



2025-2026 School Year Author-illustrator Presentations

Reading & Drawing

Best for grades PreK-1st (30 minutes). Suitable for small groups or large assemblies.

In this short presentation, perfect for wiggly listeners with short attention spans, Shanda will read one of her books aloud and teach students to draw a character from the story.

Rad Robots

Best for grades K-5th (45 minutes). Suitable for small groups or large assemblies.

This fun STEM/STEAM presentation highlights fiction *and* non-fiction robots that Shanda researched as she wrote and illustrated her award-winning, STEM-friendly picture book, DOLL-E 1.0, which she will read aloud. Then, Shanda will demonstrate how to draw the robot from the story and answer questions.

Be a BIG, RAD Editor

Best for grades K-5th (45 minutes). Suitable for small groups or large assemblies.

Shanda never gets anything perfect the first time, and that's okay, because she's learned to be a BIG, RAD editor when it comes to her writing/art. Students will see the various "edits" that LITTLE RED AND THE BIG BAD EDITOR's cover went through and hear the story aloud. Students will draw Wolf's pencil, and older students will also learn how to use a "FEEDback sandwich" to be a much better editor than Wolf.

Words + Illustration = Magic

Best for grades 3rd-5th (45 minutes). Suitable for small groups or large assemblies.

In this program, Shanda talks about the various "magic" that words and pictures conjure together in picture books and graphic novels. Students will learn that illustration is a storytelling tool, just like words. And throughout the presentation, students will draw along with Shanda to complete a final, "magic" example with Q&A at the end.

Rube Goldberg Machines - **NEW!**

Best for grades 3rd-5th (45 minutes). Suitable for small groups or large assemblies.

Featuring Shanda's first non-fiction book, SMASH, CRASH, TOPPLE, ROLL, this program highlights Rube Goldberg's life from a normal kid to a famous grownup, his wacky machine cartoons, and the vast reach of Rube's inspiration (with the help of the six simple machines). The presentation closes with a machine-drawing challenge and Q&A.

Cheesy Comics Writing & Illustrating Workshop - **NEW EDITION!**

Best for grades 3rd-5th (1 hour). Suitable for groups of 35 or fewer.

What's better than reading comics? Making them! Shanda will discuss this unique art form and walk students through the process of creating a "cheesy" 4-panel comic of their own. Afterward, Shanda will scan the students' comics into a keepsake book for the whole class/school to enjoy! (Shanda will mail back students' original work along with the keepsake book.)



In-Person, Full Day Pricing

ALL-INCLUSIVE! There are no additional costs for hotel, airfare, rental car, mileage, food, or any other travel expenses. Schools will receive a simple invoice with a single price.



Local	Local-ish	Road Trip	So Fly
Within 70 miles from 30107	71-250 miles from 30107	251- 700 miles from 30107	700+ miles from 30107
\$1300	\$1800	\$2400	\$3500+
(\$650 one session)	(includes travel)	(includes travel)	(includes travel)

A full day visit includes 3 presentations and lunch with a group of students (if desired).
Additional sessions can be added for \$250 each. **Add an evening session** for \$500.

Available Discounts for In-Person Visits:

1. **\$100 off** - Participate in a book pre-sale that is set up online by Shanda or another way you prefer.
2. **Title I schools** - Get 6 FREE books (one of each available title, a \$108 value) to keep or give away.
3. **Shared travel discount** - Partner with a nearby school(s) to book Shanda for two or more consecutive days for a discount per school.
4. **Bulk book purchase** - Order 25 or more books in bulk at a discounted rate of \$15 per book. Schools may resell or give them away.

Virtual, Per Session Pricing

Virtual presentations are \$200 each. The school provides the meeting platform.



A Book Sale is Easy!


I use **AuthorVisitCentral.com** for book sales because it's easy on everyone involved, it's web-based (so there's no need to collect money or forms), and it supports my local indie bookstore! Additionally, for every 20 books purchased, I will donate a book to your school to keep or give away. I'll set everything up! All you'll need to do is get the word out.

Here's how it works:

1. I provide a flier that informs families of my upcoming visit and directs them to AuthorVisitCentral.com where they can order signed books with an event code. The ordering cutoff date is typically 1 day prior to the event.
2. I bring the purchased books and a list of the students who bought them so the book signing and distribution goes smoothly at the event.




Dear families,




Shanda McCloskey

is a local, award-winning children's author-illustrator, and she'll be visiting our school on Thursday, January 25 to talk with our students about reading, writing, revising, and robots!



Shanda loves to sign & personalize books for readers!
Bring your book(s) to be signed at the event **OR** purchase at:



AuthorVisitCentral.com with code: **KNIGHT**
Please place orders by **Wednesday, January 24th**

Ordered books will be delivered & signed at the school event.





Tips for an Incredible Visit!

For in-person presentations, I will need:

- A board/projector/screen with sound and HDMI input so I can use my own computer. (I'll bring my presentations on a USB drive as a backup option.)
- A sturdy easel (if you have one handy)
- Microphone for large groups/spaces (I trust your judgment if this is needed)
- Clipboard, paper, and a pencil for each student to follow along during the drawing demo (optional). *Saves time if students have supplies in hand before the presentation begins. If you feel it is too cumbersome for each student to have paper/pencil, I will choose a volunteer to draw with me at the easel in front of their peers instead. You choose. Both ways are fun!*

For virtual presentations, I will need:

- Any virtual meeting platform (such as Zoom or Teams) hosted by the school
- Someone to monitor the students and questions during the meeting
- Paper and pencil for each student so they can follow along during the drawing demo



2 Tips to Make the Most of Our Visit:

1. Prepare the kids (and teachers). There's nothing better than speaking to a group of students and staff who are excited I'm there! Students will be more engaged and will ask great questions if they know a bit about me and my books BEFORE the event day. My website, ShandaMc.com, is a great place to start! There are writing and drawing activities there for fun and FREE!

2. Participate in a book pre-sale and stock the library with my books. This is not a requirement, but it definitely inspires when students can read (or own a signed copy of) a book by a real author and illustrator they met at their school!