



NEWS

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CIPA Spans Generation to Teach About Writing and Publishing

BROOMFIELD, COLORADO, May 19, 2003 – Under the inspiration of Shannon Parish, CIPA reached out this spring to children in the public schools to foster greater understanding of the world of publishing. Dr. P. D. Sargent began the process by establishing a pilot program with a third grade class at Brown Elementary School. The pilot was developed to see if an organized effort to help children learn the practical side of reading and writing would work. “Reading and writing is fun,” says Sargent. “Starting students at an early age to think about the practical use of the fundamentals they learn in school may start a lifelong love for the written word.” Thanks to CIPA volunteers, the program has met with success.

Master teacher, Dr. Judith Girard has devoted hours of curriculum time to welcome presenters who covered the gamut of publishing fields: writing, editing, research, graphic design, illustrating, printing, marketing and sales. Several other speakers presented genres including poetry, journalism, history and cartooning. Littleton artist, Marie Cole and educator, Tricia Sargent, showed students how artists and authors combine their talents to create a book. Attorney, Michael Sabbeth showed students how well-chosen words contribute to ethics and morality in responsible writing. “The Word Doctor,” Faye Quam Heimerl, dressed in doctor’s lab coat and pulled commas and periods out of her pocket to edit the written word. Also dressed in costume, former principal, Bob Connerly, told a tall tale from his book on his Western heritage including folk songs sung by miners, homesteaders, and cowboys. The children will not soon forget singing “My Darling Clementine” and hearing the scary tale of Jake and the snake that crawled into his sleeping bag one cold night. Sparking young imaginations, webmaster, Shannon Parish, helped students to develop their own cartoons using a few basic lines. The results were hilarious and the class begged to keep Shannon for the rest of the day. Melanie Mulhall, executive management coach, discussed the interview process, and, using a live microphone, students learned to ask and answer questions. International Security Consultant, Howard Cornell brought books for the classroom library and helped the third-graders to write their own poems. Wrapping up the year, Insurance Associate, Patrick Haller showed students how to create their own comic strip, planning an ethical message, and developing their own super hero. Haller also brought applications for library cards for students to use during their summer vacation.

Students published their stories and the teacher had the work bound. CIPA honored the young publishers with an awards ceremony on Saturday, May 17th. Photos of the awards may be obtained by contacting Dr. Patricia Sargent at (303) 694-6555 or Drpd@mac.com.

Colorado Independent Publishers Association (CIPA) is a nonprofit statewide cooperative of independent book publishers. CIPA was created in 1992 for the express purpose of exchanging information on publishing-related topics and organizing cooperative marketing programs. It is an affiliate of Publishers Marketing Association (PMA) and Small Publishers Association of North America (SPAN). For more information, please visit the website at www.cipabooks.com.

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