

Drag Queen

STORY HOUR

WHAT IS DRAG QUEEN STORY HOUR?

Drag Queen Story Hour NYC is a nonprofit organization that provides literary and creative programming for kids and teens of all ages. Our storytelling programs and creative workshops celebrate gender diversity and difference, build empathy, and give kids the confidence to express themselves however they feel comfortable.

We provide a range of programming for children of all ages, led by local drag performers, in libraries, schools, and other community spaces throughout NYC. We offer free programming for public elementary schools and sliding scale rates for other types of institutions.



Photo by Paolo Quadrini

Check out our programs and rates below!

A FEW NOTES BEFORE YOU BOOK

We are not responsible for getting children to attend events. We bring drag performers to children and communities, not drag performers and children to venues! We list all our public events on our [events calendar](#) but we can't guarantee any promotion beyond that.

The rates listed below include one drag storyteller for one DQSH session. We bring our own books selected from our list of age-appropriate picture books (see the resources page on our website). If you would like us to read a specific book, please send us a PDF of the book at least two weeks in advance so we can determine whether it's a good fit, and please provide a physical copy of the book on the day. There are additional fees for any theme requests, costume requests, additional drag storytellers, or multiple reading sessions.

Many of our drag storytellers prefer to get into drag on location. **When booking, please let us know if you are able to provide access to the event space and a private room for the storyteller to use for up to two hours before the event.** (It can be a single stall bathroom, office, classroom, or any other clean and private space. You do not need to provide a mirror.) This is not a requirement but if you are not able to provide a space it may limit our availability, unless you are able to cover the storyteller's car fare to and from the event.

***If you are booking DQSH for a school,** please make sure you have the full support of your school's administration before confirming your booking with us. Some schools end up canceling events due to complaints from parents. If you need help explaining the importance of LGBTQ-affirming programming such as DQSH to your school's administration or parents, we have resources for that!

****For private companies and private events,** we require a \$100 nonrefundable deposit to secure the date.

For bookings or further info, contact Rachel Aimee, Executive Director, Drag Queen Story Hour NYC.
nyc@dragqueenstoryhour.org <https://www.dragqueenstoryhour.org/nyc/>

Drag Queen

STORY HOUR

PROGRAMS AND RATES

Drag Queen Story Hour

45 mins. Ages 3-8 Max. 60 kids

Drag Queen Story Hour (DQSH) is a storytelling program designed for children ages 3-8. A local drag performer trained by children's librarians will read picture books, sing songs, do movement activities, and lead kids in a simple craft or coloring activity. Through a fun and fabulous literary experience, DQSH teaches children about gender diversity and difference, builds empathy, and gives kids the confidence to express themselves however they feel comfortable.

Public elementary schools*: FREE (limited availability)

Other public schools* and public libraries: \$300

Nonprofits, charter schools*, indie bookstores: \$350

Private schools: \$450*

Private companies: \$500**



Photo by Paolo Quadrini

Bilingual Drag Queen Story Hour (Spanish and English)

45 mins. Ages 3-8 Max. 60 kids

Bilingual Drag Queen Story Hour (DQSH) is a storytelling program designed for children ages 3-8, presented in Spanish and English. A local drag performer trained by children's librarians will read picture books in Spanish and English, sing songs, do movement activities, and lead kids in a simple craft activity. Through a fun and fabulous literary experience, DQSH teaches children about gender diversity and difference, builds empathy, and gives kids the confidence to express themselves however they feel comfortable.

Public elementary schools*: FREE (limited availability)

Other public schools* and public libraries: \$300

Nonprofits, charter schools*, indie bookstores: \$350

Private schools: \$450*

Private companies: \$500**

For bookings or further info, contact Rachel Aimee, Executive Director, Drag Queen Story Hour NYC.

nyc@dragqueenstoryhour.org <https://www.dragqueenstoryhour.org/nyc/>

Drag Queen STORY HOUR

Drag Queen Story Hour for Kids with Autism and Other Special Needs

45 mins Kids and teens of all ages.

Max. 12 families: RSVP required

Children with disabilities are welcome at all Drag Queen Story Hour events but this program is designed with the needs of kids with ASD and other special needs in mind. This program is a collaboration between Drag Queen Story Hour and [Line Up the Books](http://lineupthebooks.com). Read more about this program at lineupthebooks.com/dqsh.

Public elementary schools*: FREE (limited availability)

Other public schools* and public libraries: \$300

Nonprofits, charter schools*, indie bookstores: \$350

Private schools: \$450*

Private companies: \$500**



Dragtivity Time with DQSH and Sez Me

60 mins. Ages 8-18 Max. 60 kids

A drag performer from DQSH will be joined by Mor Erlich, creator of [Sez Me](#) and [The Dragtivity Book](#), for this interactive workshop, which includes story time, a kid-friendly drag performance, a screening of Sez Me's [Drag Special](#), and an opportunity for kids and adults to ask questions about drag, identity, and gender expression.

Public schools* and public libraries: \$375

Nonprofits, charter schools*, and indie bookstores: \$425

Private schools: \$525*

Private companies: \$575**

DQSH+ 45 mins. Kids ages 8-18 Max. 60 kids

DQSH+ is the "big kid" version of our original DQSH program! A local drag performer trained by children's librarians will read a picture book that explores themes of gender diversity, then lead a discussion on the book's themes and answer questions about drag.

Public elementary schools*: FREE (limited availability)

Public schools* and public libraries: \$300

Nonprofits, charter schools*, and indie bookstores: \$350

Private schools: \$450*

Private companies: \$500**

For bookings or further info, contact Rachel Aimee, Executive Director, Drag Queen Story Hour NYC.
nyc@dragqueenstoryhour.org <https://www.dragqueenstoryhour.org/nyc/>

Drag Queen

STORY HOUR

Drag Queen Fashion Design Workshop

60 mins Ages 8-18 Max. 12 kids

In this hour-long workshop, a drag performer from DQSH teaches kids how to work with fabric to make their own creations. Supplies included. Through a fun and fabulous creative workshop, DQSH teaches children about gender diversity and difference, builds empathy, and gives kids the confidence to express themselves however they feel comfortable.

Public schools* and public libraries: \$350

Nonprofits, charter schools*, and indie bookstores: \$400

Private schools: \$550*

Private companies: \$600**



Drag Queen Makeup Tutorial

60 mins. Ages 11-18 Max. 12 kids

In this hour-long workshop, a drag performer from DQSH will teach makeup application skills to kids and teens of all genders. Participants will be provided with makeup and supplies to use during the workshop so they can try out the skills as they learn! Through a fun and fabulous creative workshop, DQSH teaches children about gender diversity and difference, builds empathy, and gives kids the confidence to express themselves however they feel comfortable.

Public schools* and public libraries: \$400

Nonprofits, charter schools*, and indie bookstores: \$450

Private schools*: \$550

Private companies**: \$800

DQSH Birthday Parties (for kids)

30 mins

Celebrate your little one's birthday in style with DQSH! A local drag performer trained by children's librarians will read picture books, sing songs, do movement activities, and lead a dance party for your guests.

\$300 for up to 20 kids.**



For bookings or further info, contact Rachel Aimee, Executive Director, Drag Queen Story Hour NYC.
nyc@dragqueenstoryhour.org <https://www.dragqueenstoryhour.org/nyc/>

Drag Queen STORY HOUR

PRAISE FOR DRAG QUEEN STORY HOUR

Those of us who work with young children on a regular basis know that children can dress and act in a variety of ways, and supporting their choices builds self-confidence and can help avoid serious problems later in life. By creating an atmosphere of acceptance, and reading stories about acceptance of differences, DQSH helps to stave off teasing and bullying.

—*Judy Zuckerman, Director of Youth and Family Services, Brooklyn Public Library*

What an amazing way to teach individuality, empathy, and acceptance! Drag Queen Story Hour gave my first graders a fun and interactive platform to talk and think about social and emotional issues like acceptance, being yourself, and loving who you are. Through books, songs, arts and crafts, and movement activities, they explored these issues and had an amazing time doing it! During our debrief after DQSH, they were preaching the incredible lessons they had learned, like “It’s OK to be different,” and “There’s no such thing as ‘boy’ things or ‘girl’ things.” I was proud to be able to have DQSH at my school and will definitely be planning another story hour for next year!

—*Alexis Hernandez, first grade teacher at PS 118, the Maurice Sendak Community School*



We recently hosted Drag Queen Story Hour in the middle school at Brooklyn Collaborative and, as perhaps you can imagine, the response was magical. Most of the kids in the audience were from our Gender and Sexual Identity/Black Lives Matter Collective. They had amazing questions and our drag queen, Harmonica Sunbeam, answered them with tremendous respect, insight, and graciousness. DQSH is really about connecting with kids, helping them to understand identity and intersectionality. I highly recommend this incredibly professional, well-managed, thoughtful organization. It is a jewel.

—*Amanda Clarke, Librarian, Brooklyn Collaborative Studies*

For bookings or further info, contact Rachel Aimee, Executive Director, Drag Queen Story Hour NYC.
nyc@dragqueenstoryhour.org <https://www.dragqueenstoryhour.org/nyc/>

Drag Queen

STORY HOUR

Drag Queen Story Hour is a fun and fabulous way of encouraging children to read. It is also a great way to teach them to embrace our society's differences and diversity. The expressions of joy on children's faces when they see and interact with the drag queens are priceless. The flamboyancy and theatrics of Drag Queen Story Hour truly captures their attention and helps facilitate learning.

—New York City Council Member Daniel Dromm



Photo by Jessye Herrell

was because he knew what to expect. He loved DQSH with Harmonica Sunbeam, and now we attend two story times every week at totally different venues. Jack sits for the entire time, sings along to the songs, and even offers up responses when the storyteller poses questions to the audience for participation purposes. It is amazing! Every time we go to the library, he asks, "Will Harmonica Sunbeam be there?"

—Lisa Cunningham, parent.

Drag Queen Story Hour allows preschool children to deepen and complicate their ideas about gender at the exact age when they are often developing rigid ideas about this concept. The program is fun, interactive, family-friendly, and conveys important messages about gender and diversity in a way that is light and accessible to all. I would invite DQSH back to my school any time!

—Katrina Green, teacher at Chickpeas Preschool

My son Jack has autism and whenever I used to take him to story hours he would freak out, so I stopped. When I heard about DQSH for kids with autism, I decided to try it. I was so impressed that the organizers had made a social story. We read it together and Jack said he wanted to go to story time, and I could tell it

For bookings or further info, contact Rachel Aimee, Executive Director, Drag Queen Story Hour NYC.
nyc@dragqueenstoryhour.org <https://www.dragqueenstoryhour.org/nyc/>