

**Karen Romano Young**, author  
Sponsored by the CLA children's section  
Reporter: Elizabeth McKay, The Ferguson Library

Karen Romano Young is the author of more than seventeen books for children and young adults, and has written for numerous publications such as *Cricket*, *National Geographic World*, *The Guinness Book of World Records* and *Scholastic News*. On Wednesday afternoon Ms. Young presented a dynamic talk on her most recent book, *Across the Wide Ocean*, published in 2007. The idea for this book was borne out of the research she did as an educational consultant on the *Atlantis* 1,000 miles off the coast of Costa Rica, where scientists were taking daily trips down to the bottom of the ocean in a tiny submarine (ALVIN) to collect data from and to observe the activity around the cracks in the earth's plates. She went on the trip not knowing if she would get a chance to go down in ALVIN, but luckily for her (and her readers) she was tapped to make the dive. The result is *Across the Wide Ocean*, where she shows readers how different kinds of ocean travelers (a shark, loggerhead sea turtles, a whale and her calf, ALVIN the submarine and a container ship) navigate their way around the world's vast oceans, and manage to find their destinations without getting lost. The talk was fascinating, complete with souvenirs from the bottom of the ocean, lots of pictures from her time on board the *Atlantis*, and many interesting facts and stories about the world's oceans. This presentation was an adaptation of a talk Ms. Young does for schools and libraries. For more information on this and other programs and workshops visit [www.karenromanoyoung.com](http://www.karenromanoyoung.com) or check out Ms. Young's blog at <http://bubble-n-squeak.blogspot.com/>.