

Appearances by Author, Phillip Hoose

Phillip Hoose speaks to children and adults at schools, libraries and community organizations. Sample presentations are listed below.

Books & Presentations

1) Claudette Colvin: Twice Towards Justice

(National Book Award Winner)

Audience: Grade 6 - Adult

On March 2, 1955, an impassioned teenager, fed up with the daily injustices of Jim Crow segregation, refused to give her seat to a white woman on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Instead of being celebrated as Rosa Parks would be just nine months later, fifteen-year-old Claudette Colvin found herself shunned by her classmates and dismissed by community leaders.

Undaunted, a year later she dared to challenge segregation again as a key plaintiff in *Browder v. Gayle*, the landmark case that struck down the segregation laws of Montgomery and swept away the legal underpinnings of the Jim Crow South.

Claudette Colvin: Twice Towards Justice is based on extensive interviews with Claudette Colvin and many others, Phillip Hoose presents the first in-depth account of an important yet largely unknown civil rights figure, skillfully weaving her dramatic story into the fabric of the historic Montgomery bus boycott and court case that would change the course of American history.

A PowerPoint presentation, drawing from the images in the book, presents Claudette Colvin's acts of courage and their impact on history. This leads to a discussion about individual responsibility and the impact of a single action.

An Educator's Guide is available for this title.

2) The Race to Save the Lord God Bird

(Boston Globe-Horn Book Award Winner, Non Fiction)

Audience: Grade 4 - Adult

The Race To Save the Lord God Bird is about the tragedy of extinction, told through the decline of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker. The book and the PowerPoint presentation focuses on the people who studied it, documented it's ecology, shot it, stuffed it, tried to preserve its habitat, cut its habitat down, grieved it, and who won't let the hope die that it continues to exist somewhere.

Highlights of this presentation include film of the bird taken at close range in 1934 and controversial 2004 images of an Ivory-bill-like bird flying away from the camera in an Arkansas swamp. The presentation leads to discussion about extinction and the value of

a given species.

3) *Hey, Little Ant*

(Jane Adams Honor Book)

Audience: Preschool - Grade 3

The picture book, *Hey, Little Ant* began as a song. For presentations for Preschoolers to Third Graders, Phil Hoose sings the story with students, discusses it, and often acts out the two roles in the book/song. As the book is published in ten languages, Phil will often invite the audience to read the book together in another language

The story of how the song became a book is always told at presentations. That story always includes the empowering fact that the book's co-author was Phil's then 8-year-old daughter.

Because the book ends with a question, "What do you think that kid should do?" it leaves the reader to decide the fate of the characters. Phil uses the question to generate a discussion about what living creatures have in common. In these discussions, Phil does not offer an opinion, rather encourages a vigorous and thoughtful exchange of ideas.

Often presentations end with additional interactive singing.

An Educator's Guide is available for this title.

4) *We Were There, Too!: Young People in U.S. History*

(National Book Award Finalist)

Audience: Grade 3 – Grade 12

We Were There, Too!: Young People in U.S. History is a collection of the stories of young people living, working, causing change, or just being children at different points in our nation's history. The PowerPoint presentation demonstrates how children have contributed enormously to our national story and how each child's actions can affect outcomes and history. The presentation leads to discussion about historical and social changes and individual responsibility.

An Educator's Guide is available for this title.

Presentation Details

School Visit Fee: Phil Hoose's fee is \$1600 per day. A school's needs can always be negotiated.

Lecture Fee: Phil Hoose will present an hour lecture to organizations for \$800 plus expenses. However, an organization's needs can always be negotiated.

Travel & Accommodations: Phil Hoose requires all airfare, hotel, rental car, and meals to be covered by the school or organization. While Phil appreciates the offer to stay in homes, he requires a hotel stay. If Phil drives to an event, he requires reimbursement at \$.50 per mile for the round trip.

School Visit Preferences: Phil Hoose prefers to keep school presentations to no more than three a day. Phil prefers not to do assemblies. He believes the smaller the school group, the better the experience for the students. He also prefers that grades and book discussions be grouped so he is not switching from one book to another each period.

AV Requirements: Phil should have a hands-free microphone. (When he is singing in a large room, a microphone for his guitar is also useful.) For PowerPoint presentations, Phil requires a computer with DVD capacity, a digital projector, and a remote to forward PowerPoint slides.

Booking Agent: Contact Kirsten Cappy of Curious City at 207-699-2755 or kirsten@curiouscity.net. With Kirsten, an organization can negotiate fees, travel, and program structure.

Book Sales: Kirsten Cappy at Curious City can provide book order sheets for events. Books should be ordered by the school or institution through Tricycle Press (for *Hey, Little Ant*) (800) 841-2665 or through Macmillan (for all other titles) 888-330-8477. Phil will, of course, sign books.

Book List

Claudette Colvin: Twice Towards Justice

Hardcover, ISBN-13: 9780374313227, \$19.95

Publisher: Farrar, Straus and Giroux (Distributed by Macmillan)

Awards & Accolades:

“This inspiring title shows the incredible difference that a single young person can make.”
—Starred, Booklist

“Inspiring.” —Kirkus Reviews

“Outstanding.” —Starred, School Library Journal

“Hoose reasserts her [Claudette Colvin] place in history with this vivid and dramatic account, complemented with photographs, sidebars, and liberal excerpts from interviews conducted with Colvin.” —Starred, The Horn Book

“Smoothly weaves excerpts from Hoose’s extensive interviews with Colvin and his own supplementary commentary.” —Starred, Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books

“Phil Hoose’s profile of the remarkable Claudette Colvin is MUST reading for anyone still imbued with hope. She is a lighthouse in a stormy sea.” —Studs Terkel, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Good War*

“Hoose’s book, based in part on interviews with Colvin and people who knew her - finally gives her the credit she deserves.” —The New York Times Book Review

“This fresh look at a well-documented period in American history will appeal to readers from young teens to adults.” —VOYA

“Hoose encourages teens to empathize with an age peer, once dismissed as too ‘emotional’ to withstand public scrutiny, who later testified in the federal lawsuit that would finally end discrimination on public transportation.” —Starred, Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books

“Hoose’s evenhanded account investigates Colvin’s motives and influences, and carefully establishes the historical context so that readers can appreciate both Colvin’s maturity and bravery and the boycott leadership’s pragmatism.”—Starred, Publishers Weekly

- National Book Award Winner

The Race to Save the Lord God Bird

Hardcover, ISBN-13: 9780374361730, \$21.00

Publisher: Farrar, Straus and Giroux (Distributed by Macmillan)

Awards & Accolades:

"There is probably more passion, sadness, villainy, heroism and sheer suspense in this account of the decline of the ivory-billed woodpecker than in any other book, of any genre, destined for young readers' shelves this year...a magnificent book, and not just for kids." --*Washington Post Book World*

"What a wonderful book! How we got into a biodiversity crisis and how we might begin to get out of it, all captured in the suspenseful, many-threaded tale of the race to save the Ivory-billed Woodpecker. Everyone interested in conservation and ecology will be enthralled and informed." -- *Daniel Simberloff, Past President, American Society of Naturalists*

- Best Book of 2004 lists: *Washington Post*, *Miami Herald*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Boston Globe*, *Kirkus Reviews*, *Natural History Magazine*, many others.
- Boston Globe-Horn Book Award (winner, non-fiction)
- American Library Association Best Books for Young Adults (Unanimous Choice, Top Ten Books of 2004)
- Lupine Award (winner)
- Orbis Pictus Award (honor book)
- Flora Stieglitz Straus Award (winner)
- Parent's Choice Gold Award (Best Non-fiction book of 2004)
- Best Science Trade Book of 2004 for Students K-12

We Were There, Too!: Young People in US History

Hardcover, ISBN-13: 9780374382520, \$28.00

Publisher: Farrar, Straus and Giroux (Distributed by Macmillan)

Awards & Accolades:

“This may be the most exhilarating and revelatory history of our country. It is the heroism of the young, hitherto unwritten, often told in their own words, from a teenager sailing with Columbus to a kid with AIDS. Phil Hoose has done a remarkable piece of detective work. It is MUST reading for today’s youth--as well as their elders.” --Studs Terkel

“An extraordinary book--wonderfully readable, inspiring to young and old alike, and unique. I know of nothing like it. Readers will find both enjoyment and enlightenment, learning about episodes in American history they were never taught in school. It is time that the young were given their due in the national story, and Phillip Hoose does it with prodigious research and delightful style” --Howard Zinn, author of *A People’s History of the United States*

- Finalist--National Book Award, 2001
- Selected, a Publisher’s Weekly Best Book of the year 2001
- Named, Booklist, Editor’s Choice 2001

Hey, Little Ant

Co-authored by Hannah Hoose, Illustrated by Debbie Tilley

Hardcover, ISBN-13: 9781883672546, \$15.99

SPANISH EDITION, Paperback, ISBN-13: 9781582460895, \$7.99

Publisher: Tricycle Press

Awards & Accolades:

"A masterpiece for classroom guidance...a terrific tool for fostering tolerance and respect for diversity in children of all ages." --Teaching Tolerance Magazine

"What a great book! Phil Hoose and his daughter Hannah are carrying on the tradition of Dr. Seuss" --Pete Seeger

"Hey, Little Ant is the perfect tool to help inspire compassion in our world's youth, and has a positive message for grown-ups, too! Please share this book and its lessons with your family today." --Dr. Jane Goodall

- Currently in ninth hardcover printing; over 100,000 copies sold
- Available worldwide in eight languages
- Scholastic Book Clubs, Trumpet Club featured book
- A PBS Reading Rainbow book.
- Reprinted in *Crayola Kids Magazine*, reaching more than 550,000 readers.
- Named, Honor book, 1999 Jane Addams Award, recognizing “books that most effectively promote the cause of peace, social change and world community.”
- Finalist, North Carolina Children’s Book of the Year (2000-2001)
- Nominated, Golden Sower Award (2001-2), Nebraska Library Association
- Nominated, Children’s Book Award (2002-2), Florida Reading Association

Perfect, Once Removed: When Baseball Was All the World to Me

Hardcover, ISBN-13: 9780802715371, \$19.95

Paperback, ISBN-13: 9780802716279, \$10.95

Publisher: Walker & Company

Awards & Accolades:

"*Perfect, Once Removed* is not so much about the magic of that golden afternoon in Yankee Stadium as it is the magic of baseball when the game wraps itself around a boy's soul." -- John Carney, *The Boston Globe*

"Thank goodness Phillip Hoose didn't listen to Casey Stengel's advice to never become a writer." --Tim Kurkjian, ESPN's "Baseball Tonight."

"(*Perfect Once Removed*) is like a large slice of delicious lemon meringue pie delivered at a small town Indiana church supper. ...I loved it because, like baseball, it is about failure and ultimate redemption." —Fay Vincent, former Major League Baseball Commissioner

- Ten best sports books of 2007, Booklist
- Five sports books worth reading, 2007—Time Magazine

It's Our World, Too!: Young People Who Are Making A Difference

Paperback, ISBN-13: 9780374336226, \$13.95

Publisher: Farrar, Straus and Giroux (Distributed by Macmillan)

Awards & Accolades:

"A clearheaded, good-hearted guide to help young people empower themselves"
--Gloria Steinem

"This absorbing and energizing book deserves shelf space in every classroom and library."--Publishers Week, Starred Review

- Winner, 1993 Christopher Award for "artistic excellence in films, books and television specials affirming the highest values of the human spirit."
- New York City Public Library a "Book For the Teen Age."
- American Library Association Notable Book.
- 1994 Lupine Award Honor Book (Given to a new work for young readers by a Maine author that "makes the world more beautiful").
- Chapters appear in English and Spanish in more than thirty school textbooks and middle school readers. Examples include Prentice-Hall's *Timeless Voices, Timeless Trends*, Scott Foresman's *Literature and Integrated Studies*, and Oxford University Press's *On Common Ground*.