

Author Visits are not only a great way to motivate students to read more, they often inspire creativity and imagination and motivate kids to write more. Plus, they are just fun for the students.

While there are many good reasons to have authors present to schools, many schools may not have the extra resources to fairly pay the author to visit. (Most children's authors don't make a living from their writing.)

Here are some ideas to find the funds to get an author to visit and excite and inspire your students:

- Ask your PTO or PTA for funds or to host a fundraiser.
- For Washington D.C. area schools with large numbers of low-income families, check out An Open Book Foundation: <https://anopenbookfound.org/>
- Many local businesses love to support their community. Reach out to stores, banks, companies, etc. to see if they would help sponsor an author visit.
- Arts and Humanities Councils. Many local and state arts organization, museums, libraries, etc. will fund author visits to schools. A quick Internet search in your state may lead to some great opportunities.
- Partner with other area schools or your public library to share the travel costs of bringing an author to your school. Many authors will also give a discount on their daily rates if multiple consecutive dates are booked.

These authors also have great suggestions on their websites with lots more information about grants and other ideas to fund author visits. Check them out!

- <https://poetry4kids.com/schoolvisits/funding/>
- <https://beatogoesto.com/grants-that-pay-for-author-visits/>
- <https://www.donnajanelbowman.com/2021/08/13/finding-the-funds-to-pay-for-an-author-visit/>
- <https://www.annettewhipple.com/2019/06/how-to-pay-for-author-visit.html>