

**For Immediate Release**

November 21, 2009

**Contact:**

Teacher F. Rutledge Hammes  
at (843) 529-4990

## SOA WordFest

### Charleston County School of the Arts Proudly Announces WordFest, a Reading Forum for Young Creative Writers

James Reinhart  
Principal  
Charleston County School of the Arts

---

Dr. Nancy J. McGinley  
Superintendent of Schools

NORTH CHARLESTON— On Saturday, November 21, 2009, Charleston County School of the Arts will be hosting WordFest at Barnes and Noble in Mt. Pleasant from 10am to 4pm. This all-day event will feature the writing talents of our city's rising literary stars, as they read from their collections of poetry, fiction and nonfiction.

"We're excited about sharing our creative endeavors with the community and raising money to support our creative writing students," says Rene Miles, creative writing teacher at the School of the Arts.

Rutledge Hammes, another creative writing teacher at the school, added, "Every day, I'm astounded at the level of my students' writing. Our program has a very long history of Scholastic Writing Award winners, including over 40 this year. I have little doubt that their grace, depth and power will astound you."

A special thanks is in order to Barnes and Noble, who has graciously agreed to donate a percentage of all its sales that day to support the school's creative writing program. Sean Scapellato, a new creative writing teacher, says, "Charleston is blessed with an unrivaled literary community. And I think everyone will be pleased with our next generation of writing talent."

WordFest will be held Saturday, November 21 at the Barnes and Noble in Mount Pleasant. Readings will begin at 10AM and conclude around 4PM. The sixth through twelfth grade creative writing students at the School of the Arts have been preparing all year to share their talents with the public, so this is an event no one should miss.

For more information regarding this event, please F. Rutledge Hammes at (843) 529-4990 or francis\_hammes@ccsdschools.com.

###