

# ATN NEWSLETTER

This Month's Title Isn't Hyperbole



## DATES OF NOTE FOR FEBRUARY

### All Month: Black History Month

**Feb 1st** - World Hijab Day, Imbolc

**Feb 2nd** - Groundhog Day

**Feb 1st-7th** - World Interfaith  
Harmony Week

**Feb 6th** - Ayyám-i-Há

**Feb 9th to 15th** - Kindess Week

**Feb 12th** - Guru Ravidass Jayanti

**Feb 12th to 13th** - Tu BiShvat  
2025

**Feb 14th** - Valentine's Day,  
Laylatul Bara'ah

**Feb 15th** - Parinirvana Day

**Feb 18th** - International  
Asperger's Day

**Feb 19 to 25th** - Aromantic  
Spectrum Awareness Week

**Feb 19th** - Family Day

**Feb 20th** - World Day for Social  
Justice

**Feb 21st** - UN International  
Mother Language Day

**Feb 22nd** - Guru Har Rai Sahib Ji  
Jayanti

**Feb 23rd to Mar 1st** - Freedom to  
Read Week

**Feb 26th** - Pink Shirt Day

**Feb 28th to Mar 29** - Ramadan

**Feb 28th to Mar 2nd** - Losar

## TEACHING WHILE THE WORLD IS ON FIRE

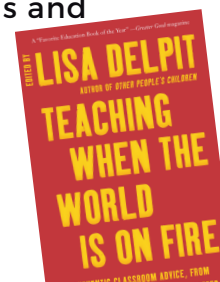
From the desks of the Antiracist Teachers Network:

Look, we know this month's title might sound a little hyperbolic, but we have seen and felt a dramatic shift in the language around topics close to our collective hearts: Climate Justice, Diversity, Social Justice, Inclusion, #LandBack, Equity... And we are sure that you, our fellow readers, have felt this shift as well. Whether in your classrooms or in your community spaces.

So, when considering what we should focus this month's newsletter on the title of Lisa Delpit's book came to mind.

**Teaching When The World Is On Fire** is a book that some ATN members have found to be an essential guide on how to cover all these topics and more when... Well, the world is on fire (literally). We also wanted to gather other resources that can help you tackle these challenging conversations when they arise in your classrooms, staff rooms or communities.

Even when the world is on fire, these conversations need to exist in spaces where you are prepared to navigate them, because after every fire there is soil for you to plant some seeds and hopefully see them grow.





## PODCAST RECCS.

From the ATN!



We recommend [Who am I?](#)



We recommend [What life and school is like in Calgary for queer kids today.](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Come see the ATN at:



### ATN Presents: Actioning Anti-Racism in Schools

Our first ever half day workshop at Calgary City Teacher's Convention where we hope to help you create an action plan for your classroom and school on **Thursday February 13th at 9am!** [Register here!](#)

### The ATN's Racialized Teachers Affinity Space

We are bringing our Racialized Teacher's Affinity Space to Calgary City Teacher's Convention to help foster connection for BIPOC teachers on **Thursday February 13th. Check out the CCTC website for registration information!**

### The ATN Presents: Addressing Hateful Language in Schools: Strategies for Educators

The ATN is collaborating with Local 38's PD committee for a half day workshop focused on developing understanding around harmful language in schools. [Register for this unique PD on March 11, 2025 at the Glenmore Inn through Eventbrite!](#)

## COOL STUFF!

- **Queen's University** has developed a module on [Navigating Difficult Conversations](#) which helps participants create accountable spaces and identify "Hot Button" responses
- [Courageous Conversation](#) was designed by Glenn E. Singleton (author of *Courageous Conversations About Race*) to help provide clear protocols for organizations to navigate challenging conversations
- **York University** has also developed a learning series titled [Facilitating Dialogue and Challenging Conversations in the Classroom](#), designed for higher level education the facilitation strategies and tools are still applicable to classroom settings
- **Learning for Justice** provides [A Care Plan for Honest History and Difficult Conversations](#) perfect for any history classroom
- **CAT at Temple University** has the [Teaching in Tumultuous Times](#) video series
- **The University of Saskatchewan** has a great guide for [identifying different types of spaces for challenging conversations](#)
- **Edutopia** provides a quick guide on how to handle [Difficult Conversations with Colleagues](#)

## OUR MONTHLY BOOK RECCS

From the ATN Resource Bank!



### K-4

**The Longest Storm** by Dan Yaccarino  
**Marwan's Journey** by Patricia De Arias  
**Idriss and His Marble** by Rene Gouichoux  
**WHY?** by Nikolai Popov

### 5-9

**Unidentified Suburban Object** by Mike Jung  
**Ahimsa** by Supriya Kelkar  
**I Am Alfonso Jones** by Tony Medina, John Jennings, Stacey Robinson  
**This Side of Home** by Renée Watson

### 10-12

**Before the Ever After** by Jacqueline Woodson  
**London Reign** by A.C. Britt  
**Son of a Trickster** by Eden Robinson

### For Educators

**Black Boys Like Me** by Matthew R. Morris  
**Teaching While The World Is On Fire** by Lisa Delpit  
**Falling Back in Love with Being Human: Letters to Lost Souls** by Kai Cheng Thom  
**Courageous Conversations About Race** by Glenn E. Singleton



Looking for previous ATN issues?

Find them under

[Antiracist Teacher Network Newsletter](#) here!