

Saturday 4th November

8:45 to 9:30 – Welcome Coffee and Registration
MMU Business School, North Atrium

Meet Your Network

North Atrium (Brew and Cake café tables)

9:30 to 9:45 – Opening Remarks

With *Natascha Biebow and Alison Gardiner (SCBWI Co-Regional Advisors)*
Kate Peridot and Tracey Guiry (SCBWI Conference Co-Chairs)
Main Auditorium G.36 (Ground Floor)

9:45 to 10:35 – Author Keynote:

With *Robin Stevens*
Main Auditorium G.36 (Ground Floor)

10:35 to 10:55 – Coffee Break

Robin Stevens Book Signing and Book Sales
North Atrium

10:55 to 12:15 – MORNING BREAKOUTS

Sleuths and Suspects: Creating a Cast of Characters For Your Mystery Novel

With author *Penny Joelson*
G.35 (Ground Floor)

Non-Fiction Panel: The Rise of Creative Non-Fiction

With authors *Kate Peridot and Larry Hayes, and their agent Becky Bagnell*
Moderated by poet, *Tracey Guiry*
G.36 Main Auditorium, (Ground Floor)

ILLUSTRATORS: Creating a Standout Portfolio

With Art Director *Tiffany Leeson (Farshore)*, freelance Art Director/Book Designer *Ness Wood (Orange Beak Studios)*, and Picture Book Development Director *Emma Layfield (Hachette)*
G.27 (Ground Floor)

PULSE: Smart Money and Creative Side Hustles

With author and financial educator, *Anna Orenstein-Cardona*
3.15 (Third Floor)

12:15 to 13:15 – Lunch

South Atrium

13:15 to 14:15 – Illustrator Keynote: My Life in Pictures – An Artist's Reflection

With *Ed Vere*
Main Auditorium G.36 (Ground Floor)

14:20 to 15:40 – AFTERNOON BREAKOUTS

Publishing 101 for Newbies

With author *Matt Killeen and agent Jessica Hare (The Agency)*
Moderated by author *Tania Tay*
Main Auditorium G. 36 (Ground Floor)

WRITERS: Demystifying Show, Don't Tell

With author *Penny Joelson*
G.35 (Ground Floor)

PULSE: How To Create and Be ALL Inclusive

With *Storymix founder, Jasmine Richards, and Megaphone co-director and editor Stephanie King*
3.15 (Third Floor)

GRAPHIC NOVEL FOCUS: Comic Books and Graphic Novels Are In!

With author/illustrator *Neill Cameron and editor Anthony Hinton (David Fickling Books)*
G.27 (Ground Floor)

15:40 to 16:00 – Coffee Break

Ed Vere Book Signing and Book Sales
North Atrium

16:00 to 17:00 – The Hook Pitch-Off

Main Auditorium G.36 (Ground Floor)

17:00 to 18:15 – Rest and Relaxation (On Your Own)

18:15 to 23:00 – Dinner and Mass Book Launch Celebration

18:15 Arrive and Welcome drink. Please be prompt.
18:30 Mass Book Launch Celebration and *Crystal Kite Award*
G.27 (Ground Floor)
20:00 Sit-Down dinner
21:30 Bar and Networking (last drinks at 22:30)
MMU Business School - South Atrium

Sunday 5th November

8:30 to 9:15 – Coffee, tea, chat!

MMU Business School, North Atrium

9:15 to 9:35 – Outstanding Contribution Awards

Main Auditorium G.36 (Ground Floor)

9:35 to 10:25 – PULSE Keynote: A Literary Agent Looks Back

With *Hilary Delamere*
Main Auditorium G.36 (Ground Floor)

10:25 to 10:40 – Coffee Break

Book Sales
North Atrium

10:40 to 12:40 – MORNING BREAKOUTS

WRITERS: World-Building with the Hero's Journey

With author *Peter Bunzl*
G.36 Main Auditorium (Ground Floor)

ILLUSTRATORS: Releasing the Artist

With author/illustrator *Ed Vere*
3.28 (Third Floor)

PICTURE BOOK CREATORS: Creating Engaging, Commercial Picture Books from a Blank Page

With publisher *Libby Hamilton (Rocket Bird Books)*
3.14 (Third Floor)

PULSE: Making Promo Videos: Are You Ready for Your Close-Up?

With authors *Candy Gourlay and Mo O'Hara*
G.35 (Ground Floor)

12:40 to 13:40 – Lunch

South Atrium

13:40 to 15:40 – AFTERNOON BREAKOUTS

WRITERS: Creating Series Fiction

With author *Paula Harrison*
3.15 (Third Floor)

ILLUSTRATORS: Character Development and the Story That Comes With It

With author/illustrator *Ed Vere*
3.28 (Third Floor)

PULSE/SPARK: Take the Time To Market Your Book For Success!

With authors *Camilla Chester and Snezana Danilovic*
G.35 (Ground Floor)

PICTURE BOOK CREATORS: Playing With Ideas – The Creative Writer's Toolbox

With author *Clare Helen Welsh*
3.14 (Third Floor)

15:45 to 16:15 – Coffee & Goodbyes

North Atrium

OTHER EVENTS & MEETINGS

WRITER AND AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR PROFESSIONAL 1-1s

3.16 (Third Floor)

ILLUSTRATOR PROFESSIONAL 1-1s

3.17 (Third Floor)

Illustrators Contact Wall Sketchbook Exhibition Portfolio Display

North Atrium - Ground Floor

Cloakroom & Luggage storage

G.33 (Ground Floor)





Robin Stevens, Author

Robin is the author of the Murder Most Unladylike series and the Ministry of Unladylike Activity. She was born in California and grew up in an Oxford college, across the road from the house where Alice in Wonderland lived, and she has been making up stories all her life. When she was twelve, her father handed her a copy of The Murder of Roger Ackroyd and she realised that she wanted to be Agatha Christie when she grew up. She spent her teenage years at Cheltenham Ladies' College, reading a lot of murder mysteries and hoping that she'd get the chance to do some detecting herself (she didn't). She went to university, where she studied crime fiction, and then she worked at a children's publisher. Robin is now a full-time author, and her books are both award-winning and bestselling. She lives in Oxford.



Kate Peridot, Author, Volunteer

Kate Peridot is the conference co-chair and writes illustrated fiction and non-fiction. After many years trying to find a publisher, she took part in a Twitter pitch party and her non-fiction pitch caught the eye of agent, Becky Bagnell. Kate signed with Becky in 2020, and she has since sold eleven titles, and three have been released in 2023 - Caring Conservationists who are Changing the Planet (Walker), My Animal Family (DK) and Meet the Bears (Welbeck). She blends creative fiction techniques with facts to capture children's imaginations about the natural world, real people, or STEM. @kateperidot



Hilary Delamere, Agent

Hilary joined Lemon Unna & Durbridge in the early 90s to look after the Paddington Bear titles and to build her own book list. She worked for several different publishing houses including Rights Director at Penguin Children's Books before becoming an agent. As a partner at The Agency, Hilary continued to represent Michael Bond's Paddington Bear alongside a wide range of children's book authors and illustrators from pre-school books to YA novels - handling their publishing deals alongside their film, TV and stage rights. Hilary has this year retired from The Agency and is working as a consultant for the Raymond Briggs Estate.



Emma Layfield, Editor, Hachette

Emma Layfield is Picture Book Development Director for Hachette Children's Group and is focused on working with writers and illustrators based in the North, Scotland and Ireland. She is based at Hachette UK's new Manchester office. She is also co-founder of Children's Books North, an independent network set up to promote and support published children's authors, illustrators and publishing professionals living in the north. @emma.layfield



Ed Vere, Illustrator

Ed Vere is an award-winning and New York Times bestselling writer & illustrator of picture books. He is a patron at CLPE and is the artist in residence at the Born Free Foundation. His picture book How to be a Lion won the Oscar's Book Prize, Amazon.com's best books as well as being an NPR great choice and EB White Read Aloud Honor Book. His latest book, The Artist, is a joyful celebration of creative confidence within young artists everywhere and has already been chosen as one of Amazon's Best Children's Books of 2023. Here he talks about his life and work as an illustrator, a fascinating insight into his creative process.



Larry Hayes, Author

Larry Hayes wants to know all the answers to everything. So, when he's not writing children's books he works out of a secret laboratory in a remote part of France. He is currently discovering how to make straight hair curly, curly hair straight and the secret to growing taller. He has recently learned how to Karate chop through a brick wall, predict the future with dreams and make a goat happy just by staring at it. Larry's debut "How to Survive" fiction series is published by Simon & Schuster and his "Kid Boss" non-fiction series is published by Walker Books.



Tiffany Leeson, Creative Director, Farshore

Tiffany has worked as a designer in the Children's Book industry for over 30 years. She's always looking for commercial, surprising, and original illustration styles and clever concepts. She currently works at Farshore (part of HarperCollins UK) as Creative Director, managing a team of 20 designers. Tiffany is a Trustee of 'Picture Hooks' and helped develop HarperCollins Design Academy, which is in its second year. Tiffany looks after the design out-put for all the Farshore lists from picture books to YA, from Minecraft to Michael Morpurgo, from Winnie-the-Pooh to Holly Jackson and the new non-fiction series, Little Experts. Tiffany would love to see your illustration portfolios.



Jasmine Richards, Author, Editor, Storymix

Jasmine Richards is the founder of Storymix, a multi-award-winning fiction studio that puts kids of colour at the heart of stories and platforms talented creators. In 2023, she was awarded a special commendation for Editor of the Year at the British Book Awards. Jasmine has written 15 books, including The Mythkeeper.



Anna Oreinstein-Cardona, Author, Wealth Coach

Anna Orenstein-Cardona is a certified financial educator (CFEI), wealth coach, and children's author. Born and raised in Puerto Rico, Anna graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and spent over two decades working in finance in the USA and Europe before turning to writing for children. Her debut picture book, The Tree of Hope, was published in 2022 by Beaming Books and was awarded a STAR by the School Library Journal. It was also recognized as one of the "Best Children's Book of the Year - 2023 edition" by Bank Street College of Education. Anna is an alumna of Faber Academy and a member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI), as well as Las Musas. You can learn more about Anna and her work on Instagram (@wearyourmoneycrown) and Twitter (@BoricuaAnna).



Penny Joelson, Author, Writing Tutor

Penny Joelson is the award-winning YA author of 'I Have No Secrets', with ten published books and two coming out next year, including YA thrillers, MG mysteries, an early reader and high interest low reading age teen books for educational publishers. Having started out as a student at City Lit, she has taught there for twenty years and now teaches City Lit 'Writing for Children' courses on Zoom. Penny began working with people with disabilities when she was a teenager, which gave her the inspiration and insight for 'I Have No Secrets'. She has ME/CFSS which was the inspiration for 'Girl in the Window'.



Ness Wood, Designer, Art Director

Ness Wood is an award-winning book designer and art director, and she has worked for many major children's publishers designing picture books and fiction. She has taught publishing at the University of Central Lancashire (UCLAN), on the Illustration MA course at Goldsmiths, run the Cambridge School of Art Summer School (2014-2020) and taught Design History at the University of Brighton. Ness is a Leader in Residence at UCLAN. Ness is known for her encouraging, straightforward, and collaborative approach with illustrators and students. Ness has also been a judge for the Bologna Ragazzi Award. In 2018, she was part of the winning team at the British Design and Production Awards, in the Graphic Novel Category. Ness is co-founder of Orange Beak Studio who offer insight and encouragement for illustrators through individual tutorials, talks and varied workshops.



Matt Killeen, Author

Matt Killeen has had many careers but kept coming back to writing. He has made a living as a copywriter, a music and sports journalist, and a writer for the LEGO® company, earning an MA in Creative Writing for Young People along the way. He is a Fellow of the Royal Literary Fund and continues to write for PC Gamer. His US Bestselling debut Orphan Monster Spy was shortlisted for the Costa Book Awards and the Branford Boase Award, as well as winning the 2019 SCBWI Crystal Kite. The sequel, Devil Darling Spy, was published in spring 2020, just as the world ended.



Becky Bagnell, Agent

Becky Bagnell is the founder of the Lindsay Literary Agency and has been in publishing for over 25 years. She worked as a commissioning editor at Macmillan before becoming a literary agent in 2008. Becky represents clients in all genres of children's publishing, from picture books and non-fiction to middle grade and YA, and they have been published in multiple languages across the world. Her clients include the multi-award winning authors, Pamela Butchart, Sue Wallman, Sam Gayton, Larry Hayes, Louise Finch and Kate Peridot.



Jessica Hare, Agent

Jessica Hare is a literary agent, running the Children's Books department at The Agency (London) Ltd, who was selected as one of The Bookseller's Rising Stars for 2023. Jessica recently stepped up to take over from Hilary Delamere and now represents established authors and illustrators including Malorie Blackman, Lydia Monks and the Michael Bond Estate, as well as emerging talent such as debuts, Ash Bond and Nadia Mikail, this year's Waterstones Children's Book Prize winner. Jessica represents children's book authors and illustrators across every age range and genre and is especially open-minded to middle-grade stories, graphic novelists and non-fiction proposals at the moment.



Clare Helen Welsh, Author

Clare Helen Welsh is a children's writer and writing tutor from Devon. She writes fiction and non-fiction picture book texts - sometimes funny, sometimes lyrical and

everything in between! You can find out more about her at @ClareHelenWelsh



Stephanie King, Editor, Co-Director Megaphone

Stephanie is a freelance editor with over sixteen years' experience in the children's and young adult books publishing industry. As Commissioning Fiction Editor at Usborne Publishing, she commissioned and edited an elective range of books for 7+ up to YA by bestselling, award-winning authors including Sara Hagger-Holt, William Hussey, Ann M Martin, Serena Patel, Meredith Russo and Darren Simpson. As a freelance editor, Stephanie works with a variety of children's publishers including Faber and Hachette, as well as working with the inclusive fiction studio, Storymix, and as a mentor and editor at the Golden Egg Academy. She is also a Co-Director at Megaphone Write C.I.C., a mentoring scheme for unpublished children's writers of colour.



Anthony Hinton, Editor, DfB

Anthony Hinton is a Commissioning Editor at David Fickling Books and is part of the team at The Phoenix Comic, where he edits the comic books produced through

the DFB/Phoenix partnership, including Jamie Smart's number 1 bestselling Bunny vs Monkey, Neill Cameron's Mega Robo Bros, Laura Ellen Anderson's Evil Emperor Penguin, Adam and Lisa Murphy's Corpse Talk and many more. He has edited many books of children's and YA prose fiction - and non-fiction - working with writers including the Carnegie-shortlisted Candy Gourlay, the YA-prize shortlisted Melinda Salisbury, and the legendary Anne Fine, and was himself shortlisted for the Branford Boase Award for editing the late Tony Mitton's Potter's Boy. He is also an occasional writer for The Phoenix comic, including on their choose-your-own-adventure series Fates and Fortunes.
@dfb_storyhouse and @phoenixcomicuk



Camilla Chester, Author

Camilla Chester is a dog walker who writes. Camilla has three self-published and one traditionally published novel, entitled Call Me Lion. Winner of the 2023 Crystal Kite Award, Camilla has been shortlisted four times in other national competitions, writes on commission for the popular online school resources, Serial Mash and Fiction Express, is member of SoA, NAWA and SCBWI, works freelance for Writers & Artists Yearbook and is represented by Veronique Baxter at DHA.



Candy Gourlay, Author, Volunteer

Candy Gourlay was born in the Philippines, grew up under a dictatorship and met her husband during a revolution. She has been

shortlisted for the Waterstones and the Blue Peter Prize (Tall Story), the Guardian Prize (Shine) and the Costa and Carnegie (Bone Talk). Her latest novel for young adults Wild Song transports its characters to the 1904 World Fair in America. She loves making comics and waging war on the snails in her garden. "Wild Song is a stunning achievement!" The Bookseller. Find her on candygourlay.co.uk • Twitter @candygourlay • Instagram @candygourlay



Alison Gardiner, Author, Co-Chair SCBWI BI, Volunteer

Author of two MG fantasies, The Serpent of Eridor and Alchemy, Alison has also written several picture books.

Currently her YF fantasy Re-Inc is on its twelfth (or twenty-third) re-edit. She loves gathering flashes of ideas to weave into tales. Her brain is so full of a swirl of random ideas that it really needs de-fragging. Family doctor, mother, radio voice performer, writer, SCBWI volunteer, reasonable cook, terrible gardener (ironically), Alison Gardiner loves all her roles, but sometimes gets her priorities muddled (except for banana-bread chef; that's always right up there). Alison lives in England and loves to travel, having spent her early years in Jamaica, USA, Gibraltar and Scotland. Despite playing tennis, racquetball also swimming and going to the gym, she still can't touch her toes. More yoga required! She's ridden a camel, fed elephants, cuddled snakes and patted a hippo. She attributes her wildlife fearlessness to having four children.



Paula Harrison, Author

Paula Harrison is the author of more than fifty children's books including "The Rescue Princesses" and the "Kitty" series. She's sold millions of books worldwide and has had her stories translated into more than twenty-five

languages. She wanted to be a writer from a very young age but spent many happy years being a primary school teacher first. Her most recent books are the "Fairytale Ninjas" series from HarperCollins.



Peter Bunzl, Author

Peter Bunzl is the author of nine middle grade novels: four Victorian steampunk mysteries, The Cogheart Adventures, three illustrated fantasy novellas, Featherlight, The Clockwork Queen and Dragonracers, and two Georgian

fairytale, Magicborn and Glassborn. He lives in London with his partner and their cat and dog.



Neill Cameron, Author, Cartoonist

Neill Cameron is an award-winning author and cartoonist. He is the creator of several comic books, including the Mega Robo Bros series and How

to Make Awesome Comics. He is also the author/illustrator of Freddy vs School; Freddy and the New Kid and Freddy the Superstar - Freddy vs School was shortlisted for the Lollies Book Awards. Neill's comics appear regularly in The Phoenix, the weekly story comic. He lives in Oxford where he works closely with, and runs comics clubs at, The Story Museum. @neillcameron



Natascha Biebow, MBE, Author, Editor, Co-Chair SCBWI BI, Volunteer

Natascha Biebow is the long-time Co-Regional Advisor of SCBWI British Isles and has organized more conferences

than she can count! She is a member of the SCBWI Advisory Council and was awarded an MBE for her services to children's writers and illustrators, and the Stephen Mooser SCBWI Member of the Year. She is the founder of Blue Elephant Storyshaping, where she coaches and mentors' authors and illustrators at all levels. With 30 years' experience commissioning for large and small UK publishers, she is currently Editorial Director at Five Quills. Her book The Crayon Man: The True Story of the Invention of Crayola Crayons, illustrated by Steven Salerno, is winner of the Irma Black Award for Excellence in Children's Literature, voted for by children, an NSTA Best STEM book and JLG Gold Selection. She loves true stories and is currently working on more nonfiction picture books, a chapter book series and a novel. More about Natascha at www.nataschabiebow.com www.blueelephantstoryshaping.com



Libby Hamilton, Editor, Rocket Bird Books

Libby Hamilton (she/her) is the publisher of brand new picture book list, Rocket Bird Books, which launched in April 2023. She has worked for

Frances Lincoln, Templar Books, Andersen Press and now on her own imprint for HarperCollins. During a career spanning over 20 years, worked with some incredible authors and illustrators including Joseph Coelho, Jonny Duddle, Levi Pinfold, Julia Sarda, Tony Ross, David McKee, Michael Morpurgo and Michelle Robinson. Phew! Books that she has worked on have won the Kate Greenaway Medal (twice), the Lollies and the Waterstones Children's Book Prize, among other awards. Libby lives in London with her partner and little boy.



Tita Berredo, SCBWI BI Illustrator Coordinator, Volunteer

Tita Berredo is a Brazilian illustrator based in Glasgow. She has a Master's degree in Children's Literature and

illustration from Goldsmiths, and a background in marketing and cinema. Tita has a multitude of illustrations published in different media, from books and editorial to packaging and advertisements. Her wordless picture book, The Dress, was selected by dPICTUS for this year's Unpublished Picture Book Showcase at the Bologna Children's Books Fair, and it's currently under submission represented by Fairbank Literary Representation. Tita is a highly active member of the children's books community, volunteering for My Book Corner, the AOI, and as a committee member of the SOA in Scotland. At SCBWI, she is the Illustrator Coordinator of the British Isles and Art Director of Words & Pictures magazine.

www.titaberredo.com
www.instagram.com/titaberredo



Snezana Danilovic, Author

Snezana Danilovic is a yogi, children's picture book author and an experienced children's yoga teacher. Her mission is to bring yoga to children

through her passion for storytelling. She has spent the last 30 years writing and working in theatre and children's TV, creating an array of characters for pre-school and early years. She is a co-founder of Happy Panda Children's Yoga, resources for yoga and mindfulness. She lives in Windsor where she teaches yoga in local schools, nurseries and after-school clubs. www.snezanadanilovic.co.uk Twitter @snezanawrites Instagram @happypandachildrencyoga



Mo O'Hara, Author, Volunteer

Mo O'Hara is the author of the New York Times bestselling series, My Big Fat Zombie Goldfish. She writes picture books like More People to Love

Me and Romeosaurus and Juliet Rex and write the graphic novel series Agent Moose which Jess Bradley illustrates. She is currently writing a young fiction series with Anderson Press called Honey's Hive. Mo lives in London with her husband, two cats and two nearly grown-up kids. She enjoys travelling around the country (and the world) telling stories, leading workshops and talking about books with kids.



Ramona Karoor, Conference Front of House

Ramona Karoor is an Indo-French children's writer, passionate about wildlife conservation and the environment. A Sanctuary Nature Foundation magazine contributor, she

has travelled through the Kaziranga World Heritage Wildlife Reserve, Assam, and Nokhalikai Waterfalls, Meghalaya, to research her stories. She is currently at Golden Egg Academy Mentoring, where she is developing her debut #diverse Middle Grade novel. She champions diversity and inclusion. She has taken creative writing courses at Oxford University and Curtis Brown Creative. She has an M.A. Economics from Mumbai University. Ramona Karoor is a polyglot; besides English, she is fluent in French and Hindi, and speaks conversational Malayalam and Italian. She enjoys regular fitness, yoga, and swimming. Born in Trivandrum, Kerala, Ramona Karoor lives outside Paris with her husband and four children. She recently trekked through the Nilgiri Blue Mountains Reserve where she escaped a tiger's growl, but that's another story.



Mike Brownlow, 1-1 Professional Illustrator Review Coordinator

Mike Brownlow has written and illustrated many books for children, most noticeably the best-selling, award-winning Ten Little series, now

on its thirteenth title, and Little Robots, which became a much-loved TV series, shown all over the world. He's worked for many leading publishers, including Orchard, Bloomsbury, MacMillan and OUP. He and Simon Rickerty created a new Ten Little title, which was one of the featured books of World Book Day 2019. His agent is Caroline Walsh at David Higham Assoc.



Philip Kavvadias, Scholarship Coordinator, ARA Networks SCBWI BI

Philip writes plays, scripts, poems, biographies, essays, speeches, short stories, novellas and novels. He is passionate about Sustainability, which

is not only his day job (for one of the biggest brands in the world), but also a main activity outside work – for example, he is a founding member of the Society Of Authors' Sustainability Working Group. Apart from writing for young people, Philip also loves working with them as a Scout Leader.



Tracey Guiry, Conference Co-Chair

Tracey Guiry has specialised in arts management in the creative industries for over 25 years. Her career has taken in film-making, cinema design, visitor attraction planning, heritage capital

development and literature development and she launched 'Literature Works' to support writers and poets in the South West of England. She is Director of the Poetry Archive and gained her PhD in 2021 doing research into the representations of dementia in children's fiction. She is a newbie writer and is trying to stop writing her first novel, a woodland adventure story for 7-11 year-olds, and is looking forward to meeting other newbies at the Conference this year.



Paul Morton, Illustration Programme Coordinator

A professional illustrator for over 30 years and illustration organiser for SCBWI. Paul has worked for commercial advertising as well as children's games and educational

books. His first 2 fully illustrated early reader series of books feature Bug Belly the greedy frog, published by Five Quills. Currently working on illustrated YF, graphic novels and PB's, and actively seeking representation.



Anna Cole, Party & Pitch Event

Anna is the conference party co-ordinator. Having always scribbled ideas and the beginnings of stories on any bit of paper she could find (think envelopes, leaflets and receipts)

she decided to take her writing more seriously, so brought a notebook and began work on a middle grade fantasy novel. With a short interlude to work in a ski resort (and snowboard every day), Anna now writes at every opportunity.



Jo Dearden, 1-1 Professional Reviews for Writers

J Ex-magazine journalist Jo Dearden writes picture book texts (rhyme and prose) and illustrated non-fiction. As a working class writer she was amongst the first mentees to take part in the

All Stories initiative, launched in 2021 by children's writer/editor Catherine Coe. Last year Jo won the Writing Magazine Picture Book Prize and is actively seeking representation.



Ell Rose, (They/Them) Conference Graphics, Illustration Features Editor

Ell Rose is a non-binary illustrator & animator based in Edinburgh. They are the Illustration Features Editor for SCBWI BI Words & Pictures. They

graduated BA illustration at Edinburgh College of Art in 2021. You can find their work at www.fourfooteleven.com & [Insta:@fourfooteleven.illustration](https://www.instagram.com/fourfooteleven.illustration)



Rebecca Colby, Mass Book Launch Coordinator

Rebecca Colby is a picture book author, poet and screenwriter. She has published 43 children's books with Macmillan, Viking/PRH, Simon & Schuster, Collins, Maverick, Nosy

Crow and The National Trust, amongst others. She also works as a Retreat Manager for the prestigious Rocaberti Writers' Retreats in France.



B B Taylor, ARA Member Services SCBWI BI

B B Taylor, children's author has produced over 13 books from short rhyming stories about animals to stories about fairies monsters and zombies with humour. She is the

founder and owner of Books and Banter in Burton Upon Trent. Full time daydreamer and Superhero in training, she loves nothing more than adventures and storytelling.



Tania Tay, Speaker Coordinator

Tania first wrote stories and plays on her mum's old typewriter in the school holidays. Working as an advertising copywriter in Singapore and

London was great training in writing commercial fiction. One day at a job interview, she was asked if she was a "brave writer". It triggered her to join a short story class at the City Lit, with Leone Ross where she wrote a few weird, dark tales. Writing as Crystal Sung, Tania Tay is working in partnership with inclusive fiction studio Storymix on a new series titled SPELLCASTERS. Tania is also debuting with a domestic suspense novel. Tania is second generation British Malaysian Chinese.

SCBWI invites you to bring your positive energy, creativity, and curiosity to these events. We have a zero-tolerance policy when it comes to harassment, including online events. If an individual violates our code of conduct at any SCBWI event or in any public forum, they will be immediately removed and barred from attending future events. Hate speech of any kind will not be accepted. SCBWI stands with our creators, members, and readers and their right to stay safe.

POLICIES

No one under the age of 18 is permitted to attend any Conference events.

Bloggng & Recording Policy:

By registering for this Conference, you acknowledge that audio taping, video taping, and/or transmitting or aiding in any of the foregoing of any part of the Conference (including, but not limited to, presentations, individual sessions, and networking events) is prohibited. Additionally, the material in all handouts and presentations is copyrighted and may not be reprinted, blogged, written, orally transmitted, and/or reproduced without written permission from the copyright holder only. If you are found in violation of the above, SCBWI reserves the right to remove you from the Conference and bar you from attending future conferences.

While we love when bloggers share thoughts about their overall experience, offer a personal anecdote, and/or briefly talk about something that resonated with them, it is equally important that bloggers not give away that which is not theirs to give.

The fair use policy issued by SCBWI refers to speakers' rights, authors' rights, and illustrators' rights, under any circumstances, and it pertains to the content of our speakers' talks, workshops, and/or handouts. This falls into the category of protecting intellectual property. Again, personal impressions, a quote that is cited, and/or a general overview would be considerate. However, it would be a breach of copyright law to give away a detailed report of a presenter's material. Thank you in advance for taking this policy into account. Your professionalism is greatly appreciated.

Food Policy:

While we make every attempt to accommodate food sensitivities, please understand that we cannot ensure every single participant's dietary preferences and food sensitivities for every meal. We ask that if you have serious allergies/sensitivities or strict food preferences that you please bring supplementary food with you.

Anti-Harassment Policy:

The Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI) is dedicated to providing a safe and harassment-free environment for all of its members and has a zero-tolerance policy regarding harassment, intimidation, and discrimination.

This includes all harassment, intimidation, and discrimination made on the basis of race, age, sex, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, disability, medical condition, religion, class, body size, veteran status, marital/ domestic partnership status, citizenship, or any other marginalised identity. Harassment includes verbal comments, written comments, displayed images, or behaviours such as deliberate intimidation, stalking, body policing, unwelcome photography or recording, sustained disruption of talks or other events, inappropriate physical contact, unwelcome sexual attention, and bullying or coercion of any kind, in particular forcing another to accept your beliefs.

The SCBWI Anti-Harassment Policy applies to all situations of harassment, intimidation, or discrimination at SCBWI programs and activities and is applicable to all SCBWI events and all SCBWI venues, including but not limited to SCBWI events, conferences, meetings, meet-ups, critique groups, and online interactions. Harassment, intimidation, and discrimination at any SCBWI event, any one of the foregoing events, or online is prohibited.

Code of Conduct

All participants in SCBWI Events and SCBWI On-Line Interactions, including faculty, volunteers, staff, and attendees, are required to comply with the following anti-harassment code of conduct. The SCBWI Anti-Harassment Policy prohibits harassment, including but not limited to the following behaviours:

- Intimidation, stalking, or following;
- Sustained disruption of talks or other events;
- Unwelcome sexual attention or advances;
- Abusive verbal comments;
- Quid pro quo—sexual harassment that occurs when one in an authority position requests sex or a sexual relationship in exchange for professional consideration or favours;
- Harmful or prejudicial verbal comments, written comments, or visual images related to gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, race, religion, socio-economic status, disability, age, appearance, body size, or other personal characteristics;
- Inappropriate use of nudity and/or sexual images
- Unwelcome or uninvited attention or contact
- Physical assault (including unwelcome touching or groping);
- Real or implied threat of physical harm;
- Real or implied threat of professional or financial damage or harm;
- Body policing, unwelcome photography or recording;
- Doxing
- Harassment does not include respectful disagreement or reasonable and respectful critique made in good faith.

SCBWI continues to welcome and appreciate presentation of appropriate controversial ideas, free speech, and creative artistic expression. SCBWI encourages members to hold one another accountable to the Code of Conduct as stated in this part of the Policy and to take the perspectives of others seriously when a disagreement arises.

We expect all participants at SCBWI activities, meetings, and networking events to abide by this Anti-Harassment Policy in all venues, including sanctioned events, ancillary events, unofficial events, and social gatherings.

Go to <https://www.scbwi.org/anti-harassment-statement/> to read full Anti-Harassment Policy.

We recognise all diverse experiences, including (but not limited to) LGBTQIA+, BAME, gender diversity, people with disabilities, and ethnic, cultural, and religious minorities. We subscribe to a broad definition of disability, which includes but is not limited to physical, sensory, cognitive, intellectual, or developmental disabilities, chronic conditions, and mental illnesses (this may also include addiction). Furthermore, we subscribe to a social model of disability, which presents disability as created by barriers in the social environment, due to lack of equal access, stereotyping, and other forms of marginalisation.

COVID19 Policy

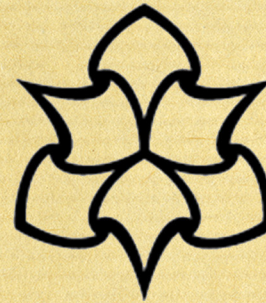
You **MUST NOT** attend the SCBWI British Isles Conference 2023 at MMU if you have tested positive for Covid within 5 days of attendance. If you tested positive 5-10 days before the conference, please check a lateral flow or PCR prior to attending and only attend the conference if either is negative. If you feel unwell, or you have been in contact with someone with confirmed COVID-19 or who is displaying symptoms of COVID-19, please undertake a lateral flow test or PCR and only attend the conference if either is negative.



SCBWI

BRITISH ISLES Annual Conference 2023 IN SEARCH OF WONDER

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