



Creating a Strong Community

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Albany Women's Network Welcomes Authors to New Albany Schools

New Albany, Ohio – June 2, 2017 – The New Albany Women's Network (NAWN) is proud to donate \$7000 annually with dollars from our Endowment Fund to assist with author visits to K-12 New Albany students. The NAWN Endowment Fund is designed to support initiatives in the New Albany community especially related to the empowerment and betterment of women and children.

Recently, New Albany Schools welcomed Lauren Castillo for grades K-2, Sarah Weeks for grades 3-6, and Neal Shusterman for grades 7-12.

The pictures included are of Lauren Castillo. Lauren is the author and illustrator of many popular books including *It Is Not Time for Sleeping* and *Twenty Yawns*. During her visit, Lauren Castillo met with the children in small groups to discuss her work. She described her love of art from a young age and shared pictures of her childhood drawings. The children learned about her schooling, the teachers who inspired her, and her many travels. The pages of her book came to life as she showed how these experiences lead her to create stories and collect images in her mind, which would soon fill the walls of her studio as a vibrant storyboard. She taught the children what it means to recognize unique talents and apply them to the world.

NAWN President, Tenielle Comerford shared, "We are so proud to bring excellent speakers to our schools and community as a result of our Endowment Fund. We are particularly excited to expose our children to talented, cultural authors to enrich their learning experience."

NAWN recently announced a significant milestone in reaching \$1 million in funds raised through various philanthropic efforts. The funds have been utilized over the last 19 years to support initiatives in the New Albany community and for central Ohio charitable organizations focused on serving women and children.

The New Albany Women's Network, established in 1998, is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that exists to provide a network for all women who live or work in New Albany to enrich and foster a united community through various social, educational, outreach, and charitable programs. All are invited to join the organization. More information is available at www.NAWN.org.

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