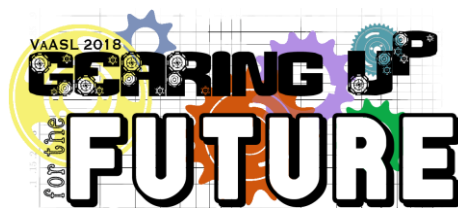


# VAASL 2018 CONFERENCE



## CONFERENCE VENUE



The unique charm of Colonial Williamsburg awaits you. Tucked within the heart of the historic city, the Williamsburg Lodge, Autograph Collection by Marriott seamlessly combines historic elegance with contemporary comfort and places Colonial Williamsburg right at your doorstep. Be the first to see the 2018 holiday decorations in Colonial Williamsburg!

<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/phfak-williamsburg-lodge-autograph-collection/>



Enjoy professional development in over 28,000 square feet of contemporary meeting space.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Thursday General Session

**Leslie Preddy** is an award-winning teacher librarian and the author of several books about school librarianship and Makerspaces. Leslie was also the 2015-2016 American Association of School Librarians (AASL) president. According to Leslie, "This country is full of school librarians pouring their heart and soul into the lives and learning of their community. Their priority is making a difference in the lives of their students, families and staff. School librarians have a pivotal and active role in motivating and developing America's youth into literate, technologically savvy and intellectually thoughtful members of our communities."

Read Leslie's blog at <https://blog.schoollibraryconnection.com/tag/leslie-preddy/> for a sneak peak at what Leslie is all about.

Check out on Amazon at <https://www.amazon.com/Leslie-Preddy/e/B001JP7YH2>



Friday General Session

**Alan Gratz** is the New York Times bestselling author of a number of novels for young readers. Gratz's novels are loved by students and help them to see the world from different perspectives.

His latest NY Times bestseller is *Refugee*. Three different kids, one mission in common – ESCAPE. All three will go on harrowing journeys in search of refuge and will face unimaginable dangers, but for each there is always hope of tomorrow. Learn more about Alan Gratz and his books on his official website <https://www.alangratz.com>.

## OPTIONAL TICKETED EVENTS

### Exhibit Hall Grand Opening (Thursday)



A ribbon cutting kicks off the day with a festive spirit. During this event, door prizes will be awarded to lucky attendees and continental breakfast will be served in the Exhibit Hall.

### President's Reception (Thursday)



Join us in the Exhibit Hall for this complimentary reception to celebrate our exhibitors and participants. By signing up for this reception you will receive a complimentary drink ticket in your registration packet.

### Folklore & Ghost Tour of Colonial Williamsburg (Thursday)



Colonial Williamsburg

Join us for a journey by candlelight through the streets of historic Colonial Williamsburg. Participants will hear some folklore, stories of the past, and maybe even see a ghost! The guided tour will last an hour and guides will escort the group back to the Williamsburg Lodge upon its conclusion.

### Friday Night Awards Banquet with April Henry



VAASL is excited to welcome the bestselling author April Henry as our guest speaker at the Friday night awards banquet. April Henry is a best-selling award-winning author of over 21 young adult mystery-thrillers including *Girl Stolen* and *Body in the Woods*. Read more about April on her website at [www.aprilhenry.com](http://www.aprilhenry.com). Join us as we celebrate the LOY from each of our regions and recognize our Virginia Librarian of the Year.

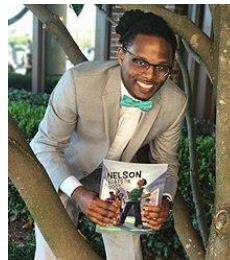
### Saturday Breakfast and Author Panel with Victoria Jamieson, Kathryn Otoshi and Ronnie Sidney, moderated by Leslie Preddy



Victoria Jamieson



Kathryn Otoshi



Ronnie Sidney

Leslie Preddy will moderate the Author Panel with Victoria Jamieson, Kathryn Otoshi and Ronnie Sidney at our Saturday Authors' Breakfast. Victoria Jamieson is the author and illustrator of books for young readers *Roller Girl*, *Pest in Show* and *Olympig*. She will be joined by Kathryn Otoshi, a multi-award winning author/illustrator and national/international speaker, best known for her character-building book series: *Zero*, *One* and *Two and Beautiful Hands*. Ronnie Sidney is a Virginia native and the author of *Nelson Beats the Odds*, *Tameka's New Dress* and *Rest in Peace RaShawn*. Each of these authors has a unique perspective with a common theme of empowerment and resilience. Plan to attend and enjoy the fabulous food and conversations. A book signing will follow the breakfast.