



November 2023 Newsletter



A NOTE FROM OUR FOUNDER:

Hi there - welcome to our first ever newsletter!

I'm Sarah, an elementary school teacher, turned booking agent, and founder of How Now Booking. Our agency specializes in booking events for kid lit, middle grade and young adult authors and illustrators. Our number one goal is make the booking process simple and streamline.

Whether you've booked many author visits or none at all, we've got you covered!

In this issue:

- New and upcoming book releases
 - Where you can find our speakers in real life
 - Tips for amazing author visits
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NEW AND UPCOMING BOOK RELEASES

PICTURE BOOKS

[Glitter Everywhere!](#)

by Chris Barton

[The Bees of Notre-Dame](#)

by Meghan P. Browne

[Get Ready for School](#)

by Janet Nolan

[We'll Make Things Better Together](#)

by Dow Phumiruk

[Catching Flight](#)

by Rebekah Lowell

[Some of These are Snails](#)

by Carter Higgins

[Butt or Face?](#)

by Kari Lavelle

[Finley Feels](#)

by Joan Waites

[Friends Beyond Measure](#)

by Lalena Fisher

[Bitsy Bat, School Star](#)

by Kaz Windness

[There's Always Room For One More](#)

by Robyn McGrath

[A Day With No Words](#)

illustrated by Kate Cosgrove

[Ruth First Never Backed Down](#)

(11/7/2023) by Danielle Joseph

[How to Make a Memory](#)

by E.B. Vickers

[Mae and Gerty and the Matter with Matter](#)

by E.B. Vickers

CHAPTER BOOKS

[Jasmine Toguchi Great Gardener](#)

by Debbi Michiko Florence

EARLY READERS

[Frank and Bean: The Stinky Feat Monster](#)

by Jamie Michalak

MIDDLE GRADE

[A Work In Progress](#)

by Jarrett Lerner

Skyriders 2 - The Sky King (May 7, 2024)

by Polly Holyoke

[North of Supernova](#)

by Lindsey Leavitt

[Make a Move, Sunny Park](#)

by Jessica Kim

[Sweet & Bitter Rivals](#) (Saddlehill Academy)

by Jessica Burkhart

[The Showdown](#) (Saddlehill Academy Book 2)

by Jessica Burkhart

[Land of Broken Promises](#)

by Jane Kuo

[Mascot](#)

by Charles Waters

[Half Moon Summer](#)

by E.B. Vickers

[A Season Most Unfair](#)

by J. Anderson Coats

[The House on Sunrise Lagoon: Sam Makes a Splash](#)

by Nicole Melleby

[The House on Sunrise Lagoon: Marina in the Middle](#)

by Nicole Melleby

[White Bird: A Novel](#)

by Erica S. Perl, written with R.J. Palacio

[The Phone Book: Stay Safe, Be Smart and Make the World a Better With the Powerful Device in Your Hand](#)

by Jessica Speer

YOUNG ADULT

[The Night Fox](#) by Ashley Wilda

[Where There's Smoke](#) (11/12/2023) by E.B. Vickers



WHERE IN THE WORLD?

You'll catch many of our authors & illustrators at the Texas Book Festival in Austin on November 11-12, 2023. Click below for a full list of presenters.



You might also spy some of our herd at the National Council of Teachers of English Conference (NCTE) in Columbus, OH, November 16-19, 2023. If you live in the area, you won't want to miss out on this fantastic professional development opportunity. To find out more, visit NCTE's conference [website](#).



LET'S TALK - SCHOOL VISIT MAGIC

At a spring school visit in a small mid-Western town, I presented in the evening to the community after a day of doing presentations to the elementary school. This school consisted of almost all white students. I introduced the Japanese celebrations of Girls Day and Boys Day to the readers during my school visit. At the evening event, I showed the slide of Girls Day and without any prompting, the kids in the audience all shouted together "Girls Day"! I almost burst into tears of joy. The town doesn't have a bookstore. The closest one was 45 min away - but the booksellers came to sell my books at the event. After the presentation, I had a line out the auditorium door to sign my books (I signed for almost 2 hours).

- Debbi Michiko Florence, author of the *JASMINE TOGUCHI* series

I visited a middle school last school year, and some of the students wrote me thank you notes. One of the students wrote, "If I ever decide to write a book it will be because of you." With all the ups and down that happen in the book publishing world, receiving that note put the why back into perspective for me.

- Tamika Burgess, author of *SINCERELY SICILY*

Last spring I had an ELA teacher approach me in tears because she was so happy that a student in my writing workshop had written a page-long story, and usually he struggled to write a single sentence. I love to show students that writing can be captivating and creative and... fun!

- Polly Holyoke, author of *SKYRIDERS*

This past year, one school visit in particular stands out for me. When I arrived, the class was a bit rowdy, prompting me to use my rusty classroom management strategies. Though I expected a disjointed visit, a debate about writing as a career or passion broke out when I asked if there were any questions. The sixth graders' profound opinions and sentiments reminded me of similar scenes in *The Ice House*, where kids get to advocate for their beliefs in a constructive, creative way. By the end of the visit I felt a real sense of gratitude for the time I got to spend with them, and a renewed appreciation for middle grade readers - some of the smartest and most passionate readers around!

- Monica Sherwood, author of *THE ICE HOUSE*



DID YOU KNOW...?

Many of our authors offer keynote speeches for library conferences and universities as well as professional development opportunities for educators!