Author and Illustrator Presentations
From Published and Listed Members of the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators MD/DE/WV Region ~ mdeuw.scbwi.org
Approximate prices are provided for informational purposes; please contact authors and illustrators directly to negotiate presentations and rates to fit your needs.

Veronica Bartles (author), Catonsville, MD
veronicabartles.com ~ vbartleswrites@veronicabartles.com
- Picture Book fairy tale retelling, & Young Adult contemporary
- PreK, Elementary, Middle, High
  - The Princess and the Frogs (Balzer + Bray, 2016); Twelve Steps (Kissing Frogs Press, 2014)
  - Assemblies, classroom visits, hands-on writing workshops, library visits, panels, Skype visits. Topics: Failure is the Key to Success, What IT?, Writing with All Five Senses. A limited number of discounted programs available annually.
  - Approximate costs: 1 hour $250; half-day $600

Barbara Beck, Architect (author/illustrator), Annapolis, MD
barbarabeckauthor.com ~ barbara.beck07@gmail.com
- Nonfiction
  - Elementary, Middle
  - The Future Architect’s Handbook (Schiffer, 2014); The Future Architect’s Tool Kit (Schiffer, 2016)
  - Classroom visits, hands-on architecture programs, library visits. An introduction to the 4 basic drawings every architect uses, then create a floor plan, elevation and model if time permits.
  - Approximate costs: 1 hour $85; half-day $300

Vonnie Winslow Crist (author/illustrator), Jarrettsville, MD
vonniestorybooks.com ~ vonnievouslocrist@vonniestorybooks.com
- Young Adult Fantasy/Science-Fiction/Adventure Middle, High
  - The Enchanted Dagger (Pole to Pole, 2016), The Greener Forest (Pole to Pole, 2016), Beyond the Sheercliffs (Pole to Pole, 2017)
  - Assemblies, classroom visits, hands-on writing programs, library visits, panels, Skype visits. Topics: Worldbuilding; Writing Fiction: Gardener vs Architect; Writing forAnthologies 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
megedenbooks.com ~ mkavay@megedenbooks.com
- Poetry, Young Adult
  - Elementary, Middle, High
  - Post-High School Reality Quest (CA Coldblood/Rare Bird, 2017)
  - Hands-on writing workshops [online and in-person], Skype sessions, individual conferences, library programs, panels, guest lectures, readings
  - Approximate costs: 1 hour $50; half-day $150-$200

Rebecca Evans (author/illustrator), Severna Park, MD
rebeccaevans.net ~ rebecca@rebeccaevans.net
- Picture books
  - PreK, Elementary, Middle, High
  - someday I’ll Fly (Red Engine Press 2014); Friends in Fur Coats (Gryphon Press 2016)
  - Assemblies, classroom visits, hands-on writing and/or illustration workshops, library visits, panels, Skype visits. A limited number of discounted programs available annually.
  - Approximate costs: 1 hour $300; half-day $600

Claudia Friddell (author), Baltimore, MD
claudiafriddell.com
- Nonfiction picture books, middle grade nonfiction
  - Elementary, Middle
  - Goliath, Hero of the Great Baltimore Fire (Sleeping Bear, 2010); George Washington’s Spies (Random House, 2016)
  - Assemblies, classroom visits, hands-on writing workshops, library visits, faculty workshops. Topics: Totally True Heroes: Secret Spies and a Heroic Horse; Digging for Treats: 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
lagehl.com ~ lauraneressa@gmail.com
- Picture books
  - PreK, Elementary
  - 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)
  - Assemblies, classroom visits, hands-on writing/illustration programs, library visits, panels, Skype visits. A former teacher and theater director, Laura packs her high-energy 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 ~ amys.hansen@nasw.org
- Science for kids, non-fiction books pre-K through 7
  - PreK, Elementary, Middle
  - 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

Marc Harshman (author), Wheeling, WV
poetlaureate.wv.gov ~ marcharshman@hotmail.com
- Picture Books, Poetry
  - Elementary, Middle, High, College, PostGrad
  - One Big Family (Eerdmans, 2016); Believe What You Can (West Virginia University Press, 2016), Fallngwater (co-authored with Anna Egan Smucker) (Roaring Brook, 2017)
  - 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, hands-on suggestions for student storytelling, writing.
  - Approximate costs: 1 hour $300; half-day $600; full day $800

Karen Leggett (author), Silver Spring, MD
handsaroundthelibrary.com ~ Kare@handsaroundthelibrary.com
- Nonfiction picture books
  - Elementary, Middle, High, Adult
  - Hands Around the Library: Protecting Egypt’s Treasured Books (Dial, 2012); Medallia Youssuf; Warrior with Words (StarWalk Kids/Fable Learning, 2014)
  - Classroom and library visits, panels, Skype/Google Hangout. Presentations tailored to curriculum, with focus on picture books to improve global awareness and understanding. Presentations include discussion/hands-on activity related to civic engagement by young people.
  - Approximate costs: 1 hour $300 (negotiable, less for Skype); half-day $1000 (negotiable)
Kathy MacMillan (author), Owings Mills, MD
kathymacmillan.com ~ info@kathymacmillan.com
Young adult fantasy
Middle, High
Sword and Verse (HarperTeen, 2016)
Assemblies, classroom visits, hands-on writing workshops, library visits, panels, Skype visits. Topics: From Worldbuilding to Storybuilding, Choices and Consequences, Digging into Language. A limited number of discounted programs are available annually. Approximate costs: 1 hour $200; half-day $500

Ann McCallum (author), Kensington, MD
annmccallumbooks.com ~ annheather11@yahoo.com
Nonfiction – math, cooking with kids
Elementary
Eat Your U.S. History Homework (Charlesbridge, 2015); Eat Your Math Homework (Charlesbridge, 2011)
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
Menendez26@comcast.net
Picture books
Elementary
B is for Blue Crab: A Maryland Alphabet (Sleeping Bear Press, 2004)
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 ~ J@JenniferOConnellArt.com
Picture books
Pre-K, Elementary, Middle
The Eye of the Whale – A Rescue Story (Tilbury House, 2013); It’s Halloween Night! (Cartwheel/Scholastic, 2012); Ten Timid Ghosts (Cartwheel/Scholastic, 2000)
School presentations, hands-on writing/illustration workshops, library visits, panels, Skype visits. Topics: Creating The Eye of the Whale, How Ten Timid Ghosts Came to Be; Workshops: Let’s Make a Picture Book!, Creating Characters and Stories. Approximate costs: 1 hour $700; half-day (2 presentations) $850

Liz Reed (author/illustrator), Elkridge, MD
cuddlesandrage.com ~ cuddlesandrage@gmail.com
Picture Books
Pre-K, Elementary
Sweet Competition (HarperCollins, 2016)
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
laurschovan.com ~ laurschovan@gmail.com
Contemporary Middle Grade, Poetry
Elementary, Middle, High
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)
Assemblies, classroom visits, hands-on writing workshops, library visits, author and literacy panels, Skype visits. Topics: Poetry and fiction workshops. Creating a fictional character. Approximate costs: 1 hour $150; full-day $500

Anna Egan Smucker (author), Bridgeport, WV
annasmucker.com ~ wvsmucker@aol.com
Picture Books, Middle Grade Fiction, Nonfiction
Pre-K, Elementary, Middle, High
Brother Giovanni’s Little Reward: How the Pretzel Was Born (Eerdmans, 2015); Golden Delicious: A Cinderella Apple Story (Albert Whitman & Company, 2008); Fallingwater (co-authored with Marc Harshman) (Roaring Brook, 2017)
Presentations on my books, “From Inspiration to Publication” for schools, libraries, and conferences; hands-on classroom writing workshops: Revision-Showing the Process; Using Sensory Details and Powerful Verbs to Make Writing Come Alive. A limited number of discounted programs are available annually. Approximate costs: 1 hour $200; half-day $400

Susan Stockdale (author/illustrator), Chevy Chase, MD
susanstockdale.com ~ susan@susanstockdale.com
Nonfiction picture books
Elementary
Fantastic Flowers (Peachtree Publishers, 2017); Spectacular Spots (Peachtree Publishers, 2015); Stripes of All Types (Peachtree Publishers, 2013)
Assemblies, classroom visits, library visits, panels, Skype visits. Author and illustrator Susan Stockdale demonstrates how she celebrates nature in her picture books through careful research; rhythmic, rhyming text; and bright, bold illustrations. Approximate costs: 1 hour $700; half-day $1000

Elissa Brent Weissman (author), Baltimore, MD
ebweissman.com ~ elissa@ebweissman.com
Middle Grade Contemporary, Humor
Elementary, Middle, High
Assemblies, classroom visits, hands-on writing workshops, library visits, panels, Skype visits. Topics: “Who Wants to be an Author?” Interactive Jeopardy game (most popular presentation), Beginnings and Endings (sample writing workshop), Nerd Camp Color War Approximate costs: 1 hour $400; half-day $600; full-day $900

Timothy Young (author/illustrator), Easton, MD
creaturesandcharacters.com ~ tim@creaturesandcharacters.com
Picture Books, Middle Grade, How To Draw
Elementary, Middle
Do Not Open The Box! (Schiffer, 2016); I’m Going To Outer Space (Schiffer, 2017); Creatures and Characters: Drawing Amazing Monsters, Aliens, and Other Weird Things! (Schiffer, 2017)
Assemblies, interactive drawing demonstrations, classroom visits, library visits, panels, Skype visits, Approximate costs: 1 hour $300; half-day $600; full-day $900