

2012 Power of the Pen State Finals

Guest Author: Newbery Winner Jack Gantos

Power of the Pen is honored to welcome the one and only Newbery Honoree for 2012, Mr. Jack Gantos! Mr. Gantos will be on campus during the State Tournament to meet and talk with young writers. Copies of his books, which Mr. Gantos will autograph, will be available for sale at the Author's Table at Lowry Center. Mr. Gantos will also deliver his keynote address on May 25th at McGaw Chapel...

"IT'S ALL PERSONAL"

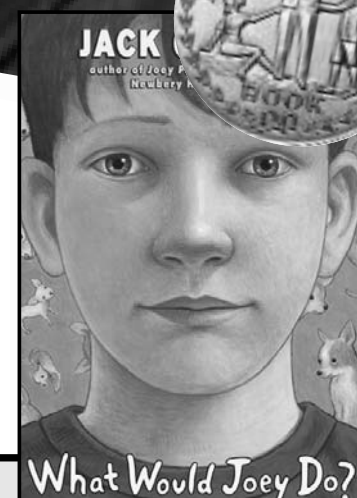
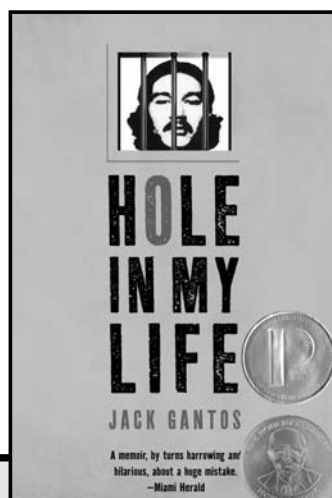
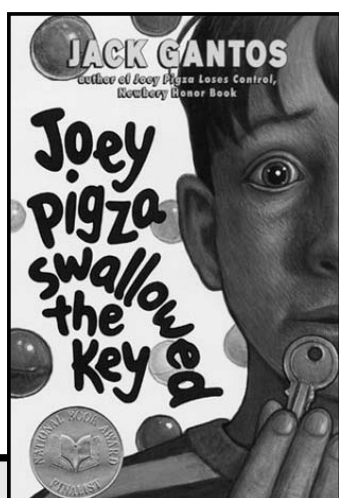
From Violation to Redemption...

Circle my thematic world from "Rotten Ralph" to "Jack Henry" to "Joey Pigza" to my young adult memoir, HOLE IN MY LIFE and the Newbery winning DEAD END IN NORVELT. What do all these books have in common besides my pen and journals, cats, characters and lots of catharsis?

Join me as I circumnavigate my own world!



~Jack Gantos



About The Author:

Jack Gantos has written books for people of all ages, from picture books and middle-grade fiction to novels for young adults and adults. His works include *Hole in My Life*, a memoir that won the Michael L. Printz and Robert F. Sibert honors; *Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key*, a National Book Award Finalist, and *Joey Pigza Loses Control*, a Newbery Honor book.

Jack was born in Mount Pleasant, Pennsylvania, and grew up in the nearby town of Norvelt. He remembers playing a lot of "pass the chalk" in Mrs.

Neiderheizer's class in first grade. He was in the Bluebird reading group, which he later found out was for the slow readers. To this day he'd rather be called a Bluebird than a slow reader. His favorite game at that time was pretending that his clothes were on fire and rolling down a hill to save himself.

When Jack was seven, his family moved to Barbados. He attended British schools, where there was much emphasis on reading and writing. Students were friendly but fiercely competitive, and the teachers made learning a lot of fun. By fifth grade Jack had managed to learn 90 percent of what he knows to this very day.