Come Work With Us in NYC Public Schools!

“... More than one hopes for in reading programs — lofty yet organized, meaningful and thought through” — Adrian Nicole LeBlanc

About Us:

Behind the Book (BtB) inspires New York City public school students to love reading by bringing accomplished authors and their books into the classroom and creating rich, innovative literacy programs. We work with high needs public school students in 1st through 12th grade. BtB identifies books that speak to urban youth and partners with teachers to create immersive curriculum units by bringing the authors of those books into the classroom. Through a series of workshops, authors discuss their book and teach a genre of writing, encouraging students to see themselves as readers and writers and ultimately guiding them in the creation and publication of their own original writing. BtB programs follow the mandated school curriculum and meet the Common Core Learning Standards.

What you can expect from Behind the Book:

- BtB purchases a copy of the chosen book for all of the students in the class.
- BtB also purchases one copy of other work that you’ve written (provided it’s still in print) for the classroom and school library.
- The students will have read and discussed your book before the first workshop. They will also have questions for you.
- We will work with you and the classroom teacher to design a program around your book and your skills. We will create a Program Outline with details what will be done before the first workshop, during the workshops, and a description of the final project.
- Your BtB Coordinator will be present with you at all your workshops and will help facilitate as needed.
- We provide round trip transportation from within the NYC area and an honorarium for each workshop.
- Our authors are invited to culminating event at the end of the program that celebrates students’ work.

We are looking for authors who:

- Are comfortable conducting writing workshops.
- Are available for one or two conference calls with a BtB Program Coordinator and the teacher.
- Are willing to give input on program design.

Authors we have worked with include:

Colum McCann, Francine Prose, Matt de la Peña, Russell Banks, Victor LaValle, Doreen Rappaport, Rita Williams-Garcia, Andrea Davis Pinkney, Jacqueline Woodson, Patricia McCormick, Marc Brown, and Peter Brown, among many others.

See our website for a full list http://www.behindthebook.org/programs/authors-in-schools/.