



# VSLA Richmond Area Chapter



## April 2021 Newsletter

Greetings RAC members!

We hope everyone is enjoying all that spring has to offer. There is so much to celebrate as we move through the month of April. April is not only poetry month, but Earth Day is also coming up on April 22nd. Check out our suggestions on some titles you can incorporate to recognize these events. Our Spring Conference is also just around the corner, so make sure you check out the details on the next page.

Best Wishes,  
Emma and the RAC Board

### Calendar of Events

**April 20th:** VSLA- Richmond Area Chapter 2021 Spring Conference  
→ Register at <http://tinyurl.com/racconf>

**April 26th:** Parents and Readers application deadline

**May 31st:** [Virginia Reader's Choice Voting Closes](#)



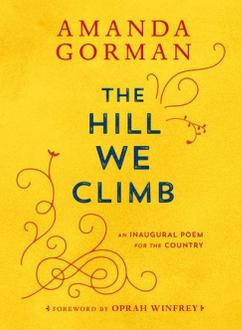
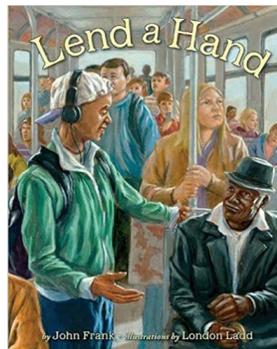
### Poetry Picks

**Title:** Lend a Hand: Poems about Giving

**Author:** John Frank

**Highlights:**

- Contains 14 poems centered around the theme of kindness
- Poems reflect diverse voices accompanied by beautiful illustrations by London Ladd



**Title:** The Hill We Climb

**Author:** Amanda Gorman

**Highlights:**

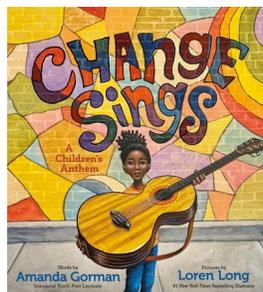
- The 1st book of poetry ever to claim the top spot on USA TODAY'S Best-Selling Books List
- Read at President Joe Biden's inauguration

**Title:** Change Sings: A Children's Anthem

**Author:** Amanda Gorman

**Highlights:**

- Illustrated by Loren Long, #1 New York Times bestselling illustrator
- Coming September 2021



**"For there is always light, if only we're brave enough to see it. If only we're brave enough to be it."**

**-Amanda Gorman**

### Join Us!

We would love to add more members to the Richmond Area Chapter of VSLA! Join now and you can attend our spring conference for free! Check out our [website](#) for details on how to become a member.



Virginia State  
Literacy Association

# VSLA

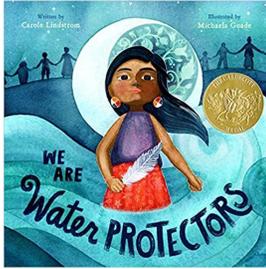
Richmond Area Chapter

## Earth Day, Every Day!

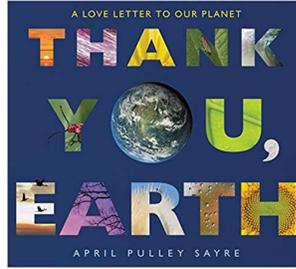
Earth day falls on April 22nd this year, but you can enjoy these amazing stories about our planet any day of the year.



*My Friend Earth* by Patricia MacLachlan



*We Are Water Protectors* by Carole Lindstrom



*Thank You, Earth: A Love Letter to Our Planet* by April Pulley Sayre

Save the Date

RICHMOND AREA CHAPTER  
**SPRING CONFERENCE**  
FEATURING GUEST SPEAKER SCHOLAR EMCEE  
**BAVU BLAKES**  
**LESSONS FROM THE MIRROR: LITERACY AND IDENTITY**  
Tuesday, April 20th, 2021  
from 5 PM to 6:30 PM  
on ZOOM  
FREE FOR VSLA MEMBERS  
BECOME A MEMBER AT [VSRA.ORG](https://vsra.org)  
REGISTER AT  
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/RACCONF](https://tinyurl.com/racconf)

## Parents and Readers Grant

Each year, RAC works with one school to facilitate a Parents and Readers Workshop which includes complimentary books! Parents and children attend the workshop together and will leave with books to take home. This workshop is designed to help schools support families in creating a culture of literacy at home. The application requirements, deadline, and link (to the application) are as follows:

### Requirements:

- At least one staff member at the school must be a CURRENT RAC member
- Schools must have 50% or more students eligible for free and reduced lunch
- Parents must attend the hour long RAC workshop at school (or virtually) with their children/students
- School groups, such as Title I, CIS, PTA, etc., will be invited to support the workshop
- A school representative will work with the RAC Parents and Readers Coordinator to determine the time frame for the Parents and Readers Workshop (Spring 2021, Summer 2021, or Fall 2021)
- **Application Deadline - April 26, 2021**

To apply for the grant, please click on this [link](#).

RAC Parents and Readers Coordinator - Doris Favale [dfavale@hcps.us](mailto:dfavale@hcps.us)

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