



Radnor Township School District

135 S. Wayne Avenue
Wayne, PA 19087-4117
610.688.8100 x6119
lisa.williamson@rtsd.org

MEDIA RELEASE

Prominent Playwright Works with RMS Authors

Y York holds workshops with Radnor Middle School Eighth-Graders

Playwright Y York conducted workshops with Radnor Middle School eighth-graders this week as part of a Radnor Educational Foundation grant, which introduces students to multiple facets of play production.

From the Page to the Stage involves a series of intimate workshops with artists from People's Light & Theater Company, culminating in a trip to the Malvern theater. So far this year, the students have met a director, a dramaturge, actors, stage combat and choreographers, and renowned playwright York.

An upcoming workshop will give the children a chance to meet the set and costume designers of the production they'll see the first week of May.

York is the author of the play *Eggs*, which the eighth-graders will go see next month at People's Light. This world premier of *Eggs*, which runs April 23-May 24, is based on the novel by famed children's author Jerry Spinelli, a Wayne resident who has received a Newbery Medal and a Newbery Honor and several of whose works are optioned for film.



York has been writing plays since the early 1980s and is the author of more than 40 plays, which are produced all over the world. *Eggs* is her fourth collaboration with People's Light. Her work has been recognized with the 2004 Hawai'i Award for Literature, the 1997 Berilla Kerr Award and the New Dramatists' 1992 Joe Calloway Award.



York's plays have been featured at the Kennedy Center New Visions/New Voices and Sundance Playwrights Lab, among many other venues.

"This was an incredible opportunity for our students," said RMS language arts teacher Jodi Sabra. "Y York demystifies the process of beginning a play. She clarifies the difference between plays and books and emphasizes how characters think and behave in the world of a script. I can't wait to try some of her ideas with our kids."

"She was so approachable and generous with her ideas about writing. Having writers and artists interact with our students is the once-in-lifetime learning experience that Radnor Educational Foundation provides. Writers like Y York leave them believing they can dive into playwriting without fear."