

March 1-5, 2010 is Education Week. On Monday afternoon of that week (March 1) Helen Gorman's grade 5 and six students will be bussed to the Kelowna Community Theatre to hear award-winning author Kenneth Oppel. More than 4000 students in our district (28 elementary schools, 6 middle, 3 secondary) will attend Oppel sessions during that week! It should be a fabulous experience.



*Oppel was born in British Columbia but currently resides in Toronto. Oppel mainly writes fantasy novels and has written 22 books. Kenneth Oppel is well known for his **Silverwing** trilogy which has sold over a million copies worldwide and **Airborn**, winner of the Governor General's Award for Children's Literature in 2004. His latest book, **Starclimber**, the third in the Airborn series, won the Honour Book, 2009 CLA Children's Book of the Year award. Oppel has won countless other awards for his work including the Michael L. Printz Honour Book Award and the Ruth and Sylvia Schwartz Award.*

His presentations typically last an hour and are followed by a half hour of questions, answers and autographing of books. If you would like to join us for this event please contact Mrs. Lafrance. For more information on Kenneth Oppel you can visit his website at <http://www.kennethoppel.ca/>.

*The Central Okanagan Teacher-Librarian's Association (COTLA) is organizing this event. COTLA is also sponsoring a **FREE evening presentation for the Kelowna community at large—Thursday, March 4 at the Kelowna Community Theatre starting at 7:00 p.m.** It's one of COTLA's ways of highlighting the importance of school libraries, teacher-librarians and reading—interconnected literacy building blocks. You are encouraged to attend the Thursday evening presentation and to bring family, friends and colleagues. Special thanks go out to Capri Insurance, the Kelowna Daily Courier's CanWest Media "Raise a Reader" program, Project Literacy Kelowna, and Harmony Honda for helping to make this event possible.*



*Each year COTLA brings an author to our community during Education Week. In the past we have enjoyed Roch Carrier, Paul Yee, Karen Levine and most recently in 2009, David Bouchard. Almost 4000 students, teachers and community members had the pleasure of David's visit! For 2011, COTLA has lined up **Deborah Ellis**, winner of the Governor General's Literacy Award. Ellis' books (*The Breadwinner*, *Parvana's Journey*, *Mud City*, *I am a Taxi*, etc.) tell the stories of children whose lives have been marginalized by poverty, drug trafficking, war and illness.*