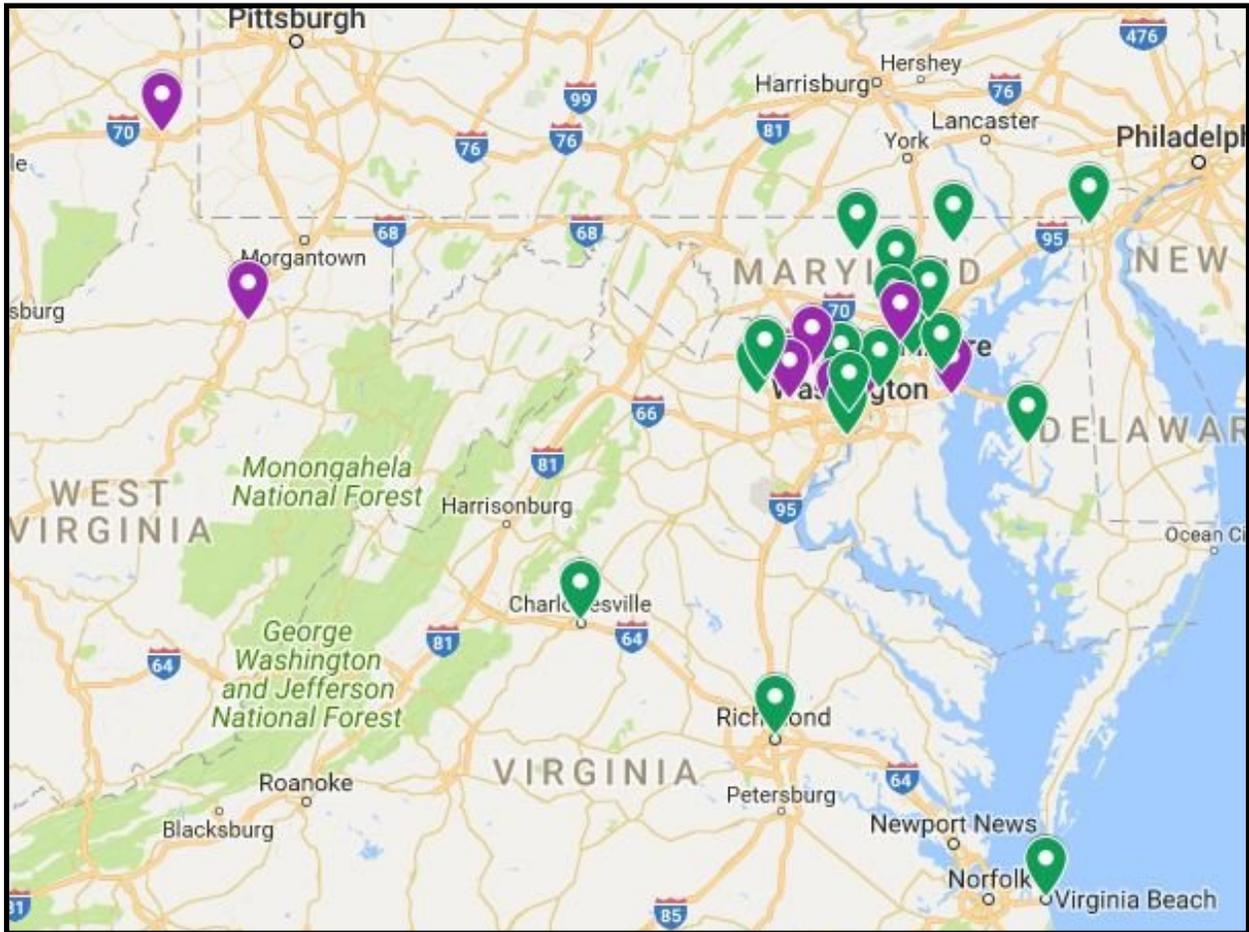




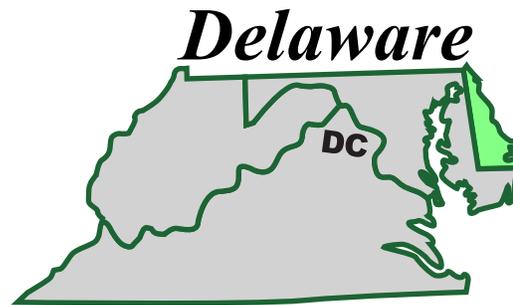
## Author and Illustrator Presentations

Published and Listed Members of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators MD/DE/WV Region in partnership with SCBWI Mid-Atlantic  
[mddewv.scbwi.org](http://mddewv.scbwi.org)

*Approximate prices are provided for informational purposes;  
please contact authors and illustrators directly to negotiate presentations and rates to fit your needs.*



*This directory is for your convenience, but is not a comprehensive list of available authors in the mid-Atlantic region. Find even more children's book authors and illustrators with school/library presentations by browsing the SCBWI Speakers Bureau (<http://www.scbwi.org/speakers-bureau/>)*



**John Micklos, Jr.** (Author), Newark, DE

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picture books, poetry books, history/social studies books, and biographies

**Programs offered for:** PreK, Elementary, Middle, High School

**Book Titles:** *One Leaf, Two Leaves, Count with Me!* illustrated by Clive McFarland (Penguin, 2017); other recent titles include *The Sound in the Basement* (First State Press, 2015), *Beach Fun: Poems of Surf and Sand* (First State Press, 2016), *The First Amendment: Freedom of Speech and Religion* (Capstone, 2017), *The Fourth Amendment: Civil Liberties* (Capstone, 2017)

**Publisher:** Penguin/Nancy Paulsen Books (*One Leaf, Two Leaves, Count with Me!*)

**Types of Visits:** classroom visits and hands-on writing workshops, assemblies, library visits, panels, Skype visits

**Programs Offered –**

**For PreK:** Readings from *One Leaf, Two Leaves, Count with Me!*, *The Sound in the Basement*, *Beach Poems*, *Mommy Poems*, and *Daddy Poems*

**For Elementary/MS/HS:** Writing Workshop (either nonfiction or poetry; delivered at the classroom level; up to six classroom workshops in a full day)

**How a Book Gets Made** - (describing the process from beginning to end; appropriate for large groups or classroom level)

**Making Facts Fun** (how authors and publishers bring nonfiction to life using quotes, fun facts, and stories; appropriate for large groups or classroom level)

**Custom Presentations Available:** Yes

**Approx. Costs:** \$300 to \$400 half day; \$500 to \$750 full day



**Mary Amato** (Author), Hyattsville, MD

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Chapter Books, Middle-Grade Novels, YA

**Programs offered for:** K-12

**Book Titles:** *Our Teacher is a Vampire* (Holiday House, 2016), *The Riot Brothers Series* (Holiday House, 2016); *The Good Crooks Series* (LPG, 2015), *Guitar Notes* (CarolRhoda Lab, 2012), and more.

**Types of visits offered:** full-school assemblies; classroom visits; residencies in fiction, poetry, songwriting; Skype workshops.

**Programs Offered:**

**Story-Inventing** - Students learn the three-part trajectory of the classic story. Using a theater game, they learn how to construct a story—often with hilarious results. Especially helpful for young, reluctant writers.

**Author Visit** - A journey through the writing process. Where do ideas come from? How do journals, webs, and outlines help? Why is revising so important and how can it be fun? Interactive and inspiring.

**Songwriting** - Students learn how to use rhythm, rhyme, symbolism, metaphor, and point of view to write and record a collaborative song.

**Custom Presentations Available:** Mary works with schools to develop curricular-related programs and residencies.

**Approximate costs:** Classroom workshop \$325; half-day \$625; Full day \$950.

**Veronica Bartles** (Author), Catonsville, MD

[vbartles.com](http://vbartles.com) | [vbartleswrites@vbartles.com](mailto:vbartleswrites@vbartles.com) | [@vbartles](https://www.instagram.com/vbartles)

Picture Book fairy tale retelling, & Young Adult contemporary

**Programs offered for:** PreK, Elementary, Middle, High School

**Book Titles:** *The Princess and the Frogs* (Balzer + Bray, 2016); *Twelve Steps* (Kissing Frogs Press, 2014)

**Types of visits offered:** assemblies, classroom visits, writing workshops, library visits, panels, Skype

**Programs Offered:**

**Never Give Up!: Failure is the Key to Success** - Presentation plus Q&A for large or small groups. A look at the failures and bumps along the path to publication. I talk about the ways my biggest successes were only possible because I failed first, and why giving up is never an option.

**Fractured Fairy Tales: Making a Familiar Story New by Asking “What If?”** - Both of my books include new twists on familiar stories. In this presentation, I encourage students to imagine new paths for stories they already know. (fits with 2nd grade core curriculum fairy tale unit)

**The Details Make the Story: Writing with All Five Senses** - Small group workshop: bringing flat prose to life. I’ll talk about the editing process, using adjectives effectively, and bringing in all five senses to make the story and characters feel real. We’ll talk about how these skills can enhance all other forms of creative and academic writing. Then, we can work together to create a story with what we’ve learned.

**Custom Presentations Available:** Yes

**Approximate costs:** 1 hr \$250; half-day \$600 (A limited number of discounted programs available annually.)

**Barbara Beck**, Architect (Author/Illustrator), Annapolis, MD

[www.barbarabeckauthor.com](http://www.barbarabeckauthor.com) | [barbara.beck07@gmail.com](mailto:barbara.beck07@gmail.com) | [@barbarabeck07](https://twitter.com/barbarabeck07) | 410-877-4400

Non-fiction STEM books for elementary and middle school children

**Programs offered for:** Elementary, Middle School

**Book Titles:** *The Future Architect's Handbook* (Schiffer, 2014); *The Future Architect's Tool Kit* (Schiffer, 2016)

**Types of programs:** hands-on architecture program - library and classroom settings.

**Programs Offered:**

**Future Architects:** An introduction to the 4 basic drawings every architect uses, after which the children create a floor plan using a prepared template. Depending on the length of the program, other drawings such as elevations may be explored, and if time permits, a model may be started.

**Approximate costs:** 1 hour - \$80 (Negotiable with Book sales encouraged); Half-day - \$300

**Vonnie Winslow Crist** (author/illustrator), Jarrettsville, MD

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Young Adult Fantasy/Science-Fiction/Adventure Middle, High

**Book Titles:** *The Enchanted Dagger* (Pole to Pole, 2016), *The Greener Forest* (Pole to Pole, 2016), *Beyond the Sheercliffs* (Pole to Pole, 2017)

**Types of visits offered:** Assembles, library/classroom visits, hands-on writing programs, panels, Skype .

**Topics:** Worldbuilding, Writing Fiction: Gardener vs Architect, Writing for Anthologies from an Editor's Point of View, Fracturing Fairy Tales, Storytelling through Illustration, From Idea to Book

**Approximate costs:** 1 hour \$200; half-day \$500

**Meg Eden** (Author), Severn, MD

[www.megedenbooks.com](http://www.megedenbooks.com) | [mkuyatt@megedenbooks.com](mailto:mkuyatt@megedenbooks.com) | [@ConfusedNarwhal](https://twitter.com/ConfusedNarwhal)

Young adult books: magical realism, contemporary, science fiction

**Programs offered for:** Elementary through college

**Book Title(s):** *Post-High School Reality Quest* (Rare Bird, 2017)

**Types of visits offered:** library/classroom visits, writing workshops, panels, Skype visits, interactive game reading of the novel

**Programs Offered:**

**Environmental Storytelling: How Video Games Taught Me How to Write** - Storytelling is changing to not just be on the page, but through movies, television, and video games--highly visual mediums. In this workshop, we'll discuss examples of games that tell stories through objects, and go into our own writing exercises inspired by video games.

**Interactive "Demo" of Post-High School Reality Quest** - Live-action "demo" play-through of the first chapter of Meg Eden's text-adventure novel *Post-High School Reality Quest!* Fans of Action Castle and text adventure games will enjoy this interactive experience.

**Hooking Your Reader: Writing a Killer First Line** - How do we snag our readers and make them want to read more? In this workshop, we'll look at examples of powerful first lines and discuss strategies for selecting a powerful first line. Feel free to bring the first line of your story or novel for a mini first-line "workshop."

**Custom Presentations Available:** Yes

**Approximate costs:** 1 hr \$75, half-day \$200

**Rebecca Evans** (Author/Illustrator), Severna Park, MD

[rebeccaevans.net](http://rebeccaevans.net) | [rebecca@rebeccaevans.net](mailto:rebecca@rebeccaevans.net) | [@RebeccaEvansArt](https://www.instagram.com/RebeccaEvansArt)

Picture Books

**Programs offered for:** PreK, Elementary, Middle School, High School

**Book Titles:** *Someday I'll Fly* (Red Engine Press 2014), *Friends in Fur Coats* (Gryphon Press 2016)

**Types of visits offered:** assemblies, classroom visits, hands-on writing and/or illustration workshops, library visits, panels, Skype visits. A limited number of discounted programs are available annually.

**Approximate cost:** 1 hour program: \$300, half-day program: \$600 (a limited number of discounted programs available annually)

**Claudia Friddell** (Author), Baltimore, MD

[claudiafriddell.com](http://claudiafriddell.com)

Nonfiction picture books, middle grade nonfiction

**Programs offered for:** Elementary, Middle

**Book Titles:** *Goliath, Hero of the Great Baltimore Fire* (Sleeping Bear, 2010); *George Washington's Spies* (Random House, 2016)

**Types of visits offered:** Assemblies, classroom visits, hands-on writing workshops, library visits, faculty workshops.

**Topics:** Totally True Heroes: Secret Spies and a Heroic Horse; Digging for Treasure: The Surprising Thrills of Research; Bringing History to Life for Reluctant Readers. Contact Claudia regarding reduced rate programs.

**Approximate costs:** 1 hour \$200; half-day \$400

**Laura Gehl** (author), Chevy Chase, MD

[lauragehl.com](http://lauragehl.com) | [laurameressa@gmail.com](mailto:laurameressa@gmail.com)

Picture books

**Programs offered for:** PreK, Elementary

**Book Titles:** *One Big Pair of Underwear* (Simon & Schuster, 2014); *Peep And Egg: I'm Not Hatching* (Macmillan, 2016); *I Got A Chicken For My Birthday* (Lerner, 2018)

**Types of visits offered:** Assemblies, classroom visits, hands-on writing/illustration programs, library visits, panels, Skype visits

**Programs Offered:** A former teacher and theater director, Laura packs her highenergy programs with props, games, literacy activities, elements of improvisational drama...and laughter!

**Approximate costs:** 1 hour \$350; half-day \$650

**Amy S. Hansen** (author), Greenbelt, MD

[amyshansen.com](http://amyshansen.com) | [amy.hansen@nasw.org](mailto:amy.hansen@nasw.org)

Science for kids, non-fiction books pre-K through 7

**Programs offered for:** PreK, Elementary, Middle

**Book Titles:** *Fire Bird: The Kirtland's Warbler Story* (Arbutus Press, 2017); *Bugs and Bugsicles: Insects in the Winter* (Boyd's Mill Press, 2010)

**Types of visits offered:** Assemblies, classroom visits; hands-on writing programs.

**Topics:** How is nonfiction different from fiction? Does it still have a story? How do you do research? How do you write? And what do the animals look like? It is a busy exciting hour.

**Approximate costs:** 1 hour \$350, \$50 for each add'l assembly, up to 4 a day

**Karen Leggett Abouraya** (Author) Silver Spring, MD

[Karen@handsaroundthelibrary.com](mailto:Karen@handsaroundthelibrary.com) | [Handsaroundthelibrary.com](http://Handsaroundthelibrary.com) | [@LeggettAbouraya](https://twitter.com/LeggettAbouraya)

**Programs offered for:** Elementary, Middle, High School, Adult

**Book Titles:** *Hands Around the Library: Protecting Egypt's Treasured Books* (2012) – picture book, grades 3-5  
*Malala Yousafzai: Warrior with Words* (2014) – picture book, grades 3-5

**Types of visits offered:** classroom or library visits, multi-class visits, hands-on writing workshops, conference speaker or panel, Skype

**Program Offered:**

Interactive presentations focus on the importance of real events and people, as highlighted in my nonfiction books. Either or both books may be presented. Lively discussions of civic engagement and opportunities for student activism related to important issues in their lives. Hands-on projects may include signs inspired by Malala Yousafzai or “Let’s Hold Hands” dolls ([letsholdhands.com](http://letsholdhands.com)). Presentations may be tailored to curriculum objectives, including Common Core Standards. In person and Skype visits possible for children in grades 3-5, older students for discussions of writing nonfiction and adult groups (librarians, reading specialists, parents).

**Custom Presentations Available:** Yes

**Approximate costs:** Reasonable and negotiable depending on size/number/content of presentation. May be able to recommend funding sources.

**Kathy MacMillan** (Author) Owings Mills, MD

[KathyMacMillan.com](http://KathyMacMillan.com) | [info@kathymacmillan.com](mailto:info@kathymacmillan.com) | [@kathys\\_quill](https://twitter.com/kathys_quill)

Young Adult fantasy, parent/teacher resources

**Programs offered for:** PreK, Elementary, Middle, High School

**Book Titles:** *Sword and Verse* (HarperTeen, 2016), *Little Hands and Big Hands: Children and Adults Signing Together* (Huron Street Press, 2013)

**Types of visits offered:** assemblies, classroom visits, writing workshops, library visits, panels, Skype

**Programs Offered:**

**Stories By Hand** (PreK-Grade 5): Stories By Hand programs teach about American Sign Language and Deaf Culture through high-energy, interactive storytelling, music, and games. A wide variety of specific themes available; see the full list at [storiesbyhand.com](http://storiesbyhand.com).

**From Worldbuilding to Storybuilding** (Middle, High School): No matter what your genre, a rich palette of details brings the world of your story to life. Learn how to focus on the specifics you need at each stage of the writing process to build your characters’ world without ever losing sight of the story at its heart.

**Choices and Consequences** (Middle, High School): Learn how to analyze your story through the lens of choices and consequences to create coherent plots, compelling characters, and satisfying endings.

**Custom Presentations Available:** Yes

**Approximate costs:** 1 hr \$275, half-day \$500 (A limited number of discounted programs available annually.)

**Ann McCallum** (author), Kensington, MD

[annmccallumbooks.com](http://annmccallumbooks.com) | [annheather11@yahoo.com](mailto:annheather11@yahoo.com)

Nonfiction – math, cooking with kids

**Programs offered for:** Elementary

**Book Title(s):** *Eat Your U.S. History Homework* (Charlesbridge, 2015); *Eat Your Math Homework* (Charlesbridge, 2011)

**Types of visits offered:** Assemblies, classroom visits, hands-on writing programs, educator training, library visits, panels, Skype visits. Participate in high-energy, audience-interactive programs to promote the love of learning in various topic areas.

**Approximate costs:** 1 hour \$200; half-day \$500

**Shirley Menendez** (author), North Potomac, MD

[Menendez36@comcast.net](mailto:Menendez36@comcast.net)

Picture books

**Programs offered for:** Elementary

**Book Title(s):** *B is for Blue Crab: A Maryland Alphabet* (Sleeping Bear Press, 2004)

**Types of visits offered:** classroom and library visits.

**Topics:** Exploring Maryland history and culture as depicted in my book. Can also discuss my research and writing process.

**Approximate costs:** 1 hour \$150; half-day \$300

**Jennifer O'Connell** (Author/Illustrator), Bethesda, MD

[jenniferoconnellart.com](http://jenniferoconnellart.com) | [j@jenniferoconnellart.com](mailto:j@jenniferoconnellart.com)

Picture Books

**Programs offered for:** Elementary primarily, but also PreK and Middle

**Book Titles:** *The Eye of the Whale - A Rescue Story* (Tilbury House, 2013); *Ten Timid Ghosts* (Scholastic, 2000)

**Types of visits offered:** assemblies, classroom visits, writing and illustrating workshops, library visits, panels, Skype visits.

**Programs Offered:**

**Creating *The Eye of the Whale*** - In this interactive presentation, I show the many drafts, storyboards, sketches, dummy books and paintings that went into creating this book. Rejections and multiple revisions were an integral part of the process. I draw three pastel whales (to music) and show murals of a life-size baby blue whale and humpback's tail. Environmental stewardship is also covered.

**How *Ten Timid Ghosts Came to Be*** - In a spirited presentation, I demonstrate my process of making this bestselling picture book come to life. The audience then directs me as I draw and together we create a unique (often humorous) new character. We then make up a story about him/her. If time and group-size allows, I show the children how to draw their *own* characters with different emotions.

**Let's Create a Picture Book!** - In this fun and informative workshop each participant creates his/her own picture book by using special "brainstorming boxes."

**Custom Presentations Available:** Yes

**Approximate costs:** Presentations: \$700 for one, \$850 for two and \$1,000 for three. For workshops, library visits, panels and Skype visits: cost will depend on the needs and budget of the school.

**Liz Reed** (author/illustrator), Elkridge, MD

[cuddlesandrage.com](http://cuddlesandrage.com) | [cuddlesandrage@gmail.com](mailto:cuddlesandrage@gmail.com)

Picture Books

**Programs offered for:** PreK, Elementary

**Book Titles:** *Sweet Competition* (HarperCollins, 2016)

**Types of visits offered:** Classroom visits, hands-on writing/sculpting programs, library visits, panels, Skype visits. With readings of *Sweet Competition*, we also have a clay craft where students sculpt their own unique sundae character.

**Approximate costs:** 1 hour \$200; half-day: \$500

**Laura Shovan** (Author), Ellicott City, MD

[laurashovan.com](http://laurashovan.com) | [laurashovan@gmail.com](mailto:laurashovan@gmail.com)

Contemporary Middle Grade, Poetry

**Programs offered for:** Elementary, Middle, High

**Book Titles:** *The Last Fifth Grade of Emerson Elementary* (Random House Children's Books, 2016); *Voices Fly: Exercise and Poems from the Maryland State Arts Council Artist in Residence Program* (CityLit Press); *Life in Me Like Grass on Fire: Love Poems* (MWA Books)

**Types of visits offered:** Assemblies, classroom visits, hands-on writing workshops, library visits, author and literacy panels, Skype

**Topics:** Poetry and fiction workshops. Creating a fictional character.

**Approximate costs:** 1 hour \$150; full-day \$500

**Susan Stockdale** (Author/Illustrator), Chevy Chase, MD

[www.susanstockdale.com](http://www.susanstockdale.com) | [susan@susanstockdale.com](mailto:susan@susanstockdale.com) | [@susan\\_stockdale](https://www.instagram.com/susan_stockdale)

Nonfiction picture books about science

**Programs offered for:** PreK-Grade 5

**Book Titles:** *Fantastic Flowers* (Peachtree Publishers, 2017); *Stripes of All Types/Rayas de todas las tallas* (Peachtree Publishers, 2013)

**Types of visits offered:** Assemblies, classroom visits, library visits, panels, Skype visits

**Programs Offered:**

**Creating Picture Books about Nature: A Wild and Wonderful Adventure!** - Presentation plus Q & A. I demonstrate how I research, write and illustrate my books about flora and fauna. Students also learn amazing facts about our natural world. This program integrates language arts, visual arts, science and geography, fully supporting STEAM and Common Core standards.

**Spotting Spectacular Spots and Stripes** - Presentation plus Q & A. Students learn the many ways in which animals benefit from their spots and stripes as presented in my bilingual English / Spanish books, *Spectacular Spots/Magnificas Manchas* and *Stripes of All Types/Rayas de todas las tallas*. I share my bookmaking steps as we explore the mammals, fish, birds, insects, reptiles, mollusks, and crustaceans featured in the books.

**Custom Presentations Available:** Yes

**Approximate costs:** 1 program \$700; 2 programs \$850; and 3 programs \$1000. Skype visit \$250

**Lois Szymanski** (Author), Westminster, MD

[LoisSzymanski.com](http://LoisSzymanski.com) | [LoisSzymanski@hotmail.com](mailto:LoisSzymanski@hotmail.com) | [@LoisSzymanski](https://www.instagram.com/LoisSzymanski)

Picture Book, Middle Grade and Nonfiction for all ages

**Programs offered for:** Elementary Schools, Libraries, Clubs and Small Groups, Writing Groups

**Book Titles:** *Surfer Dude: The Legendary Stallion of Chincoteague* (Schiffer Books, 2017), *The True Story of Quintilius* (Schiffer Books, 2016) – 19 total books currently in print

**Types of visits offered:** classroom visits, libraries, inspirational talks, assemblies, writers groups, panels.

**Programs Offered** – (45 minutes each unless otherwise requested)

**Chincoteague Ponies and the Wetlands** - Presentation with Q&A and autograph session (if requested) for large or small groups. Learn about the legendary Chincoteague Ponies and how they survive with other creatures in a rough wetlands environment. Includes inspirational true stories from the island, shell-casings and other hands on items for kids to pass around and colorful slides. (*Live Chincoteague Pony, if requested, for those within 100 miles, with additional charge.*)

**Stories from The Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge** - This “story-telling” session offers a plethora of incredible stories about the ponies, information on programs the Refuge offers, hands on items to share and colorful slides. (*Live Chincoteague Pony, if requested, for those within 100 miles, with additional charge.*)

**Revise, Revise, Revise** - *For writing adults:* Program includes a list of things to look for when

revising your manuscript, common mistakes, techniques to help revisions go more smoothly, a list over overused words and more.

**Custom Presentations Available:** Yes

**Approximate costs:** 1 hour \$200; Up to five classroom sessions: \$450 (with book sales).

**Joan Waites** (Author/Illustrator), Silver Spring, MD

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Picture Books

**Programs offered for:** PreK, Elementary, Art journaling for adults

**Book Titles:** *A Colorful Tail*, Schiffer Kids Publishing, 2019 (Author-Illustrator); *An Artist's Night Before Christmas*, Pelican Publishing, Sept. 6, 2017 (Author-Illustrator); *Saint Faustina Kowalska*, Pauline Books and Media 2012 (Illustrator); *Monsieur Durand's Gross Affair*, Pelican Publishing 2011 (Illustrator); *What's The Difference?* Arbordale Publishing 2010 (Illustrator); *What's New At The Zoo*, Arbordale Publishing 2009 (Illustrator); *P Is For Police*, Pelican Publishing 2009 (Illustrator); *F Is For Firefighting*, Pelican Publishing 2007 (Illustrator); *Daniel Boone*, Pelican Publishing 2005 (Illustrator); \*\*\*Illustrator of numerous readers and educational texts for major educational publishers

**Types of Visits offered:** classroom visits, library visits, hands-on writing-art workshops, small assemblies, panels. All presentations will be tailored to needs of the school, class or organization. General presentations on how a book is written and illustrated to a more specific writing, illustrating or art journaling workshop can be offered to meet the needs of a particular age group or interest.

**Approximate costs:** Each presentation is considered on an individual basis--please contact me for more information.

**Elissa Brent Weissman** (Author), Baltimore, MD

[www.ebweissman.com](http://www.ebweissman.com) | [elissa@ebweissman.com](mailto:elissa@ebweissman.com) | [@ebweissman](https://twitter.com/ebweissman)

Middle grade contemporary, humor

**Programs offered for:** Elementary, Middle, High School

**Book Titles:** *Our Story Begins: Your Favorite Authors and Illustrators Share Fun, Inspiring, and Occasionally Ridiculous Things They Wrote and Drew as Kids* (Atheneum/Simon & Schuster, 2017), *Nerd Camp* series (Atheneum/Simon & Schuster, 2011-2014)

**Types of visits offered:** assemblies, classroom visits, hands-on writing workshops, library visits, panels, Skype visits.

**Programs Offered:**

**Who Wants to be an Author? An interactive Jeopardy game**

Elissa hosts a Jeopardy game for your class or school, complete with dollar-bill bookmarks and a prize for the winner. With categories and clues about the writing process, the publishing process, the life of the writer, and behind-the-scenes secrets about Elissa's books, this presentation provides loads of information and inspiration--all in a fun, interactive format.

**Nerd Camp Color War**

Celebrate learning by having Elissa host a *Nerd Camp* Color War for your class or school! Teams compete in physical and intellectual challenges, including a scavenger hunt, logic puzzles, Jeopardy, an obstacle course, and a nerdalicious sing-off. There's nothing like friendly competition and team spirit to get kids fired up about reading.

**Writing Workshops**

Elissa has taught creating writing to children, college students, and adults. She can tailor a workshop to fit your needs – infectious enthusiasm included.

**Custom Presentations Available:** Yes

**Approximate costs:** 1 hour \$500; half-day \$700; full day \$900



**Terry Catasús Jennings** (Author), Reston, VA

[terrycjennings.com](http://terrycjennings.com) | [tjennings20191@gmail.com](mailto:tjennings20191@gmail.com) | [@TerryCJennings](https://www.instagram.com/TerryCJennings)

Science based creative non-fiction (Elementary) Women's History (Middle School and High School)

**Program Offered for:** Elementary, Middle School and High School

**Book Titles:** *Vivian and the Legend of the Hoodoos* (Arbordale 2017), *Magnetic Magic* (Arbordale 2016), *Sounds of the Savanna* (Arbordale 2015), *The Women's Liberation Movement: 1960-1999* (Mason Crest, 2013), *Gopher to the Rescue! A Volcano Recovery Story* (Arbordale 2012)

**Programs Offered:**

**Vivian and the Legend of the Hoodoos: The importance of respecting the earth's resources, each other, and relics from the past.** - Presentation plus Q&A for large groups and small groups. Small class sessions include archeological "digs" and reconstructing archeological "finds).

**Everybody's Gotta EAT! Everybody Wants to LIVE!** - Based on *Sounds of the Savanna*. How animals use sound in the dance between predators and prey.

**Heroes Can Come in Small Packages** - Based on the eruption and recovery of Mount St. Helens volcano, how ecosystems recover after a natural disaster. After the eruption, scientists found that a tiny gopher helped the mountain recover. The assembly looks at what is needed for life to return to a damaged area. At the same time stressing the need to protect ecological systems.

**Custom Presentations Available:** Yes

**Approximate Costs:** 1 hour \$150. Full Day \$450. Plus travel expenses.

**Ginjer L. Clarke** (Author), Richmond, VA

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Nonfiction science books about animals and habitats

**Programs offered for:** grades preK to 6

**Book Title(s):** *What's Up in the Amazon Rainforest* (Grosset & Dunlap, 2016), *WATCH OUT! The World's Most Dangerous Creatures* (Penguin Young Readers, 2015)

**Types of visits offered:** assemblies, writing workshops, classroom/library visits, conferences, Skype

**Programs Offered:**

**Animals Are Fun** - Ginjer reads short books, plays a true-or-false listening game, leads the kids in an animal pretending game, and gives brief information about her background and the book process. For grades K-1 (30-45 minutes)

**Really Reading** - This program has more discussion about the book process from concept to publication. It includes longer, selected book readings with background anecdotes, interactive questions, and Q&A. For grades 2-3 (45-60 minutes)

**Young Authors' Club** - This 60-minute small group session gives promising young writers a chance to get feedback and meet the author in a more intimate, casual setting. Discussion and activities include journal writing, "show don't tell" writing, and revision tips.

**Custom Presentations Available:** Yes

**Approximate costs:** \$200/session w/in Richmond metro region, \$250/session up to 2 hours from Richmond, and \$300/session more than 3 hours from Richmond. Maximum 4 sessions per day; minimum 2 sessions required for non-local schools. Schools in the same area can coordinate to share travel expenses. A set of signed books and all signing time and driving mileage is included.

**Lezlie Evans** (Author), Brambleton, VA

[Lezlieevans.com](http://Lezlieevans.com) | [Lezlieevans@gmail.com](mailto:Lezlieevans@gmail.com) | 571-332-6034

**Programs offered for:** Pre-K, Elementary School, Middle School

**Book Title(s):** *Finding Christmas* (Albert Whitman & Co., 2017), *Can You Count Ten Toes, Counting to 10 in 10 Different Languages* (HMH, 2005), *The Bunnies Picnic* (Disney-Hyperion, 2010), *Can You Greet the Whole Wide World, 12 Phrases in 12 Different Languages* (HMH, 2006), *Sometimes I Feel Like a Storm Cloud* (Mondo Publishing, 1999), *Daddies Do* (Sterling Publishing, Spring 2018)

**Types of visits offered:** Assemblies, classroom visits, hands-on writing workshops, library visits, panels, Skype visits

**Programs Offered:**

My goal is to have an informal and enjoyable visit with the children during which they can meet an author and explore the creative process. For assemblies, I use a PowerPoint presentation designed to engage and enlighten. I share how I became an author, my sources of inspiration, describe my working methods, talk about the tools I use, and discuss the stages of the publishing process. I read from my books and preview a work in progress. The principles of “practice, patience, and persistence” are emphasized. Presentations are always age appropriate and questions are highly encouraged! For small groups I use a variety of different tools. A hands-on exploratory activity and/or child participation is always a part of my program.

**Custom Presentations Available:** Yes

**Approximate costs:**

\$250; half-day \$600; full-day \$900 (A limited number of discounted programs available annually.)  
Travel expenses outside of my home area will be assessed.

**Sue Fliess** (Author), Ashburn, VA

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Picture Book

**Programs offered for:** PreK, Elementary

**Book Title(s):** *Race!*, little bee books, 2017; *We Wish for a Monster Christmas*, Sterling Children's Books, 2017

**Types of visits offered:** assemblies, hands-on writing workshops, library visits, panels, Skype visits, industry talk for aspiring authors.

**Programs Offered:**

**Write What You Know (Research what you don't!):** We'll discuss fiction and non-fiction, how to research for both, and a closer look at my process behind *Robots, Robots Everywhere!*

**The Truth About Writing:** A fun interactive true or false quiz that inspires kids to write.

Discusses the life of a writer, idea generation, different ways to be a writer, idea generation, and more.

**Rhyme Time:** An interactive discussion about about rhyme and meter and I talk about the different types of rhyme schemes in my books.

For my full list of offerings: <http://www.suefliess.com/school-visits>

**Custom Presentations Available:** Yes

**Approximate costs:** One presentation: \$400; Half-day (two presentations): \$650; Half-Day PLUS Program (2 presentations + a breakout session): \$725; Full day (3-4 presentations) [fee for Virginia schools]: \$800; Full day (3-4 presentations) [fee for out-of-state schools]: \$1000

**Jacqueline Jules** (Author), Arlington, VA

[www.jacquelinejules.com](http://www.jacquelinejules.com) | [jjules@jacquelinejules.com](mailto:jjules@jacquelinejules.com) | [@jacquelinejules](https://twitter.com/jacquelinejules)

Picture Books, Chapter Books, Early Readers

**Programs offered for:** Elementary, K-5

**Book Titles:** *The Zapato Power* series (Albert Whitman) *The Sofia Martinez Series* (Capstone)

**Types of visits offered:** assemblies, classroom visits, hands-on p workshops, library visits, panels, Skype

**Programs Offered:**

**The Joy of Writing** - Using examples from her books, the author talks about inspiration for ideas. The revision process is clearly demonstrated through a series of illustrations, showing how both text and art were strengthened. Program includes songs, poetry, and writing ideas. Grades K-5.

**Feathers for Peacock: Pourquoi Tales** - *Feathers for Peacock* is a pourquoi story with an original explanation for why the peacock has such beautiful tail feathers. Author discusses just-so tales and invites students to create their own stories about how animals came to look or behave as they do. Program includes a song and a brief introduction to other works by the author. Grades K-3.

**What Would You Do With Super Speed?** - Can you be a hero and still go to elementary school? Using slides of comic book style illustrations, the author shares her process for developing plot and character in *Zapato Power*. Grades K-4.

**Custom Presentations Available:** Yes

**Approximate costs:** \$300 for first presentation. \$100 for each additional presentation. Additional costs if travel outside the Washington, DC Metropolitan area is required.

**Sylvia Liu** (Author), Virginia Beach, VA

[enjoyingplanetearth.com](http://enjoyingplanetearth.com) | [sylliu@yahoo.com](mailto:sylliu@yahoo.com) | [@artsylliu](https://twitter.com/artsylliu)

Picture Books

**Programs offered for:** PreK, Elementary, Middle School

**Book Title:** *A Morning with Grandpa* (Lee & Low Books, 2016, illus. Christina Forshay)

**Types of visits offered:** assemblies, classroom visits, hands-on writing workshops, library visits, panels

**Programs Offered:**

**Tai chi & Mindfulness:** presentation plus Q&A for large or small audiences, where I discuss the writing process, my picture book, and lead interactive tai chi, mindfulness, and mental & physical resilience exercises (45 min-1 hr)

**Writing & Illustrating a Picture Book:** age-appropriate (K-8th grade) workshop for classrooms, including creativity, brainstorming, writing and illustration exercises (45 min- 1 hr)

**Custom Presentations Available:** Yes

**Approximate costs:** \$500 half day (2 sessions), \$600 full day (3 sessions) plus travel expenses; Local rate (Hampton Roads, Virginia): \$300 half day (2 sessions), \$400 full day (3 sessions)

**Courtney Pippin-Mathur** (Author/Illustrator), Alexandria VA

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Picture Book, Humorous Fantasy and Empathy/Emotions

**Programs offered for:** PreK, Elementary,

**Book Title(s):** *Dragons Rule*, *Princesses Drool*- *Little Simon*, *Simon & Schuster 2017*, *Maya was Grumpy*- *Flashlight Press 2013*

**Types of visits offered:** assemblies, classroom visits, hands-on creativity workshops, library visits, panels, Skype visits

**Programs Offered:**

**What does an author/illustrator do?** How *Dragons Rule*, *Princesses Drool* was created plus a day in the life of an author/illustrator.

**Try Again! (and again, and again)** – What revision means in art and writing and why it is important.

**Doodle It!**- How to turn your doodles into stories. No art skills required!

**Custom Presentations Available:** Yes

**Approximate costs:** 1 hour- \$200; half-day \$500 (A limited number of discounted programs available annually.)

**Anne Marie Pace** (Author) Charlottesville, Virginia

[annemariepace.com](http://annemariepace.com) | [annemarie@annemariepace.com](mailto:annemarie@annemariepace.com) | [@annemariepace](https://twitter.com/annemariepace)

Picture books

**Programs offered for:** Pre-K, Elementary. I have done older students as well, with a writing focus.

**Book Title(s):** Vampirina Ballerina series, Disney-Hyperion, 2012-present; Pigloo, Henry Holt, 2016, among others.

**Types of visits offered:** assemblies, classroom visits, hands-on writing workshops, library visits, panels, Skype visits

**Programs Offered:**

**Stranger Safety:** We sing, dance, and learn about stranger safety, using my book NEVER EVER TALK TO STRANGERS as a guide.

**What Do Authors Do?/How Books are Made:** Using the school's book of choice, we learn about brainstorming, getting ideas, the writing process, and creativity. Vampirina talks include an emphasis on perseverance. Pigloo talks include exploration and searching for things that inspire. Groundhug Day (after December 2017) includes a focus on shadows.

**The Writing Process:** For older students, starting at grade 2, this program discusses the writing process: idea gathering, drafting, revision and proofreading.

**Custom Presentations Available:** Presentations to suit the needs of the school are available for additional cost.

**Approximate costs:** \$1200 plus expenses (hotel, travel) for up to three large presentations and a small group meeting (ex. lunch with the writing club). I'm happy to discuss your school's needs and try to work with your budget. Discounts available for schools within an hour of Charlottesville, VA.



**Marc Harshman** (author), Wheeling, WV

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Picture Books, Poetry

**Programs offered for:** Elementary, Middle, High, College, PostGrad

**Book titles:** *One Big Family* (Eerdmans, 2016); *Believe What You Can* (West Virginia University Press, 2016), *Fallingwater* (coauthored with Anna Egan Smucker) (Roaring Brook, 2017)

**Types of visits offered:** Convocations, hands-on writing workshops, library & community visits, university programming, readings, panels, storytelling. Elementary visits include 2 large-group presentations celebrating the pleasures of reading & writing, PowerPoint presentations of picture books, storytelling, handson suggestions for student storytelling, writing.

**Approximate costs:** 1 hour \$300; half-day \$600; full day \$800

**Anna Egan Smucker** (Author) Bridgeport, WV

[www.annasmucker.com](http://www.annasmucker.com) | [wvsmucker@aol.com](mailto:wvsmucker@aol.com)

Picture Books, Middle Grade Novel, Nonfiction

**Programs offered for:** PreK, Elementary, Middle School, High School

**Book Titles:** *Brother Giovanni's Little Reward: How the Pretzel Was Born*, Eerdmans, 2015; *Fallingwater* (co-authored with Marc Harshman) Macmillan/Roaring Brook, forthcoming Oct. 2017

**Types of visits offered:** large group presentations classroom visits, hands-on writing workshops, library visits, panels, conference presentations

**Programs Offered:**

**Presentations on my books:** "From Inspiration to Publication" for schools, libraries, and conferences;

**Classroom Writing Workshops for Children:** Poetry; Story Writing; Personal Narratives using sensory details and powerful verbs to make writing come alive; Revision - transforming a sample rough draft into a spectacular piece of writing

**Writing Workshops For Parents:** Presentations on the importance of reading aloud in the home; Hands-on writing workshop of easy writing activities to do with children

**Writing Workshops Especially for Teachers:** Staff Development Workshops: Classroom-tested writing activities: Personal Narratives; Poetry; Story Writing

**Other Writing Workshops for Adults:** Writing stories using your own life experiences; Writing and publishing stories for children

**Approximate costs:** 1 hour program: \$250; half-day program: \$500. A limited number of discounted programs are available annually.

## Washington D.C.



**Barbara Carney-Coston** (Author), Washington, DC

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Middle Grade Historical

**Programs offered for:** grades 3-5

**Book title:** *To the Copper Country: Mihaela's Journey*

**Types of visits offered:** assemblies, classroom visits, writing workshops, library visits, panels, Skype

**Programs Offered:**

**Time Traveler Treasure Hunt (classroom)** - Students will have an opportunity to explore history through various research approaches and use clues that can help find the richer story hidden within the obvious facts. Interactive presentation supported by a slide show with supplemental information from the book.

**Then and Now** - Using Mihaela's story, students can compare and contrast the conditions that immigrants faced in the past with today and provide a vehicle for discussion and empathy. Elements can include cultural aspects such as music, food, dress and entertainment.

**Writing workshop** - How details can add depth and richness to any story, and where to look for them if the writer gets stuck.

**Custom Presentations Available:** yes

**Approximate costs:** 1 hour = \$250; half day = \$600. Travel expenses if overnight travel required. (A limited number of discounted programs available annually.)