



**CHELSEA DISTRICT LIBRARY**  
BEST SMALL LIBRARY IN AMERICA

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Author Visits Expanded Thanks to CEF and Friends of the Library**

Chelsea District Library (CDL) is pleased to announce the 11th 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 9,500 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 17-18, 2020.

For the first time, Kindergarten and Young Fives students will participate in the program thanks to the continued support of the Chelsea Education Foundation (CEF) and the Friends of Chelsea District Library. CEF's generous \$1,500 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 1,200 children in grades K-6 to participate each year. "We are always looking for ways to expand this program and given the nature of our North Creek author's work, this felt like the right year to include the Kindergarten crowd," says Edith Donnell, Youth & Teen Librarian at CDL.

This year's distinguished guests include Alyssa Satin Capucilli (Biscuit and Katy Duck early reader series), receiver of the American Library Association award; Kirby Larson (Dogs of WWII series and *Nubs* informational picture book), a Newbery Honor Medal recipient; and Susan Vaught (*Footer Davis is Probably Crazy* and *Me and Sam-Sam Handle the Apocalypse*), winner

of the Edgar Award for mystery. These authors will be visiting North Creek, South Meadows, and Beach Middle schools respectively on March 17 and 18. 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 17 at 6:30pm. "The authors often share personal stories at this evening program beyond what they've included in their school presentations. It's a truly inspiring evening," says Jessica Zubik, Youth & Teen Librarian. 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/](http://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](http://chelseadistrictlibrary.org).

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