
Author Events with Hope Vestergaard

GENERAL INFORMATION



My basic programs are 45 minutes to 1 hour long, depending on the size and age of the group. (Story hour with very young children is closer to half an hour, and workshops for adults may be 1.5-2 hours depending on the topic.) My speaking style is interactive and conversational. I share a lot of information and I like to keep things fun but focused. I use overhead images, props, and handouts with most sessions.

The second page of this flyer has descriptions of existing programs. Any of my talks can be tailored to fit your group's needs and interests. I also do writer's workshops for all ages on topics such as revision, plot, and form. Please contact me if you have any questions about these programs or if there are other topics you're interested in.

My general fees are listed below to assist your planning; once I know your group's needs and goals, I can give you a firm quote. A brief evening session with parents, for example, will cost less if I'm doing school visits in the afternoon. I can give quotes for writers' workshop once I know some parameters: skill level of participants, intensity of program, group size, etc.

I understand that cost is an issue for many programs. Please consider finding another school or program in your area that would like to schedule a visit at the same time to save on travel expenses. Book sales are another popular option: schools obtain books from the publisher or a distributor, pre-sell them, and retain all profits. Some schools use author visits as fundraisers, others use them to subsidize visit costs. I entertain reasonable offers for schools in need and may have other suggestions for ways to make a visit affordable for your group or institution.

RATES:

- \$ 800 for a day-long visit (up to four speaking sessions)
- \$ 500 for a half-day visit (two sessions; \$450 each for two schools in the same district booked for the same day)
- \$ 500 for conferences (up to two sessions)
- \$ 200-300 per session for single programs (1-2 hours) including writer's workshop*

EXPENSES:

- For travel within a 1 ½ hour drive of Ann Arbor, Michigan, 50 cents per mile, plus meals
- For other locations, travel plus meals and lodging.

*Writer's workshop is generally limited to groups of 30 or fewer. If you have a special circumstance, please inquire.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

For bookstores, libraries, and small group events with young children:

Come Read With Me: Story hour for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and parents. Children can bring their own dolls or lovies to cuddle or borrow mine as we read, sing, and move together!

For large and small groups of all ages:

Meet an Author! Hope shares her writing, from grade school to the present. Includes sneak peeks at upcoming books time for audience questions.

The Write Stuff: Learn the truth about what it takes to be a published author...the good, the bad, and the utterly ridiculous!

For children in second grade and up, and adults:

From Brainstorm to Book: Hope shares exercises for budding authors to strengthen their writing muscles.

Finding Your Voice: Hope describes concrete ways aspiring authors can find and fine-tune their own unique voices.

Presentations suitable for educators and parents:

Read to Your Babies: A discussion of the importance of reading, including brief statistics about literacy and strategies to nurture a life-long love for literature.

The Toilet Whisperer: Drawing on her many years teaching preschool, Hope describes ins and outs (sorry!) of successful potty training in a frank, humorous format. Everything from recognizing readiness to coaching kids to bathroom etiquette!

Revvng up Writers: Focusing too much on the mechanical aspects of reading and writing sometimes causes children to lose touch with their creative sides. Hope will share fuel-for-thought exercises to get reluctant writers' pencils racing across the page!

Picture Books 101: Publishing Peaks and Pitfalls. An intensive program perfect for anyone who's ever thought, "This idea might make a good book!" Hope will cover the *whos, whats, wheres, whens* and *whaaaas* of getting a manuscript published.

Weaving the Literacy Web: Customized training covering all aspects of book-based curriculum webbing including selecting books, parent involvement, documenting work.