Celebration Agenda

Welcome — Smith Auditorium
Magic Show — Smith Auditorium
Keynote Speaker — Smith Auditorium
Workshops — Lorena R. Smith Hall, Fairchild Hall, and Thomas Business Building (writing, illustrating, and publishing for elementary students)
Lunch — Student Conference Center
Barnes & Noble Visit — McMillan Hall

OperationTHINK
OperationTHINK is a partnership program developed by the William Carey University School of Education. Through this program, we partner with individuals and businesses across Mississippi to help provide this conference opportunity to schools and students at a discounted price. With every sponsorship, the cost of the conference will be reduced. The cost of the event is $10 per student and includes a day of presentations from Authors and Illustrators and lunch. Generous sponsorships through OperationTHINK encourage students to read, write,
Previous Presenters

Throughout the years, we have had the privilege to work with many incredible authors and illustrators including...
- Rick Anderson
- Kym Garraway
- Anthony Thaxton
- Robert St. John
- Kathy Young
- Jean Sauls
- Ben Hornsby
- Sonya Bridges
- Robin Bolton
- Dean Smith
- Barbara Tillery

Previous Characters

Each year we also have a special character come to visit our students. The past years have included...
- Winnie the Pooh
- The Wild Thing

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How Do I Become a Young Authors Celebration Educator?

By choosing to be a YAC Educator, you agree to challenge your students through creative writing and illustrating. During the semester, YAC educators work with their students to write and illustrate their very own book. Once the book is completed, “publish” it by putting them in a folder or binder or spiral bound. You may also use websites such as www.studenttreasures.com.

If you don’t have adequate time for all students to complete their own book, another option is a class book with each student having a page and illustration and creating the story one student at a time. This will teach them to sequence, work