

Starved Rock
Reading Council
proudly presents...

Young Author Celebration

April 20, 2011

Grizzly Jack's • Grand
Bear • Lodge
2643 N. Illinois Rt
178
Utica, IL 61373

PLEASE FIND INSIDE...

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2011 Highlights: Registration Increase & 2 Sessions

The SRRC Young Author Celebration has grown in recent years.

This success has been wonderful, but has forced us to make some changes in recent years..

*Please note that after many years, we have raised our registration fee to \$15.

**We will also again offer 2 sessions, in order to accommodate the growth.

Session 1:

9:00 am -Registration

-Book Fair

9:30 am -**Author**

Presentations

10:30 am -Bus loading

-Author signing

-Book Fair

Session 2:

12:30 pm -Registration

-Book Fair

1:00 pm -**Author**

Presentations

2:00 pm -Bus loading

-Author signing

-Book Fair

It is important that you contact us by March 4 to choose your first preference for either the morning or afternoon sessions.

Please be advised that although we will do what we can to honor your request, the sessions will be scheduled according to what works best with the number of authors as well as the fire code.

We appreciate your flexibility and understanding as we work to create a special, memorable day for our Young Authors!

Special Points Of Interest:

- We are again offering two programs this year: AM & PM
- E-mail or phone your program preference ASAP
- No later than April 15, send in your school's registration form, fee of \$15 per author, and lists of students attending
- Do not send students' manuscripts—bring them the day of the event
- The Book Fair is closed during the presentations: no exceptions

Local Authors Featured This Year



Doctor Ted
- by Andrea Beatty

Andrea Beatty will be our featured author for grades K-3, & Julia Durango for grades 4-8.

All Young Authors will receive an autographed copy of their author's book.



Sea of the Dead
- by Julia Durango

General Requirements:

- Open to all students in grades K-8

Student manuscripts

must be:

- Poem, book, or short story of any length.
- Written during the 2010-11 school year.
- Result of class assignments or individual creative writing.
- Written at school.
- The student's original work
- Composed by hand or on a computer. (Illustrations are allowed.)
- Composed by an individual, or by 2 authors only—please note that co-authored work counts as two of the district's allotted entries.

Eligibility:

- Each building may send 6 authors OR 1 author for every 30 students enrolled, whichever is greater. (Example: A school of 100 students is eligible to send 6 authors; a school with 300 students enrolled is eligible to send 10 authors.
- Each district may determine the manner in which manuscripts are selected. Refer to the timeline for recommended guidelines as well as important dates.
- The district is responsible for notifying its eligible participants and informing them of registration procedures for the session. A completed registration form and the registration fee must be submitted for each participant.

- One adult per young author is welcome to attend. Two tickets per author will be issued.
- Photocopies must be made of every student's manuscript and will be collected at the registration desk the day of the celebration. Manuscripts will be on display for both sessions as well as the evening meeting of the SRRC. **DO NOT SUBMIT ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPTS—THEY WILL NOT BE RETURNED.** All manuscripts are donated to local hospitals for the enjoyment of young patients and visitors. Please prepare manuscripts to be as durable as possible. (Laminating and using a binding machine has proven successful in past years.)
- Write name, grade level & school on each manuscript.

Timeline

1. **ASAP:** Contact Julie Hettel with your session preference:

jhettel@d141.lasall.k12.il.us

-or-

815.433.3761

- 3.. **At the beginning of April:**

Your committee should meet to
Select winning manuscripts.

4. **No later than April 15, send :**

-completed registration form,
-fee of \$12 per student author
-a list of your student authors
and their grade levels.

Young Author manuscripts
may be published in local
newspapers!

5. **The week of the event:**

Send home tickets and ticket letter
with students. Make sure that
parents are informed of all
pertinent information.

Important Reminders

- **The Book Fair is closed during the presentations.**

-No exceptions.

- Please communicate with parents by sending an informational note home. A sample has been included.

- **No sack lunches—if time deems it necessary for students to bring them, please plan on eating on the bus.**

- On each manuscript: write student's name, grade level and school name

- **Remember that manuscripts will not be returned. Keep your precious originals**

- **Registration fee is \$15 (note the increase) per student.** Fees are used to defer expenses of the program and autographed

books given to the Young Authors.

- Grand Bear Lodge is not responsible for accidents. Chaperones need to know where all student authors are at all times.

School-Home Communication

For the ultimate success of this event, please consider using the following suggestions in your communications with parents while organizing for the Young Author Celebration.

1. **After choosing your student authors**, send a note home to parents that includes necessary general information they will need (*see sample below)
2. **Several days before the event**, send home a reminder letter with the tickets explaining their purpose (**see sample below)
3. Include the address and phone # of the Grand Bear Lodge in your communication.
4. It is helpful to give a copy of any

"Our greatest natural resource is in the minds of our children."
-Walt Disney

parent communication to your school secretary and principal in case they are in the position of fielding questions from parents.

5. We will not give packets to parents not accompanied by a child. If you are bringing students on a bus, we will either hand out all packets to a supervising teacher, or to the child when he/she/meets up with the parent after exiting the bus. If you are bringing

students on a bus, you may need to communicate this with parents in your letter as this has caused confusion in the past.

Thank you for your attention and extra efforts in communicating between the school and home. Anything you can do will help the day run smoothly.

Our continued thanks & appreciation to:
Illinois Office Supply
for their kind donations of the newsletter, awards, & bookmarks

*Sample Parent Letter (adjust times according to your session)

Dear Parents,

Your child _____ has been chosen to represent our school at the Grand Bear Lodge for the Young Authors' Celebration on April 20, 2010. Here is a schedule for the morning/afternoon.

9:00/12:30 **Registration & Book Fair**

9:30/1:00 **Author presentations** (the Book Fair is closed during presentations—no exceptions)

-K-3 Andrea Beatty

-4-8 Julia Durango

10:30/2:00 **Bus loading,**

Author signing (your child will receive an autographed book, but can have it personalized by the author.)

Book Fair

If you plan to attend, you will need to pick up your child at _____ in the school office and accompany him/her to the event. If you or someone else are unable to accompany your child, please call the school office so arrangements can be made for your child to attend. Please call the office if you have any questions.

**Sample Ticket Letter

Dear Parent (s):

Thank you for supporting your child's accomplishment. We are looking forward to a very special Young Author Celebration on Wednesday, April 20 at the Grand Bear Lodge in Utica.

To be compliant with the fire code

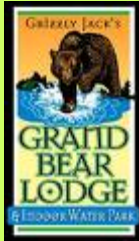
of the Grand Bear Lodge, we need to limit the number of people accompanying each child to one adult. Enclosed are 2 tickets—one for your child and one for their guest. Those 2 tickets will be collected at the door upon entering.

To allow for the authors and organizers to prepare for the event, the doors will not be opened before regis-

tration time (9:00 am-Session 1 and 12:30 pm Session 2). Thank you for your consideration with this.

If you have any questions or if you or someone else are unable to accompany your child, please let us know so that arrangements can be made for your child to attend.


**Young Author
Celebration, 2011**



**STARVED ROCK
READING COUNCIL**

*The more that you read, the more things you will know,
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.
-Dr. Seuss*

Mark your calendar now! More information to come later!

Young Author Evening Event

Dinner & Presentations by Andrea Beatty & Julia Durango

Wed., April 20- Grand Bear Lodge

\$28 per person

*Send reservations to Stephanie Benson by Friday, April 15

starvedrock@illinoisreadingcouncil.org

-or-

815.245.6560

Registration Form

Name & Number of School District: _____

Young Author contact person: _____

Name of School: _____

School Address: _____

School Phone: _____

Home/Cell Phone: _____

Number of students attending: _____ *(x \$15 per student) = \$ _____

* Please note the price increase

1. Send this completed form and your check to:

(Make checks payable to: Starved Rock Reading Council)

**Julie Hettel—c/o Central School Interim Facility
2901 Columbus Street
Ottawa, IL 61350**

Check here if you are picking up all author packets for your school. We will have them boxed and ready for you to pick up and distribute.

2. E-mail your list of students attending (including school/grade level) to: **jhettel@d141.lasall.k12.il.us**

3. Any questions? **Call Julie Hettel at 815.433.3761**

Note: **Do not send manuscripts with your registration.** Bring them with you to the event. There will be a special table on which they will be displayed for the day sessions and that evening's SRRC program.