

# Bonnie Campbell Hill National Literacy Leader Award, 2026-2027

Through the Bonnie Campbell Hill National Literacy Leader Award, the Children's Literature Assembly (CLA) will honor two outstanding literacy leaders annually. The award recognizes the contributions and leadership of the late Bonnie Campbell Hill. Award recipients may include, but are not limited to, classroom teachers, literacy coaches, professors, librarians, or teacher educators who are dedicated to improving the teaching and learning of reading and writing in real world contexts for students in grades PreK to 8. The \$2,500 (USD) grant is intended to be used for professional development (not for materials, except professional books for a book study). An additional \$150 grant, provided by Heinemann, may support the purchase of professional books for you and/or your colleagues. The award is supported by Bonnie Campbell Hill's family and colleagues.

## Application Guidelines

Your application materials must include all four items:

1. Completed application form
2. A professional development plan for 2026-2027 (three-page maximum) that outlines why you would be a strong candidate for these monies and your vision for how this support would allow you to improve and enhance teaching and learning for students and/or teachers. The plan must provide details about the project and include a specific budget indicating how the \$2,500 grant, plus the (optional) \$150 grant for the purchase of [Heinemann Professional Books](#), would be spent. The plan should address the key elements listed in the attached evaluation criteria rubric.

**Note:** Funds may be used for, but are not limited to, the following examples: attending the Annual NCTE Conference, attending the Annual ILA Convention, attending Teacher's College Training, or a reputable children's literature conference, conducting literature-based research with teaching implementation potential (e.g., Kerlan Collection), buying professional books for a book study among colleagues. Funds may *not* be used to buy classroom materials.

3. A resume or short CV showing professional experience and leadership accomplishments/activities.
4. A letter of recommendation from a supervisor detailing the applicant's leadership skills, collaborative interactions, effective teaching practices, successful teaching/learning relationships with students and teachers and an understanding of the intentions and/or support of the project detailed by the applicant. The letter should address the evaluation criteria listed in the attached rubric.

Complete applications must be submitted by **September 1, 2026**, via email to Jennifer Slagus, BCH Award Committee Chair, at [jslagus@wcupa.edu](mailto:jslagus@wcupa.edu). Evaluation criteria are included in the attached rubric.

All applicants will be notified of award outcome no later than **October 1, 2026**. The award will be presented at the CLA Breakfast at this November's NCTE Convention in Philadelphia, PA. All conference expenses (transportation, meals, accommodations, etc.) of awardees wishing to attend NCTE will be borne by the awardee or paid for out of the initial award.

## Awardee Criteria

CLA membership is not required to apply for this award. If awardee is a current member of CLA, their subsequent year of CLA membership will be complimentary. If awardee is not yet a member of CLA, upon receipt of the award at the NCTE Annual Convention, they will receive a complimentary CLA membership for one year.

Awardee must use the attached template to submit a report to the Committee by **June 30, 2027**, detailing how the funds were used, including what the awardee learned and the impact this project had on student learning and/or professional development.

Awardee will be expected to serve on the 2027-2028 BCH Award Committee.

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## Application Form

Name:

Home Address:

Email:

Cell Phone:

Name of School Where You Teach:

Address of School:

School Phone:

Your Current Position:

Your Professional Affiliations (e.g., WaSLA, NCTE, ILA, ALA):

### **Recommender Information**

Name:

Affiliation and Title:

Address:

Email:

I give my permission for the information submitted to be reviewed by the selection committee.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### **Application Requirements Checklist**

Please confirm you have completed each of the requirements and have included them in your application:

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Application Form**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Professional Development Plan & Budget** (as specified in the award announcement above)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Resume/Vita**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Recommendation Letter** from a supervisor (as specified in the award announcement above)

An electronic copy of all components must be received by **September 1, 2026**.

Submit all application materials by email to: Jennifer Slagus at [jslagus@wcupa.edu](mailto:jslagus@wcupa.edu)

# Bonnie Campbell Hill National Teacher Leader Literacy Award 2026-2027

## Evaluation Criteria

This form will be completed by members of the award selection committee.

**Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_

The professional development plan and recommendation letter must comment on each of the following criteria as they apply to the applicant in their current position/role.

### **Scoring Key:**

3 Strong

2 Average

1 Weak

0 Not Applicable

	<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	<b>Score</b>
1	Knowledge of reading and writing instructional strategies	
2	Commitment to evidence-based literacy instruction practices	
3	Willingness to collaborate and share ideas and methods with others	
4	Demonstrated leadership skills that impact colleagues	
5	Demonstrated enthusiasm for the field of literacy instruction	
6	Potential of proposal to impact student learning and/or professional development of a learning community	

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## Awardee Report

**For Awardees Only:**

Please use this template to provide a 1-page report, no later than by **June 30, 2027**, detailing how award funds were used, including what you learned and the impact this award/project had on student learning or professional development. Awardee reports will be shared with Bonnie Campbell Hill's family and colleagues and current members of the Children's Literature Assembly Board. Awardee Reports should be emailed to Jennifer Slagus, Committee Chair, at [jslagus@wcupa.edu](mailto:jslagus@wcupa.edu).

**Awardee Name:**

### **2026-2027 Awardee Report**