About the Author

Kathryn Starke is an urban-elementary-school literacy expert, reading consultant, author, and the founder of Creative Minds Publications, LLC, a global literacy-based educational company. She has been featured on multiple media platforms, including Fox Small Business News, Inspire Me Today, Virginia This Morning, and Conversations Live. Kathryn serves as a literacy trainer for the University of Chicago Urban Education Institute and VCU AmeriCorps program. Kathryn was on the executive board for the Richmond Area Reading Council and governing board for the Virginia State Reading Association. She currently serves on the board of Reach Out and Read Virginia and the Chris Baker 92 Foundation. Kathryn is the children's author for the Washington Redskins Charitable Foundation reading program. She was the keynote speaker for the PBS Kids Writers Contest awards ceremony and Read Aloud Virginia Expo. In addition, she leads an annual children's writing workshop sponsored by the Library of Virginia Foundation.

A native of Richmond, Virginia, Kathryn graduated from Longwood University with a BS degree in elementary education and a Master's degree in Literacy and Culture. She has taught first, second, and third grade and served as a literacy specialist for over a decade in inner city/Title I schools in Richmond, Virginia. She is the author of *Amy's Travels*, a multicultural children's book used in schools in over twenty countries on six continents. The book was recently turned into a musical by the Latin Ballet of Virginia. She is a freelance educational writer for a variety of magazines including *Education Digest*, *Parent and Child*, and *Literacy Daily*, a publication of the International Literacy Association. Kathryn was named one of the 50 Great Writers You Should Be Reading by The Author's Show. She has provided in-depth literacy consulting in 40 schools, spanning five states (Virginia, California, New York, Massachusetts, and South Carolina) and has presented at the National Family Literacy Conference in Louisville, Kentucky as well as reading conferences in Virginia, Washington, DC, and Delaware.