

The Wandering Adventures at Hobart Mill

Author Dustin C. Kinard

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Award-Winning Author Helps Students Discover the Power of Imagination and Reading

Middle-grade fantasy author Dustin C. Kinard is bringing imaginative storytelling and literacy-focused author visits to schools, helping students connect reading, creativity, and emotional growth.

Kinard, author of *The Wandering Adventures at Hobart Mill*, works with students through assemblies and classroom workshops that explore how stories are built and why imagination matters. His programs support literacy goals while encouraging empathy, resilience, and creative thinking.

“Stories give kids a safe way to explore big emotions and brave choices,” said Kinard. “When students realize reading can feel like an adventure, everything changes.”

The *Hobart Mill* series is suitable for school and library settings and is comparable to classic portal fantasies such as *The Chronicles of Narnia* and *The Spiderwick Chronicles*, as well as mythology-based reading such as *Percy Jackson and the Olympians*. Programs are aligned with English Language Arts and Social-Emotional Learning objectives.

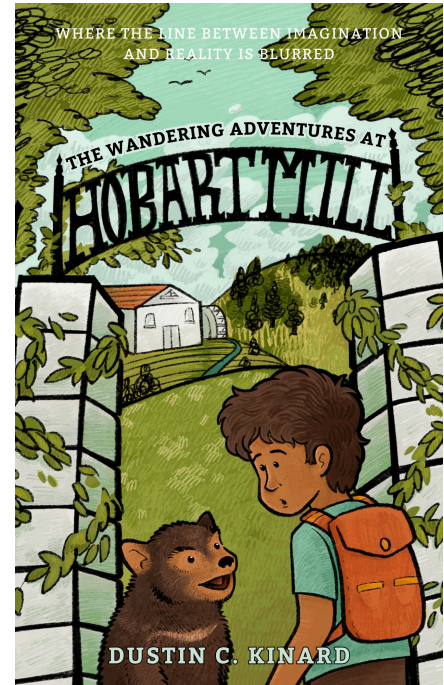
Kinard is available for school visits, literacy events, interviews, and community programs.

Target Grade Levels

Grades 3–6

Program Formats

- School-wide assembly (30–45 minutes)
- Half-day classroom rotations (2–3 sessions)
- Full literacy day (assembly + workshops)



Educational Objectives

Students will:

- Understand key elements of narrative structure (character, setting, conflict)
- Practice creative and reflective writing skills
- Develop empathy and emotional awareness through storytelling
- Strengthen imagination and problem-solving abilities

Standards Alignment (Summary)

- **English Language Arts:** Reading comprehension, narrative writing, theme analysis
- **Social-Emotional Learning:** Self-awareness, resilience, decision-making
- **Creative Thinking:** Visualization, idea generation, worldbuilding

Instructional Value

- Age-appropriate, curriculum-aligned content
- Supports literacy initiatives and SEL goals
- Adaptable for diverse learning needs
- Suitable for assemblies, classrooms, and enrichment days

Materials & Requirements

- No special equipment required beyond standard classroom or auditorium setup
- Optional student activity materials provided by the author

This program supports district goals for literacy engagement, creative expression, and social-emotional learning through age-appropriate literary enrichment.

For more information or to schedule an interview, visit **dustinckinard.com**.