



# Public Schools of Plainfield New Jersey

## Office of Community Engagement

Gloria Montealegre  
1200 Myrtle Avenue  
Plainfield, NJ 07063  
(908) 731-4333 Fax: (908) 731-4336

### **Nic Stone Author of Dear Martin to Speak to Ninth Graders at Plainfield High School**

**Plainfield, NJ – October 5, 2018** - On Monday, October 15, Plainfield High School ninth graders and their parents will take part in a special reading event. Nic Stone, author of the book *Dear Martin*, will meet with all Plainfield freshmen in the Plainfield High School auditorium, from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. The book is about a 17-year-old African American grappling with today's reality and whether Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s teachings can work in America today.

Ninth graders were assigned to read *Dear Martin* during the summer and they have been working with the book in their English classes. The English teachers have been incorporating the themes and events of the book into their instruction and making sure all students read and received a copy of the book.

Joan Cansdale, Director of the Office of Secondary Education, said, "The purpose of this initiative is to highlight the relevance and importance of reading as students transition from middle to high school. The author's visit will give students an opportunity to learn about the evolution of the story and to ask the author questions about the book and about her experience as a writer."

The students and teachers are enthusiastic about Ms. Stone's visit. The students have been preparing presentations to welcome the author, will be presenting her with gifts and leading the question period.

All parents of ninth graders are invited to attend. The idea is to give the parents the opportunity to meet the author and share this experience with their children.

About Nic Stone (source Nic Stone website)

Nic Stone was born and raised in Atlanta, GA. She is a graduate of Spelman College with a degree in psychology. She worked extensively in teen mentoring and lived in Israel for a few years before returning to the US to write full-time. She lives in Atlanta with her husband and two sons. Link to her webpage: <http://www.nicstone.info/callmenic/>.

Photo Credit: Nic Stone website.