

# Visiting Authors Program

826DC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting students ages 6-18 with their creative and expository writing skills, and to helping teachers inspire their students to write. Our services are structured around our understanding that great leaps in learning can happen with one-on-one attention and that strong writing skills are fundamental to future success. 826DC's young authors have been featured in eleven professional anthologies, The New York Times, The Washington Post, and on NPR and CBS News.

826DC is excited to expand its **Visiting Authors Program** this school year! This program, made possible by the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, provides local writers and authors an opportunity to collaborate with DC students and facilitate Common Core aligned discussions and activities to complement and enhance classroom learning. The **Visiting Authors Program** also seeks to create a lasting relationship with our authors and writers. Our Visiting Authors become genuine partners in our work, helping to disseminate literature, serving as mentors, and inspiring youth to write through dynamic curricula.



## Benefits

- Support classroom learning by bringing lessons to life with imaginative writing curricula
- Bring celebrated authors, journalists, and poets into the classroom for meaningful engagement with students
- Address the fundamental writing competencies that are essential to literary expression
- Provide young writers with the tools necessary to amplify and apply their voices through arts education

# Program Details

Between March and June 2019, Visiting Authors will spend time with DC students in their classrooms and facilitate a Common Core aligned lesson plan written by 826DC. Teachers will have an opportunity to view and choose lesson plans ahead of classroom visits. Visiting Authors will be paired with a classroom based on the chosen lesson plan.

Students will be prepared with information on the Visiting Author and the writing activity. Together, 826DC, the Visiting Author, and the classroom teacher will provide appropriate materials, space, and atmosphere to ensure an impactful and sustainable writing experience for students. On the day of the visit, teachers and 826DC staff will be in the classroom supporting the Visiting Author in facilitation of the lesson.

Each lesson plan is unique and may require **one or two visits** depending on the lesson content. In addition to author visits, 826DC provides students with books and literature to use in class and at home!

## Visiting Author Workshops Include:

- Interview Skills
- Journalism Basics Workshop
- Creative Writing Workshop
- Autobiography Crafting
- POV Practice
- Comic Creation
- Writer's Block Workshop
- Mindful Writing
- College Application Essay Boot Camp
- Panel Discussions
- Letters to the Editor
- Author Question and Answer Session

## Get Involved!

To participate in the Visiting Authors Program please email Shayna Baggatts-Porter, Special Projects Associate, at [shayna@826dc.org](mailto:shayna@826dc.org). We look forward to collaborating with you!

