

## Make this cause part of your school's community service!

HNF sponsors a wonderful community service opportunity for schools through Team CMT.

Team CMT strives to make a difference for those living with CMT. They participate in fun events to raise money for research into new treatments and a cure.

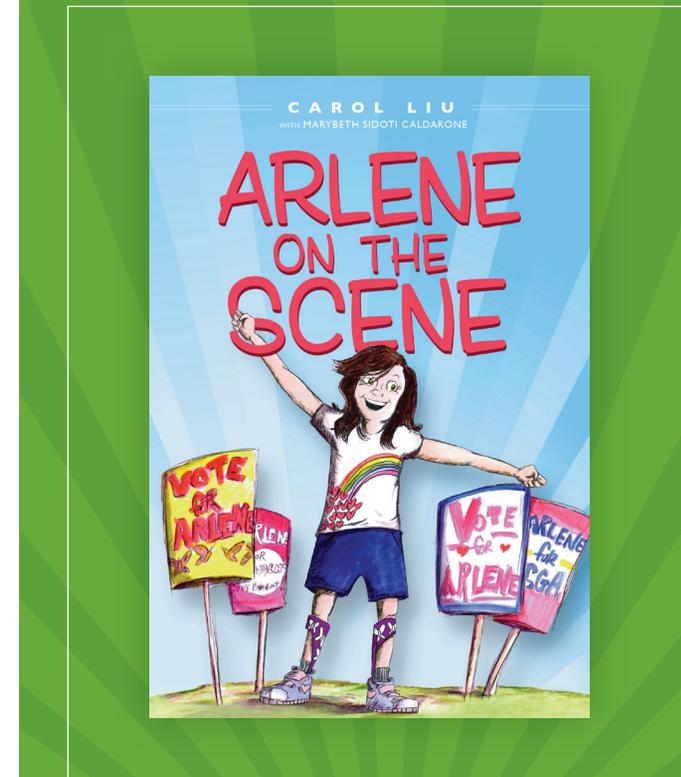
### Here's how to get involved:

1. Choose a fun event for the whole school. Think walk-a-thon, songfest, bake sale!
2. Then go to [www.hnf-cure.org](http://www.hnf-cure.org), click on Team CMT and you'll find a link to create your own school fundraising page.
3. Spread the word about the event and the page link to collect donations!



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[www.hnf-cure.org](http://www.hnf-cure.org)



# Embracing Difference

Challenge your students to think differently about diversity!

### SCHOOL OUTREACH PROGRAM

Free, interactive presentations and classroom materials for grades 3-5

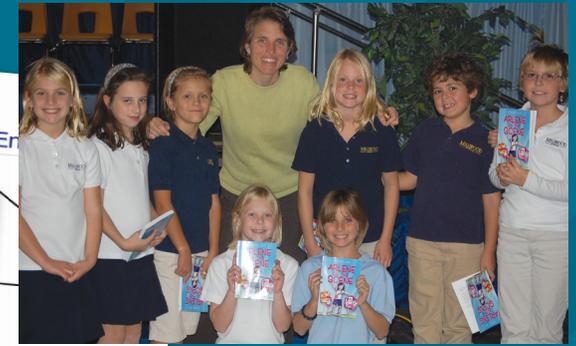
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[www.ArleneOnTheScene.com](http://www.ArleneOnTheScene.com)

[www.hnf-cure.org](http://www.hnf-cure.org)



## Embracing Difference

Nearly every school in the U.S. includes students with special needs. It makes sense that we spend some time increasing our children's understanding of the differences among us, including disability, and improving their capacity for empathy and understanding. This means instruction, modeling and practice.

The Hereditary Neuropathy Foundation's School Outreach Program provides the means and materials to accomplish this. Through an engaging book series, beginning with *Arlene On the Scene*, and free interactive presentations led by author and child therapist Carol Liu, the School Outreach Program leads students in grades 3-5 toward a deeper understanding of difference and disability.

## Our Purpose

A primary part of our mission is to increase awareness of Charcot-Marie-Tooth (CMT) disease, which affects the main character, Arlene. CMT is an

inherited, progressive peripheral neuropathy which impacts millions yet is relatively unknown. While readers of the series learn about CMT, they also come to understand how to incorporate difference into a positive self-image.

## Our Program

*Arlene On the Scene* features a spunky young girl navigating the social landscape of fourth grade with a newly visible disability. How does one incorporate leg braces into a powerful and empowered self-image? Arlene learns through her many adventures—and mistakes—that disability is a difference like any other, and can indeed be part of a beautiful, capable whole.

Using this story and real-life examples, our school presentations introduce the concept of self-image and explore how it is impacted by our peers. We then discover the value in appreciating difference. Using images, audio, video and lively debate, author Carol Liu offers students a new way of thinking about themselves, each other, and difference.

Carol also spends time discussing the writing process. When we create a world where it is not only safe but encouraged to express yourself, what better way to do so than through your writing? Carol reviews important core curriculum concepts such as organization (e.g., sequence, linking and transition words, concluding statements), effective descriptive writing, and the editing process.

Our author presentations are free and include an enrichment activity to reinforce key concepts. We also offer a free, downloadable 50+ page Teacher's Guide for use of the book as part of the language arts curriculum.

**Audience:** Grades 3-5  
**Length:** 45-60 minutes  
**Format:** Powerpoint, with audio/video  
**Contact:** carol@hnf-cure.org

*Arlene On the Scene*, paperback, 206 pages, US \$7.95, ISBN: 978-1-934572-54-2, Emerald Book Company. Available from all major wholesalers and retailers.