

## Program: Saturday 19 October 2019

*(Note: Catering included in attendance fee for Saturday only)*

9.00am - 9.15am	<b>Welcome.</b> Announcement of the winner of the Book Links Mentorship – <i>Robyn Sheahan-Bright</i>	
9.15am – 10.30am	<b>Publishing with Passion: a panel session with publishers</b> <b>Chair:</b> <i>Robyn Sheahan Bright</i> <b>Speakers:</b> <i>Marisa Pintado</i> (Hardie Grant), <i>Susannah Chambers</i> (Allen & Unwin), <i>Rowena Beresford</i> (Yellow Brick Books), <i>Rochelle Manners</i> (Wombat Books, Rhiza Edge), <i>Sarah Davis</i> (Walker Books) <p>This session will offer an insight into the publishing process – what publishers are looking for in assessing or commissioning a manuscript, and the key professional aspects of publishing. It will cover some of the ways in which publishers promote their works in the general trade market – via social media, for example; and also in schools – how they link books with the Australian Curriculum via teachers’ notes or other materials. What are the trends? What are their recent releases? What has changed in publishing in recent times? What is their ‘top tip’ to being published? This session will also allow audience members to quiz panellists about these and other topics relevant to being published.</p>	
10.30am – 11.00am	<b>Morning Tea and Display of illustration portfolios in the Queensland Writers Centre</b>	
11.00am - 12.00pm	<b>Writing and Illustrating with Passion: a panel session with book creators</b> <b>Chair:</b> <i>Robyn Sheahan Bright</i> <b>Speakers:</b> <i>Sarah Davis, Lisa Shanahan, Heath McKenzie, Mark Greenwood and Frané Lessac</i> <p>This session will trace five acclaimed writers’ and illustrators’ creative journeys. How did they get started? What are the main ways in which they have been assisted in their careers? What are the challenges or pitfalls? What drives their passion for writing or illustration, eg. a quest for the perfect picture book, an interest in non-fiction, digital media, or some other aspect of their craft? How would they describe their writing/illustrating process? What is their ‘top tip’ to prospective writers or illustrators? And as advice to teachers and librarians, what is one good idea with which to engage young writers and readers?</p>	
	<b>Session One</b>	<b>Session Two</b>
12.15pm – 1.15pm	<b><i>Alex Adsett</i> – Critiquing pitches – Live pitching sessions with critiques</b> <p>If you have ever wondered what a good pitch looks like, or are nervous about how best to tell people about your beloved manuscript, come along for this hands-on pitch workshop with literary agent Alex Adsett. Alex will give a short overview on what makes a good pitch, and then we will launch in to live 2 minute pitches from the audience, with critiques from</p>	<b><i>Frané Lessac</i> – Windows into Worlds</b> <p>As authors strive towards diverse and identifiable books for children, how should we balance cultural authenticity with creative interpretation? In this session, Frané shows that this balance is maintained through careful and extensive research, while introducing some of the techniques budding writers can adopt in research.</p>

	Alex on the core elements of the pitch and what could be improved. This will be a fun, informative and interactive session. Please note, the critique is of the pitch itself, not the manuscript. Attendees may submit their names to be called at random to deliver their pitch to the room. It is unlikely everyone will have a chance to pitch, and it is subject to time constraints on the day.	
<b>1.15pm – 2.00pm</b>	<b>Lunch and Display of illustration portfolios in the Queensland Writers Centre</b>	
	<b>Session One</b>	<b>Session Two</b>
<b>2.00pm – 3.00pm</b>	<p><b><i>Mark Greenwood – The History Hunter</i></b></p> <p>Our past is full of mysteries, adventures and curious, larger-than-life characters. The writer's task is to hunt for stories that are meaningful and important and inspire deeper learning and understanding. In this presentation, Mark will focus on methods of researching to balance creative interpretation with historical authenticity, and structuring content to create engaging non-fiction narratives that lead us discover what happened and why, what were the consequences, and why we should care.</p>	<p><b><i>Heath McKenzie - It's all about character design</i></b></p> <p>Whether you're telling a serious or silly story - so much of that story is told simply by how a character looks and how you then bring them to life. In this session, Heath discusses the power and importance of good character design, drawing and building examples along the way.</p>
<b>3.10pm - 4.30pm</b>	<p><b>'First Page' Pitches – Anonymous live pitches to onsite publishers and agents</b></p> <p>The 'first page' pitches will be read aloud by a narrator to a panel of publishers and agents who will provide comment. The audience watch on. This is a blind reading and the audience will not know the identity of the author. Authors will need to submit their manuscripts in advance. The session will also provide other attendees with a chance to learn what attracts the attention of agents and publishers when seeking new books for children's lists.</p>	<p><b><i>Lisa Shanahan - From Seed to Story - Writing picture books</i></b></p> <p>A picture book is a unique meeting place. It's the place where a text meets with the illustrations and the illustrations with a text. It's the place where a child meets with an adult and an adult with a child. It's the place where a child meets with themselves...and also with the world. So much in so little time!</p> <p>So where do great ideas for picture books really come from? And what makes them work? Join award-winning writer Lisa Shanahan, for an inspiring and informative session for writers, parents, teachers and librarians, as she shares what it takes to create a picture book, from the first seed to final story. Discover the importance of the visual text, the way original ideas are often hiding in plain sight and the joy of playing with words.</p>
<b>Manuscript and Portfolio Feedback</b>		
<b>11.00am – 2.55pm:</b> <i>Marisa Pintado</i> (Hardie Grant), <i>Susannah Chambers</i> (Allen & Unwin), <i>Justine Barker</i> (Mayfair Literary Agency), <i>Rowena Beresford</i> (Yellow Brick Books), <i>Rochelle Manners</i> (Wombat Books, Rhiza Edge)		<b>12.20pm – 2.55pm:</b> <i>Sarah Davis</i> (Walker Books)

## Program: Sunday 20 October 2019

**(Note: No catering provided Sunday)**

	Session One	Session Two
10.00am – 4.00pm	<p><b>Lisa Shanahan – Fierce, Funny, True: The Art of Writing for Children</b></p> <p><i>Where do captivating ideas for children's books really come from?</i></p> <p><i>What does it take to write a novel that lingers and lasts?</i></p> <p>Join award-winning writer Lisa Shanahan for an engaging and interactive writing workshop. Explore the essential narrative requirements for writing junior novels and middle grade fiction, including the key differences. Discover how to create convincing, believable characters and how to develop a strong, dynamic voice. Study the important fundamentals of structure, setting, plot, dialogue and emotional resonance.</p> <p>Through practical exercises, discussion and reflection, participants will consider fresh ways of harvesting original ideas from memory and observation, as well as discovering the power and significance of poetic and playful line-by-line writing. Participants will review the importance of editing and redrafting, when and where to deploy a critical eye, and how to process feedback favourably.</p> <p>An overview of the children's book publishing industry will also be given, including issues regarding submission, layout of manuscripts, finding publishers and agents, and the practical daily business of being a writer.</p> <p><b>Participant requirements</b> Bring your favourite children's book</p>	<p><b>Sarah Davis - Illustration Toolbox</b></p> <p>An intensive day designed to give you the essential tools for illustration</p> <p>Morning session:</p> <p>Nuts, Bolts and brass tacks: The business tools</p> <p>How to put together a portfolio, run as a business, submit to publishers, find clients.</p> <p>Afternoon session:</p> <p>Chisels, files and sandpaper: The creative tools</p> <p>Beginning with a shared prompt, participants will work individually to create a finished illustration and in the process will learn how to brainstorm and develop a concept, design a character, and explore basic principles of form, color, line, composition and personal style.</p>
<b>Manuscript and Portfolio Feedback</b>		
<p><b>10.00am – 3.10pm:</b> Marisa Pintado (Hardie Grant), Susannah Chambers (Allen &amp; Unwin), Justine Barker (Mayfair Literary Agency), Rowena Beresford (Yellow Brick Books)</p>		

**Note: No catering provided Sunday. Please bring your lunch. Limited options are available for purchase at nearby cafes.**