School Visits & Programs with

Kelly Starling Lyons

"Great with her interactions and openly honest in her answers..."

"Pleased to see how she wove the writing process into her program."

"She sang, she recited, she casually connected to entire grade levels..."

"Students could relate to her experiences."

"Dynamic...She's simply the best."

AVAILABLE FOR

CLASS VISITS • SCHOOL VISITS • CUSTOM WORKSHOPS
WRITING RESIDENCIES • ZOOM CALLS

Kelly Starling Lyons is a founding member of The Brown Bookshelf, a teaching artist, and an award-winning author of more than 30 books for young readers. Her mission is to center Black heroes, celebrate family, friendship, & heritage, and show all kids the stories they hold inside. Among her acclaimed picture books are Caldecott Honor winner ***Going Down Home with Daddy***, Christopher Award winner ***Tiara's Hat Parade***, and Bank Street Best Books selections ***Sing a Song: How Lift Every Voice & Sing Inspired Generations*** and ***My Hands Tell a Story***. Kelly is also the author of three popular series for young people—chapter books starring her characters ***Jada Jones*** and ***Miles Lewis***, and the ***Ty's Travels*** easy readers which won a Geisel Honor for ***Zip, Zoom***. Her nonfiction titles include two books in Chelsea Clinton's ***She Persisted*** series, chapter books on Dr. Dorothy I. Height and Mrs. Coretta Scott King. Kelly was named to Good Morning America's 2021 list, Who's Making Black History. She regularly presents to schools, libraries, festivals, and conferences around the country. Learn more at **www.kellystarlinglyons.com**.

Program Options & Details

♦ Write the Story Only You Can Tell

In each of us, there are stories waiting to be told. In this session, kids hear about my journey to publication and how my life informs the stories I create. They receive tips on mining their lives for ideas, using their senses to fill stories with meaningful detail and showing instead of telling. Readings and Q&A are part of this inspiring program.

♦ Drumbeat for Change

In this interactive presentation, students hear the history behind several of my picture books, learn that kids throughout history have been agents of change and that the power to create change lives in them too. During the program, students will 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.

♦ Dream and Do

In this multimedia program, students learn how kids passed along Lift Every Voice and Sing, the song that became known as the Black National Anthem, and the childhood paths that led architect Philip Freelon and ballerina Misty Copeland to realizing their dreams. They will gain insight into the process of turning an idea into a finished book and receive encouragement to dream big and believe they can make their aspirations come true.

♦ Mine Your Life for Story Gold: A Writing Residency

In this five-day residency, I teach 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.

♦ Custom Workshops

I can customize presentations or workshops for your class, library, community group, book club or church. I enjoy exploring history, celebrating family relationships and giving kids and adults tips on writing stories from the heart.

I also offer Zoom calls!

Please contact me at
email@kellystarlinglyons.com
for information on scheduling and fees.