



Welcome to the SCBWI-IL Read Local PAL initiative!

Read on for FAQs about our
2019-2020 Illinois Regional Program

Q. What are the goals of the 2019-2020 SCBWI-IL READ LOCAL program?

A. This schoolyear's FREE PAL opportunity will:

- strengthen our PAL community and help us work together to promote one another through local events and one-on-one visits with teachers, librarians and booksellers.
- assist teachers, librarians and booksellers to find PALs in their school district/communities for school visits and literary events with our new searchable, interactive Read Local webpages.
- give individual PALs a platform accessible to our core audience.
- offer an opportunity to be selected by an underserved school for a paid school visit thanks to a grant from iCARE.

Q. What's **NEW** for the 2019-2020 SCBWI-IL READ LOCAL program?

A. This schoolyear's FREE PAL opportunity will offer PALs:

- new searchable, interactive webpages to make it easier for teachers, librarians and booksellers to find YOU, our **SCBWI-Illinois Read Local authors and illustrators**.
- a new poster showcasing your image, bio, hometown and book information that our **Read Local Ambassadors** will bring to teachers, librarians and local booksellers, Region-wide, to promote you and your books.
- your chance to write for the **SCBWI-Illinois Read Local Blog** to demonstrate your individual skills and expertise.
- the ability to act as an SCBWI-IL Read Local Ambassador. **Ambassadors** pay visits to your local teachers/librarians and booksellers bring your book swag to promote you.
- the ability to **collaborate on events** with other SCBWI-IL Read Local PALs with promotion and support from SCBWI-IL.

- AND a debut of the new 2019-2020 SCBWI-Illinois Read Local poster and webpages at the Illinois Reading Council Conference on October 3!

Q. Who is eligible to be a 2019-2020 SCBWI-IL READ LOCAL Author or Illustrator?

A. SCBWI-IL PAL Members who sign up by August 2, 2019. You'll be featured in our poster and website.

Q. When can I sign-up online? When is the last day to sign up online?

A. Beginning July 19. The last day to sign up for Read Local this year is August 2, no exceptions.

Q. When will the new poster and web site be available to users?

A. On October 3, at the SCBWI-IL Booth at the Illinois Reading Council Convention in Peoria, IL.

Q. Who is eligible to be a 2019-2020 SCBWI-IL READ LOCAL Ambassador?

A. SCBWI-IL PAL Members who sign up by August 2, 2019. Ambassadors will be assigned on a first-come, first served basis in your school district/community. More than one Ambassador may be assigned depending on the volume in the school district. [Email Deb Aronson, ARA](#) beginning August 15, for further information.

Q. Who is eligible to be a 2019-2020 SCBWI-IL READ LOCAL Blogger?

A. SCBWI PAL Members who sign up by August 2, 2019. Bloggers will be assigned on a first-come, first served basis, 1-per month from September 2019-May 2020. Additional PALs who set up Read Local events will be invited to blog about that even—so consider spearheading a collaborative Read Local Event. [Email Deb Aronson, ARA](#) beginning August 15, for further information.

Q. What is a Read Local Event and who can collaborate with SCBWI-IL to create one?

A. SCBWI-IL PAL Members who sign up by August 2, 2019 are invited to collaborate with other authors and illustrators in their community or school district to create a literary event with teachers, librarians and booksellers to promote themselves and their peers.

PALs should arrange to have two or more PALs, plus a bookseller and or school professional and pay close attention to diversity when arranging an event. Event requests and details will be sent to Sarah Aronson for approval and promotion via online form. In some cases, SCBWI-IL may accept a budget and provide funding if an event will serve to promote Read Local PALs in multiple communities, school districts or large portions of the Illinois Region. [Email Sarah Aronson, PAL & Published Coordinator](#) with questions about hosting a SCBWI-IL Read Local Event.

Q. What Read Local Events are scheduled for this schoolyear thus far?

A. Check out the How-To Read Local PAL page for updates.

Q. Which Read Local PALs are eligible to be selected by an underserved school for a paid school visit?

A. SCBWI PAL Members who sign up by August 2, 2019. A school professional in charge of arranging school visits will select a Read Local PAL from their own community or school district for the school visit.

Q. How do underserved schools sign up for a school visit from a SCBWI-IL Read Local PAL?

A. Teachers and Librarians sign-up via online.

Q. How are Read Local PALs selected by an underserved school, paid for a school visit?

A. SCBWI PAL Members will be paid by SCBWI-IL from a grant from iCARE. All PALs must provide a completed W9 form before payment.

Q. How is SCBWI-IL Read Local funded?

A. SCBWI-IL is completely self-supported through its fee-generating Regional Events and programs. The Region DOES NOT receive any of your membership fees directly from SCBWI. Our PAL & Published Coordinator, Sarah Aronson, has also secured a \$3500 grant from iCARE to send Read Local PALs to underserved schools for paid school visits. The Illinois Regional Team secured a 2018 SCBWI PAL Grant to partially underwrite the cost of the **SCBWI Read Local trailer**, shared on the SCBWI YouTube Channel, with the balance of the cost from iCARE.

Q. What will be SCBWI-IL's role?

A. Your Regional Team & Published Coordinator are hard at work doing the following:

- **creating** new searchable, interactive webpages to make it easier for teachers, librarians and booksellers to find YOU, our SCBWI-Illinois Read Local authors and illustrators.
- **collecting** information and creating a new poster showcasing a new poster showcasing your image, bio, hometown and book information that our Read Local Ambassadors will bring to teachers, librarians and local booksellers, Region-wide, to promote you and your books.
- **administrating** and proofing the SCBWI-Illinois READ LOCAL Blog.
- **supporting** SCBWI-IL Read Local Ambassadors with scripts and swag.
- **seeking** out additional funding and opportunities
- **promoting** your collaborative READ LOCAL PAL events on our webpage and via social media, **#ReadLocalIllinois**
- **showcasing** 2019-2020 SCBWI-Illinois Read Local PALs at the Illinois Reading Council Conference on October 3 and the AISLE Conference on October 10.
- **providing** 2019-2020 Read Local posters and swag to the 500 attendees at the upcoming Anderson's Literary Breakfast in February 2020.

Q. I'm a SCBWI-IL PAL Member because of my PAL-published magazine articles. Is Read Local a book-focused initiative only?

A. Yes, the Read Local initiative is a book-focused initiative for PALs, a way to build a wider reach throughout our community to promote our PALs and their books to teachers, librarians and booksellers and get them in the hands of readers.

We understand that this might leave a few of our longtime PALs out of the annual program; there are more SCBWI-IL PAL events and opportunities planned that we hope will serve to support you and your interests in the coming year.

Q. Who do I contact with general Read Local program questions?

A. [Email Sarah Aronson, PAL & Published Coordinator](#)

Q. Who will help me with questions about the Sign-up form and poster?

A. [Email Cedric Gliane, IC](#)

Q. If I am not chosen as an Ambassador, can I still volunteer on the 2019-2020 Read Local PAL initiative?

A. Yes! Please [Contact Deborah Topolski, Co-RA Illinois](#).

Q. I want to give feedback or offer suggestions for the 2019-2020 Read Local PAL initiative—who do I contact?

A. the SCBWI-IL Read Local PAL Initiative will grow over time and we want your ideas to improve the experience for our PALs and community. Please [Contact Deborah Topolski, Co-RA Illinois](#), or [email Sarah Aronson, PAL & Published Coordinator](#).

Q. Where can I go or send local teachers, librarians and booksellers for more information?

A. <https://illinois.scbwi.org/>