April 3, 2014

To Light the World

Stories of Hope & Courage for Challenging Times

A Conference for Teachers of Grades 3–8 and School Librarians

Presented by John Fitzgerald Kennedy National Historic Site & John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum

John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum
Columbia Point
Boston, MA 02125

PRSRT STANDARD MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 157
BOSTON, MA

JOHN F. KENNEDY
PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

Eastern National

John Fitzgerald Kennedy
National Historic Site

www.jfklibrary.org

www.nps.gov/jofi

Registration Form

Registrations are accepted in the order in which they are received. *Conference space is limited – please register early.*

Name _____

Home address _____

City/State _____ Zip code _____

Phone _____

Email address _____

School/organization _____

Grade/position _____

Please list choices for the Concurrent Sessions (A, B, C or D):

1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____ 3rd choice _____

Please list choices for Meet the Authors (1, 2 or 3):

1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____

Registration fee is $100 and includes handouts, morning coffee and lunch. Registration form and payment must be received by **March 12, 2014**. To reduce carbon footprint, we are sending confirmation packets via email. Help us by including your email address. Please make check or purchase order payable to **Eastern National**, and mail with completed registration form to:

Liza Stearns
Kennedy National Historic Site
c/o 99 Warren Street
Brookline, MA 02445

For information, contact Liza Stearns at (617) 201-7217 or Sam Rubin at (617) 514-1650.

Reproduce registration form as needed.

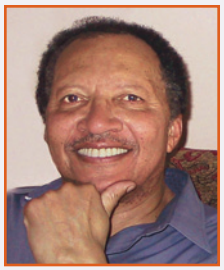
When bad news dominates the headlines and children are bombarded with frightening images from streaming media, we find ourselves looking for ways to explain and reassure. In these times, stories of hope, courage and resilience can offer an inspirational counterbalance – providing children with examples of people facing difficulties head-on and taking action to make things better.

This year's conference features conversations with award-winning authors whose books inform and inspire young readers. Workshop sessions present strategies and resources for helping students engage with issues of concern, encouraging them to believe that they, too, can make a difference in the world.

Susan Campbell Bartoletti is a Newbery Honor recipient and Sibert Award winner who taught 8th grade English for eighteen years before devoting herself to writing full time. Her carefully researched historical narratives on challenging topics, including the Ku Klux Klan and Hitler Youth, highlight the choices and actions of young people. She hopes that her books give readers "...courage to question and to think critically about history...and, most of all, courage to stand up."

Suzy Becker is an artist, author, educator and entrepreneur. Since her childhood days operating a lemonade stand for UNICEF, she has also been a social activist. In 2010, *Yankee Magazine* named her an "Angel Among Us" for her community service initiatives. Ms. Becker writes and illustrates humorous, thought-provoking books for adults and children, including *Kids Make It Better*, an action-packed workbook designed to engage young people in creative problem-solving.

Mary Ann Cappiello is a professor of language and literacy at Lesley University. Her passion for children's books as a source for learning about the world was nurtured through her years as a public school English language arts teacher. She is co-author, with Erika Thulin Dawes, of *Teaching with Text Sets* and the forthcoming *Teaching for Complexity*. Mary Ann Cappiello is also co-creator of *The Classroom Bookshelf* blog and writes about nonfiction for the *School Library Journal*.



Walter Dean Myers, celebrated as "a giant among children's and young adult authors," served as the 2012–13 National Ambassador for Young People's Literature. Many of his books feature urban teens dealing with serious issues. Mr. Myers often shares stories of his own troubled youth in Harlem, telling young people how his love of books and writing rescued him from despair. He advises, "Read everything you can, looking for the ideas that give you hope and expand your horizons."

Doreen Rappaport taught in a Mississippi Freedom School in the 1960s and has been drawn to stories of courage and justice ever since. Her stunningly illustrated series of biographies introduce children to history makers through carefully selected quotes and lively narrative. In her young adult book, *Beyond Courage: The Untold Story of Jewish Resistance During the Holocaust*, she recounts the heroic acts of ordinary people in the most challenging of circumstances.

Read more about the conference and featured speakers.

nps.gov/jofi/forteachers/conference.htm

Top photo: President and Mrs. Kennedy at ceremony initiating the first Alliance for Progress project in Venezuela, 1961. Courtesy John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum. *Cover photo:* In this image from *Kids on Strike* by Susan Campbell Bartoletti, girls march with banners saying "ABOLISH CHILD SLAVERY!" in Yiddish and English. Courtesy Library of Congress.

This conference supports Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies.

April 3, 2014

To Light the World

Stories of Hope & Courage for Challenging Times

John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, Boston, MA

8:00 **Registration/Book Browsing**

8:30 **Welcome**

8:45 **Real-World Stories that Challenge *and* Inspire Young Readers**
How can literature be used in the classroom to shed light on troubling events in history and in today's world? In writing about difficult subjects such as slavery and the Holocaust, how do authors also convey a sense of hope to young readers and the conviction that one person really can make a difference? Explore these and other questions with Susan Campbell Bartoletti, Walter Dean Myers and Doreen Rappaport. Mary Ann Cappiello moderates the discussion.

10:00 **Break/Book Browsing**

10:40 **Solving Big Problems Takes Imagination – and Kids Have It!**
In this lively illustrated talk, Suzy Becker shares a creative approach to helping children wrestle with real-world problems and concerns, as presented in her book, *Kids Make it Better: A Write-In, Draw-In Journal*. Following Ms. Becker's presentation, participants meet in small groups to exchange ideas and classroom experiences. National Park Service and Kennedy Library staff facilitate the discussions.

11:50 **Lunch**

12:40 **Concurrent Sessions |** List your first, second and third choices on your registration form.

A Ask What You Can Do: Launching a Service Learning Project | Grades 5-8
Since 1999, Ron Adams' students at Broad Meadows Middle School have chosen a "Charity of the Year" to partner with in creating sustainable, life-changing aid projects to help peers in developing countries. Mr. Adams, a former Massachusetts Teacher of the Year, and current grade 7 students lead this session on ways to run an effective school-based service project.

B Using Text Sets to Explore Themes of Hope and Courage | Grades 3-8
In their book, *Teaching with Text Sets*, Mary Ann Cappiello and Erika Thulin Dawes of Lesley University show how children's literature of all genres, when combined with periodicals and rich digital resources, can integrate literacy and content across the curriculum. Join them as they present text sets addressing the conference theme and share a process you can use to create unique resources for your classroom.

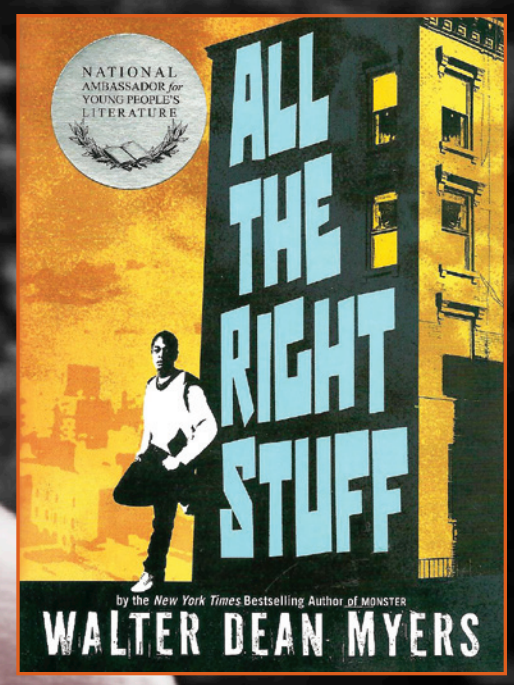
C Introducing Young Learners to World Issues | Grades 3-6
Katie Smith Milway's books, *One Hen*, *The Good Garden* and *Mimi's Village* relate stories about children in Ghana, Honduras and Kenya who have made a difference in their own communities. She and Helen Rosenfeld, executive director of One Hen, Inc., share curriculum resources that help young people understand and address global issues including poverty, hunger and health.

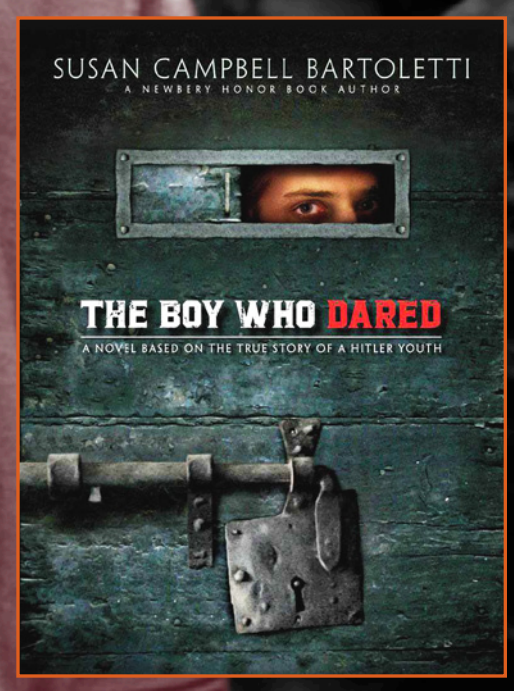
D Engaging Teens in Reflective Writing Across the Curriculum | Grades 6-8
Brookline Poet Laureate Judith Steinbergh has written three books for teachers that are full of ideas for helping young people connect their own life experiences to curriculum content through poetry writing. In this workshop, she presents techniques for encouraging students' creative expression as they seek to understand the world and their place in it.

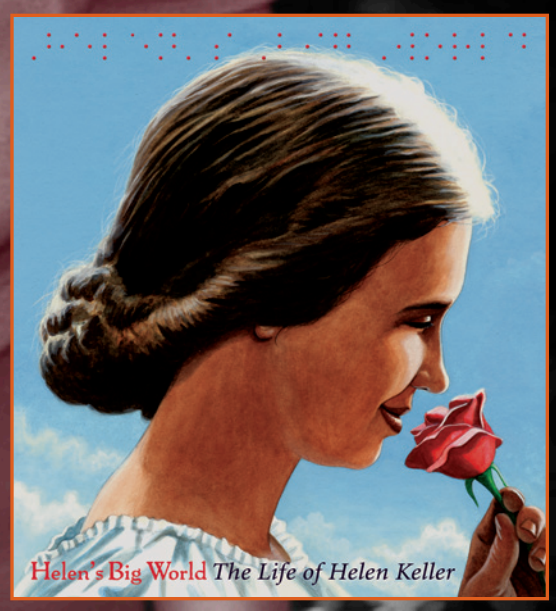
1:50 **Meet the Authors |** List your first and second choices on your registration form.
Guest authors meet with participants to discuss their work and conference-related topics.

1 Susan Campbell Bartoletti **2** Walter Dean Myers **3** Doreen Rappaport

2:50 **Conclusion/Book Signing**







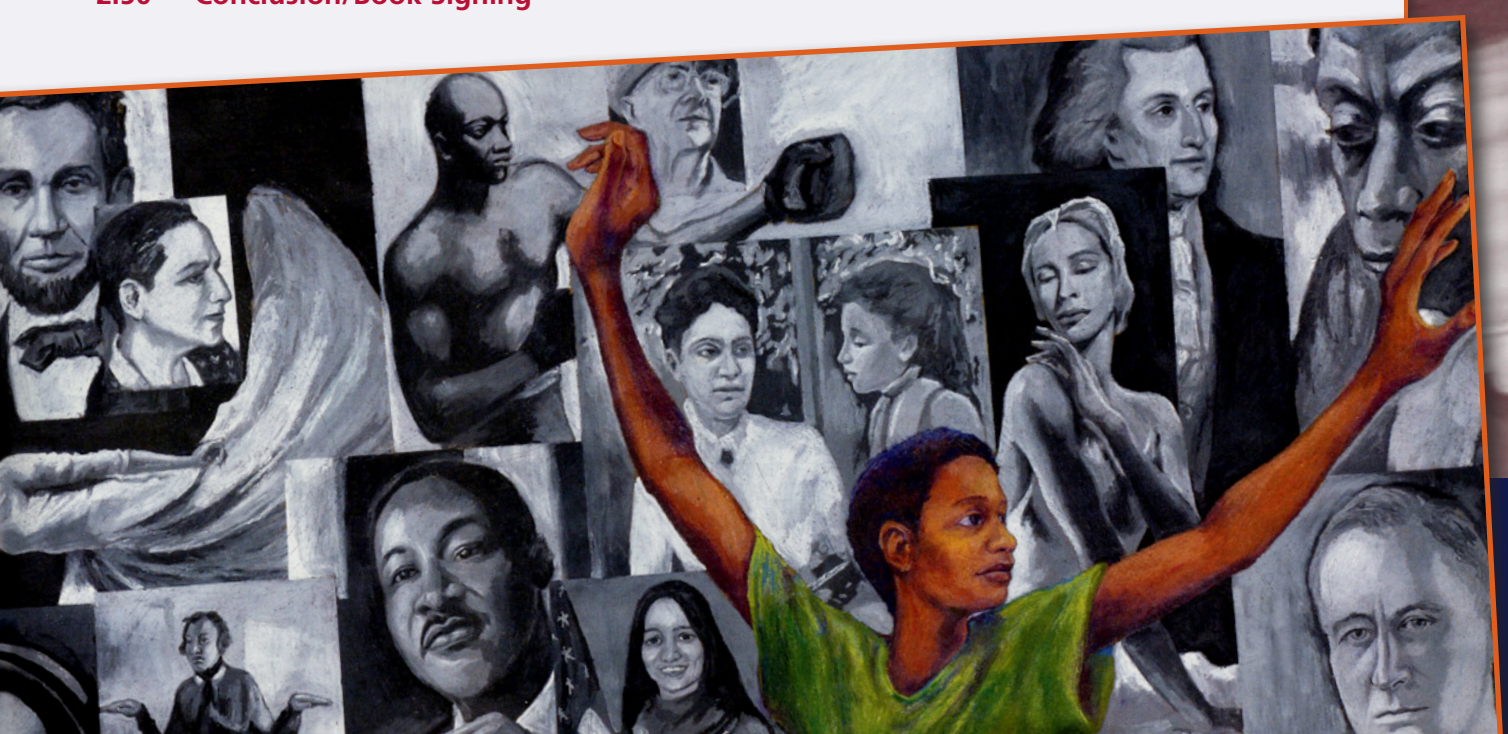


Illustration detail at left by Christopher Myers from *We Are America* by Walter Dean Myers. Background photo by Matt Teuten, courtesy John F. Kennedy NHS.