



CHELSEA DISTRICT LIBRARY
BEST SMALL LIBRARY IN AMERICA

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CEF and Friends of the Library Support the Power of Writing

Chelsea District Library (CDL) is pleased to announce the 10th annual Authors in Chelsea program. This two-day program is a partnership between CDL and Chelsea Schools that brings nationally known authors into the classroom. Since its inception, it has encouraged over 9,000 Chelsea students to explore the art and craft of writing. Through workshops and assemblies, students learn to better read and appreciate literature and discover how they too can use writing as a powerful tool to express themselves. This year's program will take place on March 12-13, 2019.

The Authors in Chelsea program is made possible by the continued support of the Chelsea Education Foundation (CEF) and the Friends of Chelsea District Library. CEF's generous \$1,000 grant pays for books by the visiting authors for school classrooms and media centers. These books allow teachers the ability to use them as part of their curriculum planning and to prepare students for the authors' visits. Through the fundraising efforts of the Friends of Chelsea District Library, the program receives a \$2,500 donation to offset authors' appearance fees. Support from these organizations allows more than 1,000 children in grades 1-6 to participate each year. "Most communities the size of Chelsea do not have the opportunity to bring in authors of this caliber and we could not do it without such generous community support," says Keegan Sulecki, Head of Information Services at CDL.

This year's distinguished guests include Dori Hillestad Butler (*The Buddy Files & The Haunted Library* series), winner of the 2011 Edgar Award for Best Juvenile Mystery; Cynthia Lord (*Rules &*

Shelter Pet Squad series), a Newbery Honor Medal recipient; and Shelley Pearsall (*The Seventh Most Important Thing & Trouble Don't Last*), winner of the Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction. These authors will be visiting North Creek, South Meadows, and Beach Middle schools respectively on March 12 & 13. During their time in the classroom, the authors provide writing presentations and workshops to students.

In addition to visiting Chelsea Schools' classrooms, this year's guests will also be present for *An Evening with the Authors*, an event open to the public at Washington Street Education Center on Tuesday, March 12 at 6:30pm. "It's amazing how the authors captivate audiences each year with stories— stories of their writing and the stories of their lives," says Edith Donnell, Youth & Teen Librarian at CDL. This event is free of charge and includes an opportunity to purchase books to be signed by the authors, courtesy of Just Imagine. The first 20 families to arrive for the event will receive a free book.

For more information about Authors in Chelsea, please visit:
chelseadistrictlibrary.org/authors-in-chelsea/.

About The Chelsea Education Foundation: The Chelsea Education Foundation provides funding for a wide spectrum of educational activities to benefit the residents of Chelsea, Michigan. A non-profit, tax-exempt organization, friends and supporters organized CEF in 1990 to provide a link between school, business, and community to help strengthen Chelsea's future.

About the Friends of Chelsea District Library: The mission of the Friends of Chelsea District Library is to provide financial assistance for special Library programs, and to supplement materials and equipment; to increase the visibility of the Library in the community; provide volunteer aid to the Library; and to recognize Library staff annually.

About Us: Chelsea District Library is a not for profit organization whose mission is engage, inspire, and equip through evolving services and resources. The Library currently serves 15,010 residents in the Chelsea area including the City of Chelsea plus Dexter, Lima, Lyndon and Sylvan townships. More than 16,000 individuals visit the Library each month. For more information visit chelseadistrictlibrary.org.

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