

CHRISTY CASHMAN



PRESS KIT

CHRISTY CASHMAN PRESS KIT

Dear Journalist,

Thank you for your interest in my work.

I currently have two key initiatives to highlight:

- 1) The YouthINK Writing Mentorship for Teenagers.

YouthINK was a project I was interested in starting for many years. I founded it during the pandemic to encourage the next generation of young writers to develop their craft and pry them away from their screens.

To celebrate YouthINK's launch, we are running a short story competition, open to teenagers worldwide to submit a story or essay about nature or animals. Entries close December 31, 2021, and the winner (and guardian) receive an all-expenses-paid trip to Kilkea Castle in Ireland to attend a creative writing workshop. (See more information inside.)

- 2) My first novel, called ***The Truth About Horses***, is scheduled for release in 2022.

It chronicles the struggles of a fourteen-year-old girl to reclaim her family's dream of winning the Black Elk Horse race - in the process repairing fractured family relationships and overcoming seemingly impossible odds. (See more information inside).

I mention *The Truth About Horses* now, even though it is not yet published, because it also relates to YouthINK. The book centers around an unlikely teenage heroine who loves nature and animals and is struggling to find her voice in the world.

If you would like to contact me directly, I welcome your inquiry: hello@ChristyCashman.com

My website also contains additional information and imagery for you to download www.ChristyCashman.com

I really appreciate any help you can provide.

Sincerely,

Christy Cashman

contents

1. Christy Cashman - Bio 4
2. About Youthink 5
3. YouthINK Press Release 6
4. YouthINK Article Suggestions 8
5. Christy's Books 9
6. Social Impact Authors: How & Why
Actress Christy Cashman Is Help-
ing To Change Our World 12
7. Image and YouthINK
Logo Downloads 16
8. Contact Information 16



about Christy Cashman



Christy is an American author, actress, and producer who has appeared in more than twenty films, including *Kettle of Fish*, *The Love Guide*, *American Hustle*, *Joy*, *The Descendants*, *Ted 2*, *The Women*, *The Golden Boys*, *The Forger* and many others.

Christy is the author of two children's books, the *Not-So-Average Monkey* of Kilkea Castle and *Petri's Next Things*, inspired by the true story of the monkey who saved the day at Kilkea Castle, in Kildare, Ireland. She has also completed her first novel *The Truth About Horses*, which is scheduled for release in 2022.

In 2021 during the pandemic, Christy founded YouthINK - a teenage writing mentorship program, created to inspire and support the next generation of young writers. The YouthINK short story competition was launched shortly afterwards, open to writers 13-18 worldwide to submit a story or essay about nature or animals (entries close December 31, 2021).

The second youngest of ten children, Christy was named after Catherine Marshall's novel Christy, and grew up in North Carolina where her love for horses began at a young age. When she's not writing or working on YouthINK, or production projects, Christy is most likely riding cross country through the countryside of New England or Ireland.

Christy lives with her husband, Jay; two sons, Jay Michael and Quinn; their three dogs, Ben, Lucy, and Dan; and three horses, Calvin, Butterscotch, and Victor. The family divides their time between Kilkea Castle in Ireland and their homes in Boston and Chatham, Massachusetts.

www.ChristyCashman.com

about YouthINK

A Teenage Writing Mentorship & Short Story Competition

Key Facts

1. YouthINK was founded by Christy Cashman during the pandemic to encourage teenagers to express themselves through writing (and to get off their screens).
2. YouthINK is a not-for-profit initiative.
3. To celebrate its founding, YouthINK has launched a global short-story competition for teenagers.

The competition is open to anyone ages 13-18, located anywhere in the world.

Young writers are asked to submit a short story or essay up to 3,000 words on nature or animals.

Submissions will be judged by a panel of best-selling authors and creative luminaries (see press release attached for more information).

The winner (and their guardian), will receive an all-expenses-paid trip to stay at Kilkea Castle in Ireland to attend a 3-day creative writing workshop.

Submissions close Dec 31, 2021.

Please visit www.ChristyCashman.com/YouthINK for more information.

Youth INK

NOT-FOR-PROFIT INITIATIVE LAUNCHES GLOBAL WRITING CONTEST FOR TEENAGERS - TO BE JUDGED BY PANEL OF BEST-SELLING AUTHORS AND CREATIVE LUMINARIES

Winner to Receive All-Expense Paid Trip to Kilkea Castle in Ireland To Attend 3-Day Weekend of Writing & Creative Workshops

BOSTON, MASS – March 11, 2021 – YouthINK, a not-for-profit young writers initiative headquartered in Boston, Mass, launches today with a special mentorship program. YouthINK, the brainchild of author, actress and producer Christy Cashman, has been created to encourage writing, storytelling, and self-expression in teenagers. The YouthINK program is hosting a national short-story writing competition that is open to teens, ages 13 to 18 years old, from around the world. Entries close May 31, 2021.

The goal is to encourage teenagers to exercise their ‘creative chops’ by submitting a short story or essay of no more than 3,000 words that has to do with nature and/or animals. The winner, and their parent or guardian, will receive an all-expenses paid trip to historic Kilkea Castle in Ireland where they will attend a 3-day creative workshop that includes music, paintings, sculpture, and even a culinary experience, and will be attended and facilitated by notable authors and other creative luminaries.

“We want to support the next generation of writers by offering unique creative experiences that will inspire, motivate and elevate their craft of writing,” said Cashman, who founded YouthINK during the pandemic. “Encouraging young people to be creative and use their imagination is an important step to developing the next generation of great authors.”

CHRISTY CASHMAN PRESS KIT

Cashman has hand-picked a group of literary notables, including award winning authors, musicians, film-makers, actors, and artists, who will be judging the entries.

Joining Cashman on the judging panel will be New York Times' bestselling author Andre Dubus III, award winning Irish author Colum McCann, bestselling authors Tom Perrotta, and Arthur Vanderbilt, Emmy award winning producer and journalist Lisa Pierpont, business strategist and bestselling author Julie Guest, filmmaker and director Michael Mailor, musician and artist Sally Taylor, columnist and novelist Jonathan Soroff, literary agent Lucy Cleland, casting agent Angela Peri, and writer and editor Louise Piantedosi.

Once the judges have reviewed all of the short essays, the final two will be chosen by vote. The winner (and guardian) will receive an all-expenses paid trip to Kilkea Castle to attend the 3-day writer's workshop, and the runner-up will be invited to a one-day, remote workshop at GrubStreet Creative Writing Workshops.

For further information or to submit an entry, visit: <https://www.christycashman.com/youth-ink>. For media information, please contact Sydney Masters at 212.987.6804 / Sydney@MastersMallory.com

next page

YouthINK
Article
Suggestions

YouthINK Article Suggestions

“I think I will pretend to be 18 years old and enter this fantastic competition! Goodness, what an occasion – [YouthINK] will utterly change a young writer’s life.”

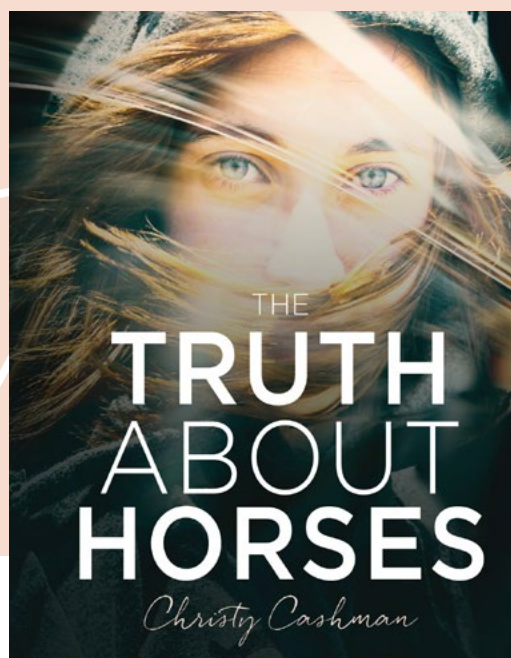
Joyce Carol Oates

Article Ideas

1. A Pandemic Silver Lining – Actress Launches YouthINK Writing Competition For Teenagers
2. Inspiring Short Story Opportunities For Teenage Writers
3. Get Your Teenager To Write Their Way To Ireland
4. Ideas To Get Your Teen Off Their Screen
5. A Teenage Writer’s Dreams Are Made Of This
6. Philanthropy And Writing – Actress Inspires Young Writers To Follow Their Dreams
7. A Short Story Competition For Teenagers We Can Only Dream About
8. An Extraordinary Mentoring Opportunity For Teenage Writers



Christy Cashman's books



HOW FAR WOULD YOU GO TO RECLAIM YOUR FAMILY'S DREAM?

Just when she thought things couldn't get any worse, fourteen-year-old Reese discovers they can – in the worst possible way. Her family's dream of winning the Black Elk race is shattered when their beloved horse, Trusted Treasure, falls at the last jump. Reese witnesses the family's finances, hopes, and happiness go up in smoke. While still reeling from that loss, the family suffers a second tragedy, resulting in the sale of Trusted Treasure that irreparably damages Reese's relationship with her father. Heartbroken, Reese searches everywhere to find Trusted Treasure in the hopes she can bring him home and heal the rift with her father.

Then, during an unexpected turn of events, Reese meets Wes, a Lakota Indian, whose way of training horses is unlike anything she's ever seen. If anyone can win the Black Elk, it's Wes, but he's struggling with his troubled past, and, having a teenage girl hanging around his barn isn't exactly what he'd planned. Reese must prove her worth, against all odds, if she wants to heal her family, help Wes, and show them all that some dreams are worth fighting for.

This book will have you laughing and crying – sometimes on the same page – all the while rooting for Reese, the most unlikely of heroes. Cashman has woven a spell-binding tale of an underdog – her heartaches, and triumphs that you will find in *The Truth About Horses*, impossible to put down.

Expected publication: 2022

**THE MONKEY OF KILKEA CASTLE
CHILDREN'S BOOK SERIES,**

is inspired by the true story of the brave little monkey who saved the day
at Kilkea Castle, in Kildare, Ireland.



The Not-So-Average Monkey of Kilkea Castle

Meet Petri, the beloved purple monkey who lives with his friends in Kilkea Castle, Ireland. In this first book of the popular series, Petri decides that as he lives in a castle he must be a King, and Kings order their subjects around. Unfortunately for Petri, his friends aren't so impressed with their new "royal" friend. As a result, Petri finds himself sad and alone until he realizes that royal titles and trappings don't matter. What really matters is being kind to his friends.



Petri's Next Things

In this second book of the popular series, Petri is busy rushing around trying to get everything done. Along the way, Petri learns a very important lesson about being busy and he also discovers something that his friends knew all along - that while having a list is great, the real gift is being present and enjoying time together.

Available on Amazon, Barnes & Noble and in all leading bookstores.

Social Impact Authors: How & Why Actress Christy Cashman Is Helping To Change Our World



I think there are a few different themes in my book that could make a social impact but I think the strongest one is about how people in a family can experience tragedy and grief so differently. That often times when we are in pain, we become afraid and fear is a great distractor of pain.

As part of my series about "authors who are making an important social impact", I had the pleasure of interviewing Christy Cashman.

Christy Cashman is an American author, actress, and producer who has appeared in more than twenty films, including Kettle of Fish, The Love Guide, American Hustle, Joy, The Descendants, Ted 2, The Women, The Golden Boys, The Forger and many others. She has written two children's books set in Ireland – The Not-So-Average Monkey of Kilkea Castle and Petri's Next Things. The Truth About Horses is Christy's first novel, expected release 2020. Most recently Christy launched Youth Ink, a not-for-profit writing program for teenagers ages 13-18 to encourage writing, storytelling and self-expression. The goal is to support the next generation of writers by offering unique creative experiences that will inspire, motivate and elevate their craft of writing. Christy and her husband Jay Cashman and two teenage boys divide their time between Kilkea Castle in Ireland and their homes in Boston and Chatham, Massachusetts. www.christycashman.com

Thank you so much for joining us in this interview series! Before we dive into the main focus of our interview, our readers would love to “get to know you” a bit better. Can you tell us a bit about your childhood backstory?

I was born outside of Cleveland, Ohio and am the ninth of ten kids. We moved to Brevard, N.C. when I was seven and I attended a school that my Mom started in our church from the third grade to the eighth grade.

When you were younger, was there a book that you read that inspired you to take action or changed your life? Can you share a story about that?

I loved all of the horse books of course by Marguerite Henry, Walter Farley and Mary O'Hara. But when I accidentally picked up John Steinbeck's The Red Pony from our bookshelf, as much as the grittiness was alarming for me as a young reader, I believe I was drawn more to reading and writing because of it.

Can you share the funniest or most interesting mistake that occurred to you in the course of your career? What lesson or take away did you learn from that?

Well, it wasn't funny at the time, but I met a literary agent at a writer's conference in Boston. He was extremely interested in my first twenty pages. He texted, emailed, checked in fairly regularly. I told him I wanted to finish the draft I was working on before sending him more. I was so encouraged by his interest. His words and comments motivated me to finish the book. It made me set goals and I may not have been able to do that with all of the other things going on in my life. When I was finally ready to send it, he had apparently fallen off the face of the earth. Never to be heard of again. Luckily, there was interest from other agents!

Can you describe how you aim to make a significant social impact with your book?

I think there are a few different themes in my book that could make a social impact but I think

the strongest one is about how people in a family can experience tragedy and grief so differently. That often times when we are in pain, we become afraid and fear is a great distractor of pain.

Can you share with us the most interesting story that you shared in your book?

There are a few stories within stories in my book. Carol is a character in my book who has a story for everything. And she rattles them off on a regular basis. In some ways, it's her own mechanism for dealing with pain. Anyway, she tells the story of the African dung beetle. How they push their poo ball through the hottest plains of Africa with their back legs and their face down in the dirt!

What was the "aha moment" or series of events that made you decide to bring your message to the greater world? Can you share a story about that?

I had been to Cavalia and was mesmerized by the show. The way the horses responded and reacted with no bridles, no tack. There was something about it that made me think of spirit horses or ghost horses that could appear to someone.

Without sharing specific names, can you tell us a story about a particular individual who was impacted or helped by your cause?

My cause is Youth Ink. It is a mentorship program for writers 13-18. I believe a three-day writer's workshop in Ireland surrounded by music and art and history can change a young writer's life.

Are there three things the community/society/politicians can do to help you address the root of the problem you are trying to solve?

Everyone can get involved in their own way.

How do you define "Leadership"? Can you explain what you mean or give an example?

Leadership, when done best is basically someone having a vision. Then with that vision, being able to convince others that it is meaningful, worthwhile and necessary.

What are your "5 things I wish someone told me when I first started" and why. Please share a story or example for each.

1 – I wish someone had told me to take my writing more seriously earlier in my life. I've learned so much since I decided to see it as my job, my purpose.

2 – I wish I really understood that writing is re-writing. And to just write is just right.

3 – I wish I knew that writing isn't so much about having to know a bunch of stuff. It's about being willing to learn and grow and change as you write.

4 – I wish I knew that my process is different than everyone else's process. Writing for me is not about sitting in a cabin in the woods. I mean it can be to just download, but writing is really about living and relationships and compassion. It's really about being able to be objective in some way to all of the things in life that can tend to make me feel hopeless.

5 – I wish someone had told me to write not because of what I understand but in spite of what I understand.

Can you please give us your favorite "Life Lesson Quote"? Can you share how that was relevant to you in your life?

"What would you do if you knew you wouldn't fail?"

This quote puts so much into perspective. I automatically think about how short life is and how life is a gift and there are so many things we can do while we are still on this planet.

Is there a person in the world, or in the US with whom you would like to have a private breakfast or lunch with, and why? He or she might just see this, especially if we tag them. :-)

I'd love to have lunch with Joyce Carol Oates. She is my hero for so many reasons.
How can our readers further follow your work online?

www.christycashman.com

This was very meaningful, thank you so much. We wish you only continued success on your great work!



WRITTEN BY

Edward Sylvan, CEO of Sycamore Entertainment Group

Specializing in acquiring, producing and distributing films about equality, diversity and other thought provoking subjects

image and logo downloads



To download high resolution Imagery please visit www.ChristyCashman.com/press-images

contact

For all media inquiries please contact
Sydney Masters at 212.987.6804 /
Sydney@MastersMallory.com