

# THIRD PLACE BOOKS

## Author Visits with Third Place Books

---

**Please note: currently Third Place Books is not booking any in-person author visits.** We do, however, have opportunities for authors to visit your school virtually. Be on the lookout for chances to host authors coming soon to your inbox!

---

Author visits with authors are an incredible, interactive way to take your language arts curricula off the page and into the auditorium. As a premier book store in the Pacific Northwest with excellent relationships with the industry's foremost publishers, we at Third Place Books have access to today's best working authors and illustrators. And even better: when we partner with publishers to bring these creators to visit area schools, they waive their usual presentation fees, **so author visits with our store are completely free!** We strive to provide these free presentations to schools all over the greater Seattle area because we believe in the importance of promoting a love of literacy and literature among all of Seattle's students.

Though we provide these visits for free, we do expect schools to offer the option to buy the visiting author's books from our store to the students attending their presentation. Of course, we understand that not all schools can commit to buying quantities of an author's book(s) with library funding or support from school parent groups. We only require the opportunity to reach students and staff who want to buy books, as this is an expectation of the publishers who send authors to our store. Additionally, visiting authors will sign all preordered books and even personalize them with a student's or teacher's name, which makes the visit extra memorable and engaging.

We find that school visits have the biggest, most lasting impact for students and staff when schools coordinate opportunities to interact with the author's books outside of the presentation: reading the author's books during library periods, introducing the author's work in the classroom, having copies of the author's book available to students in school and classroom libraries (if the book has already published), creating welcome signs for authors, and reminding students about the author visit date.

We are always looking for new ways to make author visits mutually enjoyable and successful. We welcome any and all ideas you or your teachers and librarians may have to improve and enhance the experience for your students!

# THIRD PLACE BOOKS

## What you can expect from Third Place Books:

- Connections to amazing, passionate authors
- Personalized assistance from our Children's Outreach Manager
- Clear, consistent communication regarding event logistics
- On the day of the school visit, a Third Place bookseller will be on-site with the author's books, a tablet, a cash box, and other materials to support the visit

## What we expect from schools:

- Printing, distributing, collecting, and counting preorder forms
- Introducing the book(s) in class with students
- Providing auditorium or presentation space
- Providing author's A/V needs (screen, projector, etc)
- Wifi connection (to process any potential credit card sales on the day of the event)

## A quick schedule of how our school visits usually work:

- I send out an email to our librarian and teacher list about school visit opportunities at least 4-6 weeks beforehand. I generally operate on the first-come, first-served basis when I send out these emails. So, I recommend replying to these emails as soon as you can to give your school the best chance. I usually send out emails around 7:30am on weekdays. **If you'd like to join the list, please click [here!](#)**
- I will respond to each and every email request to host an author within 3-5 business days. We generally have more demand for school visits than I can accommodate, but I always keep in mind schools that I have to decline for future school visit opportunities.
- I create a preorder form (we can only accept exact change or checks made out to Third Place Books) for librarians to disseminate out to the students attending the event to generate excitement for the author visit. I find that the best author visits are those where the school prepares its students by introducing the author's books beforehand so that the students have an idea of the author's work prior to the visit itself.
- I will be in touch with schools a few days before the visit to get an idea of how many preorders have been collected & to take care of any last-minute questions or concerns.
- On the day of the visit, we will send a bookseller to your school with books to fulfill the preorders and facilitate book signing with the author.
- On the day of the visit, we also bring a tablet and a cashbox so we can accommodate day-of credit card, cash, and check sales, either from school staff or students who decide that they'd like to have the book.
- After the visit, we collect all preorder forms and process them at our store.