Award winning, NYT best-selling author and artist, and Worcester native Jarrett J. Krosoczka is coming to Mechanics Hall for a two-day engagement for kids and families that will include a cartoon art workshop, a matinée dramatic presentation for his Hey, Kiddo graphic memoir, and a program of 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders centered on his 9-volume Lunch Lady graphic novel detective series!

Jarrett’s message is universal: the arts lift us up. Jarrett’s art and creative muses changed the direction of his life. Making art or music, writing fiction or poetry, drawing, singing, dancing - these creative endeavors are important catalysts of well-being.

These events will benefit Mechanics Hall and its cultural enrichment initiatives and a portion will go to support Jarrett Krosoczka’s Scholarship for Youth at the Worcester Art Museum.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2020**

**JEDI ACADEMY CARTOONING WORKSHOP**
11:00am  
Tickets: $10  
Join Jarrett Krosoczka as he runs a cartooning workshop for elementary-school-aged artists. Jarrett will be giving drawing demonstrations and walking young artists through the steps he takes to create graphic novels via a multimedia presentation.

And in the spirit of Comic-Con and cosplay, come dressed up as your favorite Star Wars character!

**HEY, KIDDO: LIVE AND UNABRIDGED**
3:00pm  
Tickets: $20 / $10  
Join Jarrett Krosoczka and a host of readers as they bring his critically-acclaimed graphic memoir, HEY, KIDDO, to life in a live reading. Artwork from the book will be projected onto the big screen as this story about family addiction, redemption, and the saving power of art is presented unabridged. Part literary event, part experimental theater—this will be a truly remarkable experience.

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2020**

**WRITING WITH PICTURES: THE GRAPHIC NOVEL**  
A School Presentation for Grades 3, 4, and 5  
10:00am  
Tickets: $5  
Creating comics is a serious business—and it’s not as easy as you might think. Writing a graphic novel is not unlike writing any other book—plot, pacing and character development all need to be considered. In this assembly, Jarrett will dissect how he wrote his popular Lunch Lady graphic novel series. Sketches, notes, manuscripts, editorial letters and artwork will illustrate how he creates a graphic novel. Writing a graphic novel takes patience, hard work, determination, and many, many revisions. Jarrett will also discuss writing the Jedi Academy series and what it’s like to work in that galaxy far, far away.

_Schools are responsible to arranging their own transportation._