

Youngstown City Schools

# News Release

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## **For Immediate Release**

### **Author visit plants seed for Chaney garden project**

Dar Hosta, author and illustrator, will visit and work with Chaney sixth grade students October 18-21, 2011, to create a book about their recent visit to Fellow Riverside Gardens. As an Artist in residence, Hosta joins Mill Creek Fellows Riverside Gardens, Earth Force GREEN and Project L.E.A.F in a project that will involve writing, art, science, math, acting, gardening, engineering and more.

The project kicked off with a visit to Fellows Riverside Gardens where, at Hosta's direction, students were asked to view the garden through their five senses. During Hosta's visit to the school, students will write and illustrate a book based on their observations. The student-published book, photographs and video will be exhibited at Fellows Garden next spring.

Meanwhile, Chaney VPA, STEM and Rayen Early College students are planning a Shakespeare Garden for the school's courtyard. Hosta will return next spring to help students create an artistic centerpiece for the garden. Students are also rehearsing for a nature-themed Spring Performance to be performed during the exhibit at Fellows Riverside Garden.

The project is funded by Chaney, the Gifted and Talented program, and Project L.E.A.F (Learning, Environment, Arts and Friendship) in collaboration with the Mill Creek Metroparks Fellows Riverside Gardens.

Hosta is the author of the popular children's books; *I Love The Night* (2003), *Mavis & Her Marvelous Mooncakes* (2006), and *If I Were A Tree* (2007).

For more information about the project, email VPA coordinator, [Tracy Schuler Vivo](#) or at 330-744-8822 Ext. 8830 or 330-207-0997.