

Peters Township Public Library

616 East McMurray Road, McMurray, PA 15317

724-941-9430 www.ptlibrary.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Headline – PT Library Hosts Local Author Event as Part of Pennsylvania Library Association “PA Forward Speak Up!”

McMurray, PA --- October 19, 2014 – The Peters Township Public Library will host a special event with several local authors on Thursday, November 6 from 7-8:30 p.m. *Pick-Up Lines That Work: Powerful Openings in Young Adult Books* is being offered for teens 13 and up, as well as adults. Join young adult authors, Joshua David Bellin, Patricia Harrison Easton, Stephanie Keyes, Carla Mooney, and Leah Pileggi as they explore what makes readers want to turn to page two.

A Q&A session will be included in this special “PA Forward Speak Up!” event, which celebrates authors and libraries. The program will conclude with book signings, light refreshments and a raffle for two baskets relating to the program. Register to attend by emailing programs@ptlibrary.org or call [724.941.9430](tel:724.941.9430). There is no charge to attend this event.

Several authors of young adult books will be participating.

- Joshua David Bellin has been writing novels since he was eight years old. A Pittsburgh native, Josh graduated from Wesleyan University and went on to earn his PhD. in English at the University of Pennsylvania. He has taught college English, published three nonfiction books, and taken part in the movement to protect the environment. *Survival Colony 9* is Josh’s debut novel, and the sequel is already in the works. Read more about him at joshuadavidbellin.com.
- Patricia Harrison Easton is the author of four children's books and two novels for adults. She teaches children's book writing at the Institute for Children's Literature and serves as the regional adviser for the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators in western Pennsylvania. She resides in McMurray, Pennsylvania. Read more about her [on her Facebook page](#).

”Providing Resources for Lifelong Learners”

- Stephanie Keyes' family always accused her of having an “overactive imagination” as a teenager. Now, she’s encouraged to keep her head in the clouds and share her world with readers. Keyes is the author of the YA Fantasy series, *The Star Child*, which currently includes *The Star Child*, *After Faerie*, *The Fallen Stars*, and *The Star Catcher*, all from Inkspell Publishing. *The Fallen Stars* was a 2013 semi-finalist in the Kindle Book Awards. *The Star Child* has topped the Amazon best-seller list several times since its 2012 release. Keyes writes YA novels because she’s a hopeless romantic who lives to believe that “magick” truly does exist. She is hard at work on a new YA novel. Read more about her at www.stephaniekeyes.com.

- Carla Mooney is the author of more than 60 nonfiction books for kids and teens. As long as she can remember, she has been in love with reading and writing. She is thrilled to explore new worlds and ideas in each of her books and hopes readers enjoy the journey as much as she has. Carla lives in Gibsonia, PA with her husband and three children. When not reading and writing, Carla volunteers as the Pittsburgh Chapter Director for Flashes of Hope, a nonprofit organization that photographs children with cancer and other life-threatening conditions. Read more about her at www.carlamooney.com.

- Leah Pileggi began writing a journal twenty years ago when her grandmother died leaving many unanswered questions about her life. Leah started the journal as a record of her life for her daughter, but eventually story ideas -- particularly children's stories -- began to emerge. She published a couple of them in Hopscotch Magazine and Fun for Kids. Her first novel, *Prisoner 88*, is a middle-grade historical novel set at the Idaho Penitentiary in the 1880s. She also published a book of history, *How to Design a World-Class Engineering College: A History of Engineering at Carnegie Mellon University*. Her first-person pieces occasionally appear in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. Her blog "It's a Wonder-Filled Life" can be found at leahpileggi.blogspot.com/.

This program is offered as part of the Pennsylvania Library Association *PA Forward Speak Up! Authors and Illustrators Speak Up for Libraries*.

Attachments: Headshots of Joshua David Bellin, Patricia Harrison Easton, Stephanie Keyes, Carla Mooney, and Leah Pileggi

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