt, Hyperion, and Bloomsbury
Chair: Carolyn Lott, University of Montana

3:55-4:00—A PREVIEW OF ALAN 2006 AND FAREWELL
Diane Tuccillo, ALAN President-Elect

Plan to attend the 2006 ALAN Workshop in Nashville, Tennessee
Contact 2005 ALAN President Diane Tuccillo (diane.tuccillo@cityofmesa.org)