



# THE S.T.E.A.M. RACE TO SPACE READING Challenge

Presented by Orange County Children's  
Book Festival and 4SPACE Co

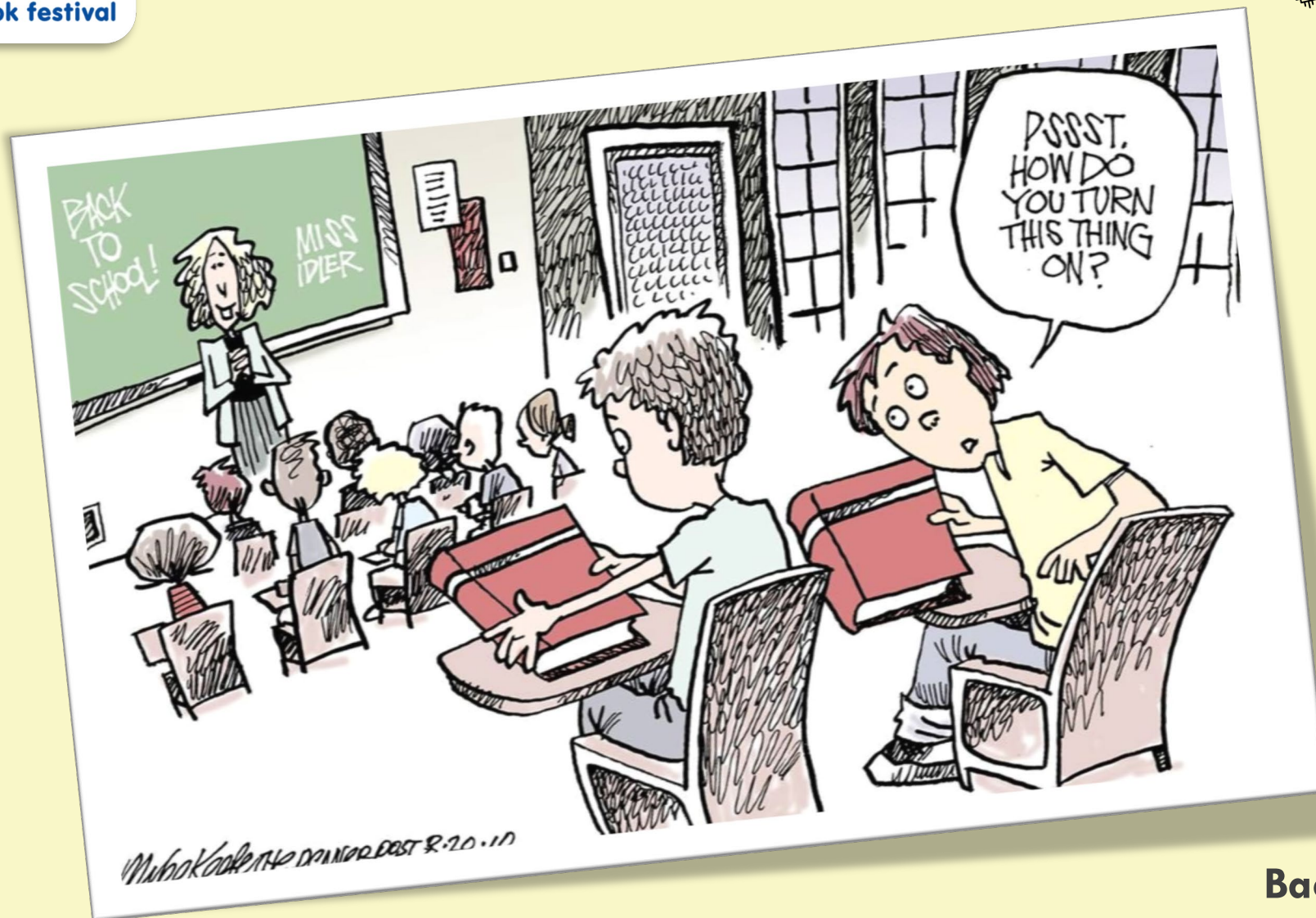




ORANGE COUNTY  
children's book festival



**S.T.E.A.M.**  
RACE TO SPACE  
READING CHALLENGE

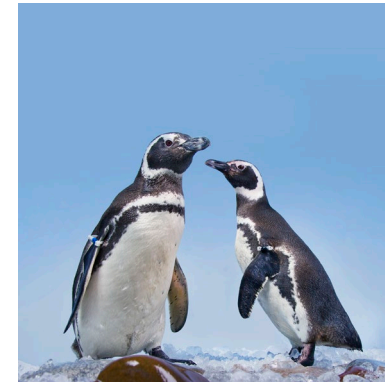


**Back To School Welcome!**



## “THE S.T.E.A.M. RACE TO SPACE READING CHALLENGE”

- A Fun Reading Challenge.
- Students completing the challenge will win exciting and meaningful prizes.
- **Begins October 22, 2021**
- **Ends November 12, 2021**



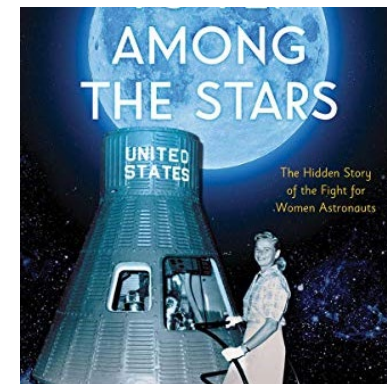
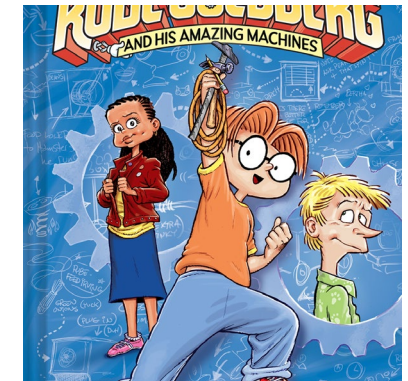
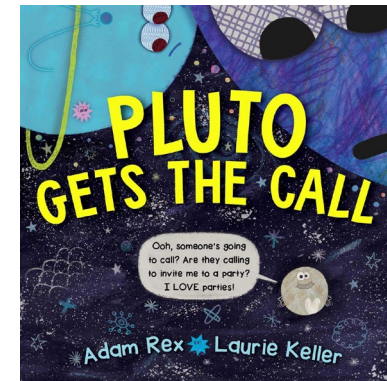
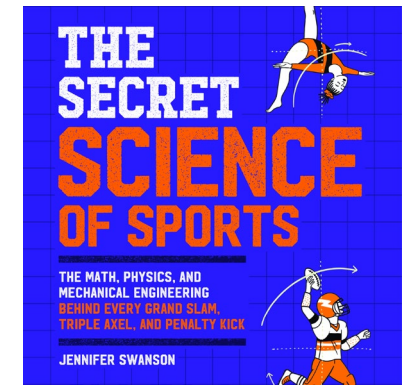
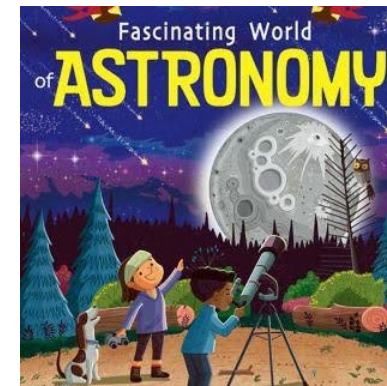


# S.T.E.A.M. Race To Space Launch

## Friday, October 22, 2021

- Four separate programs for each reading tier.
- Picture Book – 9:00 a.m. grades TK-1
- Early Readers – 10:00 a.m. grades 2-4
- Middle Grade – 11:00 a.m. grades 5-8
- YA/Teen – 1:00 p.m. grades 9-12

<https://www.readsteam.org/>



# 14 FANTASTIC AUTHORS READY TO HELP INSPIRE STUDENTS

October 22, 2021

Virtual LIVE Presentations



## S.T.E.A.M. Race to Space Reading Challenge

Launch Date October 22, 2021

Join an OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD adventure for K-12 Students at [ReadStem.org](http://ReadStem.org)

### PRIZES - A SNEAK PEEK!



Q&A WITH  
ASTRONAUTS



TOUR OF NASA JPL  
LABORATORY



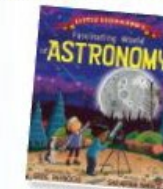
DISCOVERY CUBE  
PASSES

FREE BOOKS ▲ VIRTUAL BADGES ▲ SCHOLARSHIPS ▲ AND MORE!

### OUR GUARDIANS OF THE BOOKS!



Philippe & Ashlan  
Gorse Cousteau



Sarafina Nance



Brandon T. Snider



Jennifer Swanson



ENGINEERING

### PARTNERS

4Space ▲ Between The Pages ▲ theCoderSchool ▲ Discovery Cube ▲ NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory Education Office ▲ Orange Coast College ▲ Orange County Children's Book Festival ▲ Orange County Department of Education ▲ Orange County Public Library ▲ PBS ▲ RiseUp Foundation ▲ Scholastic ▲ Simon & Schuster ▲ Skoolaroo ▲ Timeless Learning, Inc ▲ Wawanesa Insurance

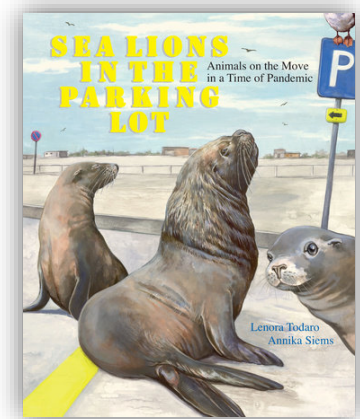
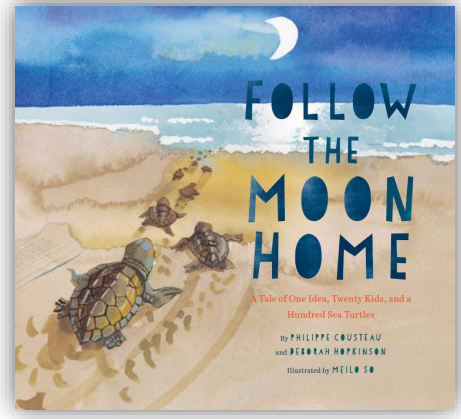
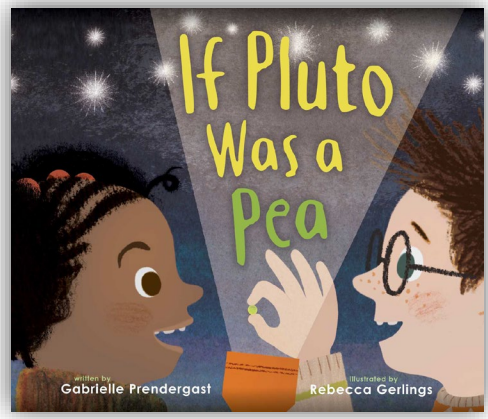


# S.T.E.A.M. Race To Space Reading Challenge



**S.T.E.A.M.**  
RACE TO SPACE  
READING CHALLENGE

## Presenting Authors & Their Books - Picture Books



**Gabrielle Prendergast**  
Author - Educator



**Philippe and Ashlan Gorse Cousteau**  
Environmental advocates, filmmakers and authors

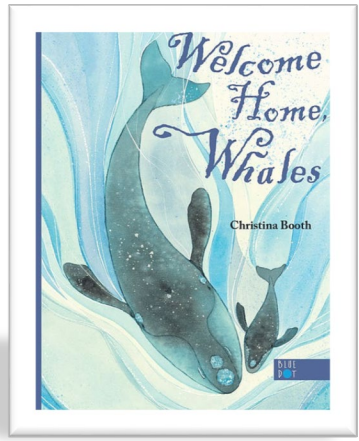
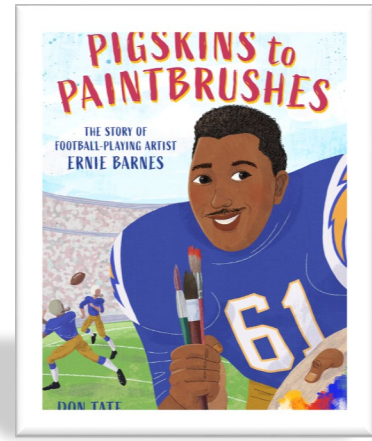
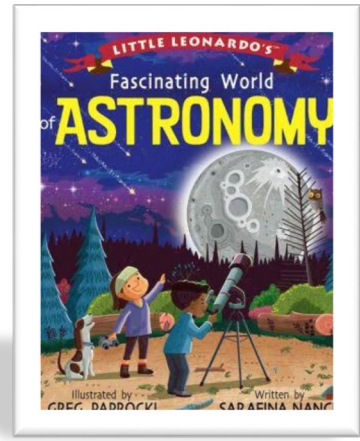
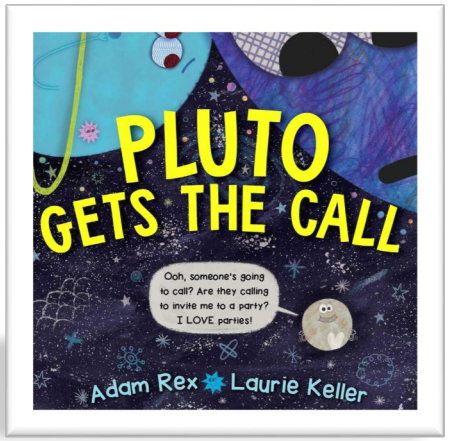


**Lenora Todaro**  
Author



# S.T.E.A.M. Race To Space Reading Challenge

## Presenting Authors & Their Books – Early Reader



**Adam Rex**  
Author and Illustrator



**Sarafina Nance MSc, Ph.D. (candidate)**  
Author



**Don Tate**  
Author & Illustrator

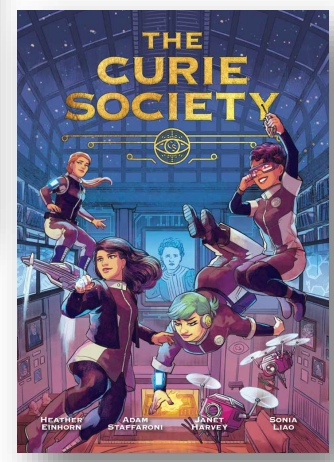
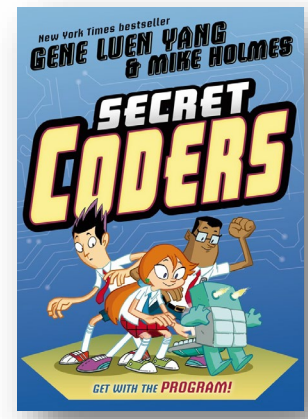
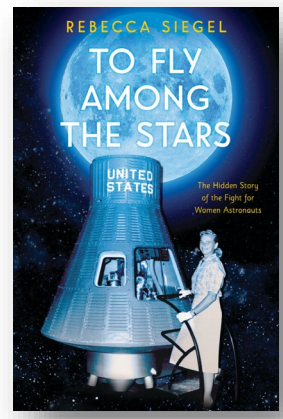
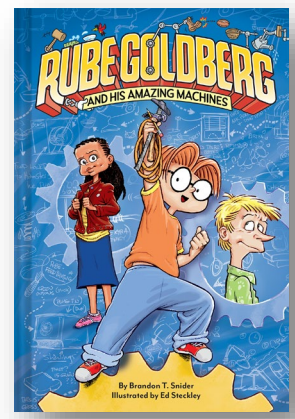
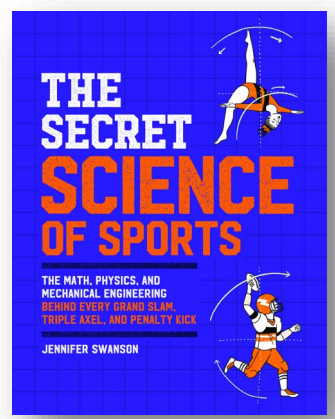


**Christina Booth**  
Author and Illustrator



# S.T.E.A.M. Race To Space Reading Challenge

## Presenting Authors & Their Books – Middle Grade



**Jennifer Swanson M.S. Ed**  
Author

**Brandon T. Snider**  
Author and Actor

**Rebecca Siegel**  
Author

**Gene Yang**  
Author, Cartoonist & Teacher

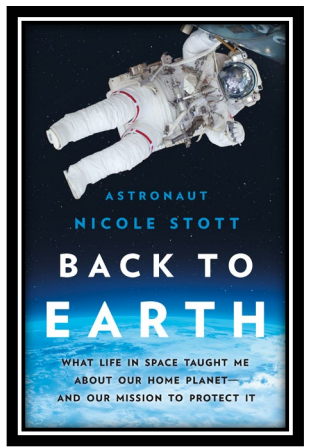
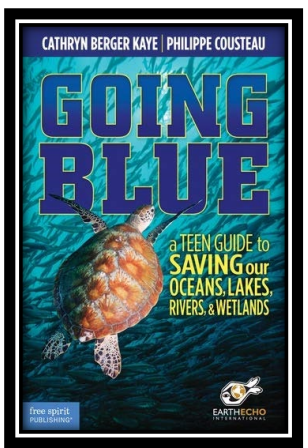
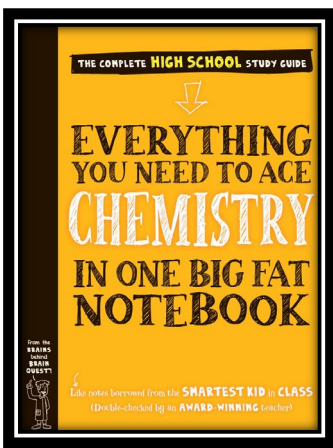
**Adam Staffaroni and Heather Einhorn**  
Co-Authors





# S.T.E.A.M. Race To Space Reading Challenge

## Presenting Authors & Their Books – Young Adult



**Jennifer Swanson M.S. Ed**  
Author



**Philippe Cousteau**  
Environmental advocates, filmmakers & authors



**Nicole Stott**  
Astronaut, artist & author

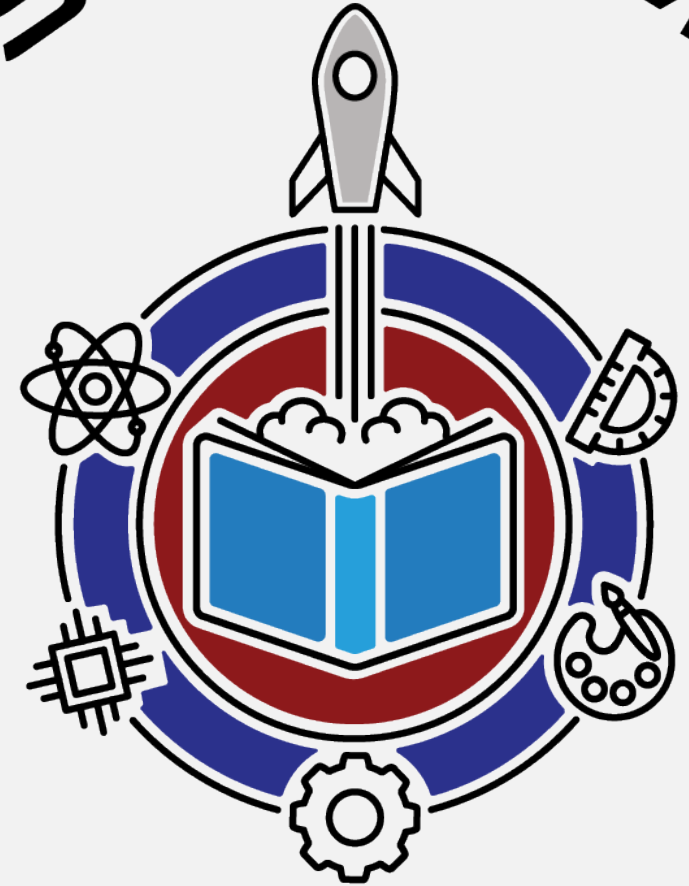


**Stephen Cosgrove**  
Author

# S.T.E.A.M. Race To Space Reading Challenge

**Presenting authors  
broader bios can be  
found from slides  
24 through 39**

# S.T.E.A.M.



## RACE TO SPACE READING CHALLENGE

# THE S.T.E.A.M. Race To Space Reading Challenge Details



- For each reading tier, the students who read S.T.E.A.M. books will win valuable prizes. For example:
- **Discovery Cube OC free admission tickets**
- **Cool digital badges**
- **Personalized certificates**
- **Space Camp® flight suit**
- **Digital tablet**
- **Book bundles**
- **And, much more!**

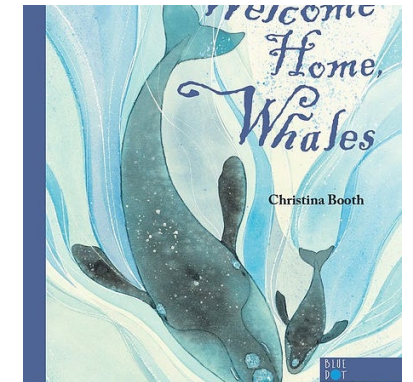
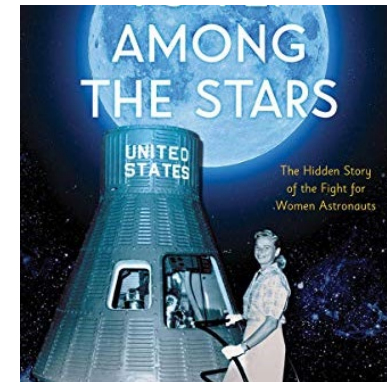
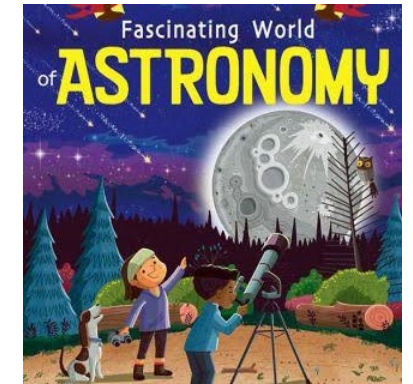
14" TOUCHSCREEN  
4GB MEMORY  
64GB STORAGE



# THE S.T.E.A.M. Race To Space Reading Challenge Details



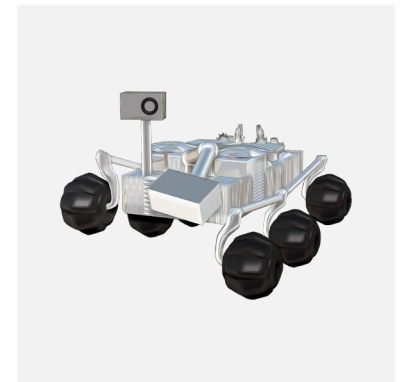
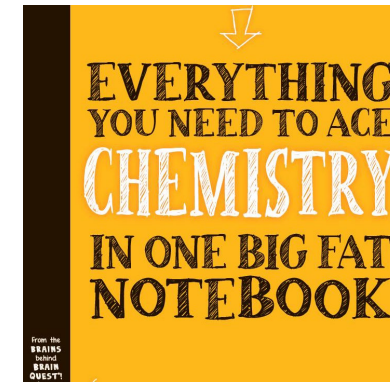
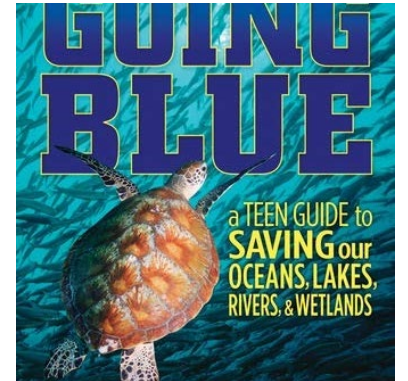
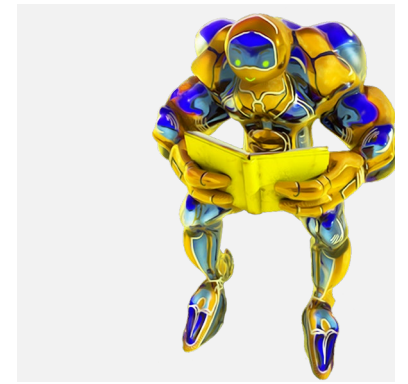
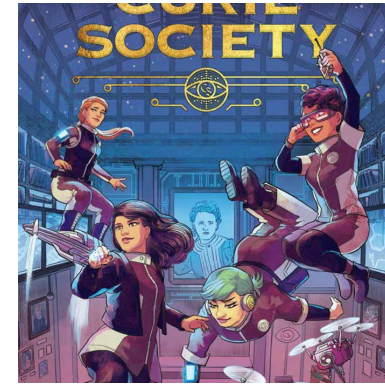
- Recommended S.T.E.A.M. books can be found on the ReadSteam.org website.
- Students will be given the opportunity of submitting a relevant 30-second video telling us about their favorite book and why.
- Parent approval needed for video submissions.
- Videos will be posted on the student's BeanStack account.
- **LET'S HAVE FUN!**



# THE S.T.E.A.M. Race To Space Reading Challenge Details



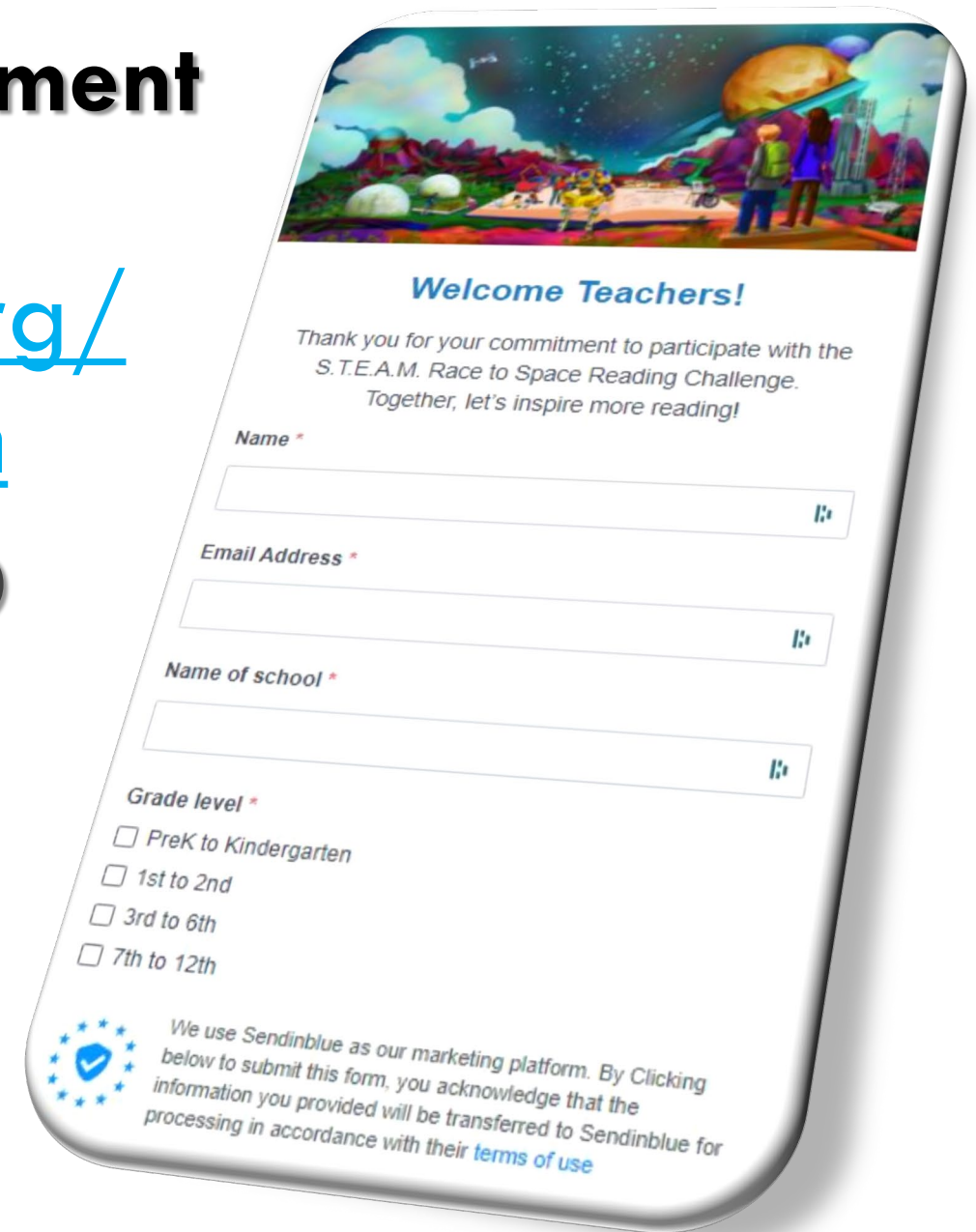
- OC Public Libraries has agreed to have as many of the recommended books from the website list available.
- School librarians are welcome to offer other S.T.E.A.M. focused book suggestions.



# Teacher Participation Commitment

[https://www.readsteam.org/  
teacher-submission-form](https://www.readsteam.org/teacher-submission-form)

## THE S.T.E.A.M. RACE TO SPACE READING CHALLENGE



**Welcome Teachers!**

Thank you for your commitment to participate with the  
S.T.E.A.M. Race to Space Reading Challenge.  
Together, let's inspire more reading!

Name \*

Email Address \*

Name of school \*

Grade level \*

- PreK to Kindergarten
- 1st to 2nd
- 3rd to 6th
- 7th to 12th

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**S.T.E.A.M.**  
RACE TO SPACE  
READING CHALLENGE

**THE S.T.E.A.M. RACE TO SPACE  
READING CHALLENGE**

**Classroom Questions Welcome!**

**Send questions by October 18 to:**

**[Pat@ReadSteam.org](mailto:Pat@ReadSteam.org)**

# Classroom Posters 11 X 17



**S.T.E.A.M.**  
RACE TO SPACE  
READING CHALLENGE

**EXCITING PRIZES!**

**S.T.E.A.M. Race to Space Reading Challenge**

**Launch Date October 22, 2021**  
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**PRIZES - A SNEAK PEEK!**



**Q&A WITH ASTRONAUTS**  
FREE BOOKS ▲ VIRTUAL BADGES ▲ SCHOLARSHIPS ▲ AND MORE!



**AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC TICKETS**



**DISCOVERY CUBE PASSES**

**GUARDIANS OF THE PICTURE BOOKS!**



Lenora Todaro





Philippe & Ashlan Gorse Cousteau





Gabrielle Prendergast



**PARTNERS**  
4Space ▲ Between The Pages ▲ theCodersSchool ▲ Discovery Cube ▲ NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
Education Office ▲ Orange Coast College ▲ Orange County Children's Book Festival ▲  
Orange County Department of Education ▲ Orange County Public Library ▲ PBS SoCal ▲ RiseUp Foundation ▲  
Scholastic ▲ Simon & Schuster ▲ Skoolaroo ▲ Space Camp\* ▲ Timeless Learning, Inc ▲ Wawanesa Insurance

[ReadSteam.org](http://ReadSteam.org)

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**AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC TICKETS**



**DAILY TUITION TO THE YOUTH CENTER**

**GUARDIANS OF THE EARLY READER BOOKS!**



Adam Rex





Sarafina Nance





Don Tate





Christina Booth



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4Space ▲ Between The Pages ▲ theCodersSchool ▲ Discovery Cube ▲ NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
Education Office ▲ Orange Coast College ▲ Orange County Children's Book Festival ▲  
Orange County Department of Education ▲ Orange County Public Library ▲ PBS SoCal ▲ RiseUp Foundation ▲  
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**AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC TICKETS**



**OFFICIAL SPACE CAMP\* FLIGHT SUIT**

**GUARDIANS OF THE MIDDLE GRADE BOOKS!**



Brandon T. Snider





Jennifer Swanson





Gene Yang





Rebecca Siegel





Adam Staffaroni





Heather Einhorn



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4Space ▲ Between The Pages ▲ theCodersSchool ▲ Discovery Cube ▲ NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
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**AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC TICKETS**



**TOUR OF NASA JPL LABORATORY**

**GUARDIANS OF THE YOUNG ADULT BOOKS**



Philippe Cousteau





Nicole Stott





Stephen Cosgrove





Jennifer Swanson



**PARTNERS**  
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Education Office ▲ Orange Coast College ▲ Orange County Children's Book Festival ▲  
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[ReadSteam.org](http://ReadSteam.org)

**Picture Book TK-1  
Grades**

**Early Reader 2-4  
Grades**

**Middle Grade 5-8**

**Young Adult (YA)  
High School**



# THE S.T.E.A.M. RACE TO SPACE READING CHALLENGE PARTNERS

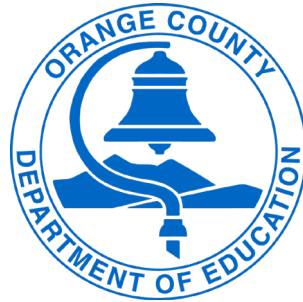


**S.T.E.A.M.**  
RACE TO SPACE  
READING CHALLENGE

**Mission: To encourage STEM reading which leads to students becoming scientists, engineers, mathematicians, creative problem solvers and so much more.**



**Mission: To inspire the joy of reading and love of books for families.**



**Mission: To ensure that all students are equipped with the competencies they need to thrive in the 21st century.**

## 4SPACE

**Mission: Sparking curiosity, expanding imagination, and growing love for space through reading.**



**Mission: To inspire a love of reading in children by teaching them the fundamental concepts of how authors create stories.**

# THE S.T.E.A.M. Race To Space Reading Challenge Summary

A fun and exciting event to inspire students to read more S.T.E.A.M. focused books.

Astronaut Nicole Stott greets joyful 3-year old fan at the 2019 Orange County Children's Book Festival. Even at an early age kids are excited to meet an astronaut!



**S.T.E.A.M.**  
RACE TO SPACE  
READING CHALLENGE



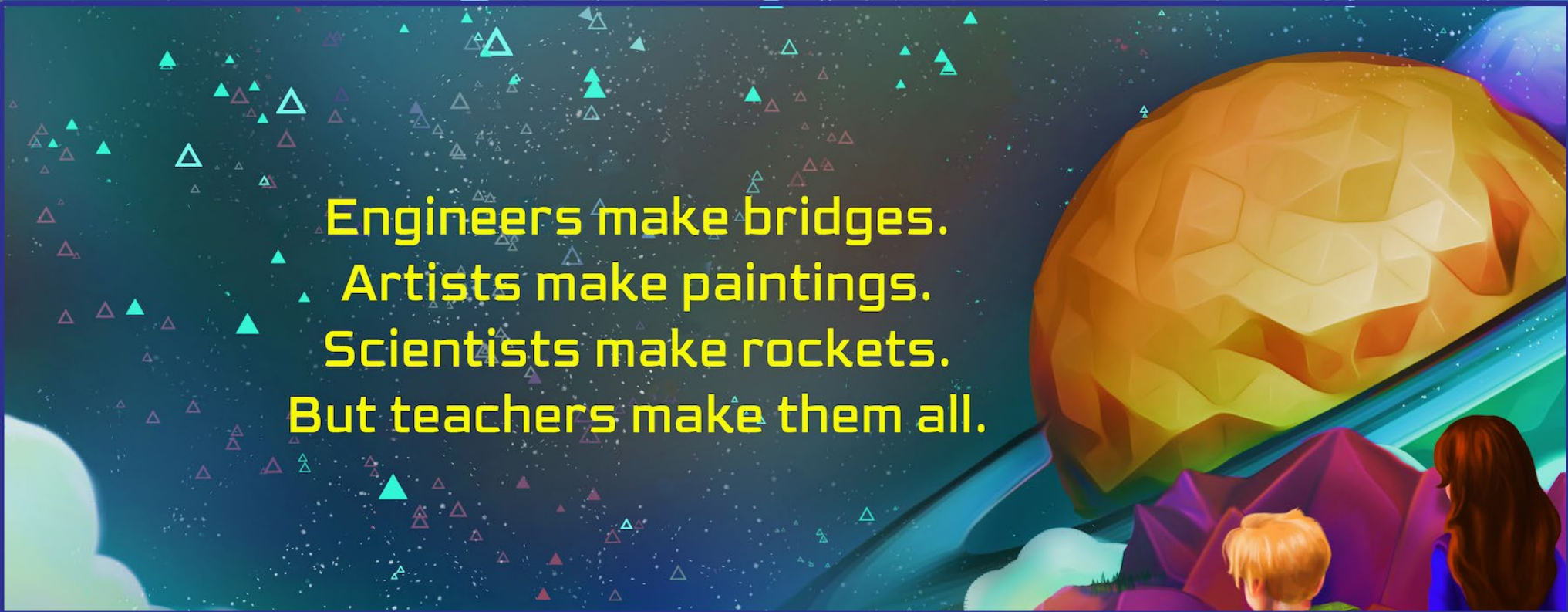


**S.T.E.A.M.**  
RACE TO SPACE  
READING CHALLENGE

**Message from astronaut, artist and  
presenting author**

**Nicole Stott**

**Go To [ReadSteam.org](http://ReadSteam.org) home page**



**Engineers make bridges.  
Artists make paintings.  
Scientists make rockets.  
But teachers make them all.**

**S.T.E.A.M. Race to Space Reading Challenge | ReadSteam.org**



We aspire to bring light and hope  
to earth from the darkness of space  
and the depth of the oceans.

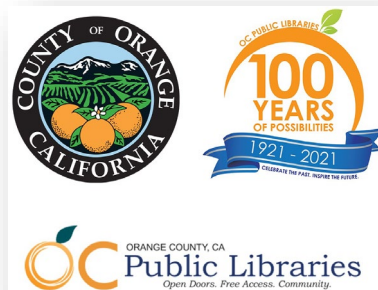
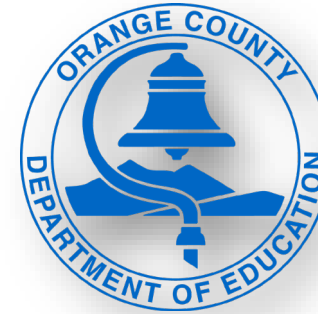
- Pat Burns, Co founder Orange  
County Children's Book Festival

Let's read great STEM books  
that open the mind and ignite the  
heart to read!

ReadSteam is presented by the Orange  
County Children's Book Festival.



# VISIONARY PARTNERS SHAPING CHILDREN'S FUTURE



Contact: Chantelle Baier, Board Member

Contact: Pat Burns, Executive Director

[chantelle@4space.co](mailto:chantelle@4space.co)

[occbcofounder@gmail.com](mailto:occbcofounder@gmail.com)

323-559-2181

949-836-4722

**Thank You!**



# Philippe and Ashlan Gorse Cousteau – Environmental advocates, filmmakers and authors

Picture Book Pre-K –1 grade

- Inspired by the legacy of his grandfather of Jacques Cousteau, Philippe is an multi Emmy-Nominated TV host and producer as well as an author, speaker, and social entrepreneur.
- Philippe and his wife Ashlan to co-host *Nuclear Sharks*, the #1 show for Discovery's Shark Week. They are also the stars of The Travel Channel's newest series *Caribbean Pirate Treasure*.
- Philippe is the host and executive producer of the multi-Emmy nominated series *Awesome Planet*, now filming its fourth season which is syndicated on Fox and Hulu.
- Philippe has hosted several award-winning shows
  - *Going Green* and *Expedition Sumatra*.
  - *Animal Planet* and the 8-part series *Oceans* for the BBC and Discovery Channel.
- Philippe is the founder of EarthEcho International, a leading global voice for ocean conservation. His wife Ashlan is a journalist and storyteller who has explored all seven continents.



<http://www.philippecousteau.com/>



# Gabrielle Prendergast - Author

Picture Book TK –1 grade

- Gabrielle Prendergast is an award-winning writer, teacher, and designer.
- Gabrielle writes picture books, middle grade, YA contemporary and historical, as well as science fiction and fantasy.
- Gabrielle has an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of British Columbia and has taught writing at Sydney University, San Francisco State University, UBC, Royal Canadian College and at numerous conferences.
- She lives in Vancouver, Canada with her family.



<http://www.gsprendergast.com/>



# Lenora Todaro - Author

Picture Book Pre-K –1 grade

- **Lenora Todaro's** debut book, *Sea Lions in the Parking Lot: Animals on the Move in a Time of Pandemic*, will be published in October. She is a writer, editor, member of the National Association of Science Writers, and the author of “Sidewalk Naturalist,” a series of columns about urban wildlife for *Catapult Magazine*.
- Her writing has also appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Atlantic*, *Salon*, and elsewhere.

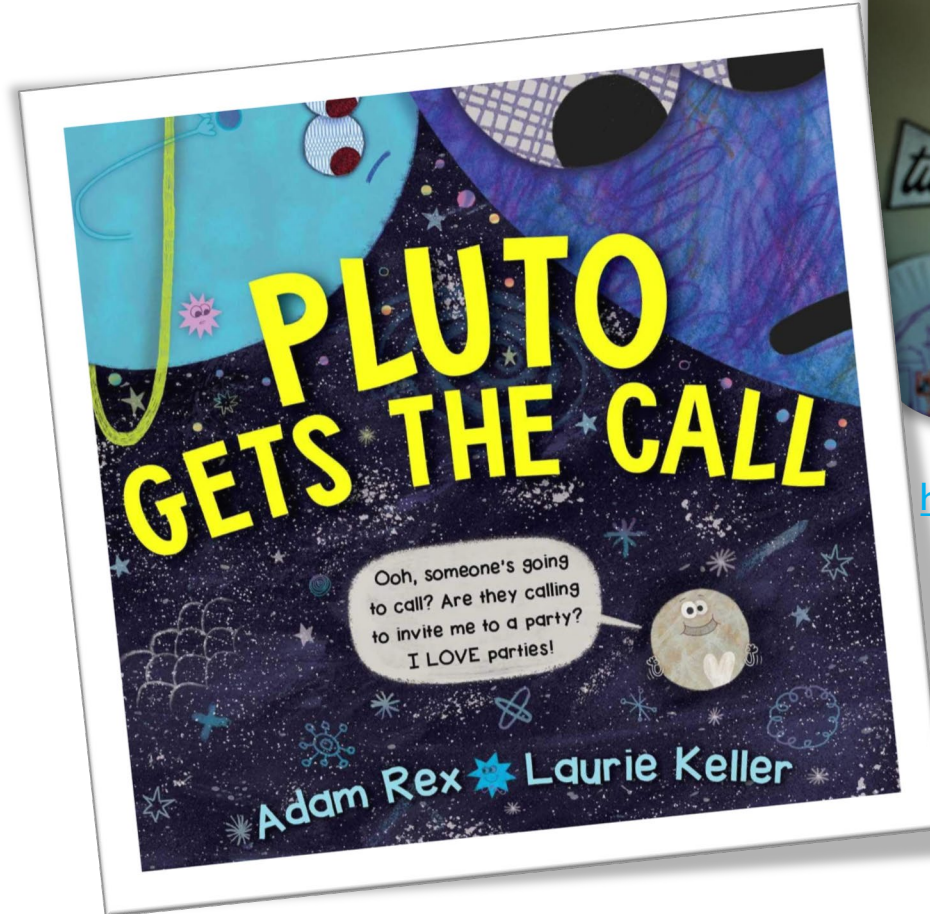


<https://www.lenoratodaro.com/>

# Adam Rex – Author and Illustrator

Picture Book Presenter – Grades PreK-1

- **Adam Rex** is the author and illustrator of more than forty books for kids.
- These include *New York Times* bestselling picture books like *Frankenstein Makes a Sandwich*, *School's First Day of School*, (with illustrator Christian Robinson), and *Chu's Day* (with author Neil Gaiman). His work has been adapted for film and television.
- He used to make art for games like *Dungeons & Dragons* and *Magic: The Gathering*. Sometimes he still does.

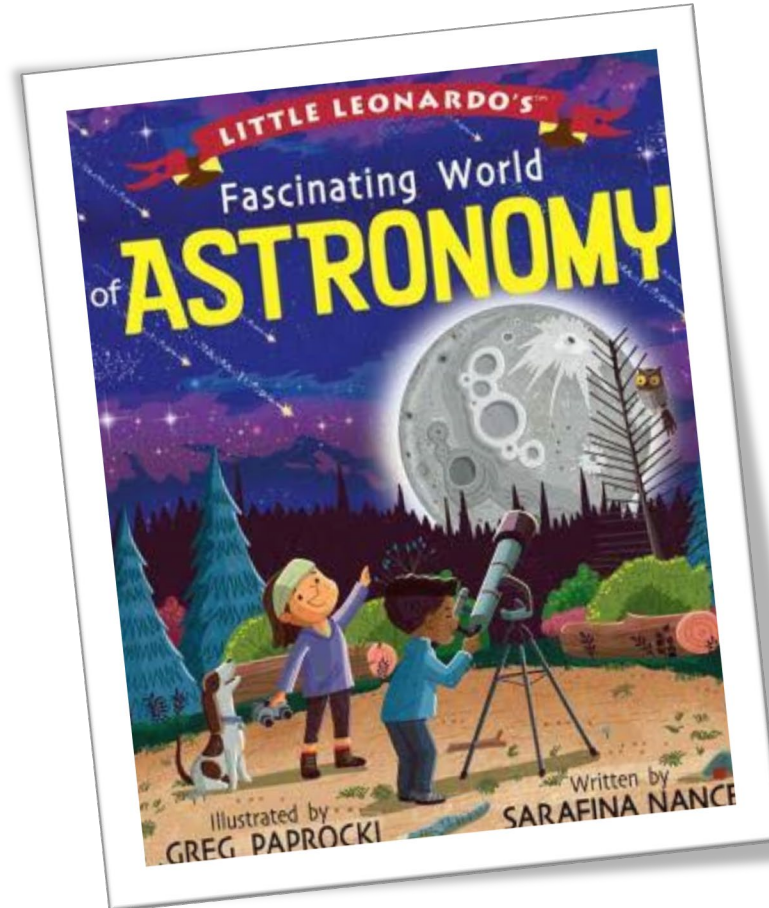


<https://www.adamrex.com/>

# Sarafina Nance MSc, Ph.D. (candidate) - Author

Early Reader Grades 2-4

- Sarafina El-Badry Nance is an astrophysicist, analog astronaut, science communicator, author, and women's health advocate.
- Sarafina is frequently interviewed in her areas of expertise including astrophysics, science communication, women's health, the space sector, and gender equity.
- Her work has been featured in the BBC, NPR, National Geographic, POPSUGAR, Refinery29, and elsewhere.
- She has been chosen as one of Forbes 30 Inspirational Women and one of the Arab American Institute's 40 Under 40.

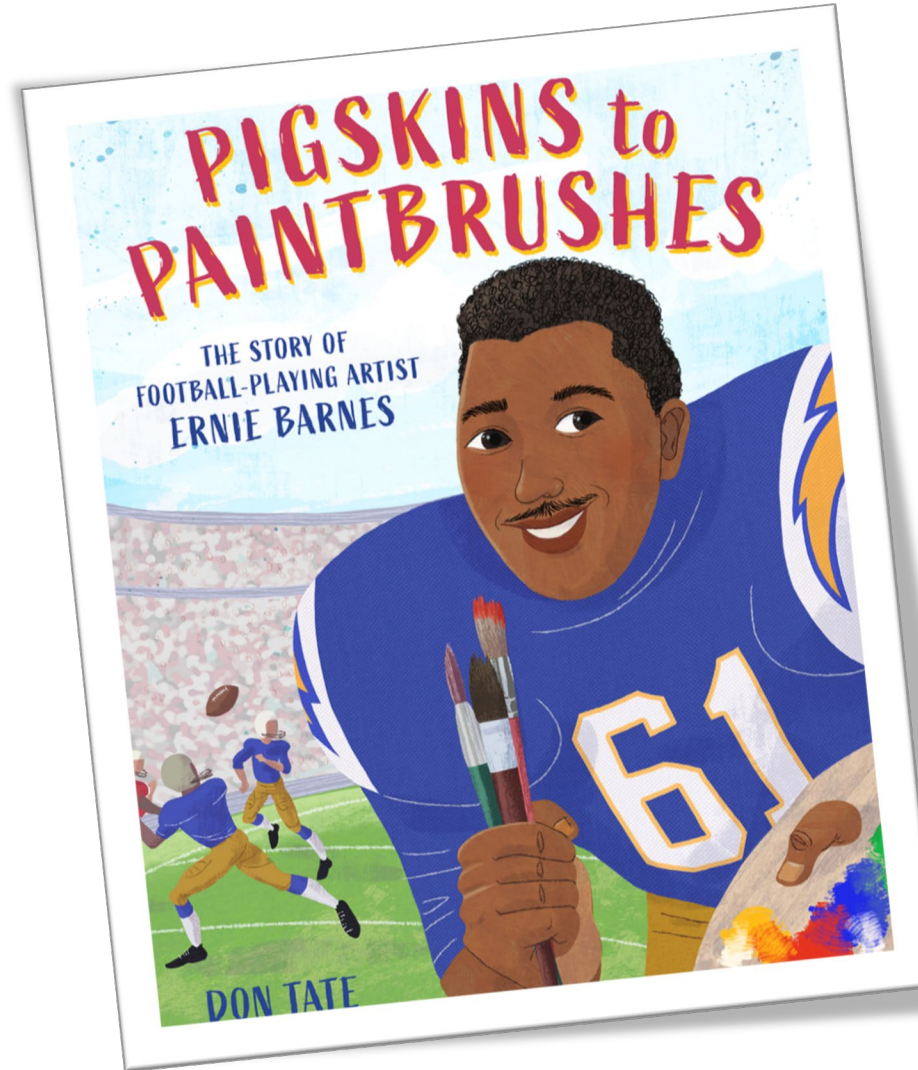


<https://starafina.com/>

# Don Tate – Author & Illustrator

Early Reader Presenter – Grades 2-4

- Don Tate is an award-winning author, and the illustrator of numerous critically acclaimed books for children.
- He is also one of the founding hosts of the blog The Brown Bookshelf – a blog designed to push awareness of the myriad of African American voices writing for young readers.



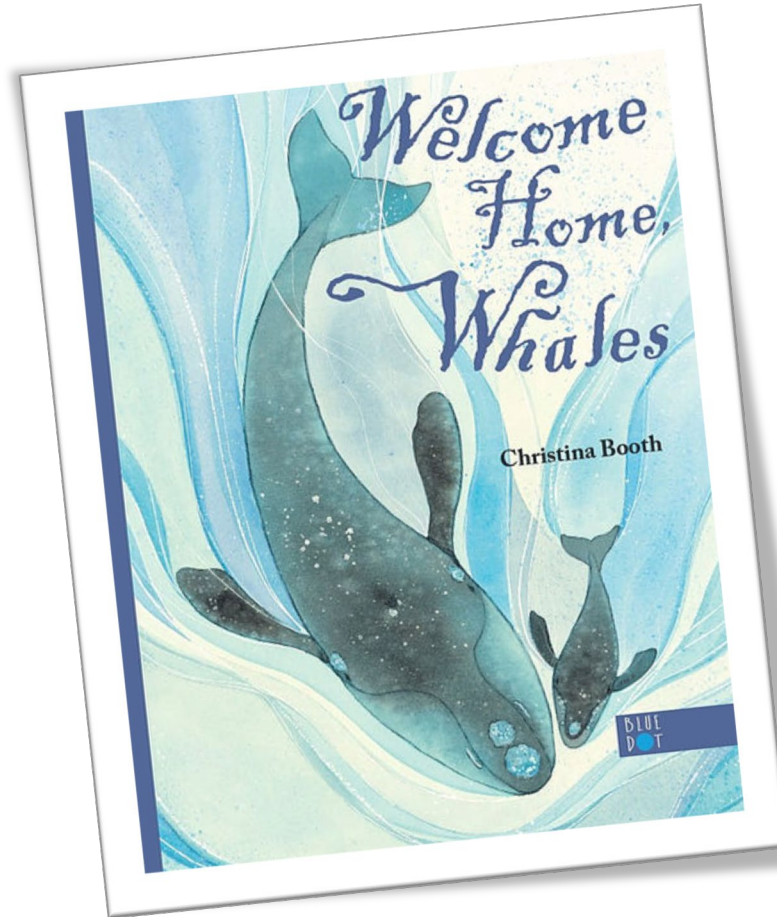
<https://dontate.com/>

# Christina Booth – Author and Illustrator

Early Reader Presenter – Grades 2-4

- Christina is the award-winning author of eight, and illustrator of over twenty books for children. She loves that she gets to tell stories and color in as a job and is passionate about helping others to find the storyteller inside them.
- Trained as a teacher and artist, Christina has always loved books, art and reading. Her earliest memories include going to the library in her pajamas, and cuddling books in bed instead of a teddy bear.

*Christina's presentation will be pre recorded from Australia.*



<https://www.christinabooth.com/>

# Jennifer Swanson M.S. Ed - Author

## Middle Grade Grades 5-8

- Jennifer Swanson has a B.S. in chemistry from the U. S. Naval Academy and an M.S. Ed in K-8 science from Walden University. In addition to being an award-winning author, she is also a middle school science instructor for John Hopkins University's Center for Talented Youth.
- She is an award winning author of over 45+ nonfiction books for children, mostly about science and technology. Jennifer's passion for science and technology resonates in all her books but especially, *BRAIN GAMES* and *The Secret Science of Sports*, *Astronaut-Aquanaut*, and *Parents' Choice Gold Award Winner, Save the Crash-test Dummies*.
- Her books have received many accolades, including multiple California Reading Association Awards as well as many National Science Teaching Best STEM book awards. Her *BRAIN GAMES* book was even #13 on the Planets.org Best 50 Science Books Ever Written.
- Jennifer encourages kids (of all ages) to engage their curiosity and **DISCOVER** the Science all around them!

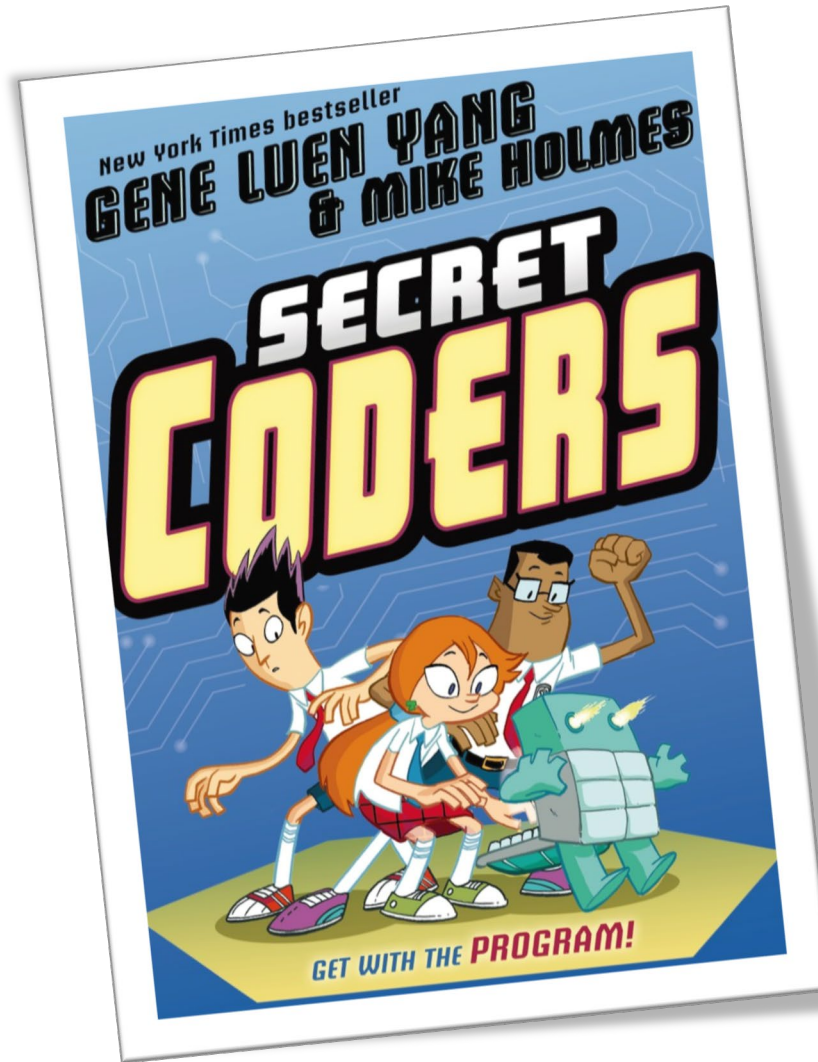


<https://jenniferswansonbooks.com/>

# Gene Yang – Author, Cartoonist & Teacher

Middle Grade Grades 5-8

- Gene Yang began making comics and graphic novels in the fifth grade. In 2006, his book *American Born Chinese* was published by First Second Books. It became the first graphic novel to be nominated for a National Book Award and the first to win the American Library Association's Printz Award. It also won an Eisner Award for Best Graphic Album – New.
- In addition to cartooning, Gene teaches creative writing through Hamline University's MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults.
- In January 2016, the Library of Congress, Every Child A Reader, and the Children's Book Council appointed Gene as the National Ambassador for Young People's Literature.



<https://geneyang.com/>



# Rebecca Siegel - Author

Middle Grade Grades 5-8

- Rebecca Siegel has a masters degree in English Literature from Loyola University, Chicago.
- She has worked in children's publishing for over a decade, editing and writing books for school library publishers.

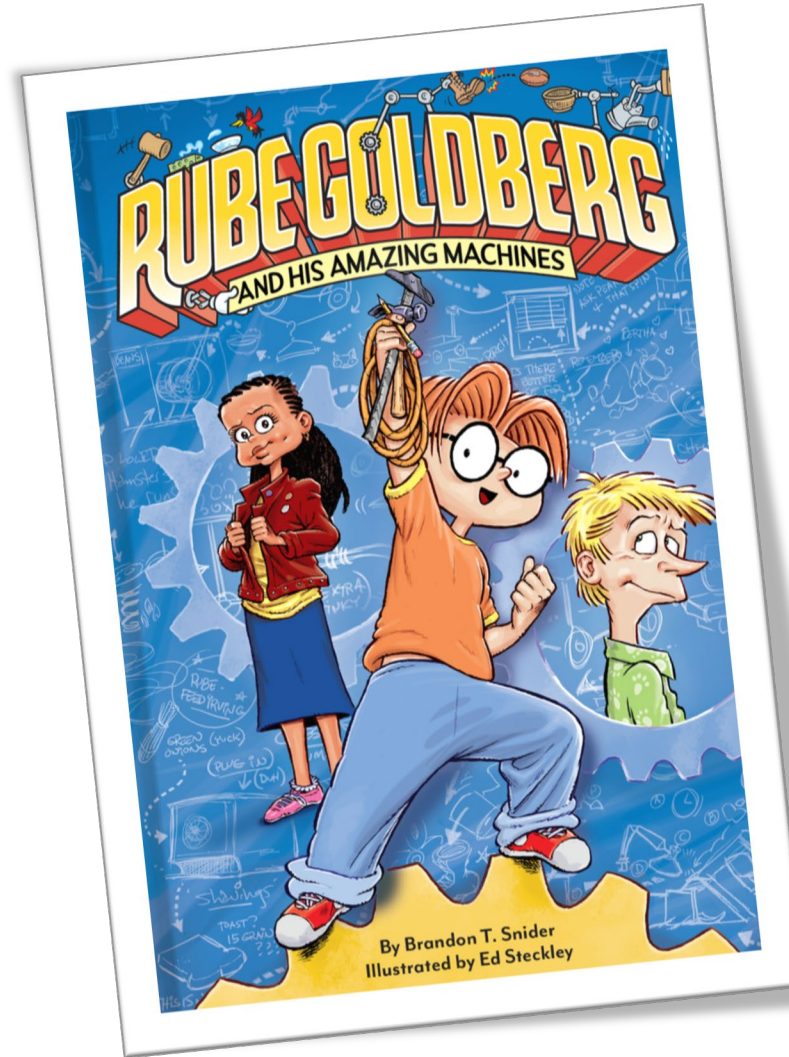


<https://www.rebeccasiegel.org/>

# Brandon T. Snider – Author and Actor

Middle Grade Presenter – Grades 5-8

- **Brandon T. Snider** is the best-selling author of the award-winning Dark Knight Manual, as seen in Entertainment Weekly, Time, Forbes, and Wired as well as the Avengers: Infinity War: The Cosmic Quest series.
- Additionally, he's written books featuring Cartoon Network favorites like Adventure Time and Regular Show, Marvel's Spider-Man and Black Panther, plus pop culture icons such as Justice League, Star Wars, and The Muppets.
- As an actor he's appeared on High Fidelity, The Deuce, Bull, Rachel Dratch's Late Night Snack, Late Night with Conan O'Brien, and Law & Order: SVU, as well as various commercials, plays and short films.

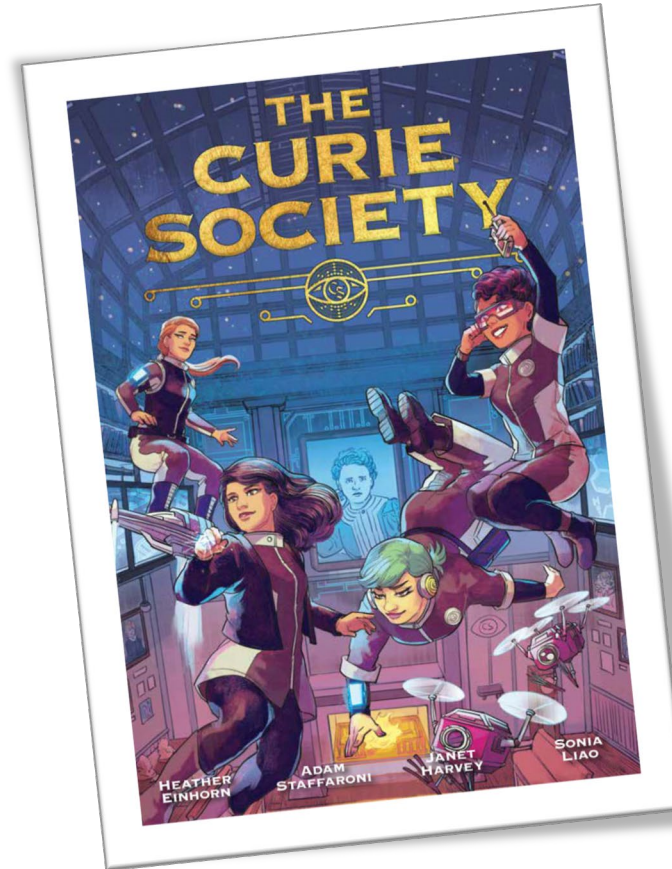


<http://www.cootiekid.com/>

# Adam Staffaroni and Heather Einhorn - Authors

Middle Grade – 5-8th grades

- Heather Einhorn was born and raised in New York City. She grew up loving teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Batgirl, female detective stories, and teen spy thrillers.
- Heather co-founded EEP so she could create stories showcasing heroic women characters. Heather co-created the graphic novel *The Curie Society* as well as popular scripted podcasts *Daughters of DC* and *lethal lit: A Tig Torres Mystery*, which was listed as a *NY Times* great podcast and was the first young adult scripted podcast.
- Adam Staffaroni is a lifelong fan of comics in all forms—newspaper strips, comic books, graphic novels—and has been creating comics in one form or another for the past fifteen years.
- Adam creates all sorts of stories, including the scripted podcasts *Daughters of DC* and *Lethal Lit: A Tig Torres Mystery*, co-created with his wife, Heather Einhorn.

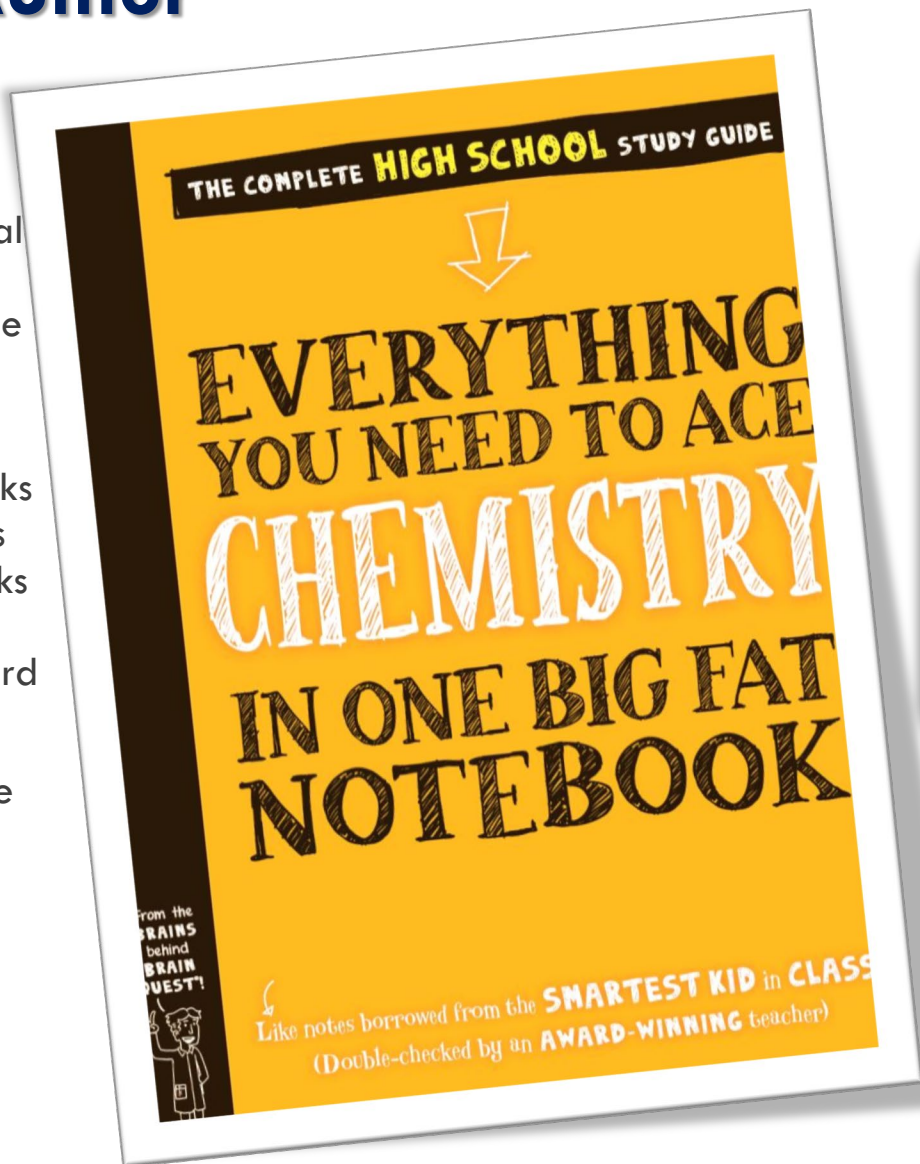


<http://eepuniverse.com/>

# Jennifer Swanson M.S. Ed - Author

Young Adult (YA) High School

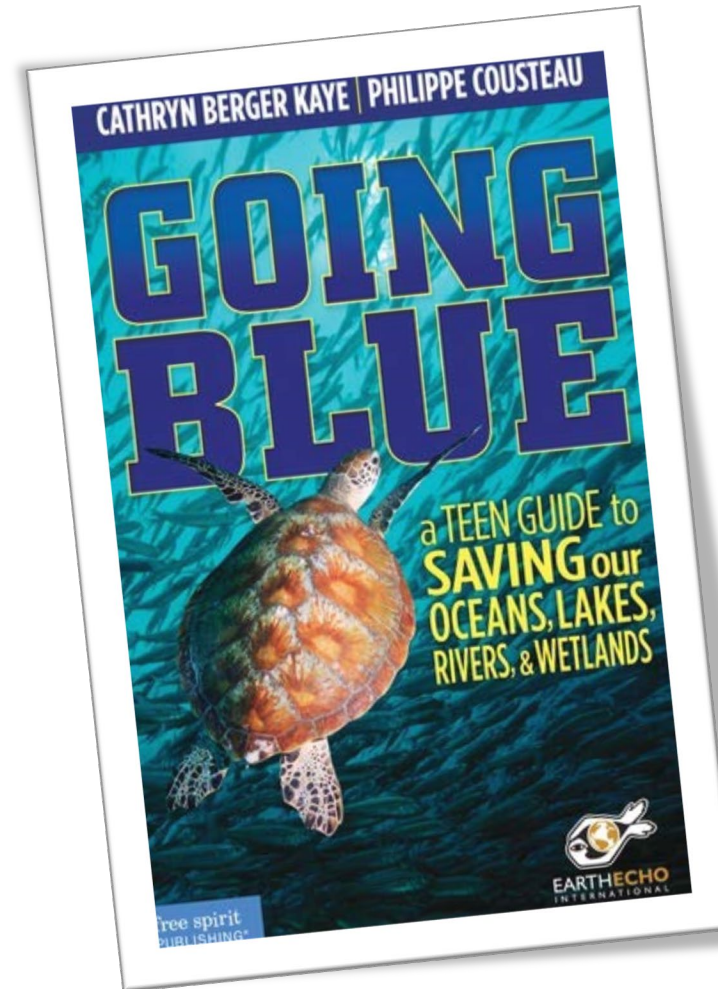
- Jennifer Swanson has a B.S. in chemistry from the U. S. Naval Academy and an M.S. Ed in K-8 science from Walden University. In addition to being an award-winning author, she is also a middle school science instructor for John Hopkins University's Center for Talented Youth.
- She is an award winning author of over 45+ nonfiction books for children, mostly about science and technology. Jennifer's passion for science and technology resonates in all her books but especially, *BRAIN GAMES* and *The Secret Science of Sports*, *Astronaut-Aquanaut*, and *Parents' Choice Gold Award Winner, Save the Crash-test Dummies*.
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- Jennifer encourages kids (of all ages) to engage their curiosity and **DISCOVER** the Science all around them!



# Philippe and Ashlan Gorse Cousteau – Environmental advocates, filmmakers and authors

Young Adult (YA) High School

- Inspired by the legacy of his grandfather of Jacques Cousteau, Philippe is an multi Emmy-Nominated TV host and producer as well as an author, speaker, and social entrepreneur.
- Philippe and his wife Ashlan to co-host *Nuclear Sharks*, the #1 show for Discovery's Shark Week. They are also the stars of The Travel Channel's newest series *Caribbean Pirate Treasure*.
- Philippe is the host and executive producer of the multi-Emmy nominated series *Awesome Planet*, now filming its fourth season which is syndicated on Fox and Hulu.
- Philippe has hosted several award-winning shows
  - *Going Green* and *Expedition Sumatra*.
  - *Animal Planet* and the 8-part series *Oceans* for the BBC and Discovery Channel.
- Philippe is the founder of EarthEcho International, a leading global voice for ocean conservation. His wife Ashlan is a journalist and storyteller who has explored all seven continents.



<http://www.philippecousteau.com/>

# Nicole Stott – Astronaut, Artist, Author

Young Adult (YA) High School

- Nicole is an astronaut and artist who creatively combines the awe and wonder of her spaceflight experience with her artwork, in order to inspire everyone's appreciation of our role as crewmates here on Spaceship Earth.
- A veteran NASA Astronaut with two spaceflights and 104 days living and working in space as a crew member on both the International Space Station (ISS) and the Space Shuttle. Personal highlights of her time in space include performing a spacewalk (10th woman to do so), flying the robotic arm to capture the first HTV, painting a watercolor, working with her crew mates and the ground team on science that is all about improving life on Earth, and of course the view out the window. She is also a NASA Aquanaut and was a crew member on an 18-day saturation dive mission at the Aquarius undersea laboratory.
- As an Artist, and now retired from NASA, Nicole combines her artwork and spaceflight experience to inspire creative thinking about solutions to our planetary challenges, to raise awareness of the surprising interplay between science and art, and to promote the amazing work being done every day in space to improve life right here on Earth. She is the founder of the [Space for Art Foundation](https://www.spaceforart.org/).



<https://www.npsdiscovery.com/>

# Stephen Cosgrove - Author

Young Adult (YA) High School

- Stephen E. Cosgrove is the author of more than 350 books, ranging from the internationally acclaimed Serendipity children's books to the 16 title YA series, the BIT'N Files.
- Over the years and in a variety of formats and languages he has sold well over 85 million copies.
- His current YA focus is a unique environmental fantasy, *SOS The Song of the Sea*. Narrated by a whale named Harmony, two dolphins, and a marine biologist who ultimately glimpses beyond the veil that has kept mankind from truly understanding the brotherhood of all creatures of the earth, *SOS, the song of the sea*, is an amazing ecological fantasy.

