

TESTIMONIALS FOR CATHEY NICKELL, Author of *Arthur Zarr's Amazing Art Car*

“Cathey Nickell delivered a high-energy presentation to our students in grades prekindergarten through four. She talked about writing small books as a young child, and then went on to discuss how her ideas for stories develop. Illustrator Bill Megenhardt entertained the children by sketching pictures for them. Book them together for a dynamic pair!” ~ *Laurie Mitchell and Kristin Uptmor, Librarians at St. Mark's Episcopal School, Houston, Tx. (Author Visit, November 2015 and April 2016)*

“Cathey came and spoke to my middle schoolers... twice! Even though her book isn't geared toward middle school students, the power of storytelling and the craft of writing is something that speaks to all ages. She's an inspiration to any students (and adults!) that she speaks to... plus it doesn't hurt that it's fun!” ~ *Lynden Briscoe, Middle School English Teacher at Holy Spirit Episcopal School, Houston, Tx. (Author Visit, October 2016)*

“Our students enjoyed hearing about Cathey Nickell's personal writing journey and the story behind real art cars in Houston.” ~ *Laurie Bridel, Library Director at Southfield School, Shreveport, La. (Author Visit, November 2016)*

“*Arthur Zarr's Amazing Art Car* is a wonderful story that speaks to children of all ages about friendship, creativity and recycling! Our students got to see a real art car! It was a wonderful, interactive moment for the children, and I can highly recommend Cathey's unique author visit to other schools.” ~ *Jeanie Lundquist, Education Director at The Goddard School for Early Childhood Development—Greater Heights, Houston, Tx. (Author Visit, November 2016)*

“Cathey Nickell not only has written a charming picture book, but she really knows her audience when presenting to kids. She easily captured our girls' attention and inspired them to write creatively on their own and search for ideas in their everyday lives. The icing on the cake was that she even brought an art car driver friend and his car to bring the story to life!” ~ *Katie Turner, Lower School Librarian at Duchesne Academy of the Sacred Heart, Houston, Tx. (Author Visit, January 2017)*

“Cathey Nickell talked about strategies for young people to begin the creative writing process and emphasized that you don't always have to have a big idea to write a story. In fact, her fantastic tale about Arthur Zarr started as a very simple idea and grew from there. We were even treated with seeing and touching a real art car! It was a treat to host Cathey at our school. Her presentation was informative, educational, and fun!” ~ *Myke Reitman, Lower Elementary Lead Teacher at St. Stephen's Episcopal School, Houston, Tx. (Author Visit, April 2017)*

“Ms. Nickell's author visit was fabulous! Our students really enjoyed learning about the writing process and using their imagination. She even brought some of her art car friends for a visit too! Highly recommend for all ages.” ~ *Leena Elmore, Art Teacher at McWhirter Elementary in Clear Lake, Tx. (February 2017)*

“Cathey's presentation was so powerful and allowed our students to see how a real author turns ideas into completed writing pieces. Our students were engaged and mesmerized by watching Bill Megenhardt turn their words into a real illustration. I'm so glad that my kids got to be part of this experience!” ~ *Laura Gray, Learning Specialist at The Joy School, Houston, Tx. (Author Visit, March 2017)*

“Cathey and Bill did a wonderful job during their visit with my 5th graders. The kids were engaged and excited to hear about what goes on behind-the-scenes when writing a book. As a language arts teacher, I loved the direct connection to the concepts I cover in my class such as brainstorming and the steps in the writing process.” ~ *Jennifer Donovan, Learning Specialist at The Joy School, Houston, Tx. (Author Visit, March 2017)*

“I would highly recommend visiting author Cathey Graham Nickell and illustrator Bill Megenhardt. The two complemented each other very well. It was a day that both students and teachers praised highly. They were both excellent with the children, and they worked with all 750-plus children in our school in one day.” ~ *Ann Parsons Newman, Ph.D., Library Media Specialist at Spring Shadows Elementary, Houston, Tx. (Author Visit, May 2018)*