



Contact: Communications & Community Outreach Department
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National Ambassador for Young Peoples' Literacy Visits Local Libraries

University City, Mo. (Sept. 5, 2018) – On Sunday, Sept. 9, at 2 p.m., at the St. Louis Public Library (SLPL), the public is invited to attend a presentation by Jacqueline Woodson, best-selling children's book author and National Ambassador for Young Peoples' Literacy.

The position of National Ambassador is bestowed bi-annually by the U. S. Congress to honor one who has made substantial literary contributions for youth. Woodson will speak to her platform, "READING = HOPE X CHANGE," and discuss her new books, "Harbor Me" and "The Day You Begin."

On Sept. 10 at 9:30 a.m., Woodson will be at the University City Public Library (UCPL) to address a group of her biggest fans, first-graders from The School District of University City! According to Tracy Hinds, District curriculum coordinator for English Language Arts, the author visit is made possible by Penguin Random House and coordinated by Karen Young of UCPL in partnership with SLPL.

Hinds said, "We are excited that our first-graders will get front row seats to Ms. Woodson's reading of "The Day You Begin." She added, "This is a perfect opportunity to help ignite interest in reading and to expose our students to an author of color who tells stories with relatable and diverse groups of characters."

"The Day You Begin," tells of a child's first encounters with diversity; those things that set us apart and those things we share. Woodson and illustrator Rafael Lopez take the reader on a journey of discovery and the realization that we aren't all as different as we might think.

Woodson will also visit Brittany Woods Middle School in University City to speak to the older students about her new middle grade novel, "Harbor Me," and her passion for reading and storytelling.

Woodson's books are available to check out at the libraries and, if adding to your home library or, to make a donation to help buy classroom sets of these books for The School District of University City, contact "Eye See Me" bookstore in University City at (314) 349-1122.

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MEDIA: The Sept. 9 SLPL event is open to the public. If media is interested in the Sept. 10 UCPL or Brittany Woods events, please contact the District Communications team to coordinate. Call Lori Willis at (314) 456-5457 or email lwillis@ucityschools.org.

See event flyer on page 2.

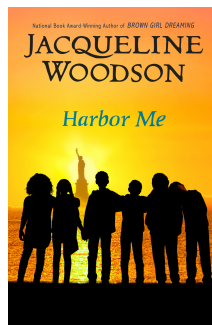
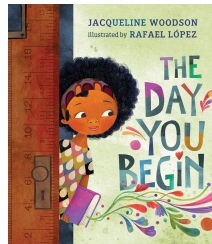


THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
UNIVERSITY CITY
Transform the Life of Every Student Every Day!

NewsRelease

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JACQUELINE WOODSON

Public Event

Sunday, Sept. 9, 2:00 pm
SLPL Central Library
1301 Olive Street, 63103

Join Jacqueline Woodson, National Book Award Winner and New York Times bestselling author, as she discusses her new books "Harbor Me" and "The Day You Begin," and her platform as National Ambassador for Young People's Literature: READING = HOPE X CHANGE.



Penguin
Random House
PENGUIN YOUNG READERS



CALL FOR DONORS

University City Public Library is working with the University City School District to bring Ms. Woodson's platform, READING = HOPE X CHANGE, to U City students.

We want as many students as possible to have the opportunity to read Ms. Woodson's new books, *The Day You Begin* and *Harbor Me*, and are seeking donors who are willing to help sponsor the purchase of classroom sets of these books for use at U City elementary schools and Brittany Woods Middle School.

If you would like to make a donation to purchase books for U City students, please contact EyeSeeMe African American Children's Bookstore at (314) 349-1122.

School Events (Invitation Only)

Monday, Sept. 10
University City Public Library
6701 Delmar Blvd, 63130

On February 21, 1911, with a City population of only 2,417, The School District of University City was officially established. Classes began in September 1912 with a total school population of 769. Today, you will find outstanding educational programs serving a student population of approximately 2,800 with a preschool, four elementary schools, one middle school and one high school. In May 2017, University City High School held its 100th formal Commencement ceremony.