



TEACHINGBOOKS SPIRIT Fall, 2004

This is the newsletter for <http://www.TeachingBooks.net> — Generating enthusiasm for books and reading by providing easy access to authors, illustrators and exceptional book resources — all in one place!

From one easy-to-use website, TeachingBooks makes instantly available original, in-studio movies of authors and illustrators, audio excerpts of professional book readings, guides to thousands of titles and a wealth of multimedia resources on children's and young adult literature.

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TeachingBooks.net continually identifies, catalogs and maintains reliable links to curricular resources that help you share books in the classroom, library and home. **TeachingBooks Spirit** highlights specific links to give you a flavor of what the site has to offer.

Learn More About TeachingBooks

Download our latest brochure at: <http://teachingbooks.net/WhatIsTeachingBooks>

Media Highlights PDF: <http://www.teachingbooks.net/content/mediahighlights.pdf>

TeachingBooks' Exclusive Author Up-close Program: Pam Muñoz Ryan

http://www.teachingbooks.net/spec_athr.cgi?name=Ryan%2C%20Pam%20Mu%26ntilde%3Boz

In TeachingBooks' original movie, see and hear Pam Muñoz Ryan talk about growing up in a diverse family, share insights into the characters in her books and explain why she writes so many different kinds of books.

See many other award-winning authors and illustrators in our exclusive TeachingBooks Authors Up-close programs at http://www.teachingbooks.net/athr_upcls.cgi, including Sharon Creech and Rosemary Wells.

Additional Author Program: Lloyd Alexander

<http://www2.scholastic.com/teachers/authorsandbooks/authorstudies/authorhome.jhtml?authorID=1&collateralID=5315&displayName=Interview+Transcript>

TeachingBooks continually identifies, catalogs and maintains reliable links to multimedia interviews with children's book creators. While TeachingBooks does not create these programs, we believe that you'll really enjoy them.

Read a transcript of an interview with Lloyd Alexander conducted by students and hosted by Scholastic. Alexander's beloved fantasy book, *Time Cat* is being re-released in paperback.

TeachingBooks Author in the News: Robie Harris & Michael Emberley

<http://www.candlewick.com/cwp/cat.asp?browse=title&mode=book&isbn=0763624330>

This year marks the 10th anniversary of TeachingBooks' featured author Robie Harris' guide to sexual development, *It's Perfectly Normal: Changing Bodies, Growing Up, Sex, and Sexual Health*. A thorough and sensitive explanation for children, including many drawings by Michael Emberley, an illustrator who is also featured in a TeachingBooks exclusive program. See these authors and many more in TeachingBooks exclusive programs at http://www.teachingbooks.net/athr_upcls.cgi

Author's Personal Website: Peter Reynolds

<http://www.peterreynolds.com>

Peter Reynolds is the author/illustrator of *The Dot* and *Ish* (Candlewick, 2004) and the illustrator of the Judy Moody series. His website is chock full of interesting pages, including a section called "Ideas/Tips" where he provides comprehensive thoughts and suggestions on encouraging creativity.

Award: The MacArthur Fellowship

http://www.macfdn.org/programs/fel/fellows/sis_peter.htm

Peter Sís, a TeachingBooks featured author/illustrator, recently received a MacArthur fellowship. According to the official website, "The MacArthur Fellows Program awards unrestricted fellowships to talented individuals who have shown extraordinary originality and dedication in their creative pursuits and a marked capacity for self-direction. There are three criteria for selection of Fellows: exceptional creativity, promise for important future advances based on a track record of significant accomplishment, and potential for the fellowship to facilitate subsequent creative work." See Peter Sís' TeachingBooks exclusive program and many more at http://www.teachingbooks.net/athr_upcls.cgi

Book Guide: *Because of Winn-Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo

<http://www.candlewick.com/cwp/bookxtras.asp?isbn=0763607762&id=&browse=Title&view=readersguide&sprd=&bktitle=Because+of+Winn%2DDixie>

A new reader's guide with discussion questions that are so thorough readers who've not finished reading *Because of Winn-Dixie* are warned not to read the guide if they don't want elements of the plot revealed to them. The discussion questions were contributed by Katie O'Dell, Reading Promotions Coordinator at the Multnomah Public Library in Portland, Oregon. A feature-length movie based on the book will be in theatres February 18, 2005!

Book Reading: *Nate the Great and the Halloween Hunt* by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat

<http://library.booksontape.com/bookdetail.cfm/FTR170SP>

Listen to an excerpt of a reading by Lionel Wilson of the third book in the Nate the Great series. Click on the red "Click Here to Listen" button on the right side of the web page. (RealPlayer is needed to hear this program.)

Thematic Booklist: 100 Picture Books Everyone Should Know by the New York Public Library

<http://kids.nypl.org/reading/recommended2.cfm?ListID=61>

From *Ben's Trumpet* to *Zomo the Rabbit: a Trickster Tale from West Africa*, this list encompasses the old standbys and some surprises as well.

Take Note: Children Caught in War from *Book Links*

<http://www.ala.org/ala/booklinksbucket/childrencaught.htm>

This *Book Links* article is a "bibliography of fiction and nonfiction about children caught in the maelstrom of war. We have chosen stories of war in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries—stories that span the continents."

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These featured links from our database connect you to material that highlights the personality and spirit within the best of children's and young adult literature — enjoy!

TeachingBooks Is For Your Entire Community!

Did you know that TeachingBooks is designed to be used by everyone in your school community? To make it easy for you to tell everyone about TeachingBooks, we offer a customized flyer and email for you to distribute. We also have an easy way for you to train your colleagues on accessing and using TeachingBooks. Our distribution and training tools can be found on the “TeachingBooks for Your Entire Community” page at: <http://www.teachingbooks.net/show.cgi?f=community>.

TeachingBooks News

The New York Times featured TeachingBooks in August with an article entitled, “An Online Resource Room Introduces a World of Books (and the Authors Who Create Them).” It says, “Exploring authors’ views on techniques and the ideas that inspire them can give people of all ages a deeper understanding of books and the world that contains them. [TeachingBooks] marshals the Web’s multimedia possibilities to that end.” To learn more about what’s happening at TeachingBooks, go to our News page at <http://www.teachingbooks.net/news.cgi>.

Thanks again for your interest in TeachingBooks.net, and have an enjoyable fall!

Nick Glass, Nick@TeachingBooks.net

John H. Moore, Carin Bringelson & Virginia Harrison

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