



**BARBARA LACEY, Ed.D**

**BOOK PROGRAMS & FAMILY  
ENGAGEMENT DIRECTOR**

Dr. Barbara Lacey, Ed.D., is the Book Programs and Family Engagement Director for READ USA. In this role, Barbara oversees all book programming and events through READ USA's [Book Choice & Ownership](#) and [Multicultural Literacy](#) programs. She also leads READ USA's family engagement connections and events, providing guidance on ways that families and parents can further cultivate literacy skills and instill a love for reading in the home.

After having dedicated her professional life to literacy and education and retiring from the K-12 school system, Barbara joined the READ USA team as a new phase in her career. Her position enables her to remain at the intersection of her passions – literacy and education – yet on a different platform outside of the classroom.

Prior to joining READ USA, Barbara was an adjunct professor focused on secondary reading instruction for graduate students at Jacksonville University, conducting alternative certification classes and teaching reading foundations, theories, and instructional best practices for future educators. She previously served as a reading curriculum specialist for Duval County Public Schools, supporting ELA teachers, specialists, and students in grades 6-12.

Barbara pursued these opportunities after retiring as a high school English teacher at the Savannah Arts Academy in Savannah, Georgia, a position she held for 20 years. She primarily created and implemented content-specific lesson plans focused on engaging high school seniors in literature, journalism, and advanced composition. She also served as the Journalism Advisor for the school yearbook, newspaper, and magazine, and the National English Honor Society Advisor. She credits her students and fellow faculty at Savannah Arts Academy for further fueling her passion for teaching, literature, and cultivating a love for literacy in students.

Barbara began her career as a middle school English teacher in Savannah, serving as a 7th-grade reading and Language Arts instructor. She subsequently held positions as a part-time adjunct professor at Savannah State University teaching English, rhetoric, and composition, and as the reading and English teacher for the university's Upward Bound Program for high school students. She continued in these positions during her time at the Savannah Arts Academy.

Barbara is a member of numerous professional associations, including the Professional Association of Georgia Educators (PAGE), the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), the National Educators Association (NEA), and is a Coastal Georgia Writing Project Fellow, among others. During her career, she earned her Reading Endorsement, her Instructional Leadership Certification, and she is AP Certified in Literature and Composition and a Gifted Certified Teacher for grades 6-12.

A lifelong learner, Barbara earned her bachelor's degree in English, Language, and Literature from the Savannah State University and eventually two master's degrees in Instructional Technology and Education from Cambridge College in Boston and Strayer University in Savannah. The capstone of her educational pursuits was earning her doctorate in Instructional Leadership and Higher Education from Argosy University in Sarasota.