

VSRA 2013 OPTIONAL MEALS AND EVENTS

Annual Banquet \$45.00

Thursday, April 18, 2013 7-9 pm Hilton Hotel and Convention Center

Author Jane O'Conner, author of *Fancy Nancy*, will speak.

New York Times bestselling author Jane O'Connor started writing *Dangerous Admissions*, just published in August of 2007, after she and her husband dropped their younger son off at his freshman dorm. *Dangerous Admissions* is the first adult novel from a writer of more than thirty books for children, including the insanely popular *Fancy Nancy* books (all HarperCollins). The first book, *Fancy Nancy*, has remained on the *New York Times* picture book list for ninety-eight weeks. Although she finds writing for adults infinitely harder, she enjoys the challenge. In 2000, Jane was awarded the Best Nonfiction Book for Young Readers by Booklist for her book *The Emperor's Silent Army: Terra Cotta Warriors of Ancient China*. She was also awarded the Quill Award for Best Picture Book for *Fancy Nancy* in 2007.

(Reading Teachers of the Year will be honored.)

Author Breakfast \$25.00

Friday, April 19, 2013 7:30-9:00am VA Beach Convention Center

Author Neal Shusterman, author of *Unwind*

Award-winning author Neal Shusterman has written more than thirty books for children and teenagers, including UNWIND, UNWHOLLY, BRUISER, EVERLOST, and THE SCHWA WAS HERE, which won the Boston Globe/Horn Book award for fiction. Sometimes funny, sometimes dark, but always poignant, Neal Shusterman's books are "genre-busters" that defy categorization. They challenge readers to think, while keeping them on the edges of their seats.

Secondary Superstars - Friday, April 19, 2013 1:00-3:15pm (\$0.00, TICKET REQUIRED)

Middle School and High School Teachers, Reading Specialists

Administrator's Tea - Friday, April 19, 2013 2:00-3:15pm (\$0.00, TICKET REQUIRED)

Our guest speaker will speak directly to the administrators at our conference about the pressures, the joys and the duties of being an administrator. The winner of the James D. Mullins Award will be recognized.

Literacy Lounge - Friday, April 19, 2013 7-10 pm (\$0.00, TICKET REQUIRED)

Which reading council can rock the Literacy Lounge? Ready to let your hair down and have fun with your council? Come to the Literacy Lounge at the Hilton Friday night. Help us celebrate the local council presidents and honor the VSRA Past Presidents. There will be a DJ with Karoke and dancing. It's sure to be a fun time! We will raffle the donated items at this time, as well.

Author Lunch \$30

Saturday, April 20, 2013 11-12:30 pm Va Beach Convention Center

Author Eric Litwin, author of *Pete the Cat*

Eric Litwin (Mr. Eric) is a song singing, guitar strumming, book writing, harmonica blowing, five time national award-winning, folksy, fun type of guy. He is the # 1 New York Times best-selling author of the Pete the Cat picture books published by Harper Collins. Mr. Eric is a popular performing artist focusing on interactive literacy and participatory music. He has played at Lincoln Center as well as a plethora of schools, festivals, and libraries across the country. Mr. Eric has recorded several award winning children's music albums. He is the co-creator of The Learning Groove which offers educational music and early learning programs.