

Walter Dean Myers shares his insights on the writer's life with Passages Academy students at Bridges Juvenile Center.

<u>Prolific Author Walter Dean Myers Visits Students At Passages Academy</u> <u>To Share His Life Experiences And Secrets To Getting Published</u>

On Monday, March 10th, renowned author Walter Dean Myers visited students attending Passages Academy at Bridges Juvenile Center to discuss with residents his best-selling book 'Monster', the art of writing and opportunities for young, aspiring writers.

Myers detailed the challenges and triumphs he has experienced during his 35-year career as a writer, one that has seen more than 85 of his works published.

Two separate groups of boys and one group of girls met with the author in the school library. The young people were very familiar with Myers' books, many of which are in the Passages Academy Library. All of the residents had read at least one of the author's books, and most had read several. The 1999 book 'Monster' has sold over a million copies and is required reading for 8th grade students at all public schools in New York.

Mr. Myers met with each group for approximately an hour, discussing his latest projects, how he approaches the planning and writing of each book, offering insights and tips for those youth thinking of writing as a career, and answering many interesting questions.

"Walter Dean Myers is a wonderful inspiration to the students of Passages Academy. We are fortunate and grateful to have him visit and share his life experiences," Assistant Principal Carolyn Peterson said. "The Bridges Team worked hard to make this day special and rewarding. We look forward to his next visit."

The visit was organized by Passages Academy's Mary Lou DeLigio as part of their commitment to supporting students' literacy development and the library's ongoing Authors and Artists series.
