

## **Books Alive! on HCPSS TV**

### **Award-Winning and Nationally-Acclaimed Authors of Children and Young Adult Fiction!**

Howard County parents and grandparents are invited to join host Barb Langridge for book recommendations and interviews with famous authors, illustrators and voices of our times on Books Alive!, a new series on HCPSS TV. Books Alive! is a reincarnation of Book Talk, a regular segment on the Parent-Teacher Connection program for several years.

“We felt given the name recognition of the authors and illustrators Barb is able to bring to the studio, it made sense to expand the program and give Books Alive! its own identity on the HCPSS TV channel,” says the show’s director Bruce Johnson. The show is very popular with the community. A growing interest from teachers and media specialists to use the program as a teaching tool has led to the show being included in the school system’s public access media catalog – a first for an original HCPSS TV series! Langridge was the catalyst for the series. Through her connections to some of the country’s biggest publishing firms, she has arranged for guest appearances by a number of renowned authors.

“Books Alive! gives us the chance to share the best the children's publishing world has to offer, from the humor of Jon Scieszka, Gordon Korman, Dan Gutman to the brilliance of T.A.Barron, Lois Lowry, Katherine Paterson and Walter Dean Myers,” says Langridge. “We get the chance to visit with these really powerful authors and get some great insights into how they write for kids and what they think about the times we live in. They make us laugh, they make us think, and best of all they entertain us.” This year’s lineup of writers and illustrators appearing on Books Alive! is a veritable “Who’s Who” from the literary world. Names like Gail Carson Levine, author of *Ella Enchanted*, a Newbery Honor Book and the basis for the popular movie starring Anne Hathaway; Lois Lowry, writer of the *Anastasia Krupnick* series; Joan Bauer, writer of *Squashed*, *Hope was Here*, and *Peeled* appear on the program this fall.

Keep an eye out later in the year when Langridge welcomes Marc Brown, creator of the famous children’s book and PBS TV series *Arthur*; Judy Sierra, *Counting Crocodiles*, *There’s a Zoo in Room 22*, *Wild About Books*; and Katherine Paterson, *Bridge to Terabithia*.

***Books Alive! can be viewed on Comcast Channel 95 and Verizon Channel 42 on Sundays at 6 p.m.; Tuesdays at 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 7 p.m., and 10 p.m.; and Saturdays at 10 p.m.***