

## Wizard of Words 2018-2019

John F. Kennedy School is pleased to announce that the PTSO Funded Wizard of Words is coming in April 2019 this year. Wizard of Words is a program designed to provide our students with the opportunity to meet and intimately converse with award-winning authors and illustrators. The children have the chance to hear directly from the authors about what inspires them to write; where they get their ideas for books; how they go about writing a book; and what it takes to get a book published. And, there's always time for Q&A!!

This year we are thrilled to welcome two authors: Leeza Hernandez for Pre-k through 1st grade students and Allison Gutknecht for 2nd through 4th grade students. Both authors will be meeting with John F. Kennedy students on Friday, April 12th. **Leeza Hernandez**, an award-winning illustrator and now children's book author, hails from the south of England, but has been living in New Jersey since 1999. For more information on Leeza and her book list, please visit her website at <http://www.leezaworks.com/about.html> **Allison Gutknecht** is the author of multiple books for young readers, including *Sing Like Nobody's Listening*, *Spring Break Mistake*, *The Bling Queen*, and the Mandy Berr series. For more information on Allison and her book list, please visit her website at <http://allisongutknecht.com/>

The PTSO is sponsoring a sale of Leeza and Allison's books. You can provide your child with a lasting memory of this special event by purchasing one or more books and having the book(s) personalized for your child by Leeza Hernandez and/or Allison Gutknecht. Descriptions of the books being offered are provided in this handout and many of the books are available in the library for your review.

To place an order, please fill out the following order form (please use one order form per student) return it to the office along with **one check per family** made out to JFK Elementary PTSO in an envelope marked "PTSO – Wizard of Words." Please place the one check and all order forms in the same envelope. **Orders must be returned no later than March 7, 2019. Due to ordering time constraints, late requests cannot be accommodated.**

Please use one order form per student. If your book is to be inscribed to more than one child, please indicate which student is to be presented with the book. If you have any questions, please contact Leyna Lillia at [leynalillia@gmail.com](mailto:leynalillia@gmail.com).

## Allison Gutknecht

### Pizza is the Best Breakfast

When a visit from Mandy's cousin turns out to be more frustrating than fun, the girls discover that they just might cook up a solution in the kitchen in this sweet and spirited story.

**Recommended 7-10 years old**

### Never Wear Red Lipstick on Picture Day

The spirited and sassy eight-year-old Mandy Berr strives to look—and behave!—her best in this sweet and funny tale.

**Recommended 7-10 years old**

### Don't Wear Polka Dot Underwear with White Pants

Eight-year-old Mandy Berr has a lot going on. She has to share her parents' attention with her newborn twin siblings, who are always crying, and her little brother, Timmy, who is constantly in her way. And she also has to find a way to deal with her nemesis, Dennis, who has a knack for getting under her skin.

**Recommended 7-10 years old**

### A Cast is the Perfect Accessory

After learning the hard way that polka dot underwear and white pants are not the best combination, Mandy Berr has gotten over that fashion faux pas. But just when things seem like they might be back in her favor, her former nemesis, Natalie, manages to steal Mandy's spotlight—*again*. A broken wrist for Natalie means a cool cast and the attention of Mandy's classmates...even from Anya, Mandy's BFF. Can Mandy figure out a way to get back into the center of attention, win back her best friend, AND snag a pair of fancy-dancy periwinkle sunglasses?

**Recommended 7-10 years old**

### Spring Break Mistake

A tween is forced to use her photography skills to track down a missing classmate during a class trip in New York City in this M!X novel from the author of *The Bling Queen*.

**Recommended 9-13 years old**

### Bling Queen

A tween jewelry designer finds herself competing for an online fashion blog spot in this funny and sparkly M!X novel.

**Recommended 9-13 years old**

### Sing Like Nobody's Listening

In the tradition of *Pitch Perfect*, two best friends battle it out for a *capella* group supremacy in this hilarious M!X novel.

**Recommended 9-13 years old**

## **Leeza Hernandez**

### Dog Gone!

When a playful pooch goes a little overboard with a stuffed animal and gets in trouble, he decides it's time to run away. But being a "dog gone" isn't as easy (or fun!) as it looks, and soon the pup misses his owner and home. Luckily, even though he's made a mistake, his human best friend is always waiting with open arms.

**Recommended 3-5 years old**

### Cat Napped!

Cats are naturally curious, but sometimes *too* much curiosity can get them into trouble! That's what happens when one kitty wakes up from a nap to find she might be lost . . . Luckily, a kind passerby and the folks at the animal shelter are ready to help reunite her with her favorite friend!

**Recommended 3-5 years old**

### Mia Mayhem is a Superhero

A little girl discovers she's a superhero and begins her new adventures at Superhero school.

Written by Kara West and illustrated by Leeza Hernandez

**Recommended 5-9 years old**

### Eat Your Math Homework

A zany, feed-your-brain, math book, cook book and picture book in one.

Written by Ann McCallum and illustrated by Leeza Hernandez

**Recommended 5 years old and up**

CHILD’S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD’S GRADE & TEACHER \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Book Title	Cover PB=paperback HC=hardcover	Price	Quantity	Total	One name for inscription
Pizza is the Best Breakfast	PB	\$8.00			
Never Wear Red Lipstick on Picture Day	PB	\$8.00			
Don’t Wear Polka-Dot Underwear with White Pants	PB	\$8.00			
A Cast Is the Perfect Accessory	PB	\$7.00			
Spring Break Mistake	PB	\$9.00			
Bling Queen	PB	\$9.00			
Sing Like Nobody’s Listening	PB	\$9.00			

Totals # \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Contact: Leyna Lillia (leynalillia@gmail.com)

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Dog Gone!	HC	\$13.00			
Cat Napped!	HC	\$13.00			
Mia Mayhem is a Superhero	PB	\$7.00			
Eat Your Math Homework	PB	\$10.00			

Totals # \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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