**SLJ Middle Grade Magic – All Day Free Virtual Event, Thursday, March 10, 2022**

[Register for the free day-long virtual event here](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001cBZYjxXaXfggTkd3ZUHeP78xCmnGLYeJiRSAyE-FEqxeW2MrlrCBrHPj3DM4i64u_NvkIknYAnJuxTs5tWs1rKRgyn5IRsbpbnYyGHdZXRVBQsLl3HiWbzKKyhj1AWL64PLcsuDVW0An22PKCdHbmW_bzOE4vhsKjTGczmC_N0cdOJkg4SSOlEQ2GHtoA0ZY&c=pJkxYdZpzCvIerrou6LsIxI_2upa1iOBXs0kqkgLKqm_HXkxkYNXbg==&ch=aGvqumlcNHR512S0OVqPntT0TSlzPAmGdPN3YADPDdTBt2K8HJAkEg==) to hear about some exciting upcoming middle grade books and some highlighted backlist reads.

**NJ Stem Pathways Network (NJSPN)**

NJSPN is always looking for examples of organizations, including public and school libraries, and afterschool organizations who are offering STEM programming for their communities. They invite anyone to share their STEM activities/events on their NJSPN calendar. I know some of you might be aware of them and have already added events to their calendar in the past, such as your NJMakersDay activities. Here’s their [NJ STEM Month Official Calendar](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fnjstempathways.org%2fevent-form%2f&c=E,1,DzFlDNVgeBgtB-MTpMw8x2KycqnkINVZu1TDAJL4QJVhXG3JKIYBJX442kTsMpopZxdE3rj2TwruZK5ZnAXETKvIJXs1v9Sbv-brOB1i3qQ_HtHMULl04lyGjg,,&typo=1) that you can post your events on. If you do that, you’re asked to use the official NJ STEM Month logo to publicize any STEM March event. You can download the logo from the official [NJ STEM Month webpage](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fnjstempathways.org%2fnjstemmonth%2f&c=E,1,c4FeOUZREsk7vJriy21QqMjkkJTxiqEqetht8V8gAxBXstkY7UHqd9KK-SRdtNcXNF43PTWwCmCwdU-7HwMYRUgTi0GpZmzlvXdVt_gYnsfmv3r_&typo=1).

Here’s another way you can participate in NJ STEM Month activities by using social media to publicize NJ STEM Month:

         **Twitter Contest**: **Follow @NJSTEMPathways** and use **#NJSTEMMonth,**  the official hashtag of NJ STEM Month. They also have a contest with prizes for anyone who tweets to support #NJSTEMMonth.  Everyone who uses #NJSTEMonth will be entered to win a prize; winners will be selected randomly.

NJ STEM Pathways Network is a strategic public-private alliance, established in 2014 by the New Jersey Office of the Secretary of Higher Education, to define and guide a STEM vision for cradle to career pathways in New Jersey. The NJSPN is chaired by Laura Overdeck, Chair of the Overdeck Family Foundation and Founder of Bedtime Math and is managed by the Research & Development Council of New Jersey. The NJSPN aims to attract, cultivate and retain a 21st century workforce in New Jersey, ensuring the state remains a top global competitor in STEM industry and continues its rich history of innovation.

**National Education Association Announces Read Across America Digital Calendar**
[*Visit the Read Across America page*](https://ala.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=b9b7f12a0545b1a14ef19a691&id=ca5ecfb6ba&e=V632dpEnFw)
To encourage educators and parents to fill shelves with books, National Education Association announces the creation of its 2021-2022 Read Across America [digital calendar](https://ala.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=b9b7f12a0545b1a14ef19a691&id=0f53f02bda&e=V632dpEnFw) which features 36 recommended titles - 12 picture books, 12 middle grade titles, and 12 young adults - for each month of the year. The recommended books include a wide selection of genres and formats.
Every recommended title featured includes activity suggestions, questions for discussion or reflective writing, related sources and more titles to try that relate to themes in the featured book.

From Heather Kristian regarding accepted programs to present at NJLA:

* Outreach with Schools Before, During & After COVID - Mary Ecklund, Thursday 11am, Wildwood 6 & 7
* Managing and Motivating Staff - Janet Torsney, Friday 11:30am, Wildwood 8 & 9 (submitted through Admin & Management)
* Get Out of Your Library! - Janet Torsney, Thursday 3:10pm, Wildwood 8 & 9 (submitted through Admin & Management)
* Challenging Patrons - Submitted as Handling Difficult Patrons by Janet Torsney, Thursday 11am, Wildwood 10 & 11 (submitted through Admin & Management)
* Literacy Beyond Words - Olivia Gorecke, Thursday 3:10pm, Wildwood 6 & 7