



## *Virginia Association of Teachers of English*

*96<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
41<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference Year*

**October 22-24, 2010  
Wyndham Virginia Beach Oceanfront**



### *Keepers of the Light: Illuminating Twenty-First Century Literacies in the English Classroom*

In an ever-changing, ever-growing global community, communication is of utmost importance to economic, educational, and personal development. In order to communicate effectively, we must be equipped with necessary reading, writing, and speaking skills that enable us to participate in the diverse discourse of daily life, regardless of our chosen career paths.

As cultivators of these fundamental skills, English educators strive to prepare students for success beyond the next school year and into their professional lives. In recent years, however, English educators have been faced with new, twenty-first century literacies that move beyond the printed anthologies and hard-bound texts. Students are researching, writing, reading, and even speaking through electronic communications that expand beyond friends and family; global interconnectivity is limitless through computers, held-hand devices, and cellular phones. In a time when entire business transactions may occur without once meeting face-to-face, effective communication skills in reading, writing, and speaking are vital to success.

Our students need to be prepared to communicate beyond the bounds of our own communities, as professional achievement may depend on the acquisition of these skills. In a time of twenty-first century literacies, how do you instill effective communication skills in your students? How do you prepare students for success beyond your classroom?

VATE invites you to submit the illumination of twenty-first century literacies in your classrooms.