

SCHOOL VISITS with author EMMA OTHEGUY

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BOOKING FEES & TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS

Suggested Honorariums

IN-PERSON VISITS:

Half Day (1-2 sessions): \$600

Full Day (3-4 sessions): \$1,200

Book Sale Visit (1-2 sessions): Purchase of 100 books + \$50 booking fee

VIRTUAL VISITS:

- \$300/session OR purchase of 30 books + \$50 booking fee

Travel Expenses

For in-person visits, schools will be responsible for reimbursing all travel expenses from New York City, included but not limited to:

- 1 refundable round trip ticket: best available non-stop economy transportation at time of ticketing
- Transportation to and from airport/train station; local ground transportation expenses and hotel accommodation if needed.

PROGRAMS OFFERED

WORKSHOPS:

Poetry Writing Workshop

This workshop uses Robert Frost and Antonio Machado's poetry (each quoted in *Silver Meadows Summer*) as models to help students express their hopes and fears through poetry. After a brief introduction, we begin by brainstorming emotions, fears, and dreams, then write a mimic poem using one of the poems quoted in *Silver Meadows Summer* as a scaffold. Finally, students are invited to write a free verse poem. Kids leave feeling confident in their ability to write poetry and engage with poetry.

- **Length:** 45 minutes
- **Best for:** Grades two and up
- **Up to:** 30 students; if you have a larger group we can discuss scaling the program

Change-Makers Workshop

In this workshop, students will learn to make thematic connections between different change-makers in history. We begin by brainstorming important figures in history and how they changed the world, and end up writing newspaper headlines and letters from the perspective of historical figures. Kids, particularly kids from diverse backgrounds, have the opportunity to integrate their own heroes and role models into this workshop.

- **Length:** 45 minutes
- **Best for:** Grades three and up
- **Up to:** 30 students; if you have a larger group we can discuss scaling the program

ASSEMBLIES

SILVER MEADOWS SUMMER

This is a presentation about family, friendship, and immigration. I will talk to kids about the personal experiences that inspired *Silver Meadows Summer*: growing up Cuban-American, spending summers with family in Puerto Rico, and falling in love with farms and forests while working in upstate New York. After an engaging reading from this novel about eleven-year old Carolina, her move from Puerto Rico, and the abandoned cabin she discovers in the woods, I will invite questions. During the question and answer period,

I will try and talk about being yourself, the healing power of art, and the importance of home in all of our lives.

- **Length:** 45 minutes
- **Best for:** Grades three and up
- **Up to:** 100 students

MARTÍ'S SONG FOR FREEDOM

In this presentation, I introduce kids to the culture of Cuba and the very important connections between Latin America and the United States. I discuss the power of change-makers like José Martí and the value of poetry and literature as bridges between cultures. After a lively reading, I invite questions. During the question and answer period, I try and talk about growing up bilingual, my research process, and the challenges and joys of editing and revising.

- **Length:** 45 minutes
- **Best for:** Grades three and up
- **Up to:** 100 students

SECRETS OF THE SILVER LION: A CARMEN SANDIEGO STORY

Carmen Sandiego's latest quest to stop VILE takes her from the bustling streets of New York City to the cobblestones of Spain and the silver mines high in the Andes Mountains of Bolivia. Kids will learn about the real-life culture and history that inspired the book, as well as the research smarts Carmen uses to crack the secrets of the silver lion. After an engaging presentation and reading, I will invite questions about international travel, historical research, writing original stories about favorite characters, and growing up bilingual and bicultural.

- **Length:** 45 minutes
- **Best for:** Grades three and up
- **Up to:** 100 students

A SLED FOR GABO (New in 2021)

In this presentation, I talk to kids about diverse snow day traditions, and how my experiences differed from other children's when I was growing up. We'll discuss the challenges and joys of making new friends in a community, particularly if you feel left out at times. I'll introduce the Latin American treats in *A Sled for Gabo*, such as dulce de leche and guava. After an engaging reading, I will invite questions about writing books and growing up bilingual and bicultural.

- **Length:** 30-45 minutes
- **Best for:** Grades K-3

ABOUT EMMA OTHEGUY and her BOOKS

Emma Otheguy is the author of the bilingual picture book *Martí's Song for Freedom* (Lee & Low 2017) about Cuban poet and national hero José Martí, as well as the middle-grade novel *Silver Meadows Summer* (Knopf 2019), which Pura Belpré-winning author Ruth Behar called "a magnificent contribution to the diversity of the new American literature for young readers." *Martí's Song for Freedom* received five starred reviews, was named a Best Book of the Year by Kirkus Reviews, School Library Journal, and the New York Public Library, and was the recipient of the International Literacy Association's 2018 Children's and Young Adult Book Award in Intermediate Nonfiction. Emma co-authored *The Unicorn Rescue Society: The Madre de Aguas of Cuba* (Dutton 2020) with Newbery Honor-winning author Adam Gidwitz. Forthcoming books from Emma include *Secrets of the Silver Lion: A Carmen Sandiego Adventure*, inspired by the hit Netflix series, and a new picture book *A Sled for Gabo* (Atheneum 2021).

Emma attended Swarthmore College, where she studied children's literature with Donna Jo Napoli and graduated with Honors. Later, she worked in farm-based education, at a children's bookstore, and as a Spanish teacher. She holds a Ph.D. in History from New York University, where she focused on Spain and colonial Latin America. Emma has held fellowships and grants from the Mellon Foundation, the American Historical Association, the Council of Library and Information Resources, and Humanities New York. Emma lives in New York City.