



**EVENT NOTICE – Friday, December 6, 2024**  
**Fargo Public School District #1**

*The following information is for media outlets for the purpose of assigning staff coverage to the event.*

## **AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR CHRISTINA SOONTORNVAT TO VISIT FPS MIDDLE SCHOOLS**

Award-winning author, engineer, and STEM educator Christina Soontornvat will be visiting each of Fargo Public Schools' middle schools next week.

- WHAT:** Christina Soontornvat Author Visits  
**WHEN:** **December 10-12 (see schedule below)**  
**WHERE:** Discovery Middle School, 1717 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Fargo  
Carl Ben Eielson Middle School, 1601 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Fargo  
Ben Franklin Middle School, 1420 8<sup>th</sup> Street North, Fargo  
**CONTACT:** **Jen Hess**, FPS Library Program Facilitator, [hessj@fargo.12.nd.us](mailto:hessj@fargo.12.nd.us) or 701.446.1062 for more information

Christina Soontornvat, acclaimed author and two-time Newbery Honor recipient, is set to visit three Fargo Public Schools middle schools next week. Known for her captivating storytelling in books like “A Wish in the Dark” and “All Thirteen,” Soontornvat’s work inspires young readers with themes of courage, friendship, and resilience.

During her visit, Soontornvat will present to all sixth grade students through interactive presentations and question-and-answer sessions. She will offer insights into her writing process and the journeys behind her stories. She will also participate in book signings and allow students the opportunity to eat lunch with her.

The sixth graders have prepared for the event with read-alouds, activities, and instruction on the book “All Thirteen.”

Her many works for children include picture books, chapter books, and the award-winning graphic novel, “The Tryout.” She is a three-time Newbery Honor recipient, most recently for “The Last Mapmaker,” which was named a Best Book of the Year by the New York Times.

This author visit is made possible through a grant from the Fargo Public Schools Foundation Eleanor Laing Law Grant and a collaboration with the Fargo Public Library.

### **Schedule:**

Tuesday, December 10  
Discovery Middle School

- 8:50-9:40 a.m.
- 10-10:50 a.m.
- 1:15-2:05 p.m.

Wednesday, December 11  
Carl Ben Eielson Middle School

- 9-9:45 a.m.
- 10:15-11 a.m.

Thursday, December 12  
Ben Franklin Middle School

- 9:45-10:30 a.m.
- 10:35-11:15 a.m.
- 2:55-3:40 p.m.

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