

About the book and the author:

"A finalist for National Book Award, *Hey, Kiddo* is a graphic memoir that tells the story of Jarrett Krosoczka's unconventional childhood. While there are certainly some funny moments, there are also many that are decidedly grown-up.

His mom is a heroin user who ends up incarcerated and gives up custody of her son to his grandparents, Joe and Shirli — who drink, smoke two packs of cigarettes a day, yell at each other and adore him.

The words and art work of *Hey, Kiddo* detail the harrowing and heartfelt days he endured.

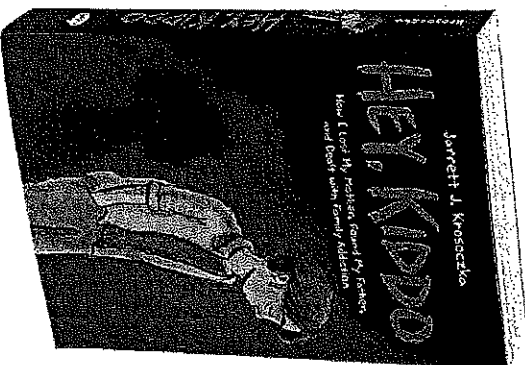
"It's a complicated emotion to be a kid where I definitely always felt that my mother loved me, but I also felt total abandonment," Krosoczka says. "Those are complicated emotions and *Hey, Kiddo* is a graphic memoir, so it's illustrated, so I'm able to get into those thoughts and feelings with the visuals in a way that I don't think I would be able to with prose."

-from NPR's *All Things Considered*
October 5, 2018

Interested in getting involved?
Contact Francesca Passiglia at
Greenfield Public Library:
Francesca.Passiglia@Greenfield-MA.gov
413-772-1544 X5123



Greenfield
PUBLIC LIBRARY
presents a



Community
READ

This project has generously
been made possible through
assistance from



Greenfield Public Library will bring award-winning author Jarrett Krosoczka to Greenfield on Friday, October 16, 2020.

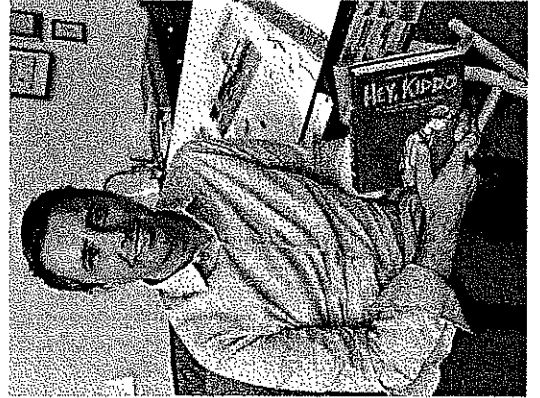
Krosoczka's graphic novel memoir "Hey, Kiddo" is about growing up with a mother who is a heroin addict and was a finalist for the 2018 National Book Award.

Krosoczka's visit will be an important way for our community to continue addressing the opioid epidemic and its effect on Greenfield. It's a way for us to address stigma, support one another, learn from each other's stories, and have the opportunity to talk and listen to one another with the help of "Hey Kiddo" as our common ground.

Krosoczka's visit will be multifaceted. He will spend the first half of his day at Greenfield High School where each student will have read "Hey Kiddo". Jarrett Krosoczka will present an hour-long all-school assembly followed by visits to the school's health classes and smaller break out groups. Students will have the opportunity to meet with the author one-on-one and learn how he was able to build resilience as the teenage son of an addict.

In the evening Krosoczka will come back to the 800-seat GHS auditorium for a community-wide presentation and Q&A session. This event will be free and open to the general public. Our hope is that many members of the audience will have participated in a Community Read organized by Greenfield Public Library.

We envision the Read as a collaborative project uniting people from all backgrounds. From inter-generational book discussions, to panel discussions and art workshops, we'd like to give the community an opportunity to learn how to support and connect with one another when it comes to the opioid epidemic and its impact on us all.



© Jarrett J Krosoczka

Hey, Kiddo Community Read Timeline

December 2019: Secure \$5000 speaker fee and book Jarrett Krosoczka for Friday, October 16, 2020

January 2020: develop workable list of Community Partners

February 2020: Invite Community Partners to partake in read

March 2020: Community Partner monthly planning meeting

April 2020: Community Partner monthly planning meeting

May 2020: Community Partner monthly planning meeting

June 2020: Advertising & website launch

July 2020: Reading Kick Off

August 2020: Programming and Discussions

September 2020: Programming and Discussions

October 16, 2020: author visit -

- Morning and early afternoon at GHS: includes all school presentation and break out groups throughout the day
- All school afternoon assembly at GMS (to discuss middle grade books)
- All community presentation and discussion at GHS in the evening