

FINDING MAGIC IN READING

A Visit with Award-Winning Authors

MIKEY BROOKS & ALI CROSS

Thank you for showing interest in having Mikey Brooks & Ali Cross come to your school. Below you will find a brief outline and explanation of the presentation they will deliver to your students. They are comfortable in doing whole school assemblies, specific grade assemblies, or even classroom visits. You are invited to look over the attached catalog showcasing both Mikey and Ali's books. No purchase is necessary but note that the prices are discounted for schools. If you have any questions you can contact Mikey directly by emailing him at: insidemikeysworld@gmail.com or Ali at: ali@alicross.com.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Stories have been a part of the human race since the beginning of time. Before the written word we had oral stories shared around campfires and in songs. Now we have them everywhere, not just in books. We see them in movies, pop music, theatrical plays and dances, even in video games. Mikey and Ali believe that there is something that connects every reader to a story. They call it: *magic*. The important thing is to discover what that magic is and how to use it to create a love of reading for a lifetime.

OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION:

- Introduction
- Why We Love Stories
- The Magic that Connects Us
- How to Build a Story
- Creating a Character
- Creating a Story
- The Magic in Reading, Writing & Illustrating
- Questions from Students

During the presentation Mikey will put his illustration skills to the test. With the help of the kids he will draw a conglomerate of different things to make the perfect character. (Example shown is a mixture of a T-Rex, Zebra, Unicorn, and Mermaid, created during an Elementary School Visit in 2014). Mikey, Ali, and the kids will use this character to write a short story together. Understanding what elements are used to create a story helps kids understand them better, which benefits them as readers and writers.

After the presentation Mikey will take a picture of the drawing and then recreate it professionally to be given to the school later. This is always a fun activity that kids of all ages enjoy.

Mikey and Ali's hope is that they can instill in each child a desire to pick up a book and read. They thank you for the opportunity and looks forward to sharing this message with your school.

