



eREACH

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*The electronic newsletter of the Religious Education Association:
An Association of Professors, Practitioners, Researchers, and Religious Educators*

If you haven't heard from us in a while...

Due to some misunderstandings around data handling procedures, this newsletter is being sent to a much larger group of members, past members, and friends of the Association than were previous issues of eREACH. You might be among those receiving our electronic newsletter for the first time. We apologize that we have been out of touch! We hope you will enjoy the update and reconnection with REA:APPRRE members and activities. We've missed you!

We have transitioned to an electronic newsletter to keep our members and friends informed and connected in a digital age. You can also stay updated through the REA:APPRRE Facebook page and by subscribing to the RSS news stream at our website www.religiouseducation.net. We always welcome your suggestions about what information is important to you and how we can make it easy to access.

2012 ANNUAL MEETING

Nov 2-4 Sheraton Atlanta, Atlanta, Georgia

Our 2012 meeting theme, "**Let Freedom Ring!**"—**Religious Education at the Intersection of Social Justice, Liberation, and Civil/Human Rights**, melds scholarship, context, and praxis in unique ways made particularly significant by current national and world events. We will convene the weekend before the national U.S. elections! Program Chair Yolanda Smith has developed an exciting roster of speakers, exhibits, artists, and musicians to stir our creativity and inspire our praxis. Watch the [meeting web site](#) for details about presentations by

- [InterRelations Collaborative](#) with the Peace Story Quilt
- [Concerned Black Clergy of Atlanta](#)
- [Youth Hope-Builders Academy](#)
- [Welcoming America](#) (video will be shown Saturday night, or [preview it here](#))

and our own illustrious members, including the authors of [Greenhouses of Hope!](#) Online registration will open next week. You will find a few **changes in registration** procedures; note that the discount for **early registration ends September 15**, no exceptions! The luncheons and banquet are listed separately from the registration fee. Housing and other information can be found on the [web site](#).

Record Number of Proposals

The May deadline for proposals for the 2012 Annual Meeting drew a record **116 submissions**, over three times as many as averaged by the last three meetings. So many outstanding submissions created quite the conundrum for our Proposals Selection Committee! As a partial solution, the Committee invited authors of certain selected proposals to consider a creative poster/media presentation, joining a host of other academic guilds in employing this creative addition to meetings. Done effectively, posters can provide the author with much more feedback than a paper presentation because they allow for more in-depth dialogue with those most interested in the topic. And as educators we know the power of [visual representation](#) to convey complex and abstract concepts.

Pre-Conference Contextual Engagement Opportunity

The *Peace and Justice Task Force* and the *Religious Education in Public Life and Global Community Forum* are sponsoring a pre-conference trip to the [Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change](#)

([The King Center](#)) on Thursday, November 1, 1:00-5:00 PM, followed by dinner in downtown Atlanta. The visit to the King Center will include

- Civil Rights Walk of Fame
- Visitor Center Outdoor Campus, with crypt of Dr. and Mrs. King
- Freedom Hall, with exhibits honoring Dr. and Mrs. King, Mahatma Gandhi, and Rosa Parks
- Ebenezer Baptist Church
- World Peace Rose Garden
- Birth Home of Dr. King (optional)

The group will end the tour with a visit to the King Center's Bookstore and Resource Center, and then consider options for dinner at a local restaurant.

Cost: metro fare and dinner. There is no admissions fee for King Center exhibits.

Sign up on your Annual Meeting Registration or on the Meeting web site (forthcoming).

Graduate Student Travel Awards

A limited number of travel awards are available to PhD students presenting papers at the Annual Meeting. Requirements and application are available [online](#).

Advisors, remember to notify your students of this opportunity!

Application **deadline: August 1**. Awards announced: September 1

Bring a Projector, Save \$50

The REA recognizes the importance of using digital equipment during presentations. However, costs for renting this equipment at a hotel is high! If you have access to a projector that you are able to bring for us to use during the meeting, please let [Sybrina Atwaters](#) know **by August 15** and you will receive a \$50 discount on your conference registration (limited to the first 10 responses).

REA:APPRRE Announces New Book Series!

Excitement is buzzing around the announcement of [HORIZONS IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION](#), a new book series to be published by REA:APPRRE in cooperation with Wipf & Stock Publishers! The impetus for this groundbreaking project is REA's commitment to support newer scholars and to nurture the growth and development of our field. Manuscripts or intent to submit should be sent to Jack Seymour, Editor, at jack.seymour@garrett.edu.

Is your membership current?

Some of us might lose track of whether we have renewed our REA:APPRRE membership for 2012, and you will need to know that when you register for the Annual Meeting! You can find current information about your membership by 1) checking the online [Membership Directory](#) to see if you are listed correctly, 2) signing in to your account at Taylor & Francis Online and going to My Account > Access, or 3) contacting [Customer Service](#) at Taylor & Francis who publish the REA journal and process all of our memberships.

Have a wonderful summer, and I hope to see you in Atlanta!

Lucinda

*Lucinda Huffaker, PhD
Executive Secretary
REA:APPRRE
c/o Yale Divinity School
409 Prospect St
New Haven, CT 06511
765.225.8836*

Contact the Religious Education Association at secretary@religiouseducation.net.

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