

REFORMA DE FLORIDA

Noticias del mes/News of the Month

Notes from the Editor

Qué pasa?/What's happening? features YOU. Send news to: reformafl@gmail.com

Our feature article highlights Alicia Long from the Central Region. She's doing great work celebrating diverse books as a judge on the Walter Awards Committee.

The Southern Region is represented by Noelia Martinez-Irizarry, Planning Committee Member for the 22nd Annual SWFL Reading Festival.

We didn't receive any news from the Northern Region, so please send news to reformafl@gmail.com

Nominate yourself or someone else for a Board position. YOU are the future of the chapter. We need YOU to Think, Act, Serve and Respond.

Fill out the [Doodle Poll](#) for our March Membership meeting.

Until next time!

Alma Ramos-McDermott, Editor



Symposium on Diversity in Children's Lit.

Alicia Long (Central region) is a judge on the Walter Awards committee (from *We Need Diverse Books*.) As part of the [announcement of the 2021 Walter Award winning books](#), *We Need Diverse Books* announced the 6th Annual Symposium on Diversity in Children's Literature, co-hosted by the Library of Congress. The Symposium, titled **"Listening, Learning, Creating Communities"** will be held Friday March 12th and will be moderated by Deborah D. Taylor, Coretta Scott King/Virginia Hamilton Lifetime Achievement award-winning librarian and educator. It will include panelists Traci Chee, Robin Ha, Daniel Nayeri and Kacen Callender. The Walter Dean Myers Awards for Outstanding Children's Literature Ceremony will follow the Symposium, with both events being held virtually. Award-winning author Laurie Halse Anderson will serve as the Ceremony's Emcee. The event begins at 1:00 pm EST, and will appear on the Library's [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) pages.



**THINK
ACT
SERVE
RESPOND**

Call for Nominations

THINK: Are you a current member of REFORMA de Florida? Do you want to give our chapter new life to move it forward? Do you want to be part of a Team that brings innovations to the Latinx and Spanish-speaking communities of Florida? Do you know someone who would also answer YES to these questions?

ACT: Nominate yourself or a friend for an Executive Board position!

SERVE: As President OR Vice-President/President Elect OR Secretary OR Treasurer. (Check Position descriptions in your email.)

RESPOND: Please send questions and nominations to the REFORMA de Florida Vision 2020 Task Force at reformafl@gmail.com



22nd Annual SWFL Reading Festival

Planning Committee member Noelia Martinez-Irizarry (Southern region) reports that the 22nd Annual Southwest Florida Reading Festival will be a month-long, fully virtual celebration of the power of reading, brought to the community by the Lee County Library System.

From March 1-12 nearly 30 acclaimed authors will provide nightly programming, including two Latino authors: Anika Aldamuy (*Planting Stories: The Life of Librarian and Storyteller Pura Belpré*, *A Girl Named Rosita: The Story of Rita Moreno*) and Chanel Cleeton (*The Most Beautiful Girl in Cuba*, *When we left Cuba*, *Next Year in Havana*, *The Last Train to Key West*.)

Attendees can also video chat with headlining and local authors during the festival's live booth hours on 1-3 p.m. Saturday, March 6, and Saturday, March 13. Grab-and-go crafts, a reading program with festival bingo and online S.T.E.A.M. contests featuring Lego builds, art and creativity challenges are also part of the fun.

Author presentations will broadcast weekday evenings March 1-5 and March 8-12, with youth and teen authors at 6 p.m. and adult authors at 7 p.m. Each interview will be followed by an interactive, live meet & greet to interact with authors and ask questions via video or text chat. Additional opportunities to chat with authors will be offered during the Saturday live booth sessions at 1 p.m. On March 13, after live events conclude, festival attendees will be able to watch recorded content on-demand through March 31.

Join the 22nd Annual SWFL Reading Festival at www.ReadFest.org. More information is available on the website or by calling 239-533-4832.

FILL OUT DOODLE POLL



for our MARCH

Membership Meeting.

Poll closes
Thursday March
4th at 5 pm.

ZOOM link will
be emailed.

DO YOU HAVE ANY NEWS FROM YOUR REGION?

Send *Qué pasa?/What's happening* news to reformafl@gmail.com

Is your Membership getting ready to expire?

Were you forwarded this newsletter and are not yet a member?

To join the REFORMA de Florida chapter, or to renew, go to

<https://www.reforma.org/join>