

School Corps Quarterly

A publication of the Multnomah County Library School Corps — an outreach program connecting students, teachers and media staff with public library resources

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New Social Networking Presentation for Parents, Educators and Caregivers

By Sarah Nelsen



The past couple of years have seen a barrage of negative media regarding MySpace and other, similar social networking sites. If you believe all the hype, you might think that MySpace is no more than a hangout for child predators trying to get at your kids. But is it?

More than three out of five teen Internet users have visited a social networking site, and more than half of all blogs are published by teens. Sites like MySpace give teens a creative outlet to talk to their friends, try on new identities, and develop new interests.

School Corps' newest presentation, *Safe Space: Social Networking for Parents, Educators and Caregivers*, aims to take some of the fear out of social networking sites and help parents assess the real risks and dangers of these sites.

Find out what teens are really doing online and go home prepared to talk to your teen about using social networking sites safely.

If you have an upcoming parent night and you would like School Corps to present *Safe Space*, contact us at lib.school.corps@multcolib.org or 503.988.6004.

Resource for Families in Transition

Multnomah County Library recently produced a pamphlet entitled *Moving On: A Community Transition Handbook*, which contains a list of community resources such as drug and alcohol treatment, domestic violence services, housing, shelters, medical and dental services, and employment.

Would you like copies of the pamphlet to share with families? If so, contact School Corps at 503.988.6004 or lib.school.corps@multcolib.org.

2007 Teen Author Lecture Features Laurie Halse Anderson

By Carey Boucher

On Monday, Oct. 15, Laurie Halse Anderson will present Multnomah County Library's sixth annual Teen Author Lecture at The Old Church in downtown Portland.

"Laurie Halse Anderson's books are all fast-paced, honest and funny," says Teen Services Specialist Sara Ryan, "even when the characters are facing serious issues."

On her website (www.writerlady.com), Anderson writes, "Characters show up in my head and start bugging me. If I write books about them, they go away and leave me alone. So really, I became an author because I was being nagged by imaginary people. And that sentence right there shows why it is unlikely I will hold any other job."

Anderson is also the recipient of many prestigious awards. *Speak* (1999) was a National Book Award finalist and won, to name a few, the Printz Honor Medal, Edgar Allen Poe Award and *L.A. Times* Book Prize. *Fever 1793* (2000) is an American Library Association Best Book for Young Adults. Both *Prom* (2005) and *Twisted* (2007) have been *New York Times* bestsellers.



Tickets (\$10 adult, \$5 students) are on sale Sept. 18-Oct. 14 at Library Administration and Central, Gresham, Hillsdale, Hollywood, Midland and North Portland libraries. Tickets may also be purchased at the Parkrose High School library and at A Children's Place, Annie Bloom's Books, Broadway Books, In Other Words Women's Books and Resources, and Twenty-Third Avenue Books. Teen Author Lecture is made possible by generous donors to The Library Foundation (www.libraryfoundation.org).

Booktalk

Harper, Charise Mericle
Just Grace
 Houghton Mifflin, 2007 [j HARPER]
 Grades 2-4



Booktalk by Suzanne Myers Harold

Who's your favorite superhero? Superman? Wonder Woman? Spider-Man? Batgirl? (Batgirl was a librarian, you know.)

This is Grace (show cover). When she gets upset she draws comic strips, but her comics are little different than the ones about Superman and Wonder Woman. Instead of superheroes, Grace creates "Not So Super (but still good)" comics about superheroes who only have little powers, but still use them to help people who need it. It's inspired by her favorite TV show, *Unlikely Heroes*, about normal people who do superhero things – like a man who lifted a whole car off a lady who was trapped underneath, and a baby who called 911.

Grace herself has a teeny tiny super power. It's not a jump-over-buildings superpower, but she can always tell when someone is unhappy, even if that person is pretending to be happy and is a really good actor.

The thing about having a superpower is that you have to help people in trouble, even when you should probably just leave it alone and not do anything at all. So when Grace learns that the scary teacher who lives next door is unhappy, she knows she has to act. But what to do?

Maybe this is one of those times when Grace should have left things alone....

Tapestry of Tales Storytelling Festival: Nov. 13–17, 2007

By Kim Carroll

Tell me a story! Stories and personal narrative help children navigate a place in the world. When children listen to and tell stories, they learn lifelong skills that benefit them in the classroom. They are exposed to new language, encouraged to interpret information, and challenged to utilize critical thinking skills to solve a story's riddle or problem.

This November you and your students will have the unique opportunity to hear nationally and internationally renowned storytellers during the library's annual Tapestry of Tales festival! We have a fantastic lineup of programs throughout the community and at neighborhood libraries. National storyteller Andy Offutt Irwin, with his Silly Putty voice, will delight families with an evening of *Talespinning*. Beth Horner will present *Love Lost, Found and Fumbled*. International storyteller Carol Russell will enchant with her repertoire of Anansi stories and folktales. Featured regional favorites include Rick Huddle and Anne Rutherford.

Encourage students and the adults who share their lives to participate in the experience of story as we offer storytelling throughout the month of November as part of Tellabration! (www.tellabration.org/History). You may even get up the nerve to share your own experiences in our *Cringe Down Memory Lane* and *The Day I Really Earned My Paycheck* programs. Visit www.multcolib.org/events/tales for more information on Tapestry of Tales, storytellers, performance dates and times, and educator resources.

Tapestry of Tales Festival is made possible in part by The Library Foundation with a special thanks to the Portland Storytellers Guild and the Mark Spencer Hotel.

Kindergarten Great Library Card Adventure Begins

Get a Multnomah County library card now!: October 1 - November 21, 2007

- Kindergarten classrooms with 100 percent of their students signed up for library cards will be entered in a drawing to win one of three collections of age-appropriate fiction and nonfiction books for their classrooms. Classes with 100 percent of students signed up that do not win a book collection will receive a gift certificate from a local bookstore.
- Teachers will receive \$5 Starbucks Coffee Company cards and \$5 Title Wave Used bookstore coupons when they send in library card applications from their students!
- Sign up your school at www.multcolib.org/schoolcorps/glca.html.