

Windows and Mirrors

Charlotte Country Day School's Diversity Guest Author Series

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WE
NEED
DIVERSE
BOOKS



Windows and Mirrors

“The need for curriculum to function both as window and as mirror...”

Emily Style/Peggy McIntosh

National SEED Project (Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity)



Jacqueline Woodson and students

“In addition to serving as a mirror for me, the text served as a window for many of my classmates who had only experienced reflections of themselves in books, never experiencing the power of a window text. Books are sometimes the only place where readers may meet people who are not like themselves, who offer alternative worldviews” (Tschida, Ryan, & Ticknor, 2014).

Why develop a Diversity Guest Author Series?

- Advocacy
- Implementation
- Affirming Community



“When children cannot find themselves reflected in the books they read, or when the images they see are distorted, negative, or laughable, they learn a powerful lesson about how they are devalued in the society of which they are a part.” Bishop (2009)

Why Advocacy?

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., said “our individual freedom is inextricably bound to the freedom of every soul on Earth.”



- **To be Equitable in Children's Books publishing, the books by POC/Indigenous need to increase by 39-100% per year**

Population:

- White Americans 61% of US Population
 - Asian Pacific Americans 6% of US Population
 - American Indians 1 % of US Population
 - African Americans 13% of US Population
 - Latin Americans 18% of US Population
 - Multi-Ethnic Americans 2% of US Population
- (2015 Census, Reflection Press)



Walter Dean Myers - 2006



Sonia Levitin - 2009



Jacqueline Woodson - 2008



Justina Chen - 2012



**Joseph Bruchac
2013**



**Guadalupe Garcia McCall
2014**

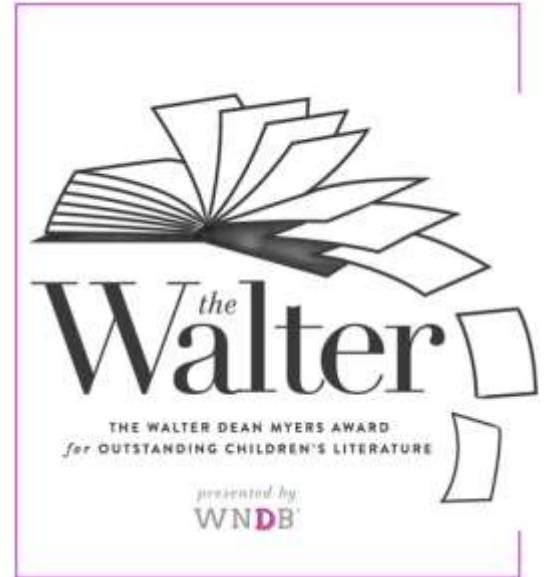
**Ms. Neela Vaswani
2015**





Kekla Magoon 2016

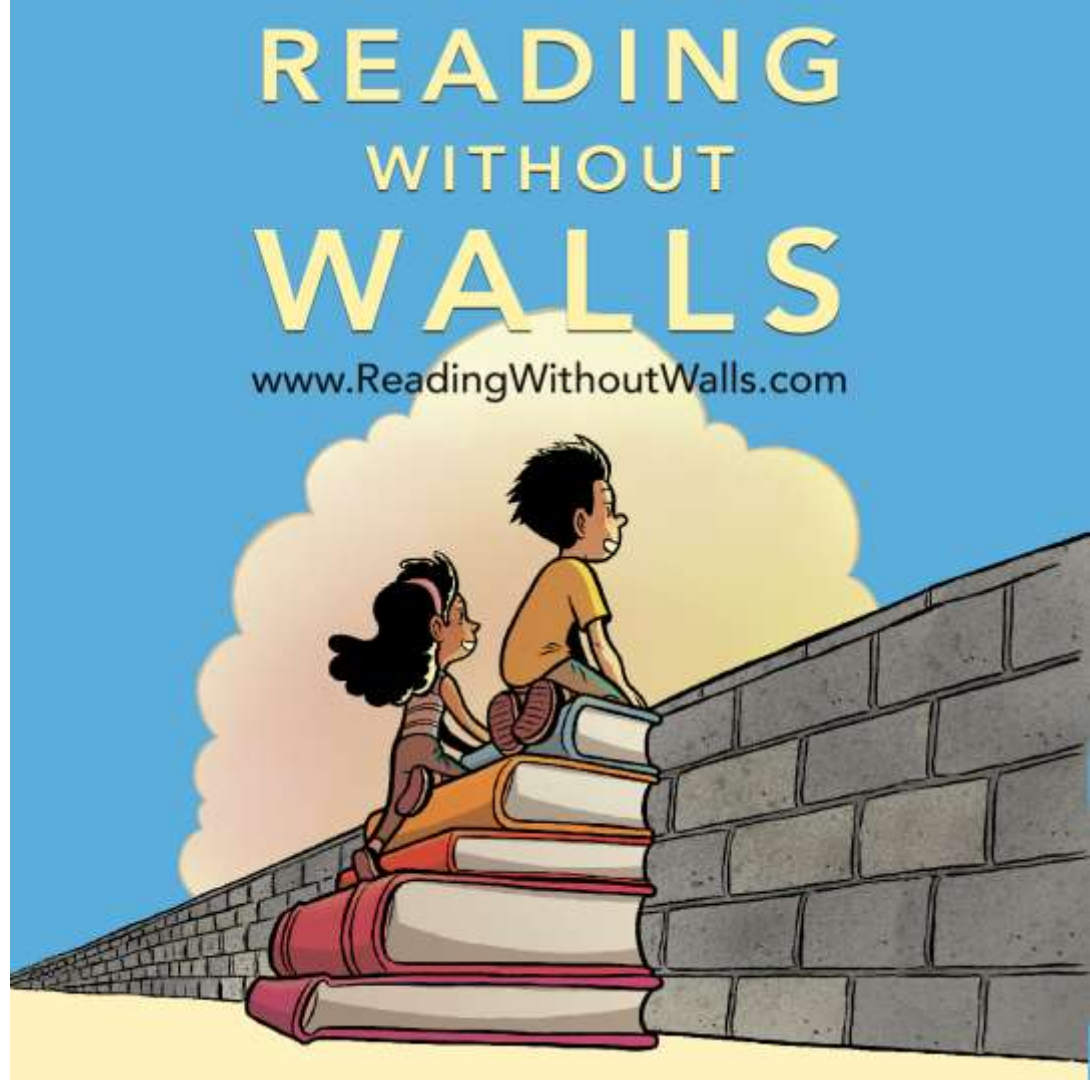
Upcoming: Matt de la Pena 2017



Implementation: How?

- Administration support
- [Reading Without Walls](#)
- Survey Parents/Students Interest
- [World Read Aloud Day/Skype](#)

Maya Angelou: “I’m convinced of this: Good done anywhere is good done everywhere. For a change, start by speaking to people rather than walking by them like they’re stones that don’t matter. As long as you’re breathing, it’s never too late to do some good.”



Reading Without Walls Ambassador



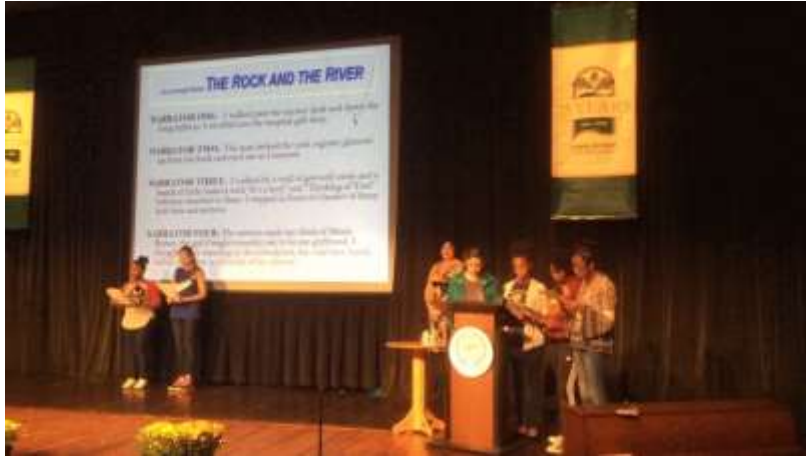
Gene Luen Yang is the National Ambassador for Young People's Literature

Reading Without Walls CHALLENGE:

1. Read a book about a character who doesn't look like you or live like you.
2. Read a book about a topic you don't know much about.
3. Read a book in a format that you don't normally read for fun. This might be a chapter book, a graphic novel, a book in verse, a picture book, or a hybrid book.

Affirming Community

- Charlotte Country Day School partnership with CMS
- Since 2006 more than 2,000 Charlotte-Mecklenburg middle and high school students have attended visits.
- Voice: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion



Diversity Guest Author Series Favorite Books

Journal of Scott Pendleton Collins by Walter Dean Myers

Monster by Walter Dean Myers

Feathers by Jacqueline Woodson

Room in the Heart by Sonia Levitin

North of Beautiful by Justina Chen

Code Talker by Joseph Bruchac

The Way by Joseph Bruchac

Under the Mesquite by Guadalupe Garcia McCall

Same Sun Here by Neela Vaswani

The Rock and the River by Kekla Magoon

Camo Girl by Kekla Magoon

Last Stop on Market Street by Matt de la Pena

