

California Young Reader Medal Program Offers Author Videoconferences

The California Young Reader Medal (CYRM) program is excited to announce a series of live interactive videoconferences with children's and young adults' writers who have been nominated for the prestigious award.

The videoconferences will be produced by the Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) and are open to all schools in California on a first-come, first-served basis. The videoconferences also will be webcast live and archived for future review.

Authors scheduled to date are:

CYRM Category: Primary
Target Grade Levels: K- 2

David LaRochelle, *The Best Pet of All*, November 8
Linda Bailey, *Stanley's Party*, December 15

CYRM Category: Intermediate
Target Grade Levels: 3-5

Katherine Hannigan, *Ida B...and her Plans to Maximize Fun, Avoid Disaster, and (possibly) Save the World*, November 29
Andrew Clement, *A Week in the Woods*, February 6

CYRM Category: Middle School/Jr. High
Target Grade Levels: 6-8

Gennifer Choldenko, *Al Capone Does My Shirts*, November 15
Patti Sherlock, *Letters from Wolfie*, December 14
Pam Munoz-Ryan, *Becoming Naomi Leon*, January 24

CYRM Category: Young Adult
Target Grade Levels: 9-12

Margaret Bechard, *Hanging on to Max*, December 13
Gail Giles, *Shattering Glass*, January 17

Additional CYRM author videoconferences may be announced for March. Although all nominated authors have been invited to take part in the series, some may choose not to or otherwise be unable to participate.

For more information, or to register, please go to
<http://vc.ocde.us/cyrm/>

The four organizations that sponsor the CYRM contest are California Association of Teachers of English (CATE), California Library Association (CLA), California Reading Association (CRA), and California School Library Association. The program encourages recreational reading of popular literature among the young people of California. .

Authors have been nominated in five categories, with the winners to be announced in May 2007. Winners are selected by student vote, with ballots due April 1, 2007. More information is available at www.californiayoungreadermedal.org