

AUTHOR VISITS WITH KELLY STARLING LYONS

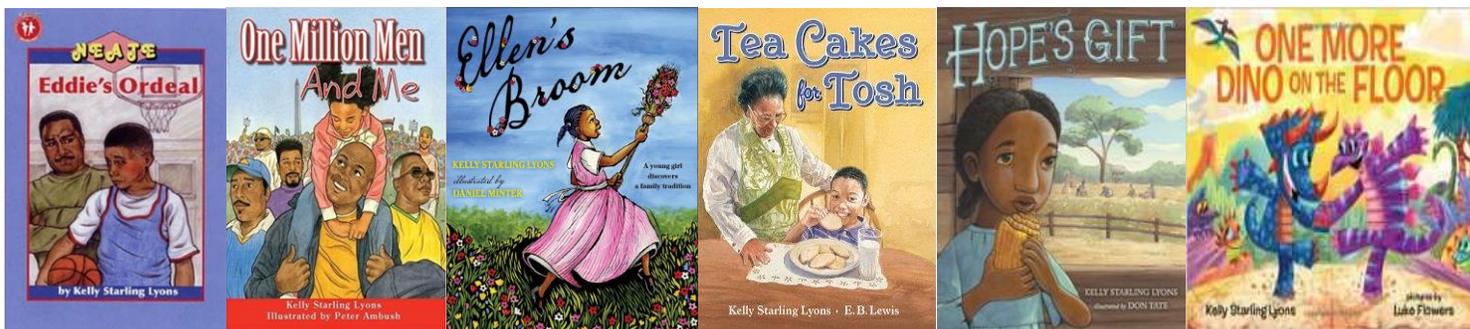
"I wanted to let you know how much our students and teachers enjoyed having you as our Writer-in-Residence. Your program was well received and we appreciated your professionalism, your energy, your expertise, and your desire to positively influence students. I was extremely impressed at how well our students responded to the methods you used to model the writing process. The proof was in their stories which they presented so proudly the last day you were with them. It was obvious that they had paid attention, followed your instructions, and internalized the writing process. I firmly believe that they will never forget this experience or you."

Terry Kokenes, Teacher



"Kelly Starling Lyons adapted her 'Bringing Black History to Life' program for our 4th and 5th graders. Her presentation was appropriate for the students and they were excited to meet a 'real author!' Her style was relaxed enough that the students felt free to ask questions not only about the history presented, but also about the writing process and about authors. She was great with her interactions and openly honest in her answers to their questions. We were pleased to see how she wove the writing process into her program. Students could relate to her writing experiences. We would love to have her visit again!"

**Beth Obenschain,
Teacher Librarian**



Kelly Starling Lyons is a children's book author whose mission is to transform moments, memories and history into stories of discovery. Her picture books include CCBC Choices-honored title, *One Million Men and Me*; *Ellen's Broom*, a Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor Book, Junior Library Guild and Bank Street Best selection; *Tea Cakes for Tosh* and *Hope's Gift*, Notable Trade Books in the Field of Social Studies and *One More Dino on the Floor*, a Scholastic Reading Club pick. The debut titles in her chapter book series, *Jada Jones: Rock Star* and *Jada Jones: Class Act*, won praise for their celebration of friendship, character and STEAM connections. Her new installment is *Jada Jones: Sleepover Scientist*. She has several titles on the way including picture books *Going Down Home with Daddy* and *Sing a Song: How Lift Every Voice* and *Sing Inspired Generations*. Kelly is a teaching artist who regularly presents at schools, libraries, festivals and conferences around the country.



PROGRAMS

Write the Story Only You Can Tell

In this multimedia presentation, students learn that the best stories come from the treasure you hold inside. Kelly shares how every-day moments, enduring memories, and history inspired her books for kids. Then, she takes students on an inspiring tour of her writing process from story idea to publication. She gives them a peek at her drafts and early art from illustrators and offers tips on making stories shine. The session includes readings and Q&A.

The Power to Create Change

In this interactive presentation, students hear the history behind Kelly's books: *NEATE: Eddie's Ordeal*, *One Million Men and Me* and *Hope's Gift* and learn that kids throughout history have been agents of change. They see pictures featuring young people involved in the Civil Rights Movement and the Million Man March, explore how enslaved people held onto faith and fought for freedom during the Civil War and gain insight into the process of turning an idea into a finished book. During the program, students will sing a freedom song and participate in readings and a call and response in the poem, *Drumbeat for Change*, included in the acclaimed anthology, *We Rise, We Resist, We Raise Our Voices*.

Mine Your Life for Story Gold – Prose or Narrative Poetry

In this five-day residency, Kelly teaches students that moments and memories offer inspiration for personal narratives. Through writing and discussion, students learn how to infuse their work with heart, meaning, cohesion and sensory detail. Through lessons on revision, they gain skills in strengthening and polishing their pieces and giving constructive feedback to peers. The last day features readings and a celebration of the story or poem each has written.

**For more information or to book a visit, please visit
www.kellystarlinglyons.com or send a note to
email@kellystarlinglyons.com.**