

chapters

A PUBLICATION OF

claires
day

SPRING 2014

A MESSAGE FROM JULIE



Last month our 20 year old son Ian sent me a text sharing, "there's a non-traditional student in my art class who is an older gentleman and looks just like Wil Clay and it made me think of you. Wil was such a happy, kind guy who I would not have met had it not been for Claire's Day."

His words brought a tear to my eye.

Ian's note reinforced that our tribute to our little reader gone too soon has brought many blessings to my family. We've been thrilled to meet many children's book authors and illustrators whom we would not have had the opportunity to know otherwise. Wil has been gone several years, but he left a big impression on my family's hearts, as they all have.

We've been honored by many volunteers who helped through the planning process, dedicating countless hours to ensuring a wonderful experience for attendees as well as participants every year. School teachers and administrators have embraced our programs and C.A.R.E. Awards since our inception. Many sponsors and contributors support our efforts to make a difference in children's lives by providing unique literary experiences to thousands of children. We are so grateful.

This year marks a brand new beginning as Read for Literacy and Claire's Day Inc. have formed a collaboration to work together to continue to present the annual book festival and school visits to the community every year.

The partnership brings stability to the leadership and management of the organization. It also brings the promise of new chapters in our story.

My hope is that like Ian, you have been blessed with fond Claire's Day memories, and can join us for Claire's Night and Claire's Day on May 16-17 to create new ones.

Julie

Julie K. Rubini
FOUNDER & CLAIRE'S MOM

CLAIRE'S DAY AUTHORS & ILLUSTRATORS

Meet and Greet!

H

ere is a sneak peek at our amazingly talented children's book authors and illustrators joining us for the Claire's Day festivities. Join us for Claire's Night and Claire's Day to meet them in person! They all will be available throughout both events on Friday, May 16 and Saturday, May 17, and will share their stories, inspirations, and personally sign your books purchased on site through Barnes & Noble!



Rebecca Barnhouse
Author

Rebecca writes novels set in the Middle Ages, a subject she teaches at Youngstown State University. Dragons, monsters, treachery, and arduous pilgrimages are just some of the challenges her characters face in *The Coming of the Dragon*, *Peaceweaver*, and *The Book of the Maidservant*.



Bryan Chick
Author

Bryan is the author of the Secret Zoo series. He originally had the idea for the series when he was nine years old and wondered what would happen if zoo exhibits had secret doors that allowed children to go inside . . . and the animals to come outside. Bryan Chick lives with his wife and four children in Clarkston, Michigan.



Barry Gott
Illustrator

Barry has illustrated dozens of children's books over 14 years, including the Dino-Sports series by Lisa Wheeler, (Junior Library Guild selections) and *Holler Loudly* by Cynthia Leitich Smith (Dolly Parton Imagination Library selection). He hides out in his attic studio in Cleveland, Ohio.



Wendy Anderson Halperin
Illustrator

Wendy has illustrated 30 children's books. Her very detailed books reflect people, relationships, cultures, places, animals and plants in our world. In 2006 she started drawing weekly with 44 kindergarteners and that work has led to the award winning project called Drawing Children Into Reading that now reaches more than 22,000 children. Visit Drawing Children Into Peace to create with Wendy!



Dandi Daley Mackall
Author

Dandi is an award-winning author of over 450 books. *The Silence of Murder* won the Edgar Award for Best Young Adult Mystery and American Library Association Best Fiction 2013. Picture books have won Notables, Children's Book Council, Amelia Bloom & Mom's Choice Awards, while middle-grade novels appear on multi-state lists. Her novel, *My Boyfriends' Dogs*, releases as a Hallmark movie this year. Find out more at www.dandibooks.com.



Margaret McMullan
Author

Margaret has written six award-winning novels including *How I Found the Strong*, *When I Crossed the No-Bob* and *Sources of Light*, which was nominated for the National Book Award. Her books have won Parents' Choice awards, honors from the School Library Journal, the American Library Association, and Booklist. She recently received a Fulbright to research and teach in Hungary, which is the setting for her next book.



Dara Naraghi
Author

Dara is an Iranian-American writer of two New York Times Bestseller graphic novels. His latest graphic novel, *Persia Blues*, has been praised by Publishers Weekly, and nominated for two American Library Association awards. Dara lives in Columbus, Ohio with his wife, daughter, and the world's coolest hound dog and craziest corgi. Visit him online at www.DaraNaraghi.com



Nancy Shaw
Author

Nancy started rhyming on a long car trip, which led to her best-selling *Sheep in a Jeep*. (It's featured in Toledo's downtown library—bursting from the wall). More sheep adventures have followed. This award-winning author's latest book is *Elena's Story*, about a Guatemalan girl.



Lindsay Ward
Illustrator

Lindsay has a BFA in Illustration from Syracuse University. Her most recent books include *When Blue Met Egg* (Dial, 2012), *Please Bring Balloons* (Dial, 2013), and *Henry Finds His Word* (Dial, 2015). Lindsay is currently working on a new book with Dial, titled *The Importance of Being Three*. Visit her online at lindsayward.com.

Read more about the 2014 Claire's Day authors & illustrators by visiting our website: www.claresday.org/authorsillustrators.



CLAIRE'S NIGHT

Fundraising Reception with Authors & Illustrators
 Friday, May 16 • 7:00pm - 10:00pm
 Toledo-Lucas County Public Library - Main Branch
 \$50 each | \$180 (Bistro Table for 4) | \$700 (VIP Table for 10)

TEN TOP REASONS TO COME TO CLAIRE'S NIGHT:

1. Be the first to meet our Claire's Day writers and artists up close & personal.
2. Books. Beat the crowds at Claire's Day and get your purchases personally signed.
3. Literary live and silent auction. Not sure what this is? Come and find out!
4. Amazing food and complimentary beverages for grownups.
5. When was the last time you were in the Children's section at Main Library?
6. Free parking in the underground garage. Need a place to leave your car for the evening? Park and come upstairs and join us for the fun.
7. A Big Reveal.
8. Inspiring and fun presentation from one of our guest authors.
9. No need for your library voice on Claire's Night. The louder the better.
10. Your support will make a difference in children's lives. And in yours.

For tickets visit www.claresday.org or call 419-242-7323 x10.

CLAIRE'S DAY

NW Ohio's Largest FREE Children's Book Festival
 Saturday, May 17 • 9:00am - 5:00pm
 Toledo-Lucas County Public Library - Maumee Branch

TEN TOP REASONS TO COME TO CLAIRE'S DAY:

1. Meet real-live children's book authors and illustrators. In the flesh.
2. Book signings. T-shirt signings. Can you say shoe-signings?
3. C.A.R.E. Awards - 450 students to receive most improved reading awards!
4. Fun art projects for kids of all ages. Even grownups.
5. What's a book festival without books? Lots of books from our special guests.
6. Yummy food available for purchase from culinary students. How cool is that?
7. Celebrity readers. Seriously famous people read their favorite children's stories.
8. Teen Tent. Eight letters are all that is needed to describe this creative space.
9. Wilson Lake and the Rock Bass band rock out at lunchtime.
10. It's like no other experience you've ever had, unless you've been here before!

Claire's Day, Inc. and Read for Literacy Partnership!

On December 12, 2013 a news conference was held sharing this great news. The following is from the news release created by both organizations.

For many years, Claire's Day volunteers and Read for Literacy volunteers have been engaged in work in our community with children and adults in literacy programming. While both programs have been outstanding, we know there is more to do to create a community where adults and children have the opportunity to achieve their personal and academic goals by strengthening their literacy skills.

Over the course of the last several months, the two organizations engaged in conversations to learn how we could maintain our independence, yet meet the demands of programming going forward.

We are pleased to announce that beginning January 1, 2014 and with mutual respect and admiration for each other's programs, we have decided to form a new collaboration where we will share resources and staff. More details will be discussed at the media conference.

Claire's Day, Inc. is a nonprofit organization honoring Claire Lynsey Rubini, who passed away from a heart condition in 2000 when she was just ten years old. Dedicated to inspiring children and families to be lifelong readers, Claire's Day has become northwest Ohio's largest free family book festival. Each year, an estimated 5,000 people enjoy interactive presentations and book signings by Midwestern children's book authors and illustrators, Claire's Awards for Reading Excellence, hands-on activities based on books by the featured authors and illustrators, Teen Tent for youth self-expression and entertainment by local musicians.

Read for Literacy, Inc. is a nonprofit organization serving Lucas, Wood and Seneca counties to provide a wide range of literacy services through the use of trained volunteer tutors and "reader friends." During 2013, over 1650 adults, children and families participated in Read for Literacy programs, enabling children to engage in emergent literacy skill-building, adults to gain skills that allow them to better provide for their children, continue their education and secure a job in today's information dependent world, and some families to learn the English language for the first time after relocating here for work and school.

Read for Literacy Staff involved in Claire's Day Inc. management and leadership are:

Jeanette Hrovatic
 Executive Liaison Claire's Day Inc.
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BOARD MEMBERS

Brenda Lee
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Mark Walla
 TREASURER

Brad Rubini
 Maria Bailey
 Cal Bowers
 Steve Dolley
 Connie Snyder
 Laila Waggoner



OUR MISSION

To honor Claire Lynsey Rubini by inspiring children and families to be lifelong readers through exposure to a variety of literacy opportunities and experiences.

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