



TEACHING ARTIST PROFILE and APPLICATION

Date of Application: 5/12/16

Artist Name: Brett Dillingham

Address: 9618 Stikine St., Juneau, AK 99801

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Phone Number: 907.586.1643

Email Address: brett@brettdillingham.com

1. I am available to work/teach (check all that apply):

X in 1-2 week residency period only

X I am flexible and could work different times

I can work 1 day per week for a month or more

X I could work part days, different times

2. Please describe your arts education and/or arts background.

Brett Dillingham performs and teaches **Culturally Responsive Literacy** and **Performance Literacy** in PreK-12, universities and libraries in Ireland, England, Germany, Belgium, Sweden, Hungary, Russia, Vietnam, Thailand, Costa Rica, Argentina, Uruguay, Nigeria, South Africa, Canada, Alaska, and the Lower 48 states. In Alaska, Brett has taught Culturally Responsive Literacy and Place Based Education through Storytelling in villages, towns and cities (approximately 50) from Metlakatla to Barrow. He has been a featured storyteller, speaker and/or keynoter at the National American Reads conference, the Reading Association of Ireland, the National Migrant Education conference, the World Congress on Reading, the Association of International Schools of Africa and the International Reading Association. Brett coordinated the Alaska Reading Tutor Training Program and the Alaska Reading Institutes from 2001 - 2004. To date, Brett has provided storytelling workshops, classes and academies for (roughly) 250,000 students and staff development for over 7,000 teachers in more than 200 schools.

Brett is also the author of the children’s book *Raven Day* (McGraw Hill, 2001) and the textbook ([Performance Literacy Through Storytelling](#)), Maupin House, 2009, Gold Recipient of the Independent Book Publisher Awards (IPPY) in the Education/Academic/Teaching category; finalist for the Distinguished Achievement Award under the K-5 Curriculum and Instruction category by the Association of Educational Publishers). He is the past president of the Alaska State Literacy Association. Brett received the Award of Excellence from the Alaska State Literacy Association in 2010—the first and only time the award has ever been handed out.

3. Which Art Forms are you interested in teaching, and how will you incorporate them into the classroom? Please list all, and indicate preferences if any. Also indicate what age children you prefer to work with.

Example: *Music and Rhythm. Part dance, part counting, part singing, I use music to help children learn about mathematical patterns and music. This will address Alaska State Standards Art A and Math A.*

Example: *I am a singer/musician. I have lesson plans that relate to math and counting for elementary age students, world folk songs which would augment World History or Geography for middle-school students, or I could work with high school students to develop small jazz ensembles.*

I teach children (PreK-12) how to write and perform their own stories (performance literacy). Performance literacy involves all of the components of literacy- speaking, listening, reading and writing. In addition to literacy, this methodology involves drama and public speaking. I often teach this to teachers/students in social studies, history, science etc. in addition to language arts.

4. What themes, concepts, and experiences do you want to share with students?

I like to work with the teachers so that their students' storytelling/writing matches the curriculum and Alaska State Standards. My primary goal is teaching children that they are writers and storytellers and that everyone can create and tell a story unique to them. Students always have a culminating event where they tell their stories to their parents and community.

5. Please list or describe any prior teaching experiences you may have had (apart from residencies)

I have taught and performed storytelling in Eastern/Western Europe, Asia, Africa and North/South America. My work has been presented at the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts, and I have performed live storytelling on National Public Radio, the Calgary International Children's Festival, the National American Reads conference, the Reading Association of Ireland, the National Migrant Education conference, the World Congress on Reading and the International Reading Association

6. Why do you want to teach the arts in Juneau schools? Because teaching is my passion, I live in and love Juneau.

7. Past Experience with Artist in the Schools residencies: (list all) None to Date: _____

I just returned to Juneau after living 3 years in Santa Fe, NM. I have previously taught at all the schools in Juneau; I don't remember which were Artists in Schools except for Gastineau and Glacier Valley.

8. Have you participated in the **Juneau Teaching Artist Academy series**?

_____ I have completed the series _____ I participated in some of the series ___X___ No, not yet

9. Please list three references who could be contacted about your work and teaching experience. Include name, phone number and email address for each.

1) Bob Banghart, Deputy Director, Libraries, Archives and Museums. 907.465.2912 bob.banghart@alaska.gov

2) Michelle Byer, Principal, Riverbend Elementary School, (907) 796-5700, ext. 5702 michelle.byer@juneauschools.org

3) Tom Mckenna, Principal, Harborview Elementary School, 907-523-1850 thomas.mckenna@juneauschools.org

10. Provide any additional comments or additions that might help illuminate your work or life as an artist.

I usually get 98 – 100% participation of the students I work with. They tell wonderful stories and feel good about themselves while engaging in authentic literacy activities.

