

Larry Abrams

Founder & Executive Director BookSmiles



Larry Abrams is on a mission to end 'book deserts' by collecting, sorting, and distributing upcycled books to children in underserved communities ensuring academic success.

Always an avid reader, Larry graduated from the University of Rochester with a BA in English, and a day later received a commission as an officer in the US Navy where he served on-board an aircraft carrier during the Persian Gulf War. After his discharge, he completed his Masters in Teaching at The College of New Jersey.

Larry taught high school English for over twenty-one years, first in Moorestown, NJ and then in Lindenwold. He witnessed the socio-economic disparity which was reflected in the very different reading scores. Not unsurprisingly, the children that grew up with books came to the classroom reading at or beyond grade level. Kids who lack books struggle with fundamentals.

Larry believes that all children should have a personal library and he knows that an alliance of educators, parents, and BookSmiles people can make it happen. Larry recently retired from teaching English at Lindenwold High School so that he can run BookSmiles full time.

Speaking Engagements

As the passionate founder of BookSmiles, Larry Abrams has been sought out to speak before organizations dedicated to literacy and education. With a wealth of experience in the nonprofit sector and a deep commitment to fostering a love for reading among children, Abrams brings a unique perspective and inspiring story to the table. Having founded BookSmiles with the mission of providing quality books to underserved children, Abrams has demonstrated a tireless dedication to narrowing the literacy gap and promoting educational equity.

During his speaking engagements, Abrams shares the transformative journey of BookSmiles, highlighting the organization's impact on communities and emphasizing the importance of literacy in a child's development. His dynamic and engaging presentations not only shed light on the challenges faced by underserved communities but also offer practical insights and strategies for creating positive change. Abrams' compelling narrative and genuine passion for education make him an ideal speaker for events focused on social impact, education, and nonprofit leadership.

By inviting Larry Abrams to speak at your event, you not only gain valuable insights into the power of literacy initiatives but also support a cause that is making a tangible difference in the lives of countless children. Abrams' speaking engagements are not just an opportunity to hear an inspiring story; they are a call to action, and have resulted in many individuals and organizations to join the movement and contribute for a more literate and equitable world.

Larry Abrams
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BookSmiles.org
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