



PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:
Sharon Hackett
(856) 304-0193
sneimcolls@gmail.com

COLLINGSWOOD BOOK FESTIVAL BEGAN WITH TEACHERS AND CONTINUES ITS PARTNERSHIP WITH LOCAL SCHOOLS, SAT. OCT. 1

Collingswood Book Festival continues its dedication to literacy with a new Author Panel Discussion Program for Teachers and Students, Sat. Oct. 1, 2016.

The Collingswood Book Festival was the brainchild of Jean Brennan, local Collingswood resident, who after attending a New York book fair became intrigued by the idea of creating a Collingswood festival to celebrate the written word and literally everything book-related. Authors are like her rock stars, but Jean was also a schoolteacher and knew that exposing people to reading has dramatic cognitive effects, improving children's language skills and even lessening the effects of Alzheimer's. With the support and leadership of several other local teachers, librarians, and borough officials the Collingswood Book Festival began Saturday, October 11, 2003 and continues this year, Saturday, October 1, 2016.

The Collingswood Book Festival has always had a strong partnership with the Collingswood School District. Each year retired teacher Sidra Hobbs-Fernie and librarian Beverly Michaels book children's and YA authors for the festival and work with Collingswood teachers to develop interactive programs to bring authors and their books to the students.

The festival works with teachers from grades four to eight as well as involving the Seniors Honors (AP) English class by purchasing the town book and inviting them to an hour-long book discussion on the Tuesday evening prior to the festival. Students are exposed to a wide variety of genres, and enjoy meeting the authors they're reading. Their involvement in the festival programs helps develop and reinforce reading habits that last well into adulthood.

David Olivieri, Supervisor of Language Arts, Grades 6-12, will attend the festival for his 5th time this year, "The Collingswood school district is heavily invested in promoting student literacy and the festival is in natural alignment with that objective. Our middle school ELA classes have participated in the author discussions throughout my time as supervisor. We always look forward to the book festival, and I am glad that our district can take part in it."

Language Arts teacher Denise Tinges has participated with the festival for nine years. "I truly look forward to this event with my students. Not only do I have the opportunity to share wonderful works of literature with my classes, but it is a unique experience to speak to the authors. My students enjoy and remember this experience and have loved the selections year after year."

This year the relationship with teachers continues with new panel discussions where authors, educators, and teens can learn about YA book trends, the creative process, and resources for teaching.

Guiding Readers: What's New! What Works!

Collingswood Book Festival

October 1, 2016 12:00pm

Meet Authors of Middle Grade Literature

What's New! What Works!

Selecting Books For The Classroom, Library and Home

Tent Two, Haddon and Lees Avenue

All are invited to join the discussion, meet the authors and get your books signed.

Featured Authors:

Melanie Conklin - <http://www.melanieconklin.com/>

M. Tara Crowl - www.mtaracrowl.com

Elisabeth Dahl - www.elisabethdahl.com

Annabelle Fisher - www.annabellefisher.com

Margaret Gurevich - www.margiewrites.com

Darlene Beck Jacobson - www.darlenebeckjacobson.com

Amy Ignatow - <http://www.abramsbooks.com/popularitypapers/>

Books That Inform and Inspire Us As Writers

Collingswood Book Festival

October 1, 2016 2:00pm

Authors of Young Adult Literature Discuss

Books That Inform and Inspire Us As Writers

Tent Two, Haddon and Lees Ave

All are invited to join the discussion, meet the authors and get your books signed.

Featured Authors:

Isabel Bandeira - www.isabelbandeira.com

Jeffrey W. Johnston - www.jeffryjohnston.com

Rosalie Knecht - www.rosalieknecht.com

April Lindner - <http://aprillindnerwrites.blogspot.com/>

Dianne Salerni - www.diannesalerni.com

Jared T.L.C. - www.jaredtlc.co

In addition, Author Nancy Viau will conduct a writing workshop for children on Sat, Oct. 1. Nancy Viau, a festival author favorite, has taught over 200 writing workshops for children. She'll be teaching kids how to think outside-the-box at the fest this year. www.NancyViau.com

The award-winning Collingswood Book Festival includes **authors and events for kids, tweens, teens**, in addition to top-notch adult authors. The free festival is set for more than six blocks along Haddon Avenue on October 1. More information will be added to the website in the coming weeks: www.collingswoodbookfestival.com.

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