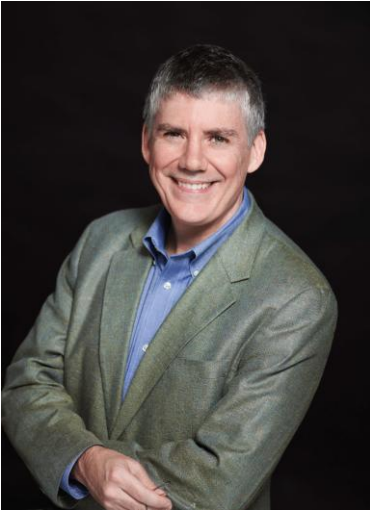


Geek of the Week

Rick Riordan

Rick Riordan is the author of the **Percy Jackson** series, **the Olympians** series, the **Kane Chronicles**, and the **Heroes of Olympus**. His newest book, *House of Hades*, was released last week!



1. The first book I remember reading for fun was the *Lord of the Rings*. I probably read it ten times.
2. I grew up in a very artistic family. My mom was a musician and an artist. My dad was a ceramicist (he made stuff out of clay).
3. My parents were both teachers.
4. I started writing when I was in middle school. The first story I submitted for publication was when I was 13. It wasn't published.
5. When I was in high school, I got in trouble for publishing an underground newspaper that made fun of the school, especially the losing football team.
6. When I was in college, I worked for three years as the music director at a summer camp, Camp Capers. This is where I got the idea for Camp Half-Blood.
7. I taught English and social studies, grades 6-8, for six years, then stopped teaching to become a full-time writer.
8. I taught mythology almost every year that I was a teacher. It was always my favorite thing, and the students always liked it, too! I stopped teaching to become a full-time writer.
9. I live with my wife and two sons, Haley and Patrick.
10. I have one dog, Speedy (a Basenji/terrier mix) and three black cats.

If you want to know more about Mr. Riordan, visit him online at:

<http://www.rickriordan.com/home.aspx>