

# Hoogland Center for Teacher Excellence

## *The Art of Teaching: Upper School Literature*

Renaissance Newport Beach Hotel  
4500 MacArthur Boulevard, Newport Beach, CA 92660

February 28, 2025

8:00-9:00 a.m.  
Bay Laurel Foyer

*Registration and Continental Breakfast*

9:00-9:15 a.m.  
Bay Laurel C&S

*Welcome*

9:15-10:15 a.m.  
Bay Laurel C&S

**“Forming the Imagination Through Literature”**  
*Joshua Villarreal, Teacher Support Lead*

10:15-10:30 a.m.  
Bay Laurel Foyer

*Coffee Break*

10:30-11:30 a.m.  
Bay Laurel C&S

*Breakout Session I*  
**“Teaching Literature through the Seminar Method”**  
*Dr. John Peterson, Assistant Director of Curriculum*

Bay Laurel North

*Breakout Session II*  
**“Practical Structures for Teaching Close Reading”**  
*Aaron Schepps, Atlanta Classical Academy*

11:30-12:45 p.m.  
*Sequoia*

*Lunch*  
**“Why I Lead a Classical School”**  
*Semi Park, Orange County Classical Academy*

12:45-1:45 p.m.  
Bay Laurel C&S

**“Freedom, Education, and Leadership:  
Why You Should Read and Teach Dante”**  
*Dr. Stephen Smith, Professor of English*

1:45-2:00 p.m.  
Bay Laurel Foyer

*Coffee Break*

2:00-3:00 p.m.  
Bay Laurel C&S

**“Whitman, Melville, and the Poetry of the Civil War”**  
*Dr. Kelly Franklin, Associate Professor of English*



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