Words Take Wing

Honoring Diversity in Children’s Literature

In partnership with the UC Davis School of Education

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2019
11AM | Jackson Hall
Recommended for grades 4–8

About Words Take Wing

Children and young adult writers and illustrators capture the intensity of the emotional content, beauty and emerging world perceptions in the lives of our youth. Words Take Wing celebrates children's literature and values its capacity to inform, inspire and empower by giving voice and forum to the creators of children's books. Notable authors and illustrators of diverse backgrounds who explore and create settings that reflect a wide range of perspectives and world views are selected each year to build and sustain relationships with those who work earnestly to nourish the lives of children and who recognize the excellence and importance of children's literature. Past Words Take Wing authors include Grace Lin, Laurence Yep, Pam Muñoz Ryan, Patricia McKissack, Margarita Engle, Joseph Bruchac, Andrea Davis Pinkney and Brian Pinkney.

The 2019 Words Take Wing event is an engaging, dynamic and interactive presentation by children's author Erin Entrada Kelly, a New York Times–bestselling author and winner of the 2018 Newbery Medal for her book Hello, Universe (2017), a story about a diverse group of middle school students and their unexpected encounters. The prestigious Newbery Medal is awarded annually for the most outstanding book for children and young adults.

About Erin Estrada Kelly

Erin Entrada Kelly was raised in Louisiana, but now lives in the Philadelphia area. She is a professor of children's literature in the graduate fiction and publishing programs at Rosemont College, where she earned her MFA. Kelly is also a short story writer. Her short fiction has been nominated for the Philippines Free Press Literary Award for Short Fiction and the Pushcart Prize.

She is mestiza (people with mixed Filipino and any foreign ancestry) and identifies as Filipina-American. Her mother is Visayan and lives in Cebu, which is why many of Kelly’s Filipino characters speak the Cebuano language rather than Tagalog, the national language of the Philippines.

Her debut novel, Blackbird Fly, was a Kirkus Best Book, a School Library Journal Best Book, an ALSC Notable Book, and an Asian/Pacific American Honor Book. She is also the author of The Land of Forgotten Girls—winner of the Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature—and You Go First, a Spring 2018 Indie Next Pick. She gets her ideas from everywhere, saying “we’re surrounded by inspiration all the time. No matter where you are at this moment, you’re surrounded by inspiration.”

LEARN MORE:

Erin Entrada Kelly website
(www.erinentradakelly.com)

School of Education Words Take Wing website
(https://education.ucdavis.edu/words-take-wing)
Think About It

Dear Students,

1. What do you think the easiest part of writing a story is? The hardest?

2. What traditions or customs do you and your family celebrate?

3. Have there been times when you felt different or ignored? How did you feel?

4. Friends are important people in our lives. Think of ways that you and your friends help and support each other.

What is expected of student audiences at the matinee:

- To facilitate starting the performance on time, get a drink of water and use the restroom before entering the seating area.
- Enter the auditorium quietly and take your seats immediately (note that all matinees have reserved seating).
- Show courtesy to the artists and other guests at all times.
- Demonstrate appreciation for the artists' work by applauding.
- Refrain from making unnecessary noise or movements.
- Please eat lunch before or after the performance. Food is not allowed in the theatre.
- Use information learned from the pre-matinee discussion to enhance the performance experience.
- Please do not photograph or record the artists.

What your students can expect of their experience at the Mondavi Center:

A theatre is a charged space, full of energy and anticipation. When the house lights (the lights that illuminate the audience seating) go down, the excitement level goes up! Theatres are designed so that the voices of the singers and actors and the music of the musicians can be heard. But this also means that any sound in the audience, whispering, speaking and moving about, can be heard by other audience members and by the performers. Distractions like these disrupt everyone's concentration and can spoil a performance.

The performers on stage show respect for their art form and for the audience by doing their very best work. By watching attentively the audience shows respect for the performers. Appreciation can be shown in many different ways, depending upon the art form and the culture(s) of the people in the audience. For instance, while the audience at a dance performance may sit quietly, other types of performances may invite audience participation.

Applause is the best way for audience members to share their enthusiasm and to show their appreciation for the performers. Applaud at the end of a performance! Sometimes the audience will clap during a performance, as after a featured solo. Audience members may feel like laughing if the action on stage is funny, crying if the action is sad, or sighing if something is seen or heard that is beautiful.

Mondavi Center Arts Education

Arts Education provides CueSheets for all performances in the Mondavi Center 2018–19 School Matinee Series. They are intended to help teachers prepare their students for the school matinee that they will attend at Mondavi Center, UC Davis.

Support provided by

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