



The Centre for Children's Literature



Book Links StoryArts Brisbane Program 2024

Saturday 19 October 2024

8:30 – Registration at The Edge

9:00 – 9:10 - The Edge Auditorium - Welcome. Announcement of the winner of the Book Links Mentorship – Robyn Sheahan-Bright

9:15 – 10:25 - The Edge Auditorium - Publishing with Passion: a panel session with publishers – Speakers: Cathy Vallance (UQP), Meg Whelan (Affirm Press), Marisa Pintado (Hardie Grant), James Layton (Larrikin House), Annabel Barker (Agent) Chair: Robyn Sheahan-Bright

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.

10:25 – 10:30 - View online illustrators' portfolios while caterers set up then throughout the morning tea break.

10:30 – 11:00 - Morning Tea and display of illustration portfolios at **The Edge**

11:00 – 3:40 - The Edge Window Bays - Manuscript and Portfolio Feedback

Cathy Vallance (UQP), Meg Whelan (Affirm Press), Marisa Pintado (Hardie Grant), James Layton (Larrikin House), Annabel Barker (Agent)

11:00 – 12:00 - The Edge Auditorium - Writing and Illustrating with Passion: a panel session with book creators – Speakers: Amie Kaufman, Briony Stewart, Peter Carnavas, Katrin Dreiling Chair: Robyn Sheahan Bright

This session will trace four 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, e.g. 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?

12:05 – 1:05 – The Edge Auditorium – Author strand – Amie Kaufman Intro: Rebecca Sheraton

When Amie Kaufman talks about her book *The World Between Blinks* at festivals, the bookshop sells out. Join us as Amie demonstrates her presentation, then sits down with Rebecca Sheraton to answer her questions -- and yours! -- about the writing of the book, the creation of the presentation, her research process, and much more.

12:05 – 1:05 – Meeting Room 1B – Picture Books strand – Briony Stewart Intro: Lara Cain Gray

How does a 30-year-old pop-song become a picture book? How does a funeral inspire a baby book? Why would anyone illustrate a picture book with a medium they hate? Briony Stewart believes strongly in the narrative power of picture books. In this talk she explores the deep personal connections, unusual processes and stories behind the stories of some of her latest picture book creations including *Gymnastica Fantastica* and her new book *Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about the Tooth Fairy (And Some Things You Didn't)*.

1:10 – 2:20 – Lunch at The Edge Auditorium – Portfolios on display with Yvonne Mes
(Publishers view portfolios 2:00 – 2:20 in a part of the Edge auditorium away from the food.)

2:25 – 3:45 – in The Edge Auditorium – Author strand – Amie Kaufman and Peter Carnavas
Chair: Mia Macrossan

2:25 – 3:45 – in Meeting Room 1B (35) – Picture Book strand - Ask the Artist: Illustrators in Conversation - with each other! Briony Stewart and Katrin Dreiling Chair: Lara Cain Gray

In this session, we invite accomplished picture book artists Briony Stewart and Katrin Dreiling to ask each other their creative FAQs. What's your favourite medium for picture book illustration? Do you prefer to write and illustrate a book, or illustrate someone else's words? How do you digitise your hand drawn artwork? More than a conventional Q & A, this is two professionals in dialogue about the real nitty gritty of publishing from the illustrator's perspective.

4:00 – 5:15 – The Edge Auditorium - 'First Page' Pitches – Mia Macrossan reads. 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 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.

Panel: **Cathy Vallance** (UQP), **Meg Whelan** (Affirm Press), **Marisa Pintado** (Hardie Grant), **James Layton** (Larrikin House), **Annabel Barker** (Agent)

6:30 – BSAB Networking Event at The Plough Inn - MC Yvonne Mes

Activities to get you networking together over food and drinks. An opportunity to actively mingle with industry professionals and creatives.

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Sunday 20 October 2024

8:00 – Registration at The Edge

8:30 – 9:30 - The Edge Window Bays - Pitch party (15 X 3 min pitches) with **Cathy Vallance** (UQP), **Meg Whelan** (Affirm Press), **Marisa Pintado** (Hardie Grant), **Kristy Bushnell** (Freelance Editor), **Annabel Barker** (Agent). Free add-on for those who book a workshop.

9:45 – 3:15 - The Edge Window Bays - Manuscript and Portfolio Feedback: **Cathy Vallance** (UQP), **Meg Whelan** (Affirm Press), **Marisa Pintado** (Hardie Grant), **Kristy Bushnell** (Freelance Editor), **Annabel Barker** (Agent)

9:45 – 12:45 - SLQ Meeting Room 1B - Crafting Distinctive Characters – Amie Kaufman

In this workshop, participants will learn about why voice matters and the many purposes it serves, pick up tips and tricks for building distinctive character voices, discuss how to add depth to their characters through their voice, as well as covering point of view, ensemble casts, unreliable narrators, and more. Come ready to write -- there will be exercises, as well as plenty of time for writing and publishing Q&A!

1:30 – 3:15 - SLQ Meeting Room 1B - Writing stories with heart – Peter Carnavas

In this workshop, Peter will demonstrate how to craft a story that stays with readers, how to write with feeling, without straying into the sentimental. The session will focus on big-picture ideas, character motivation, voice, and the small details of choosing just the right words that leave an impact.

9:45 – 3:15 - SLQ Heritage Room (Level 4) - Picture Book Intensive – Briony Stewart

Author and Illustrator Briony Stewart pulls back the curtain on the creation of some of her latest award-winning picture books and shares some of her tips and processes in this hands-on, full-day workshop. Focusing on tricky areas such as rhyming and cadence, composition, and colour, this workshop will have you scrawling, scribbling and playing with ink in fun, and thoughtful, new ways.

11:00 – 11:20 - Morning Tea | **12:45 – 1:30** – Lunch at workshop venues



**Queensland
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This program is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland

