

SCHOOL VISITS: WRITING WORKSHOPS FOR EDUCATORS

with YA author *Hannah R. Goodman, M.Ed, certified RI English Teacher.*



I offer two different programs for high school educators: Each one is followed by a ten-minute book signing. Up to 25 educators in one location.

Using YA Literature In The Classroom:

In this 90 minutes workshop, I model a student-centered, guided-discussion that focuses on literatures impact on our lives: I use both a short story and a novel excerpt as the springboard for a discussion about high interest topics that peak student interest: alcoholism, family relationships, sibling relationships, friendship, and teenage sexuality. Once I have students “hooked” I guide the discussion into how literature connects to real-life and thus is very important to our society in terms of communication and further insight into our own lives. The goal is to get students interested in reading and for them to see how reading can connect to every day life. Using discussion prompts designed to encourage students’ critical thinking skills, students engage in a lively discussion that centers on literature. Students’ will: use critical thinking skills; further understand literary elements such as theme, plot, and point of view; and understand the importance of literature to ourselves individually and as a society. This lesson can be adapted to other literary works. Teachers will walk away with a grab bag of ideas! (Approximate time: 90 Minutes).

Discover Your Writing Voice And Help Your Students’ Find Theirs.

Description

The goal of this 90-minute workshop is to model a lesson to educators that shows students the value of writing beyond the classroom– that writing is way to release and express emotions and ideas. I share excerpts from my short stories and my novels and then show the connection to my real life as a teenager and adult. Through the use of multimedia– songs and pictures– I demonstrate how writing was a way for me to cope in the world and express myself. Then I have the students do a writing exercise called Write in Your Natural Voice. The goal of this exercise is to show them how they can over come writer’s block and get the words out and also the therapeutic value of expressing yourself through the written word. If time permits, the educators and I can have a brief informational discussion about getting published via magazines both online and print as well as legitimate contests to consider entering–for both students and themselves. (Approximate time: 90 Minutes).

To save time and allow for me to reset my props, it’s best if I’m stationed in one location and have the students come to me. The library usually works best. I need a space for students to be able to sit and write and also a screen for overheads.

Equipment: CD player and overhead.

Prior to visit: Teachers can read my short story, My Big Fat Broken Heart, which you can download off my website: www.hannahgoodman.com. My award-winning YA novel, My Sister’s Wedding, book will be on sale at the end of each workshop for \$10.

Fees for 2005-2006:

Workshops: All Day (up to 4 sessions): \$300

Workshop: One Session: \$90

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