31st Annual Learning Symposium

Reading with Purpose:
Language Structures & Verbal Reasoning during Close Reading

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Carol Tolman
International Literacy Consultant

Breakout Sessions
The Science of Reading
(Monday, January 25th)
Self-Advocacy for Struggling Readers
(Tuesday, January 26th)
Dyslexia & Reading Comprehension
(Wednesday, January 27th)
Maximizing Reading Technology
(Thursday, January 28th)

Live Virtual Q & A Session with Breakout Presenters
(Friday, January 29th)

Continuing Education Credits Available
210.615.7485 winston-sa.org/symposium/
Since 1985, The Winston School San Antonio (WSSA) has provided a personalized education to students with high potential and identified learning differences. Through our annual Learning Symposia, WSSA has been able to educate and bring up-to-date information on learning differences. This year, we are excited to extend an invitation nationwide; calling upon parents, teachers, clinicians, and therapists to participate in our virtual symposium.

The 31st Annual Symposium is all about Reading with Purpose. From the Science of Reading, Dyslexia, Reading Comprehension, and Technology, our presenters will provide valuable insights that will help individuals provide a lasting impact and help transform the lives of students everywhere.

Charles J. Karulak, Ed.D.
Headmaster, The Winston School San Antonio

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Keynote Lecture: “Reading with Purpose: Language Structures & Verbal Reasoning during Close Reading”
By Dr. Carol Tolman, International Literacy Consultant

Join Dr. Tolman as she unpacks two important components of reading comprehension: Language Structures and Verbal Reasoning.

Participants will experience the impact of syntax and sentence structure and their ability to understand what is read. Additionally, she will discuss the importance of text cohesion, along with how best to prepare students when reading texts that may not be locally or globally coherent for the reader.

Carol Tolman, Ed.D, was awarded a doctorate in Educational Psychology with a concentration in literacy and has been a consultant at the state, district, and school levels for over 15 years. Prior to earning her doctorate, Dr. Tolman was a classroom teacher and Special Educator with more than 25 years of experience in public schools at the elementary and secondary levels. She spent 12 of those years designing and implementing an innovative, exemplary reading clinic for academically challenged middle and high school students.

Daily Breakout Sessions

The Science of Reading
Presented by Dr. Marty Hougen and Dr. Heather Haynes Smith.

This session will provide a brief overview of the science of reading in Texas, including the five essential components of reading and features of effective instruction.

Dr. Hougen is a national consultant collaborating with state leadership and institutes of higher education to improve educator preparation, and she serves on the board of The Center for Effective Reading Instruction.

Dr. Heather Haynes Smith is an Associate Professor at Trinity University and supports equity and reading initiatives locally and nationally including the International Council on Learning Disabilities, United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County Successful Students Impact Council, Compassionate San Antonio Initiative, SA Reads Board, Empatico Grant, and on the Medical and Scientific Advisory Council of The Winston School of San Antonio.

Self Advocacy for Struggling Readers
Presented by Terrie Noland, CALP - Doctoral Candidate, Ph.D. in Literacy.

Understanding the brain changes that affect student capacity to self-advocate. Considering the monumental impact of modeling and relationship building. Equipping students to find their voice.

Terrie Noland serves as Vice-President of Educator Initiatives at Learning Ally, igniting enthusiasm and excitement by building champion educators and administrators on creating cultures of literacy and learning. Terrie is a John Maxwell certified speaker and coach and a Certified Academic Language Practitioner. She is currently working towards a Ph.D. in Literacy and Educational Leadership from St. John’s University.

Dyslexia & Reading Comprehension
Presented by Julie Hanson, M.Ed.

This session will provide an overview of the many factors that impact reading comprehension, including those factors that most frequently impact students with Dyslexia and will provide recommendations for improving reading comprehension.

Ms. Hanson received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Texas at San Antonio and a Master of Education in Special Education with a focus in Assessments from Texas A&M University San Antonio. Ms. Hanson is trained as an educational diagnostician and is a Certified Academic Language Therapist.

Maximizing Reading Technology
Presented by Dr. Tasha A. Vice - Assistant Professor of Literacy at Texas A&M University-San Antonio

In this session, the speaker relays research-based best practices for reading instruction and the applications that make it possible to support teacher instruction and students learning in reading.

Tasha Vice, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of Literacy at Texas A&M- San Antonio. She studied Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Literacy at Texas Tech University. Her research includes promoting students’ resilience and mindfulness/awareness of the learning processes necessary for reading achievement, creative writing practices for secondary learners, and digital literacy practices.
Thanks to our Event Sponsors and Partners:

31st Annual Learning Symposium
“Reading with Purpose”

Live Virtual Keynote Lecture:
“Reading, Speech, and Language”
By Dr. Carol Tolman, International Literacy Consultant

Pre-Recorded Breakout Sessions:

The Science of Reading
Presented by Dr. Marty Hougen and Dr. Heather Haynes Smith

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