



Aloha Family and Friends,

November 2021

During the past 18 months all of us have faced major changes in our daily lives. Masks, vaccinations, social distancing – all of these topics have come to have new meaning in our lives. Read Aloud America has also adapted to these extraordinary circumstances. It is understandable that we cannot offer our popular school programs that have averaged 350 attendees at each evening session since 1999. While much of this is out of our control, we have been finding unique ways to serve our families and hope to resume in-person school programs as soon as it is safe to do so.

For the past year we have been sharing an electronic family newsletter on our Read Aloud America website and Facebook page. We have been offering this newsletter to schools for distribution via their social media and web-based platforms. Our newsletter features resources for children's books, easy indoor kids' unplugged activities, and reading aloud ideas that will help grow children into intelligent, curious, and connected members of their families. The monthly newsletter has been well-received by schools and parents and many have posted it on various other social media platforms. We have discovered that our newsletter helps support parents with the tools needed for their children to become avid readers, creative and independent thinkers and to engage in the world without plugging into a device.

Right now, we are doing everything possible to sustain daily operations and provide services to our community. One of these services is the publication of our annual 14-page Family Reading List. This is a list of 25 great books for every age level that have been judged to have excellent read aloud appeal. On the reverse side of this letter is our reading list for 2022 of great reads for adults.

While there is a lot of uncertainty, we know that we need to continue to adapt to our changing times. Read Aloud America has an important role to play by continuing operations to best serve our communities. Now, more than ever, our communities need us - and we need you!

Please support us by making a contribution to Read Aloud America. You may send your donation in the enclosed envelope or you can contribute via PayPal at: <http://www.readaloudamerica.org/contribute.htm>. Thank you in advance for helping to build and bond families of lifetime readers and learners.

Mahalo!

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