Yvonne Ventresca

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Yvonne Ventresca is the author of two award-winning young adult novels, *Black Flowers, White Lies* and *Pandemic*. She offers programs for middle school students, high school students, and adults. Novel-specific educator guides (aligned with Common Core standards) can be downloaded for free from her website, <u>YvonneVentresca.com</u>.

Yvonne is currently available for virtual classroom visits and book club discussions. She engages students by discussing her fictional pandemic compared to the current one, while weaving in creative writing concepts and her research process. Pre-COVID, she taught revision courses at a local adult school for continuing education, led writing workshops at various conferences, and achieved the Advanced Communicator Silver level through Toastmasters.



Her latest short story, "The Third Ghost," won first place and eponymous honors for the middle grade anthology, *Voyagers: The Third Ghost*. Her young adult novel, the psychological thriller *Black Flowers, White Lies,* was listed at the top of Buzzfeed's must-read new YA fall books and went on to win a Gold IPPY Award for best national young adult fiction. Her debut, *Pandemic,* won a Crystal Kite Award from the Society of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators. Her other works include two nonfiction books for kids as well as other short stories selected for anthologies. Visit <u>YvonneVentresca.com/books.html</u> for a complete list of publications.



"Having Yvonne zoom with my students to talk about her book, *Pandemic*, was an enriching and exciting experience. Meeting a living author who has published such a timely piece of writing made English class come alive. Yvonne is a creative and engaging author." ~*Maggie Stanczak, English Teacher, Indian Hills High School*

"I have hosted author visits (in-person and virtual) in the past for my Young Adult Literature course, and rarely has an hour flown by as quickly as it did with Yvonne Ventresca. She was engaging and thoughtful from minute one to minute sixty, and charmed us with her clarity and her candor even when considering the most challenging questions." *~Jim Nicosia, PhD, Professor at Montclair State University*