

Creative ways to pay for author visits!

Like all professionals, authors charge a fee/honorarium to pay for visiting a school. Consider some of the following options on how to fund an author visit at your school:

Raise Finds

- Get the kids involved – Have a school bake sale, car wash, etc.
- Community crowdsource funding
- Have a Spirit Friday – Pajama Day for 1\$
- Ask your PTA/PTO if they can fund your next author visit or if they have other fundraising ideas!
- Parent donations! Ask parents to donate 2\$ for each child to join in the fun!
- Run a raffle. Ask a local business to sponsor you or get an excellent donation from a major retailer. Announce the winner on the author visit day!
- Connect with local businesses, bookstores, and public libraries to partner with you

School Funding

- If your school qualifies for Title 1 funds, you may be eligible to apply some of your funding towards special programs like author visits. Authors provide additional academic support and learning opportunities to help low-achieving children master challenging curricula and meet state standards in core academic subjects.
- Contact your state or local arts commission! They will often cover author visit costs or purchase books.

Grants

- Look for literacy/educational grants. Humanities councils may cover the cost of the author and books.
- Target Stores and Barnes and Noble support a variety of arts and cultural experiences in their communities,
- Check out SCBWI's Amber Brown Fund! This grant is solely for the purpose of paying for authors to visit schools.

Group Discounts

- Pool with other area schools to split costs. I will lower my honorarium if I visit several schools in one area.
- Ask your local public library to chip in! Frequently, a public library has grants and funding for things like author visits. It often involves an event at the library, too.
- Ask your local university to pitch in! I'll happily chat with university writing students during a district visit.

Other

- Call your local indie bookstore. I heavily discount my fees if you presell a minimum number of my books.