



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

# NewsRelease

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## **Award-Winning Storyteller from St. Louis To Headline the Spotlight on Literacy Expo in U. City**

**University City, MO** – The Emmy Award-winning storyteller Bobby Norfolk will be the headliner during a district wide event to celebrate literacy in The School District of University City. The Spotlight on Literacy Expo will be held on April 1<sup>st</sup> from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Brittany Woods Middle School, 8125 Groby Rd., University City, MO 63130.

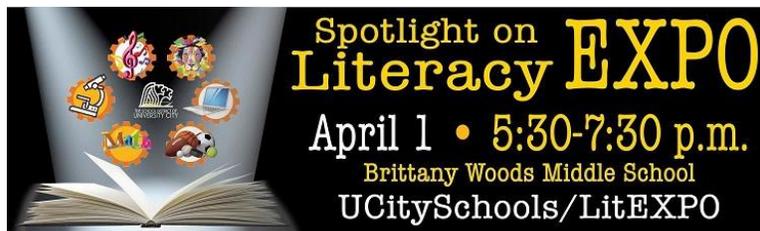
The free event is open to the entire University City Schools community. Its purpose is to help celebrate the many ways we communicate – be it through reading, writing, public discourse, oral storytelling, public speaking or technology.

“We created the Literacy Expo to truly celebrate the work we do in the school district and the opportunities outside the school district to enhance literacy among our students and families,” said Dr. Tracy Hinds, ELA/Social Studies Coordinator for the District. “Our complex world demands that students not only have strong reading and writing skills, but the ability to tell their stories and the stories of others, the ability to back opinions with facts, figures and data illustrations, and the ability to navigate the many forms of communication society presents us through technology and media. We want our students to experience the joy of connecting with people and ideas through all types of literacy.”

Bobby Norfolk is a North St. Louis native who stuttered as a child, and is now a master oral storyteller. On television, he won three Emmy awards as the host of the CBS TV show “Gator Tales” and also hosted the Emmy-nominated series “Children’s Theater at Bobby’s House.” Both shows were based out of St. Louis.

Spotlight on Literacy will also feature hands-on literacy activity stations, a “Book Tasting Room,” a poetry slam, bookmaking activities, debate activities, and many other local authors who will read and present to participants. There will also be food and snacks, music, face painting, a photo station, balloon art, an escape room and goodie bags made available.

**#UCLionPride**



*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 2019, University City High School held its 102<sup>nd</sup> formal Commencement ceremony.*