

authors & illustrators in the schools!

“School author visits promote reading and books!”

The positive impact of meeting and talking to an author is evident in the students' enthusiasm for reading. The lessons learned, the enthusiasm generated and the increase in books borrowed indicates that an author visit is worthwhile for any school. ” Nancy Gauthier, Mt. Slesse Middle School (Chilliwack)

“I love having illustrators visit

our school and our students are absolutely mesmerized by them. Illustrations are what bring a book alive. I love watching children of all ages when they are in the library. Many of them are captivated by the illustrations in the books they read and they notice much more of the details of those illustrations than adults do. Most children love to draw themselves and seeing an illustrator can motivate them to illustrate their own stories. Every year I try and have at least one illustrator visit our school. It has always been a very memorable visit. ”

Jullie Desmarais
Blueridge Elementary (North Vancouver)

“There are tremendous benefits

to our one-week author visit each year. Young writers in the school have the unique experience of sharing their own written pieces with the authors, and they feel honored to have a professional give them feedback on their work. Students and teachers find the author-visit week a refreshing, motivating and inspiring experience. ”

Beth Robertson
Southridge High School (Surrey)

Where to find an author or illustrator

CWILL is an organization of professional children's writers and illustrators located in British Columbia.

You can find us and our speaker's list at:

www.cwill.bc.ca

What will a visit cost?

Authors and illustrators set their own presentation fees, so be sure to clarify costs with the presenter you're hosting ahead of time. Typically, it's \$200 to \$300 for a one-hour presentation. Fees vary per author/illustrator.

Why \$200 to \$300?

Time spent presenting is time spent not meeting book deadlines. Authors and illustrators are celebrities, and are typically less expensive than other school entertainers. Most importantly, they promote what's at the core of education: a love of books.

Things to consider before the visit

- Age or grade level of the audience.
- Audience size.
- Appropriate venue (class/gym/etc.)
- Equipment required (VCR/projector/etc.)
- What is expected in terms of number of presentations and length?

- Accurate directions for getting to the school.
- Contact names in case something comes up last minute.

On the day of the visit

- Have someone available to greet the author/illustrator and show him/her where to set up, the location of staff washrooms, etc.
- Have drinking water available during the presentation.
- Remain on-hand to supervise your students during the presentation.
- Have copies of the presenter's books in the library on display, ready to be borrowed after the visit. You may be able to arrange to have books sold at the school either through the author or a local book store.
- Don't forget to have the school camera on hand for photos of the event.
- Invite parents, school board trustees, or other officials.