



SCBWI Oregon Illustrators

Illustration: Deborah Hocking

Illustrator News January/February 2024

Here we go again! It's the chilly dawn of a New Year and the creative spirit is on-the-move! Although you may not feel it right now, I am envisioning that many of our quirky, poignant, funny, and inspired illustrations and stories will find their way into books this year - so, let's get going!

Sometimes though, the 'get-going' part is not so easy. *What might help?* How about getting together with peers to sketch and chat and share ideas? If that sounds fun, here's something we hope will enliven your process in 2024! We're planning to initiate **DRAW TOGETHER** sessions this spring, first throughout the Portland area and at the Oregon Coast, then we'll expand to other regions as interest allows.

Our first *Portland* session will happen in MARCH and we need your input: which part of town should we meet in first? Just let us know by clicking below. *Thanks!*

DRAW TOGETHER-VOTE YOUR CHOICE!



What part of Portland would you to prefer to meet in?

NW Portland

SW Portland

N Portland

NE Portland

SE Portland

JANUARY Featured Oregon Illustrator



JULIET YENGLIN

Oregon SCBWI Featured Illustrator

This month's *Featured Illustrator* is: **Juliet Yenglin**. Check out her playful illustrations and learn about her journey as a KidLit artist - just click the link below. *Oh!* And she's shared some valuable tips, too. Here they are:

Juliet's 2024 Tips:

- Share stories that resonate with your heart.
- Be disciplined. Put in the time. Create. Write. Draw. Keep sketchbooks. Learn. Listen. Know when to reflect.
- Recognize when the moment chooses you, then act on it.
- Be resilient in adverse situations when your creative work doesn't resonate with others. The concepts of "no" and "yes" exist in the same universe. An authentic critique and reflection can shift a thought or story. Equally important is the honesty found in the first raw gesture sketch.
- Find a creative community to work with and be open to change. When new voices and perspectives enter into a creative realm, amazing stories take hold.

Thanks, Juliet, for sharing your experience and insights!

Featured Illustrator

Would **YOU** like to be featured?

Just contact Robin at oregon-ic@scbwi.org.

SCBWI AWARDS AND GRANTS for Illustrators

Become an SCBWI Featured Illustrator, win a Draw This monthly prompt, or apply for the Don Freeman Work-in-Progress Grant - *submissions open in March!* Visit the awards page to learn more and get those deadlines in your calendar!



Curated SCBWI Event Listings



- Many regional listings are available on the SCBWI website [HERE](#). They're updated quite often so check back. In the meantime, here are some upcoming events you might enjoy.

Make Marketing Work For You!

With Will Taylor - FREE

January 27: Presented by Western Washington
[Registration is Open](#)

Will shares how to create simple systems that take the guesswork out of marketing and leave you reassured, relaxed, and ready to focus on your real work. Come learn to make your marketing process easier, more fun, and more effective!



Connecting with Readers

Sarah McDavis- \$15 (members)

February 1: Presented by Maryland/Deleware/W. Virginia
[Registration is Open](#)

Join Sarah McDavis for this webinar to help you decide where to publicize yourself on social media, pitfalls to avoid when posting, and the # one mistake people make with their email list. Learn how to create an overall strategy that works for you!



The Promise of a Good Beginning: LEVEL UP

With Erin Dionne - \$10

February 10: Presented by SCBWI Oregon
[Registration is Open](#)

A *strong beginning* is critical for any story: It sets the story in motion, hooks a reader/agent/editor, and establishes character. With some short exercises, examples, and Q and A, attendees will leave this webinar with the tools they need to keep the promises made to readers in their *strong beginnings*.



Great for Author-Illustrators:

Marginalized Voices in Picture Books

Multiple presenters - \$10

February 24: Presented by San Diego Region
[Registration is Open](#)

Meeg Pincus (she/her, author), Meridth McKean Gimbel (they/them, illustrator), and Kelly Delaney (she/her, editor) will discuss creating sensitive and authentic portrayals of historically-marginalized (in this case, transgender) people. They also will walk us through brief exercises.



Building a Visual World: LEVEL UP

With Chamisa Kellogg- \$10

March 14: Presented by SCBWI Oregon
[Registration is Open](#)

In this workshop, we'll take a look at how some of today's working illustrators have created unique worlds for their books, as well as stories that have been told and retold, each time in a new and interesting way. We'll then spend some time dreaming up our own worlds for a classic story, and make our own unique interpretations through mood boards and sketching, or even a written description.



DRAW THIS
January prompt :

DRAGON

Submit by: last day of the month

SUBMIT HERE



Have a Listen:
[SCBWI Podcasts](#)

I often feel nostalgic when the New Year rises. Old friends, memories, love, and family intermingle with ideas that are waiting, suspended in the creative ethers, for me to pay attention. My only resolution this year is to pay good attention to those I love, and to the creative energy that moves through me. How about you?



Robin Chilstrom
Oregon Illustrator
Coordinator

Robin

oregon-ic@SCBWI.org

Wise advice from the SCBWI Illustrator Advisory Team:

When the solution won't come and you've tried everything -



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SCBWI Oregon | 6363 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 425, Los Angeles, CA 90048

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