



For immediate release  
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### **Just Voices program brings local author into high schools**

Between April 16<sup>th</sup> and May 8<sup>th</sup>, award-winning local author H. Lee Barnes will interact with more than one thousand area high school students through the Just Voices literacy curriculum program.

The visits by Barnes to ten schools are the highlight of this year's Just Voices program, which focuses on issues of social justice. Students have read Barnes' stories and will be able to interact with the author, discuss his works and share their own writings. A schedule of Barnes' visits is attached.

Just Voices, in its third year, is a collaboration of the Nevada Partnership for Inclusive Education, (Nevada PIE), the Clark County School District, the Nevada System of Higher Education, the Southern Nevada Regional Professional Development Program, and the Southern Nevada Writing Project.

Barnes teaches English and creative writing at the College of Southern Nevada. He graduated the University of Nevada Las Vegas as the Outstanding Senior in the College of Arts and Letters, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in English, and later graduated Arizona State University with a Master of Fine Arts in creative writing. He served in Vietnam as a member of Special Forces, and has worked as a deputy sheriff, narcotics agent, private investigator, construction laborer and a casino employee. His short fiction has been awarded the Willamette Fiction Award and the Arizona Authors Association Fiction Award. *Gunning for Ho*, his first book, was a finalist for The Texas Institute of Letters First Fiction Award, and his Las Vegas novel, *The Lucky*, was a finalist for the Western Writers of America Fiction Award.

Just Voices also includes a class for teachers, "Writers-in-the-Schools," through the Southern Nevada Regional Development Program and the UNLV Department of English, providing participating high school teachers an opportunity for in-depth study of the writers' works, along with one-on-one time with the authors in preparation for in-class visits.

According to Rhonda Glyman, founder of Nevada PIE, "Just Voices teaches students effective writing skills and enhances their overall literacy by engaging them in writing that makes a difference."

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## Just Voices School Visits by H. Lee Barnes, 2009

<b>Days</b>	<b>Schools</b>	<b>Teachers</b>	<b>Start/End Times</b>	<b>Course Title/s &amp; Grade Level</b>
Thurs, 4-16	Legacy HS	Erin Martinez Tricia McDermott	7:00 – 1:25	Multi-Cultural Lit Comp II H
Friday, 4-17	Desert Pines HS	Sloane Buell Abigail Hostetter	9:00 – 10:54	English III American Lit/JR
Thurs, 4-23	Cheyenne HS	Jessica Dowdell	7:00 - 9:55	English II
Friday, 4-24	Valley Hs	Marcia Fulcher Vanputten	8:00 – 2:11	English III Comp II H
Thurs, 4-30	Las Vegas HS	Jill Leone Lisa Boka	7:05 – 1:30	Reading Fund Creative Writing English III R/W Comp II
Friday, 5-1	Green Valley HS	Alisa Snyder Adam Patai Jenn Odell Christa Fialkiewicz	10:52 – 2:12	Modern Lit English III
Thurs, 5- 7	Centennial HS West Prep	Julia Finn Kati Klein	7:00 - 8:30 9:58 - 10:53 1:25 - 2:31	American Lit English IIIH English III
Friday, 5-8	Chaparral Silverado HS	Ginger Clayton Regina Roybal	7:00 - 8:25 12:29 - 1:16	Sociology of Crime World Lit