



Lit Up!
26-29 MAY 2022

Programme Booklet





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Words Go Round

SBC Campus



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Message from the Chairperson

A very warm welcome to the 13th edition of the Asian Festival of Children's Content (AFCC)!

2022 marks a new phase in our collective human and world history. The year 2020 forced us to make changes, in thoughts and actions, as collectively we strove to overcome the hurdles and setbacks continuously being dealt by the pandemic. Now two years later, as the world starts to open up again, it is an apt time to take stock and re-orientate ourselves in this new normal.

This year's festival theme "Lit Up!" asks participants to look forward, to embrace a future with endless possibilities — one where each of our stories has the space to grow and thrive. We encourage you to join us in our continuing journey to explore the boundless potentialities of the human spirit and imagination through the world of children's books and literature.

The hybrid format of this year's festival is certainly a refreshing change from the past two years of wholly online events. We are excited to welcome back in-person participation at AFCC, and look forward to the lively conversations flowing again from the physical interactions among our featured writers, speakers and audience members. Adding to the excitement, we are proud to also present two new programmes at AFCC 2022: The Translation and Publishing Forums. Both forums will bring together experts and practitioners from each sector to discuss current issues, as well as highlight upcoming trends and developments in the industry.

The biennial Hedwig Anuar Children's Book Award marks a return to a physical awards ceremony this year as well, but



with a significant change. The award now recognises the best Singapore children's works in two categories: Picture Book and Middle Grade. With the highest number of submissions received to date, it is heartening to see that creators have sustained their drive and passion to produce many new works for our young readers.

Lastly, on behalf of SBC, I would like to express my deepest thanks to all our Programme Committee members, partners, donors and supporters for your unwavering support of the festival. Your generous contributions have been crucial in enabling AFCC to develop and grow from strength to strength over the years.

I wish you all a most meaningful, engaging and enlightening experience at AFCC.

Claire Chiang

Chairperson

Singapore Book Council

Message from the National Library Board

Heartiest congratulations to the Singapore Book Council (SBC) for organising the 13th Asian Festival of Children's Content (AFCC).

The National Library Board (NLB) is happy to continue to partner the Council in this annual event as a venue sponsor. We are also thrilled to be able to work with the Council to have this as a hybrid event, the first ever for the festival. We hope this will enable even more participants to enjoy the programmes and offerings.

With this year's theme of "Lit Up!", the AFCC presents an apt opportunity to spotlight content that is rich in diversity and representation. From stories about Southeast Asia to sessions looking at inclusive writing and books, such content is compelling for our young readers as they encounter characters and settings that are familiar and close to home. The relatability could spur greater interest to read, as well as encourage empathy and deepen understanding of the cultures and societies around us. It is my hope that writers, illustrators, publishers, translators, parents and educators can do their part to promote these books to inspire all children to read, learn and discover.

Together with like-minded partners like SBC, NLB is committed to encouraging a love for reading, learning and discovery, especially among the young. Through our LAB25 (Libraries and Archives Blueprint 2025) initiatives, we will reimagine our libraries and archives with our partners, to create even more



exciting reading and learning possibilities and experiences for our future generations of readers.

NLB is proud to support SBC in its mission to spotlight Asian content in this new festival format. We wish you a most successful festival.

Ng Cher Pong

Chief Executive Officer

National Library Board



Message from the Executive Director

Warm greetings from the Singapore Book Council! Welcome to our first-ever hybrid edition of the Asian Festival of Children's Content (AFCC) 2022!

After two years of virtual festivals and social distancing, we are immensely excited to finally welcome you to in-person events at AFCC. While digital technology has managed to bring all of us together the past two years in spite of the pandemic, we have sorely missed the physical, human interaction. The energy in the room; the random conversations with someone you bump into; socialising and making new friends—we are honestly happy that we are able to bring back these moments that make the festival experience invigorating and memorable. For those who cannot make it to the festival, fret not: our blended approach of digital and in-person sessions will still offer you the chance to take part and be connected to the wider children's books community.

Our theme this year "Lit Up!" marks a renewed sense of hope and optimism. However, it is also tempered by a rising sense of uncertainty and anxiety, exacerbated by the war in Ukraine and grim economic outlook. But as we have discovered repeatedly during the pandemic, the power of books and stories is truly one of the bright spots that has sustained us through every crisis and challenge. We urge everyone to keep harnessing the power of our stories so that we can face what lies ahead together with hope, courage and empathy.



We are proud to unveil many new features at AFCC this year. We have launched a new section "AFCC Stories" on our website, where we invited a number of the festival's featured writers to write about topics that are close to their hearts. For instance, Singaporean writer Jill Lim shares why it is important to highlight many different stories to capture the complex world of autism, while award-winning UK writer Piers Torday says that he wants to keep on telling eco stories as he believes that it is never too late to confront climate change. Check out all of their essays online (see page 11)!

In addition, we are presenting two new forums, the Translation Forum and Publishing Forum. Translation is a key thrust at AFCC, as we believe that translation provides the crucial bridge to encourage intercultural communication and exchange. It is important that we start building up the cultural quotient in our children through translated books. Internationally renowned

translators like 阿甲 (Ajia), Avery Fischer Udagawa, Lawrence Schimel and many more will be on hand to share their insights and experiences in the field of children's books translation (see page 12).

The publishing industry has obviously gone through myriad disruptions over the past few years, while seeking to recover and future-proof its business moving forward. We have convened noted speakers and experts in the sector from around the world to tackle a range of issues—from creating a resilient business model to leveraging the metaverse, strengthening the practice of diversity, and supporting the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (see page 16).

Do not miss all these exciting programmes—as well as the BIG Female Illustrators Special Gallery and the HABA Awards Ceremony and more—at AFCC 2022! We cannot wait to share all of them with you over these four days. You will still be able to catch the sessions for 30 days on Video-on-Demand after the festival is over. So take your time to experience and explore the festival!

Thank you for joining us! We look forward to seeing you in-person or virtually at AFCC 2022!

William Phuan
Executive Director
Singapore Book Council



About Singapore Book Council

The Singapore Book Council (SBC) is an independent charity with IPC status.

Established in 1968 to support Singapore authors and literature, SBC aims to Build Our Imagine-nation by developing creativity, imagination, original thought and empathy. Our programmes focus on writing, reading, illustration, translation and storytelling. We are committed to developing the literary arts sector through our festivals, training workshops and courses, as well as book awards to recognise excellence.

VISION: International recognition for quality, diverse Singapore literature.

MISSION: To develop, support and advocate a multicultural literary arts sector.

The Book Council grows and advocates Singapore's books and literary arts scene by organising a variety of festivals including the annual Asian Festival of Children's Content; grants prestigious awards such as the biennial Singapore Literature Prize; supports community outreach through the #BuySingLit movement; and builds professional capability through our Academy programmes.

Because it all starts with a story.

SBC is supported by NAC under the Major Company Scheme for the period from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 20242.

For more information, visit www.bookcouncil.sg



Abhi Krish of Nool Monsters teaches children interactive storytelling in விளையாடலாம், கட்டிபுஸ்! (Let's Play, Kattibos!) part of Sing Lit: Read Our World



Storyteller Sheila Wee conducting a class for SBC Academy



Group photo of the winners of SLP 2020 on Zoom

Support the Singapore Book Council

We hope all of you have been keeping safe and well during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In these challenging times, books have become more essential than ever as they are our window to tales of hope, happiness and adventure. When sharing our ideas, stories, and poetry, not only do the different literary voices nourish us, they also challenge us to think critically, inspire us to take a flight of imagination and connect us through a thread of empathy.

Even though our programmes, donations and funding have been adversely impacted by the pandemic, we remain resolute in our mission to support multilingual literature. Over the past year, we have quickly adapted and continued many of our programmes to support the literary community by hosting them online.

However, in order to continue our work and programmes, we need your help. Please consider making a donation to SBC so that we can keep growing and empowering the literary community for now and the future.

All qualifying donations will enjoy a 250% tax deduction. Cash donations will also be eligible for dollar-for-dollar matching from the Cultural Matching Fund (CMF), which means your donation doubles in value.

You may contribute on our Giving.SG donation page:
www.giving.sg/singapore-book-council-limited

Thank you for your generous contribution!

Take care, and continue to read and stay safe!
Singapore Book Council team





SBC Board and Advisory Network

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Claire Chiang
Chua Hong Koon
R Ramachandran
Karen Heng

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Lit Up!

26-29 MAY 2022

About AFCC 2022

Amidst the pandemic, climate change, societal upheavals and numerous challenges that we face today, books serve as an ever-present source of comfort.

They are a beacon of hope and light, with a myriad of stories and ideas that excite, inspire and connect us in many ways.

AFCC 2022 celebrates the theme “Lit Up!”, where we ask participants to embrace a brighter world, filled with exciting possibilities made possible with the illumination that literature brings. We aim to cast a gentle light on stories of the human spirit and perseverance, and explore how books and publishing initiatives are used to tackle pressing issues like the environment, diversity and mental wellness. There’s a mix of online and in-person sessions, so come explore the world of stories for children and young adults with us!



Check out the story behind AFCC 2022's key visual in an exclusive interview with J.H Low.

Acknowledgements

PROGRAMME COMMITTEES

Chairperson: Geraldine Teo-Zuzarte

Writers and Illustrators: David Liew
Kimberly Beeman
Lim Cheng Tju
Loh Chin Ee
Sadidah Said

Teachers and Parents: Angela Anthony
Angela Yang
Elaine Fong
N. Kanniga
Norami Aliza Haron

Cross-Platform: Christopher Guy Shaw
Gerald Cai
Jyotirmoy Saha
Khim Loh
Leslie Lee
Stella Wee

Advisor-at-large: Myra Garces-Bacsal

SPECIAL THANKS

Aronn Lim
Damodaran Ganapathy
Gayatri Satyavarpu
Loo Soo Kiat
Nadhirah Rosli
Voal Voal Wong

SINGAPORE BOOK COUNCIL TEAM

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Hanis Husin
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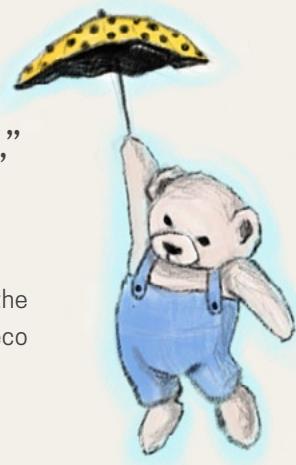
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Interns: Amirra Wardah
Becky Goh Hui Ling
Joy Chiew
Lock Yi Xuan
Nur Amalina Mohamad
Sng Hui Yee

This programme booklet was compiled by Sng Hui Yee.

AFCC Stories

We have launched a new feature on our website, “AFCC Stories,” where we invited a number of the festival’s featured writers to write about topics that are close to their hearts.

Read about why Singaporean writer Jill Lim thinks we need many different voices to capture the complex world of autism, and how award-winning UK writer Piers Torday wants to keep on telling eco stories to confront climate change.



[A World of Hope: An Interview with J.H. Low](#)



[His Stories Provide “Resilient Hope” in Facing Climate Crisis](#)
By Piers Torday



[绘本是有魔力的桥梁 \(Picture Books as Magical Bridges\)](#)
文/阿甲 (By Ajia)



[It Takes Many Voices to Tell The Story of Autism](#)
By Jill Lim



[I Get By With a Little Help From My Books](#)
By Avianti Armand



[Meet the Speaker:
Avery Fischer Udagawa](#)



AFCC STORIES

Check out the essays and many more articles.



THE AFCC LIT LIST

Find out which books influenced them the most as a child as they share their Lit Lists.

Translation Forum

The inaugural Translation Forum at AFCC celebrates those who are passionate about translating children's literature. We focus on the efforts of the translation of stories authored in languages Other Than English, and spotlight ongoing initiatives that seek to nurture translation communities in their own regions.

Admission via Translation Forum Pass or 4-Day Pass (Hybrid and Virtual). See page 100 for ticketing details.



27 MAY (FRIDAY)

10:00am—1:00pm

MASTERCLASS 翻译绘本的艺术

The Art of Translating Picture Books

See session on page 22.

28 MAY (SATURDAY)

1:30pm—3:00pm

PANEL Translation Forum Keynote: Translating Change—One Story at a Time

🗣 Hendarto Setiadi, Nicky Harman, Sawad Hussain // Moderator: Julia Marshall

At AFCC's first-ever Translation Forum, we celebrate the tremendous efforts of those who translate children's literature, especially stories authored in Languages Other Than English. Our speakers discuss why such efforts are necessary and how we can all encourage more widespread translation of children's literature across multiple languages.

3:00pm—4:30pm

PANEL Resources for Translators

🗣 Alexandra Büchler, Avery Fischer Udagawa, Reynald Ocampo, Sabine Müller // Moderator: Shelly Bryant

Are you interested in translation but do not know how and where to start? Learn more in this session about the various resources and support networks for translators, both experienced and inexperienced, and how you can leverage them for your own translation journey.

5:30pm—7:00pm

WORKSHOP **Be in the Know: Buying and Selling Translation Rights**

Speaker: Lawrence Schimel

In this workshop, veteran writer, translator and editor Lawrence Schimel will guide participants on the art of the buying and selling translation rights to children's books, covering negotiating contracts, building networks of rights sellers and buyers, sublicenses, and more.

29 MAY (SUNDAY)

11:30am—12:30pm

PANEL **Translation in Southeast Asia**

Speakers: Hendarto Setiadi, Peeriya Pongsarigun, Reynald Ocampo // Moderator: Daphne Lee

Explore the different initiatives and efforts in place to build children's books translation communities around Southeast Asia in this session. Hear from the speakers as they share more about how they are working to drive the translation movement in each of their countries.

12:30pm—1:30pm

PANEL **Translators Talk: Translating the “Picture Book”**

Speakers: Ajia, Andrew Wong, Lyn Miller-Lachmann // Moderator: Helen Wang

Translating a picture book goes beyond just translating the text, as word and image work hand-in-hand in the storytelling process. This panel of speakers will discuss their approach to translating the picture book, paying particular attention to the treatment of the image and how it may impact or alter the translated version.

2:00pm—3:00pm

PANEL **Translators Talk: Humour in Children’s Books**

Speakers: Emily Balistrieri, Julia Marshall, Yang Shu Hung // Moderator: Holly Thompson

What makes us chuckle in one language might not in another, and this poses a major challenge to translation. Hear from our speakers how they identify the humour in the source text and make sure that it does not get lost in the translation process.

S A L T Singapore Apprenticeship in Literary Translation

A rigorous, six-month industry-orientated training for literary translators for the publishing industry.

**Applications
Open in April**



Grant available!

3:00pm—4:00pm
L16, The Pod

PRESENTATION **Translated Children's Books in Thailand: Challenges and Opportunities**

 John Viano, Peeriya Pongsarigun // Moderator: Shelly Bryant

A disproportionate amount of English children's books are being translated into Southeast Asian languages, compared to Southeast Asian children's books translated into English. To balance this trend, publishers, creators, and translators need to work together to develop competence in translation for international markets. This session discusses both publishers' and translators' viewpoints, the challenges, as well as the opportunities for promoting Southeast Asian titles internationally.

3:30pm—5:00pm

LECTURE **Shifting Perceptions: Translating Stories From Languages Other Than English**

 Avery Fischer Udagawa // Moderator: Malavika Nataraj

In this lecture, 2022 Mildred L. Batchelder awardee, Avery Fischer Udagawa, speaks out on the prevalence of anglocentrism in children's literature. She shares her perspective why we should shift more attention to books being authored in Languages Other Than English, especially under-represented languages, and how we can all do our part to change the industry's perception of translated works.

Publishing Forum

One of two new forums debuting at AFCC 2022. The AFCC Publishing Forum brings together publishers and industry experts from different facets of the book industry to discuss and address pertinent issues in the publishing world.

With topics such as sustainability, technology and innovation, the metaverse, diversity and inclusion – join in to hear how our speakers have sought to address these issues, and participate in the discourse for what lies ahead in the future of children's publishing.

Admission via Publishing Forum Pass or 4-Day Pass (Hybrid and Virtual). See page 100 for ticketing details.

28 MAY (SATURDAY)

9:00am—10:30am

PANEL Publishing Forum Keynote: Resilient Publishing for the Future

🗣 Bodour Al Qasimi, Trasvin Jittidecharak, Trina Ha // Moderator: Chua Hong Koon

What will the future of publishing look like? As we venture into the augmented reality world, diversifying our books and exploring environmental sustainability, we must also not forget other issues that might arise. Join the discussion in this keynote as we touch on copyright issues, technology and industry innovation, and most importantly, the cooperation of all publishers in order for industry resilience.

11:00am—12:00pm

PANEL Publishers Discuss: Diversity and Inclusion in Books

🗣 Radhika Menon, Reni Roxas, Speaker TBC // Moderator: Vanitha Tonn

Shouldn't all children be able to identify with the characters in the stories they read? Publishers share why and how they are diversifying and expanding their publishing catalogues and the challenges they faced in the quest to make every child feel represented.



12:30pm—1:30pm

PANEL The Metaverse: Exploring the Future of Books

Christine Chong, Eric Bartoletti, Jo Lusby // Moderator: José Borghino

Since the onset of the pandemic, the world has seen a gradual shift to the online sphere. From AR technology in books to venturing into the metaverse, we take a look at some of the initiatives that publishers are embarking on to future-proof their businesses.

1:30pm—3:00pm

L16, The Pod

TALK The Flow of Book Information

Rachael McDiarmid // Moderator: Peter Schoppert

Librarians, teachers and bookshop buyers use a variety of methods to assess and purchase new books. How can you make your books discoverable and easier to purchase? The foundation of all book marketing is getting your book information right, and sending that book information out into the world in good time and in good order. How will your book be categorised? How and who will ensure that the information is best managed? Welcome to the wonderful world of book metadata. This session will also feature a preview of a new book information portal from the Singapore Book Publishers Association.

29 MAY (SUNDAY)

9:00am—10:00am

PANEL Publishers Discuss: Supporting the Sustainable Development Goals

Chua Hong Koon, Linda Tan Lingard, Lisa Lyons Johnston // Moderator: Emma House

Explore in this session how publishers who have signed the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Publishers Compact are helping to promote the SDGs through their publishing efforts and curation of books.

9:30am—10:30am

L5, Imagination Room

PANEL Effective Marketing through Social Media

Rachael McDiarmid

In this workshop, marketing expert Rachael McDiarmid will share pointers on how to use popular social media to effectively market your books. What are some of the best ways you can start conversations with your readers? She will discuss the intricacies of the various platforms and how to plan your marketing strategies accordingly.

Lectures

Admission via individual lecture ticket, 1-Day Pass (Hybrid and Virtual) for specific event day or 4-Day Pass (Hybrid and Virtual). See page 100 for ticketing details.



绘本为何有帮助孩子爱上阅读的魔力？

Why Are Picture Books Useful in Developing a Love for Reading in Children?

⌚ 26 May 2022 (Thu) | 1:30pm—3:00pm ⚜ Online

💬 阿甲 Ajia // Moderator: 林美莲 (Connie Lum)

绘本最厉害的地方是它能帮助孩子爱上阅读。其中的秘密在于它最适合的阅读方式恰好能连接孩子和书、连接大人与孩子、连接人与人。作为特殊的“桥梁”，绘本阅读在家庭、学校和社区都能广泛应用，帮助人们在孩子学习和生活的环境中构建适宜的阅读生态。

Hear from Ajia, a well-known figure in the Chinese children's literature scene, on how to maximise the picture book as an educational tool. In this lecture, find out exactly why picture books are beneficial and how to cultivate the love for reading in children.



Finding the Light: Hope and Despair in Children's Literature

⌚ 27 May 2022 (Fri) | 9:00am—10:30am ⚜ Online

💬 Margarita Engle // Moderator: TBC

Amidst the troubles experienced by the world, from the pandemic to environmental disasters to war and destruction, it can be difficult to find the silver lining among the storm clouds hovering overhead. In this lecture, hear from award-winning author Margarita Engle on how she envisions books as a refuge, and the important lessons that they can offer to readers.

This programme is supported by the U.S. Embassy in Singapore



The Role of Stories: Why We Write for Children

⌚ 28 May 2022 (Sat) | 6:00pm—7:30pm ⚜ Online

💬 Piers Torday // Moderator: David Liew

Join award-winning middle grade writer Piers Torday as he expounds on the importance and function of stories in this lecture. Hear from him as he examines the fundamental role that stories play in nurturing the development of children, and delves into the creative process of writing stories with a purpose.



Shifting Perceptions: Translating Stories From Languages Other Than English

⌚ 29 May 2022 (Sun) | 3:30pm—5:00pm 📍 Online
💬 Avery Fischer Udagawa // Moderator: Malavika Nataraj

See session on page 15.



Of Women and Girls: A Study of the Female Figure in Korean Children and YA Literature

⌚ 29 May 2022 (Sun) | 4:00pm—5:30pm 📍 Online
💬 Lee Geum-ye // Moderator: Rosslyn Prosser

In a society which prioritises the male perspective, the female lived experience is more often than not written out of the central narrative. Celebrated children's and YA author Lee Geum-ye brings that perspective to the forefront in her works, writing about sensitive topics such as teenagers' sexual issues and teenage motherhood. Find out more in this lecture how she chooses to wrestle with these heavy topics in a genre that many in Korean society consider taboo.

This programme is supported by the Embassy of the Republic of Korea to the Republic of Singapore.

Workshops

Admission via individual workshop ticket, 1-Day Pass (Hybrid and Virtual) for specific event day or 4-Day Pass (Hybrid and Virtual). See page 100 for ticketing details.



Don't Forget to Laugh: Finding and Using Humour in Children's Literature

⌚ 26 May 2022 (Thu) | 1:30pm—3:00pm ⚽ L5, Imagination Room

👤 Angela Chng, Elizabeth Chua

Humour develops from an early age and has an impact on the various areas of development of a child. Humour can be used to provide an entryway for children to understand the world around them, and is a way of socialisation, providing opportunities for shared moments to connect and develop positive relationships. Research has shown that the use of humour by a teacher can increase the joy for learning in students. In this 1.5-hour workshop, we will look at the correlation between humour and child development and specifically consider the use of humour within children's picture books to nurture their development.



Comics as an Educational Tool (for Educators)

⌚ 28 May 2022 (Sat) | 10:00am—11:30am ⚽ L5, Imagination Room

👤 Arif Rafhan, Melanie Lee

Why do kids love comics so much? How can we use comics as an educational tool? Learn how to introduce complex topics to kids (and adults!) through comics in this session. Roll out your creative juices and get started on creating your own larger-than-life comic... literally!



Be in the Know: Buying and Selling Translation Rights

⌚ 28 May 2022 (Sat) | 5:30pm—7:00pm ⚽ Online

👤 Lawrence Schimel

See session on page 13.



சேர்ந்து உருவாக்கலாம்! - குழந்தைகளுக்கான படப் புத்தகங்கள்

Let's Create Together! – Children's Board Books

⌚ 28 May 2022 (Sat) | 1:00pm—2:30pm 📍 L5, Imagination Room
🗣️ Abhi Krish

குழந்தைகளுக்கான படப் புத்தகங்களை எழுத உங்களுக்கு ஆசையாக இருக்கிறதா? எழுத்தாளர் அபி க்ரிஷ் படங்களை மையமாகக் கொண்டு குழந்தைகளை சிரிக்கவும் சிந்திக்கவும் வைக்கும் பாடல்களை எப்படி எழுதுவது என்று இந்த பட்டறையில் கற்றுத் தருவார். அவர்களின் பெயரையும் பிடித்த விஷயங்களையும் பாடல் வரிகளுடன் கோர்த்து எழுத உதவுவார். புத்தகங்களை உருவாக்கும் முறையைப் பற்றியும் அவர் பகிர்ந்து கொள்வார்.

Join author Abhi Krish in this hands-on session where you will create your very own board book of original Tamil nursery rhymes! Using visuals as inspiration, learn to craft fun stories and express them through catchy rhymes and songs. You can even personalise the text to include your child's name and interests! Get a sneak peek into the publishing process too and what it takes to bring your ideas into print.



Effective Marketing through Social Media

⌚ 29 May 2022 (Sun) | 9:30am—10:30am 📍 L5, Imagination Room
🗣️ Rachael McDiarmid

See session on page 17.

Information correct at time of print. Please check afcc.com.sg for the latest information and updates.

Masterclasses

Admission via masterclass ticket only.
See page 100 for ticketing details.



翻译绘本的艺术

The Art of Translating Picture Books

⌚ 27 May 2022 (Fri) | 10:00am—1:00pm ⚽ Online via Zoom

🗣 阿甲 Ajia

向获奖翻译家阿甲学习如何有效地翻译绘本! 他将在大师班分享翻译绘本 (英文到中文) 的基础知识, 以及如何进一步提高翻译技能的提示和技巧。

Learn from award-winning translator 阿甲 (Ajia) on how to produce effective translations of picture books in this masterclass. He will share the fundamentals of translating picture books (from English to Chinese), along with tips and techniques on how participants can improve their skills further.

This session will be conducted in Mandarin.



Making an Impact with Illustrations

⌚ 4 Jun 2022 (Sat) | 9:00am—12:00pm ⚽ Online via Zoom

🗣 Sydney Smith

Learn from award-winning illustrator Sydney Smith in this masterclass about creating impactful illustrations for picture books. Find out how to create illustrations that do not only convey the narrative, but also portray the unwritten aspects of the story.

CMT Programmes

Admission via individual session ticket, 1-Day Pass (Hybrid and Virtual) for specific event day or 4-Day Pass (Hybrid and Virtual). See page 100 for ticketing details.



Mencipta Unsur Humor dalam Buku Kanak-Kanak Creating Humour in Children's Books

⌚ 26 May 2022 (Thu) | 12:30pm—1:30pm ⚽ Online

🗣 Andina Subarja, Iskandar Syah Ismail // Moderator: Nur Khairiah

Apakah beberapa unsur-unsur penting yang terlibat dalam penciptaan cerita-cerita lucu? Ketahui lebih lanjut dalam sesi ini bagaimana setiap penceramah kami telah menggambarkan humor dalam karya mereka dan jika mereka ada cara-cara yang digemari untuk menggambarkannya.

What are some crucial elements that go into the creating of funny stories? Find out more in this session how each of our speakers has portrayed humour in their works.



从故事学习人生

Learning Life Lessons from Stories

⌚ 27 May 2022 (Fri) | 9:30am—10:30am ⚽ L5, Possibility Room

🗣 陈帅 (Chen Shuai), 管家琪 (Guan Jia Qi), 徐海娜 (Irene Xu) // Moderator: 孙宝琦 (Sun Baoqi)

故事是一种有效的工具, 可通过言简易懂的方式表达和教授抽象概念。演讲者将分享他们如何使用故事教育孩子, 以及这么做的好处。

Stories are an effective tool that can be used to communicate and teach abstract concepts in a simple and understandable way. In this session, hear from the speakers as they share how they have used this medium in teaching children and the benefits of doing so.

This programme is supported by the Taipei Representative Office in Singapore 駐新加坡台北代表處.

CMT PROGRAMMES



Generating Children's Interest in Tamil

⌚ 27 May 2022 (Fri) | 11:30am—12:30pm ⚽ L5, Possibility Room
🗣️ Buveneswari Subramaniam, Razmiah Banu Yacob, Sharanja Jeneeit, Usha Kumaran, Vanitha Tonn // Moderator: Seetha Lakshmi

From books with digital elements to fun games in class, learn more in this session about some exciting initiatives that are in place to cultivate a love for Tamil in children.

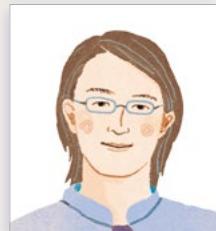


Peranan Animasi Wayang Kulit Untuk Kanak-Kanak Pra Sekolah The Role of Digital Shadow Puppetry in Pre School Classes

⌚ 27 May 2022 (Fri) | 12:00pm—1:00pm ⚽ Online
🗣️ Dahlan Ghani // Moderator: TBC

Dalam sesi ini, para peserta akan mengetahui lebih lanjut tentang penggunaan wayang kulit digital dalam membantu kanak-kanak untuk memupuk penghayatan cerita rakyat dan pemeliharaannya.

In this session, participants will find out more about the usage of digital shadow puppetry in helping young children to foster an appreciation for, and a passion for preserving folk stories.



哪里好笑? What's So Funny?!

⌚ 28 May 2022 (Sat) | 4:00pm—5:00pm

📍 Online

🗣 翁添保 (Ang Thiam Poh), 張筱琦 (Hsiaoichi Chang), 林哲璋 (Lin Che Chang) //
Moderator: Denon Lim

何谓幽默？我们又是如何创造有趣的故事？几位作者将探究其作品所使用的幽默类型，并分享更多关于如何创造有趣故事的技巧和贴士。

What is the definition of humour and how does one create funny stories? The speakers in this session will examine the different types of humour utilised in their works and share more tips and techniques on creating funny stories to attract readers.

This programme is supported by the Taipei Representative Office in Singapore 駐新加坡台北代表處.



Mencipta Buku Bersiri Terkenal untuk Kanak-Kanak Creating a Popular Children's Book Series

⌚ 29 May 2022 (Sun) | 10:00am—11:00am

📍 Online

🗣 Ain Maisarah, Haslindah Mispan, Saridah Hamid, Siti Raudhah //
Moderator: Kartini Anwar

Mencipta sebuah siri buku ialah satu cara untuk para penulis membina nama mereka dan minat pembaca tetapi untuk para penulis yang ingin berbuat demikian, bagaimanakah mereka harus bermula? Sesi ini akan merangkumi perkara yang diperlukan untuk mencipta sebuah siri buku, proses menghasilkannya dan cara untuk mengekalkannya.

Creating a book series is one way for writers to build their brand and a readership following, but how do writers who wish to do so start? This session will dive into what creating a book series entails, the processes of developing a series, and how to continue to sustain it.

CMT PROGRAMMES



童书创作的苦与乐

The Joys and Pains of Writing a Children's Book

⌚ 29 May 2022 (Sun) | 11:30am—12:30pm ⚽ L16, The Pod

🗣 陈帅 (Chen Shuai), 虎威 (Hu Wei), 邓秀茵 (Tang Show Yin) //
Moderator: 苏章恺 (Su Zhangkai)

创作儿童读物会是什么样的一种过程呢? 几位儿童书籍作家将探讨与分享他们各自的写作方法以及创作心得。

What goes into the writing of a children's book? Join our authors as they discuss their creative processes in the creation of a children's book.



சேர்ந்து உருவாக்கலாம்! - குழந்தைகளுக்கான படப் புத்தகங்கள்

Let's Create Together! – Children's Board Books

See session on page 21.

Writer's Pitch 2022

Brush up on your presentation skills and make a date with our panellists of this year's AFCC Writer's Pitch to pitch your original children's / YA book or story idea to them for the chance to turn your proposal into a reality. All the best for your pitch!

Date: 29 May (Sunday)

Time: 10am to 11am (SGT)

Format: Online via Zoom



Scan code for more information





GIF + COMIC COVER CHALLENGE

Create an animated GIF or Comic Cover over the weekend based on short texts by authors featured at the Asian Festival of Children's Content 2022!

The GIF Challenge is an annual collaboration between the Putnam School of Film & Animation (LASALLE College of the Arts) and the Singapore Book Council.

Participants had two days (26–27 Feb) to create either an animated GIF or illustrate a comic cover based on a selection of short texts provided by authors from the Asian Festival of Children's Content (AFCC) 2022.

12 entries were shortlisted for the GIF challenge, and 14 entries were shortlisted for the Comic Cover Challenge. The winners were selected by an esteemed panel of judges. Winners will be presented with prizes like Wacom tablets and AFCC passes and animation guide books!

Find out more about the winners on our website.



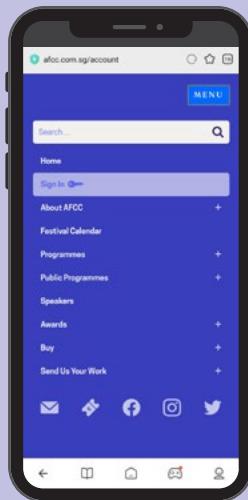
Create your own Festival Calendar

Heart the sessions you want to attend



02. Heart it!

Simply tap the heart button when you see it to add sessions to your calendar. Curate your own experience!



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Email Address

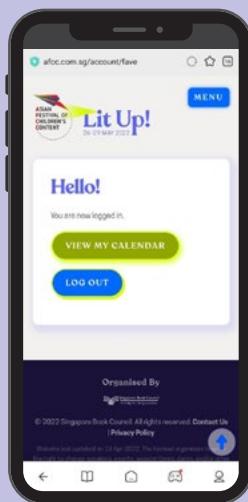
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SIGN IN

Don't have an account? [Sign up here](#)

01. Create an Account

Create an account to plan your journey at AFCC with the new Festival Calendar function!



03. View it!

Click "My Calendar" to see all the sessions you have favourited. Sessions are categorised by day. Now you won't miss any of them!

Calendar: 26 May (Thu)

9AM

9:00AM—10:30AM / L16, THE POD

AFCC Keynote: Light Up with Literature!

10AM

11AM

11:00AM—12:00PM / L5, POSSIBILITY ROOM

A New Spin on Singapore Stories

11:30AM—12:30PM / L16, THE POD

Novel Initiatives to Learn Mother Tongue Languages

12PM

1PM

2PM

1:30PM—2:30PM / L5, POSSIBILITY

Picture Books: Of Buoys & “Strength-Finders”

1:30PM—3:00PM / L5, IMAGINATION

Don't Forget to Laugh: Finding and Using Humour in Children's Literature

1:30PM—2:30PM / L16, THE POD

Writing about Children with Special Needs

3PM

4PM

3:30PM—4:30PM / L5, POSSIBILITY ROOM

Visual Literacy in the 21st Century

3:30PM—4:30PM / L16, THE POD

Keep Moving Forward: Growth and Development through Science and Picture Books

5PM

6PM

9AM

10AM

11AM

11:00AM—12:00PM

Depicting the ‘Unspeakable’

12PM

12:30PM—1:30PM

Mencipta Unsur Humor dalam Buku Kanak-Kanak
Creating Humour in Children’s Books

1:30PM—3:00PM

绘本为何有帮助孩子爱上阅读的魔力？
Why Are Picture Books Useful in Developing a Love for Reading in Children?

3PM

3:00PM—4:00PM

Creative Climate Change Curriculum Through Applied Theatre

4PM

4:30PM—5:30PM

KitaKaya! Cross-Platform Storytelling about the Diversity in Indonesia

5:30PM—6:30PM

Diversity and Inclusion in Children’s Books in Thailand

Calendar: 27 May (Fri)

9AM

9:30AM—10:30AM / L5, POSSIBILITY ROOM

10AM

从故事学习人生

Learning Life Lessons from Stories

9:30AM—10:30AM / L16, THE POD

Environmental Advocacy in Children's Books

11AM

11:30AM—12:30PM / L5, POSSIBILITY ROOM

12PM

Generating Children's Interest in Tamil

11:30AM—12:30PM / L16, THE POD

Developing Critical Reading Skills for our Children

1PM

1:30PM—2:30PM / L16, THE POD

2PM

Popular Romance Tropes in YA Fantasy and How to Write Them

3PM

3:30PM—4:30PM / L16, THE POD

4PM

The Animal Allure

5PM

5:30PM—6:30PM / L5, POSSIBILITY ROOM

6PM

Humour, Heritage and Hawkers

6:00PM—7:30PM / L16, THE POD

Hedwig Anuar Children's Book Award 2022 Awards Ceremony

9AM	9:00AM—10:00AM Bonds, Bridges & Books: Building Better Mental Wellness	9:00AM—10:30AM Finding the Light: Hope and Despair in Children's Literature
10AM	10:00AM—1:00PM 翻译绘本的艺术 The Art of Translating Picture Books	
11AM		11:30AM—12:30PM Stories of Southeast Asia
12PM		12:00PM—1:00PM Peranan Animasi Wayang Kulit Untuk Kanak-Kanak Pra Sekolah (The Role of Digital Shadow Puppetry in Pre School Classes)
1PM		
2PM		
3PM	2:30PM—3:30PM Using Picture Books to Promote Inclusion	
4PM		3:30PM—4:30PM Southeast Asian History as Inspiration: A Look into Children's Historical Fiction
5PM		5:00PM—6:00PM Using STEAM to Motivate the Next Generation in their Learning Journey
6PM		

Calendar: 28 May (Sat)

9AM

9:30AM—10:30AM / L5, POSSIBILITY

10AM

How to Nurture Eco-consciousness through Picture Books

11AM

11:30AM—12:30PM / L5, IMAGINATION ROOM

12PM

Some Talk, Some Action

10:00AM—11:30AM / L5, IMAGINATION

Comics as an Educational Tool (for Educators)

9:30AM—10:30AM / L16, THE POD

When Comics Come to the Classroom

1PM

1:00PM—2:30PM / L5, IMAGINATION ROOM

சேர்ந்து உருவாக்கலாம்! - குழந்தைகளுக்கான படப் புத்தகங்கள்

2PM

Let's Create Together! — Children's Board Books

11:30AM—12:30PM / L16, THE POD

Lighten Up with Laughter: A Serious Look at the Genre of 'Humour'

1:30PM—3:00PM / L16, THE POD

The Flow of Book Information

3PM

3:30PM—4:30PM / L5, IMAGINATION

4PM

Talking Your Way Out!

3:30PM—4:30PM / L16, THE POD

The Struggle with Loss: Books as a Coping Mechanism

5PM

5:00PM—6:00PM / L16, THE POD

Pengembalaan Tim: Developing Different Modes of Publishing Amidst the Pandemic

6PM

	9:00AM—10:30AM Publishing Forum Keynote: Resilient Publishing for the Future	9:00AM—10:00AM Drawn Narratives
10AM		
11AM	10:30AM—11:30AM Finding Humour in the Ordinary	11:00AM—12:00PM Publishers Discuss: Diversity and Inclusion in Books
12PM		
1PM	12:30PM—1:30PM The Metaverse: Exploring the Future of Books	
2PM	1:30PM—3:00PM Translation Forum Keynote: Translating Change—One Story at a Time	
3PM	3:00PM—4:30PM Resources for Translators	
4PM		4:00PM—5:00PM 哪里好笑?! What's So Funny?!
5PM		4:00PM—5:00PM The Art of Writing Romance
6PM	5:30PM—7:00PM Be in the Know: Buying and Selling Translation Rights	6:00PM—7:30PM The Role of Stories: Why We Write for Children
		6:00PM—7:00PM The Wonderful World of Webcomics

Calendar: 29 May (Sun)

9AM

9:30AM—10:30AM / L5, IMAGINATION

Effective Marketing through
Social Media

9:30AM—10:30AM / L5, POSSIBILITY

Classics for Children: Retelling
Stories from Sejarah Melayu (The
Malay Annals)

9:30AM—10:30AM / L16, THE POD

How to Talk to Children About
War

10AM

11AM

11:30AM—1:00PM / L5, IMAGINATION ROOM

Putting Joy into Parenting through Mindfulness

11:30AM—12:30PM / L16, THE POD

童书创作的苦与乐
The Joys and Pains of Writing a Children's Book

12PM

1PM

1:30PM—2:30PM / L5, POSSIBILITY ROOM

Discovering MTL Literature for our Children

1:30PM—2:30PM / L16, THE POD

Collaborating Across Borders in Picture Books

2PM

3PM

3:30PM—5:00PM / L5, IMAGINATION

Dream Big: Draw Giant Comics

3:30PM—4:30PM / L5, POSSIBILITY

Blueprint for Sustainable
Reading Programmes

3:00PM—4:00PM / L16, THE POD

Translated Children's Books
in Thailand: Challenges and
Opportunities

4PM

5PM

6PM

9AM	9:00AM—10:00AM Publishers Discuss: Supporting the Sustainable Development Goals
10AM	10:00AM—11:00AM Mencipta Buku Bersiri Terkenal untuk Kanak-Kanak Creating a Popular Children's Book Series
11AM	
12PM	11:30AM—12:30PM Translation in Southeast Asia
1PM	12:30PM—2:00PM Social-Emotional Learning with Giant Pandas Kai Kai, Jia Jia & Le Le
2PM	2:00PM—3:00PM Translators Talk: Humour in Children's Books
3PM	
4PM	4:00PM—5:30PM Of Women and Girls: A Study of the Female Figure in Korean Children and YA Literature
5PM	
6PM	3:30PM—5:00PM Shifting Perceptions: Translating Stories From Languages Other Than English

26 May (Thu) Sessions

9:00am—10:30am

L16, The Pod

PANEL AFCC Keynote: Light Up with Literature!

讲话者 Angie Chew, Kamini Ramachandran, Neil Humphreys // 指导员: Kim Beeman

In line with this year's festival theme of "Lit Up!", join us at our opening keynote session to celebrate the power of books, literature, and the imagination. Join our speakers in uncovering the positive power and reach of children's literature in today's world.

11:00am—12:00pm

L5, Possibility Room

PANEL A New Spin on Singapore Stories

讲话者 Emily Lim-Leh, Low Ying Ping, Pauline Loh // 指导员: Hwee Goh

Hear from three Singaporean authors each writing for different age groups, picture book; intermediate; middle grade and YA, as they share their experiences crafting brand new stories and adapting old ones by drawing from their heritage. In this session, they share how they mined ideas and developed new angles for new stories.

11:00am—12:00pm

PANEL Depicting the 'Unspeakable'

讲话者 Cheeno Marlo Sayuno, Lee Geum-yi, Nicolas Verstappen // 指导员: Bijal Vachharajani

Explore how children's books have sought to depict difficult issues such as abuse, exploitation and social injustice in this session. The speakers will share about the preparatory work they have undertaken to familiarise themselves with the context at hand, as well as the possible social or cultural biases to avoid when presenting such topics to children.

11:30am—12:30pm

L16, The Pod

PANEL Novel Initiatives to Learn Mother Tongue Languages

讲话者 Darran Kuah, Mohini Gupta, Razmiah Banu Yacob, Shahida Sarhid, Usha Kumaran // 指导员: Zubaidah Mohsen

The search for a resolution to the perennial problem of children's lack of interest in their mother tongue languages is a continuous process. Hear from our speakers how they have strategised to tackle the problem through the various initiatives they have set up, such as the building of a collection of poetry relatable to children and the creation of new books that utilise digital elements.

12:30pm—1:30pm

PANEL Mencipta Unsur Humor dalam Buku Kanak-Kanak

Creating Humour in Children's Books

See session on page 23.

1:30pm—2:30pm
L5, Possibility Room

PRESENTATION **Picture Books: Of Buoys & “Strength-Finders”**

 Amelia Jaishree, Elaine Lee Ee Ling // Moderator: TBC

Picture books can be a source of strength and a channel to build resilience, as they communicate positive messages and knowledge in navigating crises. In this session, be introduced to a range of children's literature that can support the social emotional development of young children. Explore age-appropriate play-based activities for toddlers and preschoolers that can accompany the use of these picture books, and get some general tips on how to select book genres and formats for different age groups.

1:30pm—2:30pm
L16, The Pod

PRESENTATION **Writing about Children with Special Needs**

 Jill Lim, Nur Ilyana Bte Mohd Ali, Speaker TBC // Moderator: Quek Hong Shin

In this session, the panel shares about how they have tackled the topic of special needs and presented it in stories for children. Learn more about how writers can present such topics in an accessible way to children.

1:30pm—3:00pm
L5, Imagination Room

WORKSHOP **Don't Forget to Laugh: Finding and Using Humour in Children's Literature**

See session on page 20.

1:30pm—3:00pm

LECTURE **绘本为何有帮助孩子爱上阅读的魔力？**

Why Are Picture Books Useful in Developing a Love for Reading in Children?

See session on page 18.

3:00pm—4:00pm

PRESENTATION **Creative Climate Change Curriculum Through Applied Theatre**

 Chetna Mehrotra, Roshan Karkera // Moderator: TBC

Rangbhumi Applied Theatre brings a session on creating environmental sustainability practices to promote climate literacy amongst the youth through Applied Arts modalities. The speakers will share their practices that involve the community and youth in schools and show how local practices and cultural practices can be applied to save our Mother Earth, or “Dharti Ma” (Hindi). They will present a live demonstration session on using poetry, books, theatre and social arts to create awareness and education on climate change.

26 MAY (THU) SESSIONS

3:30pm—4:30pm

L5, Possibility Room

PRESENTATION **Visual Literacy in the 21st Century**

🗣 Tanya Chua // Moderator: Thameem Ansari

In the increasing digital age we live in, a new visual language has come to dominate how we communicate information. In this session, get the low-down on what visual literacy is and how it can be used to nurture creative and critical thinking in children. We will explore how complex and sensitive topics such as internet safety and mental health can be made fun and approachable through the teaching of visual literacy.

3:30pm—4:30pm

L16, The Pod

PRESENTATION **Keep Moving Forward: Growth and Development through Science and Picture Books**

🗣 Lisa Zuliana Zulkifli, Mardhiah Mahamood // Moderator: Geraldine Teo-Zuzarte

This session will demonstrate how STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) concepts can be introduced through fiction and non-fiction picture books as an informal learning experience for children. Learn how to develop a healthy growth mentality in children as they get hands-on with the trials and tribulations of gaining scientific skills!

4:30pm—5:30pm

PRESENTATION **KitaKaya! Cross-Platform Storytelling about the Diversity in Indonesia**

🗣 Dandi Ratri Antoro, Farahdilla Muqarrabie, Taqarrabie, Uthe (Meutia Rahima) // Moderator: Shoba Dewey Chugani

This session looks at the wide range of books from the *Kitakaya!* series that showcases the cultural diversity in Indonesia. Learn more about how these stories have been adapted and made accessible through their adaptation into various arts forms, such as musical performances and through digital media.

5:30pm—6:30pm

PANEL **Diversity and Inclusion in Children's Books in Thailand**

🗣 Cheewan Wisasa, John Viano, Krisana Kanjanapa, Vachirawan Tapsua // Moderator: TBC

Find out how diversity in children's picture books drive marketability, facilitate childhood development and classroom outcomes in Thailand. Hear from this panel of writers how they have covered themes of diversity and inclusion in their works and how writers can tap on their rich cultural tapestry to aid content creation.

27 May (Fri) Sessions

IN-PERSON

HYBRID

VIRTUAL

9:00am—10:00am

PRESENTATION **Bonds, Bridges & Books: Building Better Mental Wellness**

Dimity Powell // Moderator: David Liew

In this session, children's author, Dimity Powell, shares how children's literature has the ability to improve the mental and emotional well-being of its readers. She will demonstrate the creative techniques and devices used in the creation of children's literature to deliver mentally diverse, issue-based storylines that both children and adults can relate to and benefit from.

9:00am—10:30am

LECTURE **Finding the Light: Hope and Despair in Children's Literature**

See session on page 18.

9:30am—10:30am

L16, The Pod

PANEL **Environmental Advocacy in Children's Books**

Bijal Vachharajani, Debby Ng, Sarah Ang // Moderator: Nor Lastrina Hamid

Climate change is one of the most important crises that we have to manage in these current times. With studies showing that the Earth is at the precipice of irreversible climate calamity, how can we inspire change and action in the next generation who will have to manage the after-effects? This panel will look at the ways in which children's books have depicted environmental crises and how these books are a good avenue for pushing for change.

9:30am—10:30am

L5, Possibility Room

PANEL **从故事学习人生**

Learning Life Lessons from Stories

See session on page 26.

10:00am—1:00pm

MASTERCLASS **翻译绘本的艺术**

The Art of Translating Picture Books

See session on page 22.

11:30am—12:30pm

PANEL **Stories of Southeast Asia**

Aammon Alias, Hu Wei, Shoba Dewey Chugani // Moderator: TBC

Southeast Asia is a unique region with a diverse array of cultures, languages and traditions. The writers in this panel will each share their own take of what a "Southeast Asian" narrative might mean and discuss the similarities and differences of the experiences depicted in their writing.

27 MAY (FRI) SESSIONS

11:30am—12:30pm
L5, Possibility Room

PANEL Generating Children's Interest in Tamil

See session on page 24.

11:30am—12:30pm
L16, The Pod

PANEL Developing Critical Reading Skills for our Children

🗣 Debra Ann Francisco, Mary George, Sadie-Jane Nunis // Moderator: Loh Chin Ee

In this current age where information is available with a click of a button, it has become increasingly difficult for youths to sift through multiple sources for the facts they require. How then can we equip them with the necessary skills to read smartly and accurately? This panel shares tips and how we can teach children to read with a discerning eye.

12:00pm—1:00pm

PRESENTATION Peranan Animasi Wayang Kulit Untuk Kanak-Kanak Pra Sekolah The Role of Digital Shadow Puppetry in Pre School Classes

See session on page 24.

1:30pm—2:30pm
L16, The Pod

PRESENTATION Popular Romance Tropes in YA Fantasy and How to Write Them

🗣 Joyce Chua, Kayce Teo // Moderator: Vivian Teo

Romance is a common ingredient in Young Adult (YA) literature, and it takes on many different forms. This session will explore five common romance tropes through the YA fantasy genre, such as “friends to lovers”, “enemies to lovers”, and “slow-burn”. Case studies of each will also be discussed.

2:30pm—3:30pm

PRESENTATION Using Picture Books to Promote Inclusion

🗣 Soh Aiwen, Stephanie Ng // Moderator: TBC

What does diversity and inclusivity look like from a preschooler’s perspective? How can we use picture books to discuss abstract topics such as diversity and inclusion? Join us and find out how children’s picture books can come alive as a powerful tool in the classroom! This session focuses on three strategies that can be used during storytelling to promote children’s understanding of diversity and inclusion.

3:30pm—4:30pm

PANEL Southeast Asian History as Inspiration: A Look into Children's Historical Fiction

🗣 Eva Wong Nava, Hannah Ming Yit Ho, Ho Lee-Ling Stephanie // Moderator: Sim Ee Waun

While history is an excellent resource for the creation of stories, the adaptation of history into fiction is a complicated process. Hear from our panel as they discuss the functionality of historical fiction for young

readers and the balancing act between ensuring the objectivity of the historical accounts and their own voice as a fictional writer.

3:30pm—4:30pm
L16, The Pod

PANEL The Animal Allure

Alan John, Lee Gee-eun, Maureen Yeo, Piers Torday // Moderator: David Liew

Animals are a common element in children's literature. Whether they are anthropomorphised or not, there is no denying their appeal to both readers and writers alike. In this session, find out more from the speakers on why they depicted animals in their works, how they have done so and why it remains a favourite writing motif.

This programme is supported by the Embassy of the Republic of Korea to the Republic of Singapore.

5:00pm—6:00pm

PRESENTATION Using STEAM to Motivate the Next Generation in their Learning Journey

Peter ChunYu Yau // Moderator: Jason Polim

How can parents and teachers utilise things like blockchain, NFTs, and digital credentials to motivate the next generation in their learning journey? The speaker will share his experiences from teaching and project development, about how we can apply technology to the learning environment, both at home and at school, to cultivate good reading and writing habits. Peter will share some of the tools and guidelines on how to make it work easily.

5:30pm—6:30pm
L5, Possibility Room

PRESENTATION Humour, Heritage and Hawkers

Janice Khoo, Lianne Ong // Moderator: Caren Lai

Imagine Humpty Dumpty enjoying kaya toast, Jack and Jill grilling satay on a hill and the Three Blind Mice eating chicken rice at the hawker centre. Join Lianne Ong and Janice Khoo as they discuss the role children's authors play in preserving parts of Singapore's heritage with the incorporation of heritage themes in children's literature. They will also share about how they use humour and rhyme to engage their young readers.

6:00pm—7:30pm

Hedwig Anuar Children's Book Award 2022 Awards Ceremony

See information on page 44.

Hedwig Anuar Children's Book Award 2022

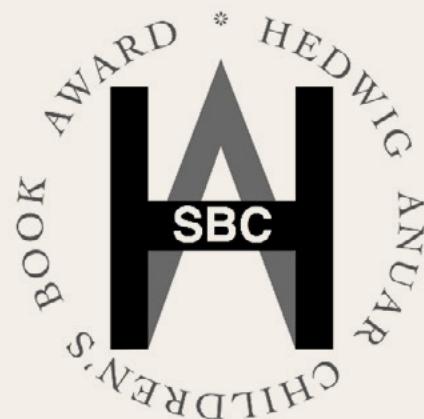
The Hedwig Anuar Children's Book Award (HABA) is presented biennially to an outstanding Singapore children's book. Eight books have been shortlisted for HABA 2022.

This year, the award ceremony will be live-streamed on the Asian Festival of Children's Content (AFCC)'s Facebook page.

The objectives of the award are:

- » To encourage the quality and quantity of books published for children; and
- » To promote the publication of books, set in a familiar and meaningful background that is relevant to Singapore children.

The prize carries a cash award, which is to be shared by the creators of the winning work, i.e. author and illustrator.



Awards Ceremony

27 May 2022 (Friday) 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Catch it live on afcc.com.sg and AFCC Facebook Live

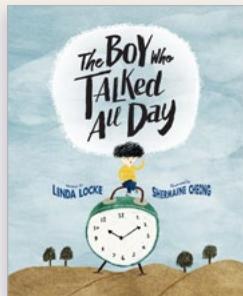
About Mrs Hedwig Anuar

Mrs Hedwig Anuar was the first Singaporean Director of the National Library of Singapore, a position she held from 1960 until her retirement in 1988. She put in place the foundations of the modern library system in Singapore and made contributions to all aspects of library work. This award recognises her outstanding contribution to children's librarianship and the promotion of books and reading for children.



Catch interviews with the creators, the HABA List List, and more!

PICTURE BOOK CATEGORY SHORTLIST



The Boy Who Talked All Day

Author: Linda Locke

Illustrator: Shermaine Cheong

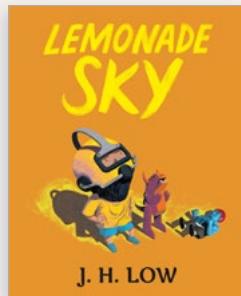
A memorable tale, in playful rhyme, of why we should always pay attention to our surroundings. There once was a boy who loved to talk. He talked so much that he couldn't even notice when danger was coming! *The Boy Who Talked All Day* recalls the classic nursery rhymes, and its whimsical illustrations are certain to delight and amuse children of all ages.



Linda Locke is the co-author of *Agnes and Her Amazing Orchid*, a picture book about the creator of the Vanda Miss Joaquim, and has more than 300 creative awards to her name. She later started her own consultancy, Godmother Pte Ltd, and held several key positions at Club21.



Shermaine Cheong (aka See You See Me) is currently on an illustration journey, which began while she was working in advertising and design. Her love for form, textures, and colours led her to explore how she could bring her ideas to life creatively. Soon, illustration became her outlet to do so. Using a blend of water-soluble colour pencils, pastels, and digital painting, Shermaine hopes to share stories and messages in her illustrations that can brighten one's day, or leave you with something unexpected—making you go “awww” at the simple joys of everyday life and common scenarios. Her work can be viewed at [instagram.com/sysmstudio/](https://www.instagram.com/sysmstudio/).



Lemonade Sky

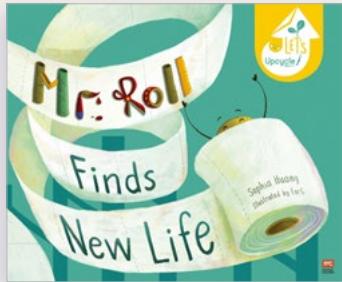
Author/Illustrator: J.H. Low

A powerful story that will move readers of all ages to think about what it means to truly be free. What is it like to fly in the sky? A boy and his faithful friends take a journey of self-discovery in this captivating crossover picture book full of arresting illustrations. In a society that has everything mapped out for him, the boy yearns for a place where he can be himself. Faced with gatekeepers and obstacles, can he succeed?



J.H. Low has a degree in fine art, a MA in Children's Illustration, and a PhD (in The Expressive Potential of the Picturebook Form). A 2016 finalist for Best Children's Title in the Singapore Book Award and the first runner-up for the 2019 Scholastic Picturebook Award, J.H. Low is known for his masterful artworks and creative narratives. His recent picture book *Lemonade Sky* is featured in the White Ravens catalogue 2021. His latest published book *Mr Goodchild*, is a cryptic graphic novel that revolves around the life of an anthropomorphic goat.

PICTURE BOOK CATEGORY SHORTLIST



Mr Roll Finds New Life

Author: Sophia Huang
Illustrator: EorG

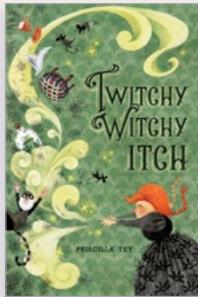
Mr Roll is a regular toilet paper tube. He is hardworking and does his job well. But when the paper runs out, he is tossed aside and labelled as trash... Is this the end for Mr Roll? Come along with Mr Roll as he discovers that there is so much more that he can be.



Sophia Huang is passionate about upcycling materials into toys and art with her three children, a hobby she shares on her Facebook page, Craftcycle for Kids. Her work is regularly featured in the media, and she has also participated in a video campaign by the National Environment Agency aimed at lowering consumption and waste in Singapore. A highly sought after speaker, she enjoys introducing the concept of upcycling to preschool and primary school children through author visits and hands-on craft and storytelling workshops.



Evelyn Ghozalli has illustrated more than 80 children's stories and written several under the pseudonym EorG, and has won several awards, including the Samsung KidsTime Award 2016, Best Illustrator Award at the Islamic Book Fair 2018 and the Indonesia Art Award 2018. She is also the founder of the Indonesian Children's Book Illustrators Circle (KELIR).



Twitchy Witchy Itch

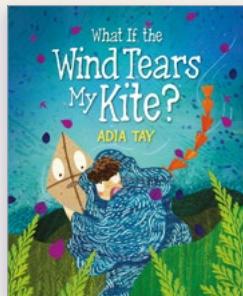
Author/Illustrator: Priscilla Tey

Tick, tock! Three cups. Tick, tock! Three saucers. With nine minutes left, everything was ready. Or was it? Itch the witch is having company over for tea. As the Clock counts down to tea o'clock, Itch's mind is in a tizzy: is her house too twitchy? Is her home too itchy? Zipping and zooming, dusting and brooming, Itch sweeps and bewitches the mess away (just in the nick of time). But as soon as her two guests walk in, Itch's housekeeping comes unravelled. How will Itch tame such an itchy, glitchy, fidgety mess? Visual hijinks abound as a nervous witch gets swept away with trying to tidy up before company comes—only to discover that being with friends is what really matters. In this book, Priscilla Tey uses computer-aided design (and evokes familiar computer glitches) to present a delightfully meta, intricately illustrated story that dazzles as it amuses.



Priscilla Tey is an illustrator and picture book maker. A graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD), she also maintains a healthy sheep obsession. Her first picture book *In-Between Things* (Candlewick Press, 2018) featured in *The Wall Street Journal*, and *Publishers Weekly* praised her "quirky, ingenious, and highly disciplined aesthetic" in a starred review. In June 2021, she released *Twitchy Witchy Itch* under Candlewick Press. Priscilla enjoys working with a variety of media from watercolour and gouache, to digital illustration.

MIDDLE-GRADE BOOK CATEGORY SHORTLIST



What If the Wind Tears My Kite?

Author/Illustrator: Adia Tay

A lonely boy chances upon a kite and his life changes forever. A newly found kite fills a boy with wonder. Worried that the wind might blow his kite away, he keeps it close. But kites are meant to fly, so the boy flies his kite, only to have the wind carry it away... A beautifully illustrated book about the what-ifs in life.



Adia Tay is a singer, songwriter, poet and author. She published her first music album, *Kintsugi*, and poetry collection, *Close Enough*, in 2019. And when she isn't noodling away on her guitar, doodling on paper or brooding over beautiful words, she writes stories for children. *What If the Wind Tears My Kite?* is her first picture book.



Mist-Bound: How to Glue Back Grandpa

Author: Daryl Kho

Can a girl, armed only with stories, make her way through a land of myth, magic and monsters, to save her grandfather's shattered memories before they're forever lost?

His only cure? Memory Glue. To brew it, Alexis just needs eight ingredients: stuff like nose hair from a baku (dream-eater), sweat from a duyung (sea siren) and...OK. Maybe some are tricky to find in local supermarkets.

To obtain them Alexis must journey to a realm where the fabled creatures from Grandpa's folktales are alive in the flesh (and often flesh-eating).

At least she'll have fun company: the nasty kenit (forest imp) who'd cast the horrible spell on Grandpa, and her no-nonsense Grandma, who harbours a secret that'll change Alexis' life forever.

Piece of cake, right?

Oh, there's also a deadline.

Can Grandpa be saved before he's forever lost to the mists within his mind?

Based on a true story.



Malaysia-born and Singapore-based, **Daryl Kho** is the author of *Mist-Bound: How to Glue Back Grandpa*, a fantasy novel for families published by Penguin Books SEA. Inspired by his family's experiences, the book aims to raise dementia awareness and appreciation for the elderly as well as for the power of stories. It aspires to stir interest in especially the tales that can be found in our own backyards and in the minds of our elders. More info on Daryl and his book can be found at darylkho.com

MIDDLE-GRADE BOOK CATEGORY SHORTLIST



My BFF is an Alien: Sabotage

Author: Vivian Teo

In the sequel to *My BFF Is an Alien*, best friends Abri and Octavia reunite and embark on a new adventure—in cyberspace. Octavia keeps her promise to Abriana and returns to Singapore. She's accompanied by the trusted General Bin who's tasked to ensure that Octavia—the future ruler of Viridis—is safe. When the two BFFs are together, things don't stay calm for long. A chance encounter with a wild boar is captured on video by a mysterious stranger, and the footage ends up on the internet... and goes viral! The BFFs rush to get it taken down in time and catch the culprit before Octavia's alien identity is exposed to the world.



Vivian Teo worked as a financial journalist and editor for 14 years at major US and UK trade publications. She became a freelance writer to spend more time with her two daughters and write about things close to her heart. This led to, *My BFF Is an Alien*, her first middle-grade novel. She now writes on parenting, education, finance and social issues; her work has been featured in CNA and CNA Lifestyle. She also enjoys blogging on her parenting and lifestyle website at www.vivanteo.com.



Awesome Women of Singapore

Editor: Margaret Thomas

Authors: Debbie Chia, Dr Phyllis Chew

Illustrators: 8EyedSpud, Anngee Neo, Arai Kreva, Cheng Puay Koo, Hafi, Kim Nguyen, Natalie Christian Tan, Niki Koh, Nisa Tuzzakirah S. and Shana Kamaldin

These are the empowering stories of Singapore women who broke the mould and continue to inspire today's generation. From philanthropists to paralympians, the stories of Singapore's awesome women have been collected in one must-have volume featuring the stunning, stylised work of ten female illustrators, including Anngee Neo, 8EyedSpud and PK Cheng. This book was produced in collaboration with the Singapore Council of Women's Organisations (SCWO).



Margaret Thomas spent more than two decades as a journalist. She now works mainly on book projects and in various voluntary roles on the pursuit of gender equality. A founder member in 1985 of the feminist group Association of Women for Action and Research, she has chaired the Singapore Women's Hall of Fame committee since 2013.

Debbie Chia is a writer at Singapore's Hedgehog Communications. She is now based in Berlin with her husband and son. A former intern for the Singapore Council of Women's Organisations during her university days, she also leads a second life as a DJ and record label owner.

Dr Phyllis Chew is the past president of the Association of Women for Action and Research, as well as the University Women's Association (Singapore) and the English Language and Literature Teachers' Association. She was Fulbright's and the Leverhulme

Trust's visiting professor on language, gender and comparative religion from 2010 to 2011.

8EyedSpud is a creative studio founded by Jacqueline Goh and Natalie Kwee. With over 12 years of collective illustration experience, they combine their wild senses of humour and the whimsical nature of drawing to produce meaningful (and fun!) work.

Anngee Neo creates drawings with an emphasis on storytelling with compelling characters. Her quirky, surreal and whimsical works have breathed life into children's books such as *The Rock and the Bird*, *The Crane and the Crab*, *The Trampolines that Nadia Built*, and *Do Gallery Sitters Sit All Day? Things People Really Do in a Museum*.

Arai Kreva, whose real name is Raihana Abdul Rahman, is a visual artist dedicated to urban arts and illustration. She pursues creative endeavours headfirst with big curiosity and an even bigger passion. Her eye for detail transforms her artworks into stories and conversations for her audience.

Cheng Puay Koon is an international best-selling author who loves drawing for children. She has illustrated over 70 picture books, including the *Abbie Rose and the Magic Suitcase* series created with popular writer Neil Humphreys.

Hafi, whose real name is Hafizah Jinal, is a designer who draws. She makes visual interpretations through illustration, design and self-portraiture. Her images often stem from the frank and absurd, but are still relatable.

Kim Nguyen is an illustrator and graphic designer. Beyond her editorial work, her personal practice is centred on the convergence of fiction and reality, with a focus on using alternative narrative formats to examine individual identity, social systems and the lived experience.

Natalie Christian Tan is an illustrator and graphic designer. She dreams up imagery for publishers and local arts entities like the Singapore Drama Educators Association, Ethos Books, Asiapac Books and Delere Press.

Niki Koh is an illustrator and graphic designer who passionately experiments with various visual styles. With her art, she tries to explore feelings of beauty, fear, humour and comfort through a personal lens, and hopes that others may find the same things too.

Nisa' Tuzzakirah S. is an illustrator, all-rounder creative and maker of magical and meaningful things. She is passionate about growth and hope, the exploration of being human, finding joy in normal everyday things and the empowerment of women.

Shana Kamaldin (@littlecorals) is an illustrator who specialises in ink and watercolour. Inspired primarily by nature and botany, her preferred subject matters include local bird species and oddly shaped plants.

THE JUDGES



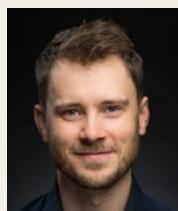
Donna Lim

Dr Donna Lim is a lecturer with the National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. She specialises in primary English Language methodology. Her interest area is in developing literacy with a focus on teaching writing. She has considerable teaching experience with young learners and finds it fulfilling to work with fellow educators to enhance EL teaching and learning. Dr Lim serves as the Chief Judge for HABA 2022.



Adeline Foo

An adjunct lecturer, Adeline Foo has 28 books published in Asia. 10 of her books were Singapore's best-selling children's titles in a ten-year-run. Currently, Adeline is an independent TV researcher-scriptwriter, with five original TV productions. Adeline holds an MFA from NYU Tisch School of the Arts and has also written non-fiction for adults. Adeline is best-known for the successful *Diary of Amos Lee* series of children's books, which has been adapted for television.



Sydney Smith

Sydney Smith is the award-winning author and illustrator of *Small in the City* as well as the illustrator of *I Talk Like a River* by Jordan Scott, *Town Is by the Sea* by Joanne Schwartz, *Sidewalk Flowers* by JonArno Lawson, *The White Cat and the Monk* by Jo Ellen Bogart, among others. Sydney has received multiple awards including four consecutive New York Times Best Illustrated Children's Books Awards, two Kate Greenaway Awards and is nominated for the Hans Christian Andersen Award.

Photo by Steve Farmer.



FINAL CALL FOR SABA 2023 ENTRIES

Calling all Asian writers with authentic Asian-inspired manuscripts. Stand to win SGD 10,000 and a publishing deal with Scholastic Asia.

Submit by

31 OCT 2022

at 5PM Singapore Standard Time

Learn more at
[scholastic.asia/
scholastic-book-award/SABA](http://scholastic.asia/scholastic-book-award/SABA)

Jointly organized by



Singapore Book Council
Building Our Imagine-nation



28 May (Sat) Sessions

9:00am—10:00am

PANEL **Drawn Narratives**

💬 Harmony Becker, Jillian Tamaki, Nurulhuda Izyan // Moderator: Shreya Davies

Illustrations bring a wealth of meaning with them. As an integral part of the graphic novel format, they serve a multitude of purposes in driving the story and communicating unspoken messages to readers. This panel will dive into the works of three illustrator-writers and look at how they have effectively employed the medium in communicating their stories.

9:00am—10:30am

PANEL **Publishing Forum Keynote: Resilient Publishing for the Future**

See session on page 16.

9:30am—10:30am

L5, Possibility Room

PRESENTATION **How to Nurture Eco-consciousness through Picture Books**

💬 Sarah Ang, Sophia Huang // Moderator: Hwee Goh

Our natural environment and its resources are precious and important for us to care and maintain for future generations. Beginning with stories appreciating flora and fauna, to upcycling and conservation themes, this session discusses the way picture books can teach and nurture eco-consciousness in children.

9:30am—10:30am

L16, The Pod

PANEL **When Comics Come to the Classroom**

💬 Charis Loke, Clio Ding, Qiyun // Moderator: Lim Cheng Tju

Before you lament at how children spend all day with their noses stuck in the pages of a comic, take a step back to consider the possibility of comics as an educational resource that can keep a child hooked. Hear from comic aficionados how reading and also making comics can be an ingenious way to breathe life further into lessons in the classroom.

10:00am—11:30am

L5, Imagination Room

WORKSHOP **Comics as an Educational Tool (for Educators)**

See session on page 20.

10:30am—11:30am

TALK **Finding Humour in the Ordinary**

 Shinsuke Yoshitake // Moderator: Eriko Shima

Known for his distinctive illustration style, author-illustrator Shinsuke Yoshitake's unique and humorous take on everyday life has also won him legions of fans and readers. In this session, hear from him as he shares about how to find joy and laughter from the seemingly ordinary.

This session is in Japanese with English subtitles.

11:00am—12:00pm

PANEL **Publishers Discuss: Diversity and Inclusion in Books**

See session on page 17.

11:30am—12:30pm

L16, The Pod

PRESENTATION **Lighten Up with Laughter: A Serious Look at the Genre of ‘Humour’**

 Kate London, Katie Day // Moderator: Low Ying Ping

How do the language and visuals used in books trigger amusement in readers? This session will explore the various types of humour present in books for children, from early years to young adult, across time and cultures. The speakers will also share lists of funny books, their own favourites as well as others.

11:30am—12:30pm

L5, Imagination Room

PRESENTATION **Some Talk, Some Action**

 Maureen Yeo, Swapnil Mishra // Moderator: Elaine Fong

Our children have unlimited potential to make a big difference. How can fictional and nonfictional stories empower them to make that difference by providing information, inspiration, and relatable role models? In this session, authors Swapnil and Maureen will discuss how they have portrayed the topic of social activism in their works.

12:30pm—1:30pm

PANEL **The Metaverse: Exploring the Future of Books**

See session on page 17.

28 MAY (SAT) SESSIONS

1:00pm—2:30pm L5, Imagination Room	WORKSHOP சேர்ந்து உருவாக்கலாம்! - குழந்தைகளுக்கான படப் புத்தகங்கள் Let's Create Together! – Children's Board Books See session on page 21.
1:30pm—3:00pm	TALK The Flow of Book Information See session on page 17.
1:30pm—3:00pm	PANEL Translation Forum Keynote: Translating Change – One Story at a Time See session on page 12.
3:00pm—4:30pm	PANEL Resources for Translators See session on page 12.
3:00pm—4:30pm L16, The Pod	PANEL The Struggle with Loss: Books as a Coping Mechanism 题主 Angie Chew, Avianti Armand, Hannah Goh, May Lim // Moderator: Darel Seow Dealing with loss is never easy—whether it is of a loved one, a treasured item or priceless possession, it is a crucial part of life and imparts important lessons. Learn more in this session how children's books have sought to communicate this difficult topic, and how books can be a helpful coping mechanism in difficult times.
3:30pm—4:30pm L5, Imagination Room	WORKSHOP Talking Your Way Out! See session on page 60.
4:00pm—5:00pm	PANEL The Art of Writing Romance 题主 Ain Maisarah, Pauline Loh, Vicmon // Moderator: Kayce Teo Why are romances appealing? What draws readers to them and why do they often get a bad rep? Join this panel of writers as they dissect the appeal of the genre and share the positive lessons that readers can take away from the genre.

4:00pm—5:00pm

PANEL **哪里好笑?!**

What's So Funny?!

See session on page 25.

5:00pm—6:00pm

L16, The Pod

PANEL **Pengembaraan Tim: Developing Different Modes of Publishing Amidst the Pandemic**

 Maria Mahat, Rhaimie Wahap, Rizal Wahap // Moderator: TBC

When the global pandemic hit, there were many unprecedented disruptions to life. One of the many challenges was balancing screen time for the young with digital content. Learn more about *Pengembaraan Tim*, an augmented reality bilingual Malay-English picture book, which was created to develop alternative modes of teaching and learning. The book presents themes close to the hearts of young children such as marine life and sustainable wild-life education.

5:30pm—7:00pm

WORKSHOP **Be in the Know: Buying and Selling Translation Rights**

See session on page 13.

6:00pm—7:00pm

PRESENTATION **The Wonderful World of Webcomics**

 Fishball, Vicmon, Speaker TBC // Moderator: Lim Cheng Tju

Step in and explore how comics have evolved and expanded from its origins as short, contained narratives in print form to new digital formats. This panel of comics and webtoon creators will discuss why they got into working in the field and how they have each reinvented the form in their own ways.

6:00pm—7:30pm

LECTURE **The Role of Stories: Why We Write for Children**

See session on page 18

29 May (Sun) Sessions

9:00am—10:00am

PANEL Publishers Discuss: Supporting the Sustainable Development Goals

See session on page 17.

9:00am—10:30am

L5, Possibility Room

PRESENTATION Classics for Children: Retelling Stories from Sejarah Melayu (The Malay Annals)

 Hidayah Amin // Moderator: TBC

Asian children are more familiar with the adaptations of Western classics and tend to neglect reading the classics from their own cultures. How can we encourage Asian children to explore more of these classics? This session will look at how old tales and legends from the *Sejarah Melayu* have been given new life in their retelling with augmented reality.

9:30am—10:30am

L16, The Pod

PANEL How to Talk to Children About War

 Danny Jalil, Emily Balistrieri, Margarita Engle, Sim Ee Waun // Moderator: Denise Tan

Conflict, strife, and its many repercussions are never easily understood or talked about. How can we communicate this difficult topic to children? Learn more in this session how each of the speakers have tackled this issue through their works and their approaches depicting the realities of war to children.

10:00am—11:00am

Writer's Pitch

See information on page 25.

10:00am—11:00am

PANEL Mencipta Buku Bersiri Terkenal untuk Kanak-Kanak

Creating a Popular Children's Book Series

See session on page 25.

11:30am—12:30pm

L16, The Pod

PANEL 童书创作的苦与乐

The Joys and Pains of Writing a Children's Book

See session on page 26.

11:30am—12:30pm

PANEL Translation in Southeast Asia

See session on page 13.

11:30am—1:00pm

L5, Imagination Room

WORKSHOP Putting Joy into Parenting through Mindfulness

See session on page 60.

12:30pm—1:30pm

PANEL Translators Talk: Translating the “Picture Book”

See session on page 13.

12:30pm—2:00pm

WORKSHOP Social-Emotional Learning with Giant Pandas Kai Kai, Jia Jia & Le Le

See session on page 61.

1:30pm—2:30pm

L16, The Pod

PANEL Collaborating Across Borders in Picture Books

 Hamdan Ali, Linda Tan Lingard, Maria Mahat, Shahril Samri // Moderator: TBC

While Singapore and Malaysia have many shared histories, stories, cultures and languages, many differences can be found in the context, content and style of children's book publishing in both countries. How did two independent publishing houses from both countries come together during the pandemic to collaborate on a partnership that was mutually beneficial and made the best of talent to develop fresh content to spread the joy of books and reading? Find out how both publishers drove the collaboration forward despite the challenges of the pandemic.

1:30pm—2:30pm

L5, Possibility Room

TALK Discovering MTL Literature for our Children

 Jane Wee, Zubaidah Mohsen // Moderator: Angela Yang

The National Library Board promotes and nurtures lifelong reading and learning in the Mother Tongue Languages through engaging programmes and an extensive collection of digital and physical resources. This session will share the strengths and gaps in Children Literature in MTL, especially local Singapore content, and how translated works can cultivate the love to read in MTL in our children.

2:00pm—3:00pm

PANEL Translators Talk: Humour in Children's Books

See session on page 13.

29 MAY (SUN) SESSIONS

3:00pm—4:00pm

L16, The Pod

PRESENTATION Translated Children's Books in Thailand: Challenges and Opportunities

See session on page 15.

3:30pm—5:00pm

LECTURE Shifting Perceptions: Translating Stories From Languages Other Than English

See session on page 15.

3:30pm—5:00pm

L5, Imagination Room

WORKSHOP Dream Big: Draw Giant Comics

See session on page 61.

3:30pm—4:30pm

L5, Possibility Room

PANEL Blueprint for Sustainable Reading Programmes

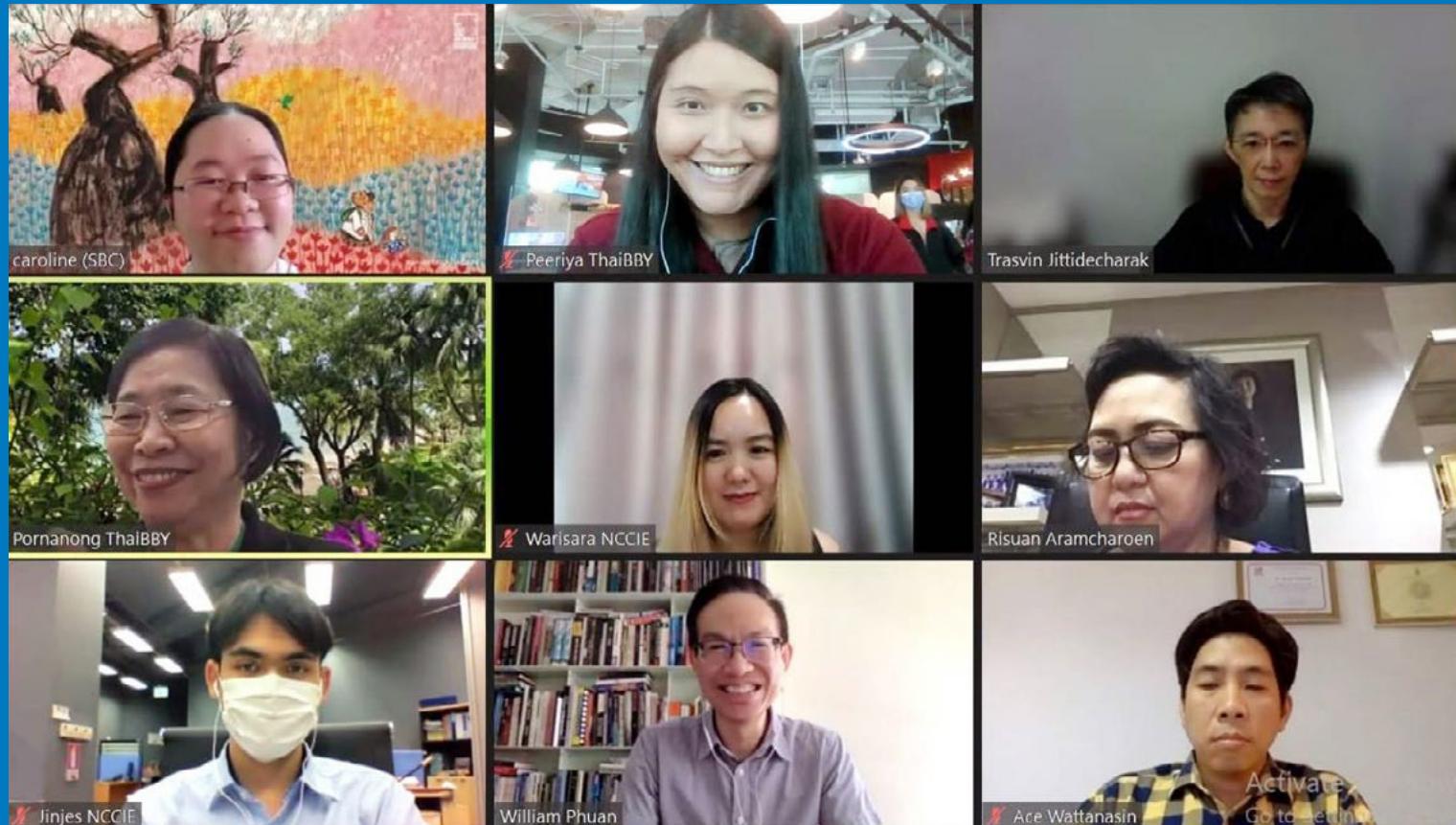
🗣 Katie Day, Shirley Tay, Srividhya Mohan, Vanessa Chng // Moderator: Evelyn Sue Wong

When we hear about book clubs, we might possibly imagine a few bookish people sitting around talking. But can readers come together to be a springboard for engagement and action? Hear from educators, librarians and book lovers who are committed to both promoting reading and raising awareness of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). They will share ideas, toolkits and new resources for programmes that will inspire reading our world, from picture books to YA, with a focus on Asia and making a difference.

4:00pm—5:30pm

LECTURE Of Women and Girls: A Study of the Female Figure in Korean Children and YA Literature

See session on page 19.



AFCC Circle Planning Committee



Can't get enough of AFCC? We're bringing AFCC to the region with AFCC Circle! AFCC Circle promotes and advocates the creation of Asian content for children with the support of literati, publishers and professionals in the region.

The first AFCC Circle will be taking place in Thailand as we build on the success of Thailand being AFCC 2021's Country of Focus. Keep a look out for the launch of AFCC Circle after AFCC 2022!

Check out AFCC website for AFCC Circle.

Public Workshops

Admission via individual ticket only.
See page 100 for ticketing details.



Talking Your Way Out!

⌚ 28 May 2022 (Sat) | 3:30pm—4:30pm ⚽ L5, Imagination Room

👤 Abhi Krish, Evelyn Sue Wong, Quek Hong Shin, Rilla Melati

When mysterious clues pop up across Singapore begging for their true meaning to be uncovered, a group of unsung heroes steps up to the challenge and form... The Super Golis! But they won't be able to do it on their own. Join hands with Singapore's favourite children's storybook characters as they dive through a zany maze of multilingual clues and work together to unlock the final mystery.

Super Golis... Unite! (Psst... Golis are marbles)

Participants will be split into teams. This interactive session will be in English with help (if needed!) to solve clues in Mandarin, Malay and Tamil. Suitable for children from six to nine years.



Putting Joy into Parenting through Mindfulness

⌚ 29 May 2022 (Sun) | 11:30am—1:00pm ⚽ L5, Imagination Room

👤 Angie Chew

When we were planning for kids, we had the perception of parenting as being joyful and full of bliss. As we journey on, challenges, frustrations and even anger surface from the stress of trying to help our kids achieve high academic performance, balancing family and work demands. We may find ourselves mentally exhausted and at a loss of how to parent our kids into independent young adults.

In this workshop, A/Prof Angie Chew will share on the brain science and the mind-body connection through the science research of the effectiveness of applying Mindfulness in parenting.



Social-Emotional Learning with Giant Pandas Kai Kai, Jia Jia & Le Le

⌚ 29 May 2022 (Sun) | 12:30pm—2:00pm ⚜ Online

🗣 Angeline Ho, Karen Chin

Social-emotional learning can be challenging for educators and parents to facilitate. In this webinar, we will explore hands-on activities that encourage children to develop greater self-awareness and practise life skills such as communication and perspective taking. These activities are inspired by our well-loved panda family, and they also offer opportunities for preschools and families to experiment with sustainable art.



Dream Big: Draw Giant Comics

⌚ 29 May 2022 (Sun) | 3:30pm—5:00pm ⚜ L5, Imagination Room

🗣 Arif Rafhan, Melanie Lee

Do you have a big idea for a comic? Is your exercise book too small to contain your epic story? Be bold and experiment — roll out your ideas on a giant piece of paper! Join us to create larger-than-life comics... literally!

Suitable for children eight to 12 years old. Materials will be provided to participants for this session.

Book Illustrators Gallery

Since 2010, the Book Illustrators Gallery (BIG) has showcased diverse artwork from picture books, comics, and graphic novels – and now, webtoons, creative nonfiction books and young adult fiction – by illustrators and artists from Southeast Asia, Asia, and the Asian diaspora.

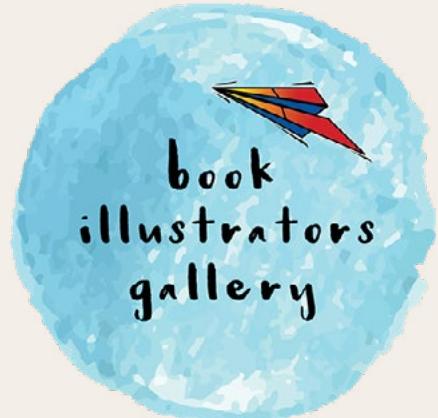
A key feature of the Asian Festival of Children's Content (AFCC), it offers a unique platform for illustrators, authors, publishers and the public to take notice of illustrations from across Asia and beyond.

This year, the gallery is divided into two main sections: one, the Open Submissions gallery that features 150 illustrations by 58 illustrators from 14 countries; and two, the specially curated gallery that features influential, iconic and contemporary female illustrators from Asia.

BIG has been a popular feature at the annual AFCC, where the exhibition was usually held at the National Library. Presented in full digital format, the online exhibition offers a growing, more extensive offering of illustrations than its previous physical editions. This 2022, BIG opens its virtual doors once again, inviting all who support and value illustrations of all shapes and sizes, formats and platforms to discover the best of picture book illustrations from around and beyond our region.



Visit the 2022 Book
Illustrators Gallery



The Lost Bird, by Le Thi Khang (Vietnam)

BIG CURATORS

Germany – Internationale Jugendbibliothek / International Youth Library

The Internationale Jugendbibliothek (International Youth Library), based in Munich, is the world's largest library for international children's books. Its unique collection consists of more than 660,000 books in 250 languages spanning six centuries. The book holdings and historical collections are available to researchers from around the world for scholarly use. The library's central task is to promote global children's and youth literature of high aesthetic and literary quality and of significance for cultural literacy.



The curating team is made up of members of the library's team of in-house and freelance children's literature specialists, responsible for the various language areas. Their work includes curating exhibitions, assessing books for the collection, and organising events. In addition, they select and review books for the IYL's renowned annual "White Ravens" list.

From left: Reina Nakano, Lucia Obi, Claudia Söffner

Philippines – Ang I.N.K.

Ang Ilustrador ng Kabataan (Ang INK) is the Philippines' first and only organisation of illustrators committed to the creation and promotion of illustration for children. Founded in June 1991 as the offshoot of a Children's Book Illustration workshop sponsored by the PBBY (Philippine Board on Books for Young People) and the Goethe-Institut Manila, conducted by German illustrator Reinhard Michl, Ang INK's membership has grown from 21 workshop participants to more than 300 members.



Dani Go

Daniela Go is an illustrator and cartoonist from Manila. She finished her MFA in Illustration Practice at the Maryland Institute College of Art and is an active member of Ang INK. She has collaborated with numerous local creative agencies and has published books with Adarna House and Kado Publishing.



Danielle Florendo

Danielle Florendo is an illustrator and Fine Arts instructor based in Baguio City Philippines. She is a member of Ang Ilustrador ng Kabataan or Ang INK. As an advocate of promoting children's reading literacy and education, she pursues creating visual materials for children in her country.



Nina Martinez

Nina Martinez is an award-winning illustrator in Makati City. She holds a BFA in Visual Communication from the University of the Philippines. She draws for children's books, video, and podcasts, and makes original comics. Her illustration has been published by Adarna House and Bad Student. She is a member of Ang Ilustrador ng Kabataan. Find more at ninamartinezart.com.



BIG CURATORS

Singapore – illo picto

Founded on the premise of bringing ideas to life through illustration and experience making, illo picto is a multi-disciplinary studio specialising in connecting through storytelling. illo picto is a creative trio comprising Darel, Paula and Ben, who were brought together by their common love of picture books. They bring design expertise from the gaming, animation, education and publishing industry together to infuse the power of storytelling in everything they create.



Ben Lai

Ben Lai is a multidisciplinary designer in the toy, publishing and entertainment industry, a picture bookmaker and an advocate of play. He draws inspiration from things that enable people to appreciate their relationships with our surroundings and people and he is always curious about how play can make a difference.



Darel Seow

Darel Seow is a visual storyteller who illustrates the tales of the natural world through his unique brand of wry wit and whimsy. He believes in the draw of storytelling as a means of engagement, creating experiences that simultaneously excite and educate. Particularly interested in museums and culture, he has worked with art, cultural and educational institutions to encourage learning through the power of imagination and play.



Paula Pang

Paula Pang is an illustrator based in Singapore. She draws to make new discoveries, to tell a story and to connect with people. She gathers muse from her curiosity about life and weaves it together with her quiet, whimsical and mischievous nature to create a world where the impossibilities are made possible. Her works have been told to be whimsical and witty with a touch of softness. She chanced upon a chance to illustrate her first children's book Chocolate Bunny in 2011, which led to other publishing opportunities.



The Story of the Mouth and the Hand, by Shih Cheng-Ting (Taiwan)



King of Wu and Yue Shot at Tide God, by Zhou Suolan (China)

South Korea – Korea national section of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY KOREA)

To fulfil IBBY's mission, KBBY works as a network of professionals from both home and abroad, collecting and sharing information on children's and juvenile literature. KBBY also works in close partnership with the other national sections of IBBY to contribute to promoting cross-cultural exchange in children's literature. KBBY organizes international book exhibitions in collaboration with library networks, in efforts to share with the Korean audience the information on global books generated through the awards and activities of IBBY. Moreover, KBBY is committed to providing information on outstanding Korean children's and juvenile literature with readers across the world.



Choi Hyun-kyoung

Choi Hyun-kyoung has been working as a picture book editor in Noran Sangsang Books. She also give lectures at a picture book workshop.



Lee Hyang

Lee Hyang is the children's book editor of Kinderland Publishing. She writes a children's nonfiction or lectures at a picture book workshop.



Noe Jeungmin

Noe Jeungmin is the director of the Hyundai Museum of Kids' Books & Art-MOKA. She received a Ph.D. at the University of Iowa, focusing on art education.



Park Chanseok

Park Chanseok works as a chief editor in Springsunshine Publishers and has been in charge of the planning, drafting and editing of children's books for years. She has also translated several children's books.



I will give you my greetings, by Lee Han-jae (South Korea)



Baba, by Krisana Kanjanapa & Vachirawan Tapsua (India)

BIG CURATORS

Thailand - ThaiBBY

ThaiBBY was first founded in 1979 by lecturers at Srinakarinwirot University under the name, The Children's Reading Development Association (CREDA). ThaiBBY's main mission is to support Thailand's presence in the international book market and sustain Thailand's participation in international organizations involved in children's book publishing. The current leadership of ThaiBBY intends to build upon its successful track record by seeking more opportunities to connect local stakeholders in the children's book industry with international exposure, resources, and assistance.



Atchara Pradit

Atchara Pradit is a Thai expert in children's literature. For over 20 years, she is a lecturer and former Program Chair at Children's Literature B.A. program, Srinakharinwirot university. Atchara is passionate about developing great children's literature for the Thai society. She also edits and translates picture books and YA literature.



Peeriya Pongsarigun

Peeriya Pongsarigun is the ThaiBBY Secretary-General, a co-founder of InterThaiMedia LLC, a translator, an author, and an English lecturer at Chulalongkorn University. Peeriya has written four bilingual children's books and translated more than 150 books, mostly from Thai to English. She also designs and implements teaching techniques to encourage critical and creative thinking.



Vipavi Chakajsongsak

Vipavi Chakajsongsak is a children's book writer and illustrator. She holds a Bachelor of Architecture degree from King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang. She is an editorial board member of Good Books for Thai Children by SCG. She coordinates "Passport to Reading" project to share books with children in Thailand.

Special Gallery: Female Illustrators of Asia



Bijal Vachharajani (India)

When Bijal is not reading a children's book, she's writing or editing one. As a commissioning editor at Pratham Books, she works with a team that dreams up picture books. As an author, her planet-friendly books include *A Cloud Called Bhura*, *Savi and the Memory Keeper*, and *Kitten Trouble*. She is a certified climate worrier.



賴嘉綾 (Charlene Lai) (Taiwan)

Charlene Lai is a picture book reviewer and blogger. She founded The PlayGrounD, a studio that acts as a platform for everything affiliated with picture books. She has also previously curated an exhibition, *The Craft of Picture Books*. In 2017, Charlene was honoured by Scholastic Asia as its Picture Book Ambassador. By the end of 2021, she has had 10 books published.

Speakers



Aammtton Alias (Brunei Darussalam)

Dr. Aammtton Alias is a family physician and the author of thirty-three books of supernatural stories. He has won the Brunei Best-seller Award for Real Ghost Stories of Borneo 2. His *Real Ghost Stories of Borneo* book series is very popular and is the most sought-after book series in Brunei.

» [Stories of Southeast Asia](#)



Abhi Krish (Singapore)

Abhi is the founder of Nool Monsters—a bilingual platform sharing contemporary stories, songs, and approaches for children to learn Tamil playfully. Through laughter, music, and utter silliness, she's raising a generation of wee magical guardians who will protect and usher their mother tongue into the future.

» [சேர்ந்து உறவாக்கலாம்! - குழந்தைகளுக்கான படப்புத்தகங்கள்](#)
Let's Create Together! — Children's Board Books
» [Talking Your Way Out!](#)



Ain Maisarah (Malaysia)

Ain ialah seorang penulis terkenal dari Malaysia yang telah mengarang lebih daripada 150 novel untuk kanak-kanak dan remaja. Dia juga kerap melakukan lawatan sekolah untuk mempromosikan pembacaan dan penulisan kepada kalangan pelajar. Sebelum ini, Ain Masarah merupakan seorang kolumnis untuk akhbar *Berita Harian* dan *Majulah ASUH*, serta buku-bukunya pernah dipertimbangkan untuk filem dan televisyen oleh penyiar Malaysia, ASTRO.

Ain is a prolific writer from Malaysia who has authored over 150 novels for children and young people to date. She also regularly conducts school visits to promote reading and writing among students. A previous columnist for *Berita Harian*

and *Majulah ASUH*, her books have been optioned for film and television by Malaysian broadcaster ASTRO.

- » [Mencipta Buku Bersiri Terkenal untuk Kanak-Kanak](#)
[Creating a Popular Children's Book Series](#)
- » [The Art of Writing Romance](#)



阿甲 (Ajia) (China)

阿甲, 出生于1971年, 现居北京。中国的童书作家、翻译家、阅读推广人, 也是一位颇受欢迎的说故事人。作为独立研究者, 他曾著有《图画书小史》、《帮助孩子爱上阅读: 儿童阅读推广手册》等; 作为图画书创作者, 其作品有《李娜: 做更好的自己》(郁蓉绘)、《画马》(戴敦邦绘)、立体书《哪吒闹海》(刘琦绘)等。他还译有多本童书参考书, 如《亲爱的天才》(伦纳德·马库斯 编著)、《写给未来的艺术家》(艾瑞·卡尔 编著)等; 近20年间他还译有200多本英文图画书, 包括“比得兔的世界”、米菲系列、《晚安月亮》、《野兽出没的地方》, 等等。

Ajia is a Chinese author and translator of children's books, a promoter of reading, an enthusiastic storyteller and a 2022 Carle Honors Bridge Honoree. As an independent researcher, he has written several books including *A Little History of Picture Books and Passion for Reading – A Handbook on Reading Promotion*. Picture books authored by Ajia include *Li Na: Be an Even Better You* illustrated by Yu Rong and *Drawing a horse* illustrated by Dai Dunbang. He has also translated several reference books like *Dear Genius* by Leonard S. Marcus and more than 200 picture books from English to Chinese, such as the *Peter Rabbit Series*, *Goodnight Moon*, and *Where the Wild Things Are*.

- » [翻译绘本的艺术](#)
[The Art of Translating Picture Books](#)
- » [Translators Talk: Translating the "Picture Book"](#)
- » [绘本为何有帮助孩子爱上阅读的魔力?](#)
[Why Are Picture Books Useful in Developing a Love for Reading in Children?](#)



Alan John (Singapore)

Alan is a journalist, writer, and newsroom trainer. He has written two children's picture books with illustrator Quek Hong Shin – *The One And Only Inuka* (2018), which won a Popular Readers' Choice Award, and *Ubin Elephant* (2021). Both were published by Straits Times Press. He has more ideas for children's books about animals and hopes Hong Shin will illustrate them.

» [The Animal Allure](#)



Alexandra Büchler (Czechia/UK)

Alexandra is Director of Literature Across Frontiers, the European Platform for Literary Exchange, Translation and Policy Debate. A cultural manager, editor and translator of numerous books between her native Czech and English, she has served on the board of the advocacy network Culture Action Europe and Translators' Association UK, and sits on the board of ENLIT, the European network of organisations supporting literary translation, of the European Civil Society Platform for Multilingualism and of Wales PEN Cymru, as well as representing LAF on the steering group organising the programme of the Literary Translation Centre at the London Book Fair.

» [Resources for Translators](#)



Amelia Jaishree (Singapore)

Amelia has been mentoring professionals in the education industry in the area of language and literacy for the last 16 years. She is a lecturer at the National Institute of Early Childhood Development and teaches subjects like children's literature, language and literacy, teaching literacy to diverse learners, and teaching techniques for preschool education. Amelia also trains in-service educators in Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programmes and Continuing Education & Training (CET) courses, and conducts workshops for parents.

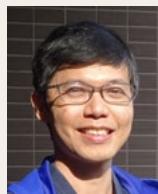
» [Picture Books: Of Buoys & "Strength-Finders"](#)



Andina Subarja (Indonesia)

Andina has been a children's book illustrator since 2013, working along with multiple publishers and children organisations. She lives in Jakarta with her husband and her plastic cacti. She is bad at math, but excels in napping. One of the books she illustrates is *Srima-Rama*, a Room to Read project. She is also the author and illustrator of *Kejutan Kung-kang and Gelinding*.

» [Mencipta Unsur Humor dalam Buku Kanak-Kanak
Creating Humour in Children's Books](#)



Andrew Wong (Singapore/Japan)

Andrew presently resides in Tokyo and once spent more time reading with his children than watching them finish yet another title. Today, he continues to enjoy wandering in and out of bookstores and stories together with his family while pursuing his many passions, one of which includes sharing stories and picture books from Japan. He is a member of SCBWI Japan and translator of *The World's Poorest President Speaks Out*.

» [Translators Talk: Translating the "Picture Book"](#)



翁添保 (Ang Thiam Poh) (Singapore)

九〇年代开始从事漫画创作, 先后在《联合早报》、《星期五周报》、《大拇指》、《早报周刊》拥有漫画专栏。其中, 四格校园漫画这一斑系列, 在学生报连载了29年, 深受家长和学生的喜爱。在近30多年的创作生涯中, 作者总共出版了15本漫画书及一本绘本, 与怕输先生夏宗合作的连环漫画“跳班”除了在学生报连载5年, 后来也结集成书, 并且在2015年拍成5集的真人版电视剧。除了创作漫画, 作者也曾接受教育机构、国家图书馆以及宗乡会馆的邀请, 为华文教育工作者和学生开办漫画入门、漫画与创意、漫画与华文的讲座和工作坊。

Thiam Poh started drawing comics since the 1990s, and has been contributing comic strips to *Lian He Zao Bao*, *Friday Weekly*, *Thumbs Up* and *Zao Bao Zhou Kan* comics' column over the years; his *The Class* series has been published in the newspapers for more than 29 consecutive years. He has collated and published 15 comic books and a picture book during his three-decade long comics

career, and his works are well received by parents and student alike. Apart from drawing comics, Thiam Poh has also conducted workshops related to comics, creativity and Chinese for schools, National Library Board and clan associations.

» [哪里好笑?! What's So Funny?!](#)



Angela Chng (Singapore)

Angela completed her Early Childhood qualifications in Singapore and Australia. She has been a teacher and leader for over 18 years. She had been a lead teacher at Mia Mia Child and Family Study Centre, an internationally renowned demonstration school in Macquarie University, Sydney and is currently the Manager for Curriculum and Research at Pre-School By-The-Park. Living and working in Singapore and Australia, she views her work with children, families and professionals through a bicultural lens. Through her publications and presentations, Angela continues to advocate for the Early Childhood sector and challenges perspectives of children and childhood.

» [Don't Forget to Laugh: Finding and Using Humour in Children's Literature](#)



Angeline Ho (Singapore)

Angeline was in the early childhood industry for eight years before joining the Education team at Mandai Wildlife Group. She continues her passion in engaging young children, educators and families by designing meaningful wildlife experiences for all ages.

» [Social-Emotional Learning with Giant Pandas Kai Kai, Jia Jia & Le Le](#)



Angie Chew (Singapore)

Adj. A/Prof Angie Chew is the Founder and CEO of Brahm Centre, a charity dedicated to promoting healthier and happier living. In recognition of her contributions in the mental health space, she was named "The Straits Times Singaporean of the Year 2019". She is the first certified Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction teacher in Singapore conferred by the Mindfulness Center at Brown University School of Public Health, in collaboration with UMASS

Memorial Health Care's Center for Mindfulness. Angie is also a certified Dot-b and Paws-b Mindfulness teacher from the Mindfulness in Schools Project (UK). In addition, she is a certified Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy Course teacher trained by Oxford University Mindfulness Centre.

» [AFCC Keynote: Light Up with Literature!](#)

» [Putting Joy into Parenting through Mindfulness](#)

» [The Struggle with Loss: Books as a Coping Mechanism](#)



Arif Rafhan (Malaysia)

Arif is a comic artist, illustrator and pre-production artist. His work has been published in more than 20 books to date by MPH, Buku Fixi, Maple Comics, Difference Engine, and Marshall Cavendish. These include comics, content illustrations and cover illustrations. His most recent works include the illustration for the comic book series *Amazing Ash & Superhero Ah Ma*.

» [Comics as an Educational Tool \(for Educators\)](#)

» [Dream Big: Draw Giant Comics](#)



Avery Fischer Udagawa (US/Thailand)

Avery's translations of children's literature from Japanese include the 2022 Mildred L. Batchelder Award-winning novel *Temple Alley Summer* by Sachiko Kashiwaba, illustrated by Miho Satake, and the historical novel *J-Boys: Kazuo's World, Tokyo, 1965* by Shogo Oketani. Her short story translations have appeared in *Kyoto Journal*, *Words Without Borders*, *Tomo: Friendship Through Fiction—An Anthology of Japan Teen Stories*, *The Best Asian Short Stories 2018*, and *A Tapestry of Colours 1: Stories from Asia*. She serves as SCBWI and SCBWI Japan Translator Coordinator.

» [Resources for Translators](#)

» [Shifting Perceptions: Translating Stories From Languages Other Than English](#)



Avianti Armand (Indonesia)

Avianti is a curator and writer. Her short story, *Once Upon a Time There was Mother and Radian*, was awarded the Kompas Best Short Story in 2009. Her collection of poems *Women Whose Names were Erased* won the Kusala Katulistiwa Award in 2011. She is a member of the Literary Committee of the Jakarta Arts Council and has published three illustrated children's story books which help children deal with difficult situations.

- » [The Struggle with Loss: Books as a Coping Mechanism](#)



Bijal Vachharajani (India)

When Bijal is not reading a children's book, she's editing or writing one. She's the author of multiple planet-friendly books including *A Cloud Called Bhura*, *Savi and the Memory Keeper*, and *Kitten Trouble*. As a commissioning editor at Pratham Books, she dreams up picture books. She's now a certified climate worrier.

- » [Environmental Advocacy in Children's Books](#)
- » [Depicting the 'Unspeakable'](#)



Bodour Al Qasimi (United Arab Emirates)

A trailblazer in the global publishing scene, Bodour Al Qasimi, International Publishers Association (IPA) President is creating a positive impact on the world by pushing IPA's agenda on freedom to publish and intellectual property rights. In 2019, Bodour established PublishHer – an informal networking body that seeks to increase the number of women in leadership roles within the publishing industry. As the CEO and founder of Kalimat Publishing Group, she has been an avid advocate of the role of books and literacy to enlighten children. Bodour has a Bachelor's degree in Archaeology and Anthropology from Cambridge University and a Master's degree in Medical Anthropology from University College London.

- » [Publishing Forum Keynote: Resilient Publishing for the Future](#)



Buvaneswari Subramaniam (Singapore)

புலனேஸ்வரி சுப்ரமணியம் ஒரு தமிழ் மொழி ஆசிரியர். பாடல், ஆடல், கதைகள் மற்றும் கைவினைப் படைப்புகளில் நாட்டம் கொண்ட இவர் மாணவர்களின் கற்றலை மையமாகக் கொண்டு பாடங்களை வடிவமைக்கிறார். பாடப்பொருளுடன் விழுமியங்களையும் இணைத்துக் கற்பிக்கிறார். மாணவர்களின் கற்றலை மேம்படுத்தவும், தமிழ் மொழிக் கற்றலை மகிழ்வுட்டும் அனுபவமாக்கவும் தொழில்நுட்பத்தை ஒரு கருவியாகப் பயன்படுத்துகிறார். தாய்மொழிகளைக் கற்றுக்கொள்வது மாணவர்களுக்கு மகிழ்ச்சியான கற்றல் அனுபவமாகவும் தொடர்புபடுத்தக்கூடியதாகவும் இருக்க வேண்டும் என்று இவர் நம்புகிறார்.

Buvaneswari is an educator who is dedicated to her craft of teaching as well as her pupils. She is a Tamil Language teacher, teaching in a local government school. As an artsy teacher with an inclination towards singing, dancing, storytelling and craftwork, she designs student-centric lessons, weaves values in her lessons, and leverages digital technology to enhance pupils' learning and experience of the joy of learning the Tamil Language. She believes that learning Mother Tongue Languages should always be made fun and relatable.

- » [Generating Children's Interest in Tamil](#)



Charis Loke (Malaysia)

Charis is an illustrator, comics editor, and programme designer based in Malaysia. Her illustrations and comics have appeared in books, magazines, games and sidewalks. As Comics Editor and Illustrations Editor at *New Naratif*, she worked with artists to tell engaging, impactful visual stories. She also co-edited *SOUND: A Comics Anthology* with Budjette Tan, featuring 13 stories by Southeast Asian creators. At various points in her life she went to school for biochemistry, education, and visual sociology, and has taught youth and adults both in and beyond the classroom. Her website: charisloke.com

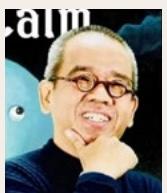
- » [When Comics Come to the Classroom](#)



Cheeno Marlo Sayuno (Philippines)

Cheeno is an Assistant Professor of Communication, Research, and Children's Literature at the University of the Philippines (UP) Los Baños, and a PhD communication candidate at UP Diliman. He has received the prestigious Carlos Palanca memorial awards for Literature and the Philippine Board on Books for Young People's Salanga Prize (honorable mention) for his stories for children. He has published storybooks, various textbooks in communication, media, and related fields.

» [Depicting the 'Unspeakable'](#)



Cheewan Wisasa (Thailand)

Cheewan Wisasa empowers children through his innovative art, placing the reader into the story. Readers learn to cope with their worlds through illustrations tailored to each book, creating an immersive cinematic experience. His mission is to ensure all children can access quality books via reading initiatives, like Passport to Reading.

» [Diversity and Inclusion in Children's Books in Thailand](#)



陈帅 (Chen Shuai) (Singapore)

陈帅, 新加坡公民, 擅长创作儿童与青少年小说。职业是老师。2014年获中国第三届“周庄杯”儿童短篇小说比赛一等奖。2015年以儿童小说《渴》获新加坡“金笔奖”第三名。2018年, 她的少年小说《莫里》获得中国知名的儿童文学大奖青铜葵花奖, 并在中国出版。

Chen Shuai is an ex-teacher who has won various awards such as First Prize in the National Novel Competition and the Bing Xin Prize for Children's Literature Works. Her book titled *The Last Dinosaur of Bukit Timah* launched in 2015. Her latest YA-fiction *Mo Li* was awarded the China Bronze Sunflower Prize in 2018.

» [童书创作的苦与乐](#)

[The Joys and Pains of Writing a Children's Book](#)

» [从故事学习人生](#)

[Learning Life Lessons from Stories](#)



Chetna Mehrotra (India)

Chetna is the founder of Rangbhumi: A Happy Playground, an applied theatre organisation. She is an image expression artist, an applied theatre practitioner, a drama based learning facilitator, a TO (Theatre of Oppressed) practitioner, Playback Theatre practitioner, and a Movement practitioner. She is also a Board member of the International Playback Theatre Network (IPTN) and Pedagogy and Theatre of the Oppressed (PTO) and an Advisory Committee member India Drama and Arts Educators Alliance.

» [Creative Climate Change Curriculum Through Applied Theatre](#)



Christine Chong (Singapore)

The head of Tusitala Books, a digital storytelling studio that reimagines the future of reading where art meets tech, Christine previously worked in academic publishing and arts management. She has a MA in English Literature from the National University of Singapore, and a certificate in Editing from the Graham School at the University of Chicago and attended the Summer Publishing Institute at New York University. She is in the executive committee of the Singapore Book Publishers Association.

» [The Metaverse: Exploring the Future of Books](#)



Chua Hong Koon (Singapore)

Hong Koon is the Publishing Director at World Scientific Publishing Company. He has more than 40 years of publishing experience working with major publishers like Pearson and Oxford University Press. He is a board member of Singapore Book Council (SBC) and the Copyright Licensing and Administration Society of Singapore (CLASS).

» [Publishers Discuss: Supporting the Sustainable Development Goals](#)



Clio Ding (Singapore)

Clio is an art educator who occasionally dabbles with making comics and writing about them. Debuted in *Arena Fantasy Vol.0* (2009) and *Our Months Together* (2015), Clio currently has two titles, *Kevln and Libera Nos A Malos* serialised online via TCZ Studio's PuraComixmag. Clio also writes for SG Cartoon Resource Hub.

» [When Comics Come to the Classroom](#)



Dahan Ghani (Malaysia)

Associate professor Dr Dahan is the head of section for animation at Universiti Kuala Lumpur (UniKL), Malaysian Institute of Information Technology (MIIT) City Campus. With 20 years of experience in teaching multimedia and animation subjects, Dr Dahan has been involved in many research and innovation fields such as multimedia, game design, immersive application (augmented reality and virtual reality), comic and animation studies, short film (videography), creative advertising and many more.

» [Peranan Animasi Wayang Kulit Untuk Kanak-Kanak Pra Sekolah](#)
The Role of Digital Shadow Puppetry in Pre School Classes



Dandi Ratri Antoro (Indonesia)

Dandi is an Indonesian ukulele musical storyteller. He often composes his own children's songs and mixes them with fairy tales. Dandi is also a geographer, which is why he often tells stories and sings songs related to nature and earth.

» [KitaKaya! Cross-Platform Storytelling about the Diversity in Indonesia](#)



Danny Jalil (Singapore)

Danny studied Creative Writing and Screenwriting at LaSalle-SIA College of the Arts, and his novel *The Machine Boy* was a winner of NAC's Beyond Words: Young and Younger Award. He wrote the graphic novels *Lieutenant Adnan* and *The Last Regiment, and Elizabeth Choy: Her Story*, which were illustrated by artist Zaki Ragman and published by

Asiapac Books. His latest historical novel *Enrique The Black*, published by Penguin Random House SEA, is out now. He has spoken at the Singapore Writer's Festival and hosted for the Asian Festival of Children's Content, and conducts writing workshops in conjunction with Singlit Station. Connect with him on Instagram: @dannyjalil_writer

» [How to Talk to Children About War](#)



Darran Kuah (Singapore)

Darran has always had the love for drawing and he spent his free time busy doodling and reading comics. Darran set up Chips and Toon in 2007 and the team created their first original content Stoneboy and it was acquired by Nickelodeon Asia in 2011. In 2015 Darran produced *SharkDog* a new animation series and it was acquired by the Nickelodeon U.S. and subsequently by Netflix in 2020. Darran is currently developing his new project, *Fox Tales*, an original content that focus on Asian culture and mythology.

» [Novel Initiatives to Learn Mother Tongue Languages](#)
» [The Magical Adventure of Snow and Friends](#)



Debby Ng (Singapore)

Debby is a biologist, conservationist, and National Geographic Explorer. She grew up in one of Singapore's last villages, where she fished with her father in wild streams and watched pythons sleep in her front yard. Debby aims to get the world excited about science and enhance our relationship with Nature through compelling stories. Debby is the Founder of the Hantu Blog, a volunteer organization that engages policy makers and enhances ocean-literacy through storytelling, citizen science and ecotourism to protect coral reefs in Singapore. She is a Duke University Global Fellow in Conservation Biology and Policy, and serves on the board of Mongabay, a nonprofit conservation and environmental science news platform that publishes original content in seven languages.

» [Environmental Advocacy in Children's Books](#)



Debra Ann Francisco (Singapore)

Debra taught English Language, Literature and General Paper in MOE schools for more than 14 years. She has been helming educational content development as The Straits Times Schools team's teaching specialist, and working with Singapore schools on the professional development of teachers in news-in-education. Debra has published several award-winning educational resources, including *Mastering English with The Straits Times*, which won the Best Educational Title at the Singapore Book Publishers Awards 2018. She is also the author of a series of five illustrated books for children about the heritage food of Singapore's main ethnic groups.

» [Developing Critical Reading Skills for our Children](#)



Dimity Powell (Australia)

Dimity is award winning children's author and loves filling every spare moment with words. She writes and reviews exclusively for children with over 30 published stories including *This is My Dad, Oswald Messweather* and the critically acclaimed *The Fix-It Man*. She is also the managing editor for *Kids' Book Review*. Dimity is seasoned presenter and dedicated Books in Homes Australia Volunteer role model, Story City community mentor and G.A.T.E.WAYS presenter. Discover more at www.dimitypowell.com.

» [Bonds, Bridges & Books: Building Better Mental Wellness](#)



Elaine Lee Ee Ling (Singapore)

As an educator, Elaine believes in harnessing the power of the imagination, the pleasure of play and the wonder of stories. She has over a decade of experience teaching and working on early literacy projects. Elaine lectures at NIEC (NP) and teaches modules ranging from children's literature to language and literacy. She is also currently serving as an advisor to the Ministry of Social and Family Development for Family Values Education projects targeted at preschools.

» [Picture Books: Of Buoys & "Strength-Finders"](#)



Elizabeth Chua (Singapore)

Elizabeth has been in the sector for seven years and holds a degree qualification in Early Childhood Education from Wheelock College. She journeyed professionally from a classroom teacher, a mentor teacher to centre leadership in the first child study centre in Singapore, The Caterpillar's Cove Child Study and Development Centre. Elizabeth is currently a centre leader at Pre-School By-The-Park. She has presented locally, sharing insights from her classroom and leadership. She believes that instilling a passion for literature in young children is a pathway into education and an opportunity to be exposed to other worlds of meaning-making.

» [Don't Forget to Laugh: Finding and Using Humour in Children's Literature](#)



Emily Balistrieri (US/Japan)

Emily was born in 1985 in Wisconsin and is now based in Tokyo. His published translations include Shaw Kuzki's *Soul Lanterns*, Eiko Kadono's *Kiki's Delivery Service*, and Takaji Ichikawa's *The Refugees' Daughter*. He has also translated fiction by Tomihiko Morimi, Ao Omae, Mikoto Mashita, Kugane Maruyama, Carlo Zen, and many others. He has also done the English subtitles for Takahide Hori's film *Junk Head* and translated Cocosola's mobile game *The Witch's Isle*. Follow him on Twitter: @tiger.

» [How to Talk to Children About War](#)
» [Translators Talk: Humour in Children's Books](#)



Emily Lim-Leh (Singapore)

Emily has authored over 40 children's books and several essays for various publications. She is a three-time IPPY Award winner and the first South-east Asian recipient of the Moonbeam Children's Book Award. Emily was named MediaCorp's Singapore Woman Award Honoree for inspiring readers with her children's books and memoir *Finding My Voice*, which chronicled her journey of losing her voice to a rare illness and finding a new voice in writing.

» [A New Spin on Singapore Stories](#)



Eric Bartoletti (Germany)

After studying business administration, Eric worked as a business broker and investor relations manager for several years, before becoming a self-employed consultant for start-ups and international expansion strategies. In August 2018 he joined Bookwire as Head of Business Development, supporting the Bookwire management in strategic projects and developing new digital services for publishing clients together with his team. This includes audiobook production and podcast services, smart speaker skills, Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A) projects as well as blockchain and NFT applications like www.creatokia.com.

» [The Metaverse: Exploring the Future of Books](#)



Eva Wong Nava (Singapore)

Eva was born on a tropical island where a merlion spouts water. Eva has done many things in life, but writing remains her most favourite thing to do. She combines degrees in literature and art history and writes stories that explore identity, culture, and belonging by adding a dash of magic. Eva has written an award-winning middle-grade book and several picture books.

» [Southeast Asian History as Inspiration: A Look into Children's Historical Fiction](#)



Evelyn Sue Wong (Singapore)

Evelyn is a children's author. Her bilingual and multi-lingual stories have been performed in children's theatre, at festivals and schools. *Just a Little Mynah*, the first in a series, was shortlisted for Best Picture Book in the 2021 Singapore Book Awards. As a researcher and educator, she advocated fair labour practices and sustainable development in Asia.

» [Talking Your Way Out!](#)



Farahdilla Muqarrabie (Indonesia)

Farahdilla works at a game development company as a 2D artist. She is also a freelance content creator and she has worked with various artbook collaborations. Her hobby is drawing comics and experimenting with various visual media.

» [KitaKaya! Cross-Platform Storytelling about the Diversity in Indonesia](#)



Fishball (Malaysia)

Fishball is a freelance artist based in Malaysia. She lives with her (literally) huge boyfriend, and really likes her banana leaf rice drowned in a pool of dahl. She is the creator behind popular webcomic *My Giant Nerd Boyfriend*, where she chronicles her adventures navigating the Malaysian life with her 199cm-tall, geeky boyfriend and all the minor inconveniences a 30-cm height difference might bring.

» [The Wonderful World of Webcomics](#)



管家琪 (Guan Jia Qi) (Taiwan/China)

1960年出生于台湾台北, 祖籍江苏盐城。目前在台湾已出版的童书逾400册, 在中国大陆等地也都有大量的作品出版。曾多次得奖, 譬如金鼎奖、德国法兰克福书展最佳童书等等。作品曾被译为英文、日文、德文及韩文, 并入选两岸三地以及新加坡的语文教材。经常至华文地区中小学与小朋友交流阅读与写作, 广受欢迎。

Guan Jia Qi, whose ancestral hometown is Yancheng City of Jiangsu Province, was born in Taipei, Taiwan in 1960. To date, she has published more than 400 children's books in Taiwan. Many works have also been published in mainland China and other places. She is the holder of multiple awards, including the Golden Tripod Award and Best Children's Book at the Frankfurt Book Fair. Her works have been translated into English, Japanese, German and Korean, and selected as teaching materials in mainland China, Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan and Singapore. She frequently engages in reading and writing exchanges with students from primary and secondary schools, and is well-received.

» [从故事学习人生
Learning Life Lessons from Stories](#)



Hamdan Ali (Malaysia)

Hamdan bin Ali graduated from the Malaysia Institute of Art, majoring in graphic art. He loved drawing as a child and his drawing skills enabled him to earn some pocket money even as a child. After graduating, he worked in advertising before being offered a position in an animation company. He was the artist behind the animation movie, *Usop Sontorian*, aired by Radio Televisyen Malaysia in 1996. Hamdan currently illustrates and writes children's books full-time and has worked with companies such as Blue-T, Creative Enterprise and Berita Publishing.

» [Collaborating Across Borders in Picture Books](#)



Hannah Goh (Singapore)

Hannah is 11 and has always been an avid reader. She enjoys going to school and writing short stories with her best friend. *Steps to Heaven* is her first book. She was inspired from witnessing how her godmother bravely fought cancer and gracefully lived her last days. She hopes that children will enjoy reading the book and parents can explain difficult concepts such as death to their children.

» [The Struggle with Loss: Books as a Coping Mechanism](#)



Hannah Ming Yit Ho (Brunei Darussalam)

Hannah is an assistant professor in English studies at the faculty of arts and social sciences at Universiti Brunei Darussalam. She read her PhD in contemporary Asian diaspora literatures at the University of York. She was a postdoctoral fellow at King's College London and University of California. Her research interests include contemporary anglophone Bruneian literature. Her scholarly work is published in international peer-reviewed journals like Global Society and Southeast Asian Review of English.

» [Southeast Asian History as Inspiration: A Look into Children's Historical Fiction](#)



Harmony Becker (US)

Harmony is an illustrator and author. Her work includes George Takei's Eisner Award winning graphic memoir *They Called Us Enemy* and the graphic novel *Himawari House*, which received six starred trade reviews. She currently lives in Mexico City with her two cats.

» [Drawn Narratives](#)



Haslindah Mispan (Singapore)

Puan Haslindah Mispan merupakan mantan Pakar Peneraju, Bahasa Melayu, Kementerian Pendidikan Singapura. Beliau mempunyai pengalaman lebih daripada 13 tahun mengajarkan Bahasa Melayu di sekolah menengah dan 26 tahun menjalankan tugas-tugas membangun dan merancang Kurikulum Bahasa Melayu dari peringkat prauniversiti sehingga prasekolah di Kementerian Pendidikan. Selain menjadi penyunting bagi Siri Bacaan Nabil dan Nabilah di peringkat prasekolah dan Darjah 1 dan 2, beliau juga terlibat dalam pemilihan bahan-bahan bagi penerima Dana Lee Kuan Yew untuk Dwibahasa.

Mdm Haslindah Mispan was a former Lead Specialist, Malay Language, Ministry of Education. She has more than 13 years of experience teaching Malay Language in secondary schools and 26 years experience in curriculum planning and development. In MOE, she planned and developed instructional materials for teaching and learning for preschool to junior college level. She was involved in the selection of resources for the recipients of the Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism. She was also the editor for the popular and widely used *Nabil dan Nabilah Reader Series* for preschoolers and lower primary students.

» [Mencipta Buku Bersiri Terkenal untuk Kanak-Kanak Creating a Popular Children's Book Series](#)



Hendarto Setiadi (Indonesia)

Hendarto is a freelance translator who works from German and English into his native Bahasa Indonesia. He launched his career in the mid-1980s and to date has translated more than 100 titles, most of them books for children and young readers. Seeking to promote the profession in Indonesia, he joined Himpunan Penerjemah Indonesia (the Association of Indonesian Translators) in 2004 and has since held a number of positions. He currently serves on the advisory board of the organisation. He lives with his family in Bogor near Jakarta and enjoys working from home in the tranquillity of his semi-rural surroundings.

» [Translation Forum Keynote: Translating Change — One Story at a Time](#)

» [Translation in Southeast Asia](#)



Hidayah Amin (Singapore)

Hidayah is a Singapore-born, award-winning author. Her first short story *The Funny Accident* was published when she was 11 years old. When the Singapore government acquired her childhood home, Hidayah resumed writing and published *Gedung Kuning: Memories of a Malay Childhood*. Since then, she has written eight nonfiction books and eight children's books. Her books *The Mango Tree* and *Leluhur: Singapore's Kampong Gelam* have won literary awards.

» [Classics for Children: Retelling Stories from Sejarah Melayu \(The Malay Annals\)](#)



Ho Lee-Ling Stephanie (Singapore)

Lee-Ling (Stephanie) is a Singapore historian and author. She is a partner of The History Workroom LLP, researching and creating history-related content for exhibitions, workshops and publications. Her books, *Habibah: Story of an Island Girl*, and *Adventures of Admiral Zheng He* are inspired by Southeast Asian history.

» [Southeast Asian History as Inspiration: A Look into Children's Historical Fiction](#)



張筱琦 (Hsiaoichi Chang) (Taiwan)

張筱琦是一名插画家，目前居住于台北。她写了甚多儿童读物，包括《反正都可以到嘛！》和《哪邊是哪邊》。其作品已在2020及2021年博洛尼亚插画展展出，并在 3x3 插图展 第12号获得荣誉奖。她的插画风格异想天开，诙谐有趣，经常受到日常生活遇到的幽默情景的启发，而推动她去创造的是自己对玩及抒发情感的渴望。她通常使用丙烯酸、水彩画、水粉画和Adobe Photoshop，但她愿意尝试通过不同类型的媒介进行创作。

Hsiaoichi is an illustrator who is currently based in Taipei, Taiwan. She has written numerous children's books such as *Will Arrive Anyway* and *I Preferred Not to Open My Eyes*. Her works have been selected for the Bologna Children's Book Fair Illustrators' Exhibition 2020, 2021, and she has received an Honorable Mention at the 3x3 Illustration Show, No.12. Her illustration style is whimsical and playful and she is often inspired by the humorous situations she encounters in daily life. What drives her to create is the desire to play and express emotions. She usually works with acrylic, watercolour, gouache, and Adobe Photoshop, but she is open to experimenting with all types of media.

» [哪里好笑?! What's So Funny?!](#)



虎威 (Hu Wei) (Singapore)

虎威 (黄虚怀) 是本地建筑师、作家、插画家，在牛车水长大，并于英国剑桥大学修读建筑学。自2016年起，已创作了5本绘本。其“牛车水三部曲”绘本之《小熊的新衣》入选国际权威书目“白鸟鸦书选2020”。

Hu Wei (Francis Wong Hooe Wai) is an architect, a writer, and an illustrator who grew up in Chinatown, Singapore and studied architecture at Cambridge University, United Kingdom. Since 2016, he has published five picture books, of which *The Little Bear's New Clothes*, part of a Chinatown Trilogy, received the White Ravens 2020 label. This label is given to children and youth literature of international interest.

» [Stories of Southeast Asia](#)

» [童书创作的苦与乐](#)

[The Joys and Pains of Writing a Children's Book](#)



徐海娜 (Irene Xu) (Singapore)

徐海娜在香港城市大学硕士毕业后开始对儿童教育感兴趣，之后又取得香港大学专业进修学院“特殊教育文凭”。曾担任过儿童导师，做过儿童教育课程设计；同时担任部分杂志及报纸的特约记者和长期撰稿人。2016年至2021年，作为香港BROADLEARNING教育机构的合约作家，在面向香港八百多家学校的eClass平台上出版了多个系列的电子互动童书。2017年迁居新加坡，从事特殊儿童教育、童书以及绘画创作；并兼任英国《金融时报》中文网的专栏作家，持续发表教育、读书，以及时事方面的有关评论。

Haina developed an interest in early childhood education after graduating with a Master's degree from the City University of Hong Kong. She later obtained a Diploma in Special Education from the HKU School of Professional and Continuing Education. She served as an early childhood mentor and curriculum developer (Early Childhood Education), while serving as a special correspondent and long-term writer for magazines and newspapers. In 2017, she moved to Singapore and was involved in early childhood education, children's books, and creation of drawings, as well as publication of commentaries related to education, reading and current affairs.

» **从故事学习人生**
Learning Life Lessons from Stories



Iskandar Syah Ismail (Malaysia)

Iskandar Syah Ismail adalah seorang badut hospital yang terlatih dan pengasas pertubuhan amal Red Bubbles. Beliau juga seorang penulis buku kanak-kanak dengan menghasilkan siri buku kanak-kanak bergambar *DR Bubbles* bersama rakan setugasnya, Latfy Anuar Latif. Beliau juga seorang penterjemah profesional dan sudah menterjemah beberapa buah buku bukan fiksyen ke dalam Bahasa Melayu.

Iskandar Syah Ismail is a professionally trained healthcare clown and the co-founder of Red Bubbles, a non-profit organisation. Apart from clowning around in the children's wards, he is also a children's book author and co-wrote the *DR Bubbles* picture book series in Bahasa Melayu along with his long-time clown partner, Latfy Anuar Latif. He

is also a professional translator and has translated several non-fiction books into Bahasa Melayu.

» **Mencipta Unsur Humor dalam Buku Kanak-Kanak**
Creating Humour in Children's Books



Jane Wee (Singapore)

Jane has been a librarian with NLB since 1993. She started her career as a Librarian with the Public Libraries, joined the National Reference Library in 1998, and between 2012 to 2015, was the Region Head of Eastern Libraries comprising six branches in the Eastern part of Singapore. Currently the Head of Chinese Language, she is responsible for the overall strategic directions and implementation of nationwide reading programmes for the Chinese Language. Her team works on the development of the Chinese physical and digital collections in the entire public library network.

» **Discovering MTL Literature for our Children**



Janice Khoo (Singapore)

Janice is a former public servant turned full-time mum and freelance writer. Her first publication for children, *Sing a Song of Hawker Food*, combines nursery rhymes with a topic that is dear to her heart—hawker food. Having written a good number of papers on serious topics when she worked for large organisations, Janice finds that writing fiction for children is serious business too, but much more fun. She stays in Singapore with her family.

» **Humour, Heritage and Hawkers**



Jill Lim (Singapore)

Jill has been in the fields of journalism and editing for more than 25 years and has, at various times, been a newspaper reporter, a copyeditor, a sub-editor and a magazine editor. She became a book editor with Straits Times Press in 2017. As the mother of three daughters, the oldest of whom has autism, she was inspired to pen a children's book on autism and family relationships. The result: *My Colouring Book is Ruined!*, published in March 2019. It was shortlisted for the Popular Readers' Choice Awards in 2019. She has written three other

children's books, on pet ownership, which were published in 2021.

» [Writing about Children with Special Needs](#)



Jillian Tamaki (Canada)

Jillian is an illustrator and comic artist living in Toronto, Canada. A professional artist since 2003, she has worked for publications around the world and has taught in New York City at the undergraduate and graduate level. She has created books for people of all ages, from picture books to webcomics and adult graphic novels. She is the co-creator of *Skim* and *This One Summer*, which won a Caldecott Honor and Printz Award.

» [Drawn Narratives](#)



John Viano (US)

John is an award-winning author and translator who has written four books and translated over 150 children's books. His passion for literature and language led to the founding of InterThaiMedia LLC to publish media that brings people together across languages and cultures. He has a decade of experience as an educator in Thailand and China. John is also pursuing a master's degree in special educational needs, focusing on literacy.

- » [Diversity and Inclusion in Children's Books in Thailand](#)
- » [Translated Children's Books in Thailand: Challenges and Opportunities](#)



Jo Lusby (Hong Kong)

Jo is the co-founder of Pixie B, an IP management and strategy agency specialising in publishing, film, and the creative sector in Asia. Specialists on the China market, Pixie B advises businesses, organisations, and individuals on commercial strategies, brand management, and market access. Clients include Harry Potter digital publisher Pottermore Publishing and US children's franchise *Goodnight Stories for Rebel Girls*, as well as BBC Studios, The Financial Times, Macmillan Publishers, Tatler Asia, and individual author agency services.

Jo was formerly the CEO of Penguin Random House North Asia.

» [The Metaverse: Exploring the Future of Books](#)



Joyce Chua (Singapore)

Joyce graduated from the National University of Singapore with a degree in English, and has since worked as a lifestyle journalist, fashion editor, and freelance writer for various publications. She is the author of the young adult contemporary romance, *Lambs for Dinner* and a winner of the Beyond Words: Young and Younger competition. She publishes her short fiction on her short story blog *Muse in Pocket, Pen in Hand* while working on her next novel.

» [Popular Romance Tropes in YA Fantasy and How to Write Them](#)



Julia Marshall (New Zealand)

Julia is the founder and publisher of Gecko Press, a small-by-choice independent publisher based in New Zealand of curiously good books for children since 2005. Gecko Press publishes a curated list of books in translation from some of the best writers and illustrators in the world for ages 0 to 12 (sometimes infinity). Gecko Press books celebrate unsameness. They offer different—sometimes challenging, often funny, thoughtful, inquisitive—ways of seeing the world. Gecko Press books are sold in English-speaking countries worldwide. Julia also translates children's books from Swedish to English.

Photo by Johnny Hendrikus

- » [Translation Forum Keynote: Translating Change—One Story at a Time](#)
- » [Translators Talk: Humour in Children's Book](#)



Kamini Ramachandran (Singapore)

Kamini is a pioneer in the field of oral storytelling in Asia. Through her work in MoonShadow Stories she is known for promoting storytelling for adult audiences. She founded The Storytelling Centre Limited to advance the art of storytelling through the Young Storytellers Mentorship Programme. She is also creative producer of StoryFest Singa-

pore. A respected teaching artist, she is a specialist storytelling lecturer for tertiary level programmes in Communications Studies, Arts Management, Expressive Arts and Performing Arts. Known for her site-specific storytelling experiences, she enjoys working with museums, galleries and cultural institutions. (Photo by Zane Lee)

» [AFCC Keynote: Light Up with Literature!](#)



Karen Chin (Singapore)

Karen is responsible for the conceptualisation of workshops and resources for educators, school students and families at Mandai Wildlife Group. She possesses 15 years of experience in promoting family learning in wildlife parks and museums.

» [Social-Emotional Learning with Giant Pandas Kai Kai, Jia Jia & Le Le](#)



Kate London (Australia)

Kate has a teaching qualification and a Masters in children's literature from the UK. She has lived in Germany, Spain and the UK for the last 10 years while working and studying in the field of education (Instituto de Empresa Business School, Spain and the University of Cambridge, UK). She is also an executive committee member of the International School Library Network in Singapore, which supports teacher-librarians and organises the annual Red Dot Book Awards for students.

» [Lighten Up with Laughter: A Serious Look at the Genre of 'Humour'](#)



Katie Day (US)

Katie holds a Masters in children's literature from the UK and a Masters in library science and secondary teaching qualification from Australia. She has worked as a teacher-librarian in Thailand (Dulwich Int'l College and NIST) and Singapore (United World College of Southeast Asia and Tanglin Trust School). Katie is an executive committee member of the International School Library Network in Singapore, which supports teacher-librarians and organises the annual Red Dot Book Awards for students.

» [Blueprint for Sustainable Reading Programmes](#)
» [Lighten Up with Laughter: A Serious Look at the Genre of 'Humour'](#)



Kayce Teo (Singapore)

Leslie W is Kayce's pen name. She is the regional editor at *The Smart Local*. She graduated with an English literature degree from the National University of Singapore, and was one of six mentees selected for the Mentor Access Project's Fiction category, an annual programme which develops emerging writers. The Night of Legends was written under the mentorship of prolific local writer, Dave Chua.

» [Popular Romance Tropes in YA Fantasy and How to Write Them](#)



Krisana Kanjanapa (Thailand)

Krisana, together with Vachirawan Tapsua, founded of Littleblackoz Studio, which explores art and storytelling techniques to develop quality, engaging children's books. Their character designs are unique and intriguing, yet they have one thing in common—a good heart. Littleblackoz Studio aims to create children's picture books that are fun to read and make children (and adults) happy. They spend time crafting each book to communicate with children and we are delighted everytime they hear our creations talk to children and touch their heart. Their outstanding books include *Baba*, *Nana*, and the *Four Friends Series*.

» [Diversity and Inclusion in Children's Books in Thailand](#)



Lawrence Schimel (US)

Lawrence lives in Madrid, Spain and writes in both Spanish and English. He has published over 120 books in a wide range of genres. He is also a prolific literary translator. His translations into Spanish include the graphic novel *They Called Us Enemy* by George Takei; his translations into English include the middle grade novels *The Wild Book* by Juan Villoro and *The Treasure of Barracuda* by Llanos Campos. He has sold his children's books *Early One Morning* and *Bedtime, Not Playtime!* illustrated by Elina Braslina in 35 editions in 27 languages so far.

» [Be in the Know: Buying and Selling Translation Rights](#)



Lee Gee-eun (Korea)

Gee-eun is a Korean picture book writer whose books are loved by many and have been published in other countries outside of Korea. They have also been adapted into children's musicals. Her work *Iparapa Yamooyamoo* was awarded the prestigious Bologna Ragazzi Award in the Comics/Early Reader category in 2021.

» [The Animal Allure](#)



Lee Geum-yi (Korea)

Geum-yi is an author of children's and young adult fiction. Since her debut in 1984, Geum-yi has published more than 50 titles that contributed to an explosive progress in South Korean Children's Literature. Her Young Adult fictions have brought about the birth and the expansion of its genre in South Korea. Her work has also been adapted into a TV mini-series, a musical, and a webcomic. Her short stories and excerpts have appeared in various school textbooks, and many of her books have been selected for the One City One Book Campaign and the One Semester One Book Campaign.

» [Depicting the 'Unspeakable'](#)
» [Of Women and Girls: A Study of the Female Figure in Korean Children and YA Literature](#)



Lianne Ong (Singapore)

Lianne is a Singaporean children's author and freelance writer. She has published 14 children's picture books, three of which have won prizes in the Samsung Kidstime Author's Award. She is best known for her *Stacey & the Museums* series, a 5-title series about museums in Singapore, and a nonfiction resource on hawker food, *Timmy & Tammy Discover: Singapore Hawker Food*.

» [Humour, Heritage and Hawkers](#)



林哲璋 (Lin Che Chang) (Taiwan)

台东大学儿文所毕业。曾获：牧笛奖、两岸儿童文学奖、教育部文艺奖、「好书大家读」、九歌年度童书奖等。出版有：《屁屁超人》、《用点心学校》、《仙岛小学》、《不偷懒小学》、《宠物功夫学校》等系列。

LChe Chang is a graduate from the Graduate Institute of Children's Literature at National Taitung University. He has received the Reed Pipe Award, Cross-Straits Children's Literature Award, Ministry of Education Literary Award, Good Books for Everyone Award and Chiuko Modern Children's Literature Award. His publications include *Pipi Chaoren* (屁屁超人), *Yong Dianxin Xuexiao* (用点心学校), *Xiandao Xiaoxue* (仙岛小学) *Bu Toulan Xiaoxue* (不偷懒小学) and *Chongwu Gongfu Xuexiao* (宠物功夫学校).

» [哪里好笑?! What's So Funny?!](#)



Linda Tan Lingard (Malaysia)

Linda is managing director and publisher of Integra Creative Media Sdn Bhd (ICM). As one of the founders of ICM, she has grown the company to a leading children's book publisher in Malaysia specialising in picture books. In 2021, the company established the Museum of Picture Book Art in downtown Kuala Lumpur. She is the President of the Children's Picture Book Association of Malaysia and an executive committee member of the Malaysia Book Publishers Association.

» [Collaborating Across Borders in Picture Books](#)
» [Publishers Discuss: Supporting the Sustainable Development Goals](#)



Lisa Lyons Johnston (Canada)

Lisa is the President and Publisher of Canada's leading children's book publisher, Kids Can Press, part of the Corus Entertainment family, the recipient of the 2017 Bologna Prize for Best Children's Publisher, North America, and a signatory of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Publishing Compact. At Kids Can Press, Lisa oversees all publishing operations and the stewardship of signature brands, including the award-winning *CitizenKid* global issues collection. In 2020, *CitizenKid* Television debuted as an acclaimed climate change documentary special with Lisa as an Executive Producer. Lisa has led the company's diversification beyond traditional publishing into new revenue streams.

» [Publishers Discuss: Supporting the Sustainable Development Goals](#)



Lisa Zuliana Zulkifli (Singapore)

Lisa is a librarian who inspires and educates early readers. She believes that the seed of learning should be planted young to allow it to germinate to its fullest potential and involves herself in creating content for underprivileged children to develop early literacy. She loves storytelling and interacting with children when it comes to awakening their interest in STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) concepts and everything scientific.

» [Keep Moving Forward: Growth and Development through Science and Picture Books](#)



Low Ying Ping (Singapore)

Ying Ping is the bestselling author of the *Mount Emily* novels, a middle grade/young adult fantasy series featuring time travel and friendship, as well as *Prophecy of the Underworld*, a quirky and full-filled middle grade adventure story. Her novels have won the Singapore Book Awards and have been shortlisted for other prizes such as the Hedwig Anuar Children's Book Award and the Popular Readers' Choice Award.

» [A New Spin on Singapore Stories](#)
» [Lighten Up with Laughter: A Serious Look at the Genre of 'Humour'](#)



Lyn Miller-Lachmann (US)

Lyn translates children's books from Portuguese and Spanish to English. Among her publications are *The World in a Second; Lines, Squiggles, Letters, Words*, a USBBY Outstanding International Book; *The Queen of the Frogs; Three Balls of Wool (Can Change the World)*, a picture book co-sponsored by Amnesty International; *Olive the Sheep Can't Sleep*; and *The President of the Jungle*. In addition, she is the author of the award-winning YA novels *Gringolandia* and the forthcoming *Torch*, and co-author with Zetta Elliott of the middle grade verse novel *Moonwalking*. For more information, visit lynmiller-lachmann.com.

» [Translators Talk: Translating the "Picture Book"](#)



Mardhiah Mahamood (Singapore)

A librarian and a mother of two boys who are always keeping her on her toes, Mardhiah enjoys instilling the joys of reading to children. With more than a decade of experience as a librarian in NLB, Mardhiah is a firm believer that there is always an element of fun in imparting knowledge to children. Her love for Science has grown since her primary school days and to her, Science is a subject that can be introduced through reading with lots of fun and exploring.

» [Keep Moving Forward: Growth and Development through Science and Picture Books](#)



Margarita Engle (US)

Margarita is the Cuban-American author of many verse novels, memoirs, and picture books, including *The Surrender Tree, Enchanted Air, Drum Dream Girl*, and *Dancing Hands*. Awards include a Newbery Honor, Pura Belpré, Golden Kite, PEN U.S.A., and NSK Neustadt, among others. Margarita served as the national 2017-2019 Young People's Poet Laureate. She is a three-time U.S. nominee for the Astrid Lindgren Book Award. Her most recent books are *Your Heart, Light for All, Rima's Rebellion*, and *Singing With Elephants*.

(Photo by Shevaun Williams)

» [Finding the Light: Hope and Despair in Children's Literature](#)
» [How to Talk to Children About War](#)



Maria Mahat (Singapore)

Maria Mahat is an author, educator, lead content creator, consultant, publisher and co-founder of Ungu Pen, a Singapore-based independent publishing house, where she oversees the development of engaging and meaningful content in digital and non-digital formats. She has written and published extensively in both English and Malay. Her first bilingual (English-Malay) children's book *There Are Saga Seeds In Our Pockets!* has been adapted to a digital online programme for the Esplanade and translated into Mandarin.

- » Collaborating Across Borders in Picture Books
- » Pengembaraan Tim: Developing Different Modes of Publishing Amidst the Pandemic



Mary George (Singapore)

Mary George, a child development specialist and psychologist, promotes ways in which teachers and parents can actively enable children to make sense of the world on their own terms. Dr George's therapeutic work includes helping challenged kids and teens to be better processors of what they read, hear, and see. Mary is also an editor and publisher of *What's Up*, a monthly children's newspaper in Singapore.

- » [Developing Critical Reading Skills for our Children](#)



Maureen Yeo (Singapore)

Maureen is the author of *The Great Singapore Poo Sale*, *Other Beastly Business* and its sequel, *Make Animals Great Again*, and *Other Creature Campaigns*. These texts, and the talks she gives at schools and various organisations, aim to raise awareness about environmental conservation and politics in a humorous way.

- » [Some Talk, Some Action](#)
- » [The Animal Allure](#)



May Lim (Singapore)

May is an Associate Professor and an experienced occupational therapist. She has been working with children with developmental disabilities in Singapore and Australia. May serves as the director of Centre for Learning Environment and Assessment Development (CoLEAD) in the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) and looks after the faculty's development programmes in learning and teaching at the university level. She has won the SIT Teaching Excellence Award thrice.

- » [The Struggle with Loss: Books as a Coping Mechanism](#)

- » Collaborating Across Borders in Picture Books
- » Pengembaraan Tim: Developing Different Modes of Publishing Amidst the Pandemic



Melanie Lee (Singapore)

Melanie is the author of the comic book series *Amazing Ash & Superhero Ah Ma*, as well the picture book series, *The Adventures of Squirky the Alien*, which picked up the Crystal Kite Award (Middle East/India/Asia division) in 2016. She has also published *Imaginary Friends: 26 Whimsical Fables for Getting on in a Crazy World*, a collection of illustrated short stories together with Arif Rafhan.

- » [Comics as an Educational Tool \(for Educators\)](#)
- » [Dream Big: Draw Giant Comics](#)



Mohini Gupta (India/UK)

Mohini is a DPhil candidate at the Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Oxford. She was selected as the Charles Wallace India Trust Translator-Writer Fellow in 2017 for creative writing and translation. An alumna of SOAS University of London, she has been a Research Fellow at Sarai, CSDS; and a translator-in-residence at the Sangam House international writers' residency in Bangalore. She has founded the digital collective 'Mother Tongue Twisters' and writes for publications such as *Huffington Post*, *The Caravan Magazine*, *TheWire.in*, *Scroll.in* and the *WorldKidLit Blog*. Her English-Hindi translations have been published by Tulika Publishers.

- » [Novel Initiatives to Learn Mother Tongue Languages](#)



Neil Humphreys (Singapore)

Neil is Singapore's best-selling author, writing 26 books and entertaining millions of readers across the world. For younger readers, he is best known as the funny author of the *Princess Incognito* series and the *Abbie Rose and the Magic Suitcase* collection of children's books. A popular writer across all media, Neil co-wrote the children's TV series – *Mind Blown!* – for MediaCorp in 2021. A qualified public speaker, he also gives talks, lectures and workshops on reading, writing, journalism and risk-taking at kindergartens, schools and universities.

- » [AFCC Keynote: Light Up with Literature!](#)



Nicky Harman (UK)

Nicky is based in the UK and translates fiction, and occasionally non-fiction and poetry by contemporary Chinese authors. She has translated two novels by children's author Huang Beijia: *I Want to be Good* (New Classic Press, 2022) and *Flight of the Bumblebee* (forthcoming). She has won several awards, including the 2020 China Special Book Award, the Mao Tai Cup People's Literature Chinese-English translation prize 2015, and the 2013 China International Translation Contest. When not translating, she works for the registered non-profit Paper Republic, which promotes Chinese literature in translation. She also runs literary events, writes blogs, and gives talks. Her home page is here paper-republic.org/pers/nicky-harman/

Photo by Alex Hofford

» [Translation Forum Keynote: Translating Change — One Story at a Time](#)



Nicolas Verstappen (Thailand)

Nicolas is a lecturer and comic scholar at Chulalongkorn University (Thailand). He is the author of *The Art of Thai Comics: A Century of Strips and Stripes*. His research interests mainly focus on the history of Thai comics, comics as a language of psychic trauma, and experimental comics composition. He is the editor of the GAP comics zine series and the XeroXed interview-zine series, and an occasional panel moderator, exhibition curator and workshop organiser.

» [Depicting the 'Unspeakable'](#)



Nur Ilyana Bte Mohd Ali (Singapore)

Ilyana Ali is a mother of four. Her third child, Alyssa, has Down's Syndrome. Ilyana left her job as a primary school teacher when Alyssa was born to take care of Alyssa and her family. Ilyana's interests include reading, writing, poetry, cooking and teaching. She is an advocate for children with Down's Syndrome and hopes to do more for the Down's Syndrome community and raise awareness of Down's Syndrome.

» [Writing about Children with Special Needs](#)



Nurulhuda Izyan (Singapore)

Andeasyand (Nurulhuda Izyan), creator of *A Drip. A Drop. A Deluge: A Period Tragicomedy*, discovered the world of illustration in an effort to use up old name cards. She finds ways to describe the beauty of the ordinary with doodles and scribbles, navigating difficult topics like menstruation, anxiety, marriage, weight, as well as silly daily musings. An acquaintance once described it as a risqué tendency – she calls it an olive branch to a like-minded stranger.

» [Drawn Narratives](#)



Pauline Loh (Singapore)

Pauline is an award-winning author and a creative writing teacher. She has 30 years of writing experience and has published 12 adult non-fiction books, six young adult books and nine children's storybooks. She was a runner-up for the Scholastic Asian Book Award and her books have been shortlisted for the Hedwig Anuar Children's Book Award, Singapore Book Awards and longlisted for the Epigram Books Fiction Prize.

» [A New Spin on Singapore Stories](#)
» [The Art of Writing Romance](#)



Peeriya Pongsarigun (Thailand)

Peeriya is the ThaiBBY (Thai Board of Books for Young People) Secretary-General, a co-founder of InterThaiMedia LLC, a translator, an author, and an English lecturer at Chulalongkorn University. Peeriya has written four bilingual children's books and translated more than 150 books, mostly from Thai to English. She also designs and implements teaching techniques to encourage critical and creative thinking.

» [Translated Children's Books in Thailand: Challenges and Opportunities](#)
» [Translation in Southeast Asia](#)



Peter ChunYu Yau (Hong Kong/Singapore)

Peter is an Assistant Professor in Computing Science at the University of Glasgow, Singapore. He loves to travel with his laptop computer. He has swam in the Amazon river, saw the great migration in Safari, and trekked the Himalayas. One of his research interests is STEAM education, of which includes 3D printing, robots, interactive programming, and online learning. Peter is now writing a book for the youth in Online to Offline (O2O) format, aimed at sparking their interest in how technology can change the world and impact their future career.

- » [Using STEAM to Motivate the Next Generation in their Learning Journey](#)



Piers Torday (UK)

Piers began his career in theatre and then television as a producer and writer. His first children's book, *The Last Wild*, was shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Award and nominated for the CILIP Carnegie Medal. His second book, *The Dark Wild*, won the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize. Piers completed an unfinished novel by his late father Paul (author of *Salmon Fishing in the Yemen*) and adapted *The Box of Delights* for stage.

- » [The Animal Allure](#)
- » [The Role of Stories: Why We Write for Children](#)



Qiyun (Singapore)

Qiyun is a Singaporean environmentalist that uses illustrations to communicate climate issues where she's known for her Instagram account, The Weird and Wild (@theweirdandwild). Trained in environmental sciences, she harnesses the power of social media and illustrations to break down the complexities behind one of the most existential issues of our time. She has partnered with local and international organizations to do science communications work, and with corporate partners to work on public projects. She's also currently building a creative studio, Climate Commons, where her interdisciplinary team aims to explore novel ways to communicate climate issues.

- » [When Comics Come to the Classroom](#)



Quek Hong Shin (Singapore)

Hong Shin is a Singaporean picture book author and illustrator. He has illustrated several picture books and his work has been shortlisted twice for The Hedwig Anuar Children's Book Award. His book *The Incredible Basket*, published by Epigram Books, was the winner of Best Children's Book at the 2019 Singapore Book Awards.

- » [Talking Your Way Out!](#)
- » [Writing about Children with Special Needs](#)



Rachael McDiarmid (Australia)

Rachael has more than 30 years experience in publishing in Australia, in a variety of product, sales, marketing and senior management roles. She has worked with trade distributor Inbooks, as well as James Bennett/Nielsen Bookdata, Blackwell Book Services and Baker & Taylor. She now runs RM Marketing Services, providing outsourcing sales and marketing solutions for publishers. A common thread has been helping publishers present and market their books through better book metadata. She teaches book marketing and sales at the University of Sydney.

- » [The Flow of Book Information](#)
- » [Effective Marketing through Social Media](#)



Radhika Menon (India)

Radhika is the brain and spirit behind Tulika, a pioneering publishing house started in 1996 and recognized in India and internationally, for its outstanding range of multilingual children's books. Inclusive and representative, the books in different languages reflect cultural diversity in every respect. Tulika won the 2022 International Excellence Award for Children's and Young Adult's Publishing at the London Book Fair. In 2019 it was awarded the International Excellence Award for Literary Translation Initiative, in recognition of its unique, "ambitious, energetic and inclusive publishing programme." A hands-on publisher, she is deeply involved in the visualizing, editing, designing and marketing of Tulika books.

- » [Publishers Discuss: Diversity and Inclusion in Books](#)



Razmiah Banu Yacob (Singapore)

Razmiah is the co-founder of Chellamey Books. As a full-time working mum, venturing into the realm of children's book publishing in her spare time was an unexpected but fulfilling career shift. Her interest in the Tamil language bloomed when she became a mother. Understanding the importance of raising her children to be kind, confident and proud of their mother tongue, she developed her passion, together with her best friend Usha, to bring good quality, interactive Tamil books to her own children and to Tamil families worldwide. Razmiah is also a communications professional with seven years' experience in both private and public sector industries.

» [Generating Children's Interest in Tamil](#)



Reni Roxas (Philippines)

Reni is a Filipina writer, editor, and children's book publisher. She worked eight years in American publishing houses in New York City before founding Tahanan Books in Manila in 1992. Named for the Filipino word for home, Tahanan publishes books that celebrate Philippine history and culture, and is a 14-time winner of the National Children's Book Award. Its catalog of over 150 titles is sold domestically and abroad. Reni is an award-winning author of two picture books *Ay, Naku!* and *Méme: The Baby Book*. She divides her time between Manila and Seattle.

» [Publishers Discuss: Diversity and Inclusion in Books](#)



Reynald Ocampo (Philippines)

Reynald is a Programme Officer at The Asia Foundation which manages the Books for Asia Programme and Let's Read in the Philippines. He is a graduate of Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila with a degree of Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering. He also took up a Master of Business Administration at the Pamantasan ng Cabuyao, Laguna. Since joining the foundation, he has performed community development initiatives to sustain its programme growth and resources on literacy and cultural heritage such as Let's Read through

translation events. As a product of the public-school system, he has focused his commitment to support lifelong learning and the improvement of the lives of the younger generation through his work and ethics.

- » [Resources for Translators](#)
- » [Translation in Southeast Asia](#)



Rhaimie Wahap (Singapore)

Rhaimie has more than 20 years of experience in print and digital media. His work, *Mystery Investigators Five and The Case of The Missing Golden Bird Mask* was awarded the First Time Writers and Illustrators Publishing Initiative by the Media Development Authority (MDA). Besides writing, he also helps aspiring writers and new publishers realise their dream of publishing their own book by giving them advice and support in design, editing and illustrations.

» [Pengembaraan Tim: Developing Different Modes of Publishing Amidst the Pandemic](#)



Rilla Melati (Singapore)

A two-time winner of Anugerah Persuratan, Rilla is an educator, author, entrepreneur, TV presenter and pioneer of Malay speech and drama programmes in schools in Singapore. She builds creative content for the classroom and television and has written more than twenty-five Malay as well as bilingual children's books. As the founder of the educational company Mini Monsters Ltd, she hopes to reignite the love for the Malay language through workshops, bilingual publications and cross-media educational materials that are relevant for today's generation of children.

» [Talking Your Way Out!](#)



Rizal Wahap (Singapore)

Rizal is a self-taught artist, a freelance illustrator, comic artist and animator who is comfortable with both the brush and digital pen. Some of his works include a graphic novel, *Mystery Investigators Five and The Case of the Missing Golden Bird Mask*; a children's picture book, *Which Kuih?* and chapter

books, *Ekspedisi Nabil Nabilah 1 & 2*. He has illustrated for publishers, corporations, schools and television productions. Rizal enjoys playing the guitar in his free time.

- » [Pengembaraan Tim: Developing Different Modes of Publishing Amidst the Pandemic](#)



Roshan Karkera (India)

Roshan is an artist and facilitator based in India. He has been a core member of Rangbhumi since 2016. He has been facilitating Applied Theatre medium Arts with schools, NGOs and Corporates. He has attended several Applied Theatre based workshops and talks. He has been part of various Online performances depicting the challenges and conflicts in inter-personal, inter-generational and rural-urban relationships. He has a keen interest in Teacher trainings and embodiment practices.

- » [Creative Climate Change Curriculum Through Applied Theatre](#)



Sabine Müller (Germany)

Sabine studied Ethnology and Malaiology at the University Cologne, as well as Indonesian at Gadjah Mada University Yogyakarta. She also completed a postgraduate course in German as a Foreign Language at the University Düsseldorf. After completing her studies, she lived for several years in Bandung and Jakarta, where she worked as an instructor and translator at a Polytechnical College, and as a project officer for the Language and Program Department at the Goethe-Institut.

- » [Resources for Translators](#)



Sadie-Jane Nunis (Singapore)

Dr Sadie-Jane Nunis (Huff) is the current President of the Library Association of Singapore. Dr Nunis also runs her own consultancy, Superlative She, as THE Wordsmith Extraordinaire where she dabbles in Editorials, Book-related work, and Content Creation. While she sits on various councils (only 12!) ranging from the Singapore Kindness Movement to the Federation of Business and Professional

Women (Singapore) (FBWP (S)), she still manages to find time to read, build LEGO, play dungeons and dragons, and spread the love of books through her involvement in the Book Fairy Movement.

- » [Developing Critical Reading Skills for our Children](#)



Sarah Ang (Australia)

Sarah is a newly minted author of *The River that Brings Us Life*. She enjoys depicting life and experiences with watercolours and reading children's books to her three children. She was born in Australia, presently resides in Singapore, and loves the outdoors as well as tending to her corridor garden.

- » [Environmental Advocacy in Children's Books](#)
- » [How to Nurture Eco-consciousness through Picture Books](#)



Saridah Hamid (Malaysia)

Saridah adalah anak jati Kampung Baru, Kuala Lumpur yang mula menulis sejak 1990. Dia adalah penulis untuk siri Young Aisyah yang pernah diterjemahkan dalam Bahasa Indonesia dan dipasarkan di Indonesia. Buku-bukunya bertajuk *Terima Kasih Nurul* dan *Hapuskan Airmata Ana* juga mendapat anugerah Pemenang Anugerah Buku Negara 2012.

Saridah is a native of Kampung Baru, Kuala Lumpur who started writing in 1990. She is the author of the *Young Aishah* series, which has been translated into Indonesian and marketed in Indonesia. Her books titled, *Terima Kasih Nurul* and *Hapuskan Airmata Ana* also won the National Book Award 2012.

- » [Mencipta Buku Bersiri Terkenal untuk Kanak-Kanak Creating a Popular Children's Book Series](#)



Sawad Hussain (UK)

Sawad is a translator from the Arabic whose work has been recognized by English PEN, the Anglo-Omani Society and the Saif Ghobash Banipal Prize for Arabic Literary Translation, among others. A judge for the Palestine Book Awards and co-chair for the UK's Translator's Association, her recent

translations include *Passage to the Plaza* and *A Bed for the King's Daughter*. She has run workshops introducing translation to students and adults and is the 2022 translator in residence at the British Centre for Literary Translation. She tweets at @sawadhussain.

» [Translation Forum Keynote: Translating Change — One Story at a Time](#)



Shahida Sarhid (Singapore)

Shahida is a correspondent at *Berita Harian*. She started off as a lifestyle reporter and was concurrently the editor of Berita Harian's student publication – *i3* (pronounced I-Cube) / *GenG*. Engaging the young continues to be her passion, and till today, she actively participates in Learning Journey and School Visits to get students excited about journalism and the Malay language. She is currently the co-producer and presenter of BH's podcast, #NoTapis, and fronts many of BH's online programmes including its discussions on current issues as well as the newspaper's Sunday morning infotainment programme – *The BM Show*.

» [Novel Initiatives to Learn Mother Tongue Languages](#)



Shahril Samri (Singapore)

Shahril is an educator at PCF Sparkletots Preschool and teaches both the Malay and English language in his preschool. He is the founder of Pantunism, a Pantun (Malay Poetry) enthusiast, and hopes to impart to children the importance of the Malay language in understanding their culture and identity.

» [Collaborating Across Borders in Picture Books](#)



Sharanja Jeneeit (Canada)

சரண்யா ஜெனீற் ஒரு நாலகரும் எழுத்தாளரும் ஆவார். அவர் எழுதியமாய்க்கல்லும் அதிவீரர்களும் என்னும் சிறுவர் நால் தமிழ்ச் சிறாக்களையும் அதிவீரர்களாக காட்டும் நோக்கோடு உருவாக்கப்பட்ட படைப்பாகும். சரண்யாவக்கும் மூன்று சுட்டிக் குழந்தைகள் உள்ளனர். அவர்களது குறும்புத்தனத்தையும் அத்துடன் தமிழ்ச் சிறுவர்களுக்கு அவர்களைப் போன்ற உருவ

அமைப்புக்களை உடையவர்கள் அதிவீரர்களாக இருக்கவேண்டும் என்னும் தேவையையும் மேற்கோள் காட்டியே அவரது இந்தப் படைப்பு உருவாக்கப்பட்டது. சரண்யா இப்பொழுது ரொற்றங்களோ பொது நாலகத்தில் நாலகராகவும் கடமையாற்றி வருகிறார்.

Sharanja is a librarian and author. *The Magic Crystal and the Superheroes* was created to allow Tamil children to see themselves as superheroes too, and was inspired by her own children. She is also mom to three energetic superheroes. Sharanja is also a librarian at Toronto Public Library.

» [Generating Children's Interest in Tamil](#)



Shinsuke Yoshitake (Japan)

Shinsuke Yoshitake was born in Japan in 1973 and creates inventively humorous and lively illustrations. His unique and surprising take on everyday life has captured the imagination of readers everywhere. His debut work, *It Might Be an Apple*, has been translated into 10 languages. In addition to winning many awards in Japan, his picture book *Still Stuck* won the Bologna Ragazzi award 2017.

» [Finding Humour in the Ordinary](#)



Shirley Tay (Singapore)

Shirley is an Associate Librarian from the Children & Teens team in the National Library Board (NLB), Singapore. She works with primary and secondary schools to build and sustain strong reading cultures through outreach programmes and literary packages for students. She is also in the project team responsible for the conceptualisation of children programmes and services for the new Punggol Regional Library. Shirley enjoys reading children's realistic fiction.

» [Blueprint for Sustainable Reading Programmes](#)



Shoba Dewey Chugani (Indonesia)

Shoba is the author of *Janggan Dragon Kite*, which was longlisted for the Scholastic Picture Book Awards in 2015. Shoba has been a management consultant, a preschool owner/teacher, and an early childhood education consultant. She now writes and mentors storytellers and is one of the

core team members of KPBA—The Society for the Advancement of Children's Literature.

» [Stories of Southeast Asia](#)

» [KitaKaya! Cross-Platform Storytelling about the Diversity in Indonesia](#)



Sim Ee Waun (Singapore)

Ee Waun is the author of *The Little Singapore Book*, *The House on Palmer Road*, its sequel *The House on Silat Road*, and most recently, *We Shall Remember: The Story of Singapore at War*. A history buff, she is passionate about bringing tales from Singapore's past to life for children, and hopes that they (and their parents) would discover that our past is full of amazing stories. Ee Waun was a food writer of 30 years before switching to historical creative non-fiction. She holds an MA in International Journalism. In between writing, she teaches public speaking at the National University of Singapore.

» [How to Talk to Children About War](#)

» [Southeast Asian History as Inspiration: A Look into Children's Historical Fiction](#)



Siti Raudhah (Singapore)

Pada tahun 2018, Cikgu Siti Raudhah telah dijemput untuk menjadi sebahagian daripada pasukan pendidik Bahasa Melayu prasekolah untuk menulis *Siri Bacaan Nabil dan Nabilah* khusus bagi kanak-kanak prasekolah. Beliau menginginkan buku cerita yang dapat menarik minat, mencetuskan kreativiti dan membangkitkan rasa ingin tahu kanak-kanak prasekolah. Dalam bukunya yang bertajuk *Ubi*, beliau juga ingin menganyam nilai-nilai tradisional dan menyerlahkan perubahan peranan yang dimainkan oleh datuk dan nenek pada masa kini.

In 2018, Mdm Siti Raudhah was invited to be a part of the team of preschool Malay Language educators to write a story for the *Nabil dan Nabilah Reader Series* for preschool children. She desired a storybook that would capture the interest of the children, spark their creativity, and excite their curiosity. In her book titled *Ubi*, she also wanted to weave traditional values and highlight the changing roles that grandparents play in this current time.

» [Mencipta Buku Bersiri Terkenal untuk Kanak-Kanak Creating a Popular Children's Book Series](#)

Soh Aiwen (Singapore)

Aiwen is the principal at Star Learners@Thomson with over 10 years of experience in teaching toddlers and adolescents both abroad and in Singapore. She currently leads a team of 12 staff and occasionally volunteers in her free time. Aiwen holds an advanced diploma in leadership from Nanyang Polytechnic and a bachelor's degree in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL).

» [Using Picture Books to Promote Inclusion](#)



Sophia Huang (Singapore)

Sophia is passionate about upcycling materials into toys and art with her three children, a hobby she shares on Craftcycle for Kids. Her work has been featured in the media and an NEA video campaign. She enjoys introducing upcycling to children through school visits and hands-on craft and storytelling.

» [How to Nurture Eco-consciousness through Picture Books](#)



Srividhya Mohan (Singapore)

Vidhya is a primary school teacher who enjoys working with children to provide rich language experiences that will develop their love for the language while equipping them with social emotional skills. As a book lover, she particularly enjoys children's literature and believes that stories is an effective teaching tool that captivates children's attention, brings learning to life and creates platforms for teachable moments using books. She encourages the culture of reading to her students and introduces various books to them to build the interest for reading for the curious young minds.

» [Blueprint for Sustainable Reading Programmes](#)



Stephanie Ng (Singapore)

Stephanie is the Senior Curriculum Specialist at Star Learners with more than 10 years of experience in the Early Childhood sector. She has worked with diverse student demographics across formal and informal class settings. Picture books hold a special place in her heart, as she believes that they can ignite a love for reading in both the young and old.

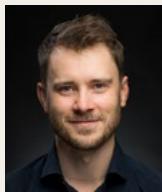
» [Using Picture Books to Promote Inclusion](#)



Swapnil Mishra (Singapore)

Swapnil is an Adjunct Mentor at SMU, bringing social finance to life through projects with undergraduate students. He is on a mission to help everyone gain access to financial wellness with the use of technology. His children's book, *Freddy the Eager Fundraiser* was launched at the Singapore Writers Festival in 2018.

» [Some Talk, Some Action](#)



Sydney Smith (Canada)

Sydney Smith is the award-winning author and illustrator of *Small in the City* as well as the illustrator of *I Talk Like a River* by Jordan Scott, *Town Is by the Sea* by Joanne Schwartz, *Sidewalk Flowers* by JonArno Lawson, *The White Cat and the Monk* by Jo Ellen Bogart, among others. Sydney has received multiple awards including four consecutive New York Times Best Illustrated Children's Books Awards, two Kate Greenaway Awards and is nominated for the Hans Christian Andersen Award.

Photo by Steve Farmer.

» [Making an Impact with Illustrations](#)



邓秀茵 (Tang Show Yin) (Malaysia)

马来西亚著名儿童文学作家，毕业于马来西亚博特拉大学，获得中文系学士学位。自小热爱写作，大学时期开始发表作品，2006年出版少年长篇小说，著有《纯真的守护神》《记忆天使》《月亮城》《太阳城》《一封迟来的信》《再见，小天使》《大哥头与小妹头》《幸福来敲门》等作品。

A renowned writer of children's literature, who graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Chinese Language Studies from Universiti Putra Malaysia. She developed a love for writing since young and began publishing works while she was still in university. In 2006, she published young adult books, and her famous works include *Chun Chun De Shou Hu Shen* (纯真的守护神), *Ji Yi Tian Shi* (记忆天使), *Yue Liang Cheng* (月亮城), *Tai Yang Cheng* (太阳城), *Yi Feng Chi Lai de Xin* (一封迟来的信), *Zai Jian, Tian Shi* (再见, 小天使), *Da Ge Tou Yu Xiao Mei Tou* (大哥头与小妹头), and *Xing Fu Lai Qiao Men* (幸福来敲门).

» [童书创作的苦与乐](#)

[The Joys and Pains of Writing a Children's Book](#)



Tanya Chua (UK/Singapore)

Tanya has worked on innovation campaigns for large multi-nationals like Netflix, Facebook, Nike, Coca-Cola and Heineken. She moved to Singapore in 2005 to work on Tiger Beer. She has since gone to run agencies, Kult gallery, connecting designers with brands, and now education. Tanya is a firm believer in the power of visual communication. EYEYAH! merges her expertise in storytelling with her passion for nurturing talent and innovation within education and business.

» [Visual Literacy in the 21st Century](#)



Taqarrabie (Indonesia)

Taqarrabie/Bie was a writer and assistant producer for several TV series and feature-length films before starting her journey in the advertising industry as a copywriter. Now, Bie is a creative director for audio-visual and advertising projects which continuously creates various passion projects in oral storytelling, book writing, and filmmaking.

» [KitaKaya! Cross-Platform Storytelling about the Diversity in Indonesia](#)



Trasvin Jittidecharak (Thailand)

Trasvin founded Silkworm Books (1991) and the Mekong Press Foundation (2005). She launched the ASEAN Illustration Award and co-founded the International Children's Content Rights Fair (ICCRF) in 2017. Trasvin served in national, regional, and international publishing communities, including Publishers and Booksellers Association of Thailand (PUBAT; advisor, 2009–15 and 2019–21); the Bangkok UNESCO World Book Capital City, 2013 (a focal person); the 30th International Publishers Association (IPA) Congress, Bangkok, 2015 (chaired, the Organizing Committee); the IPA Executive Committee, 2012 to 2017; the ASEAN Book Publishers Association (ABPA), 2020–21 (Secretary-General); the IPA's Freedom to Publish Committee (2017–present).

» [Publishing Forum Keynote: Resilient Publishing for the Future](#)



Trina Ha (Singapore)

Trina is the Director of Legal at IPOS. She is involved in legal policy reform including spearheading the Copyright Review with the Ministry of Law. Trina was in private practice where she specialised in matters involving the protection, and management of intellectual property rights. During her time in legal practice, she was ranked annually since 2007 in the intellectual property industry and TMT industry by the Asia Pacific Legal 500. She is also listed in the IAM Strategy 300 :The World's Leading IP Strategists guide since 2020.

» [Publishing Forum Keynote: Resilient Publishing for the Future](#)



Usha Kumaran (Singapore)

Usha, co-founder of Chellamey Books, is also a full-time practicing engineer. Having been a good Tamil student whose oral skills in the language were always sub-par, becoming a mother made her very determined to ensure that Tamil was as much lingua franca in her household as English was. This inspiration that she shared with her best friend Razmiah led them to the idea of Chellamey books as they felt

that there was insufficient quality material in Tamil for young children such as theirs.

- » [Generating Children's Interest in Tamil](#)
- » [Novel Initiatives to Learn Mother Tongue Languages](#)



Utthe (Meutia Rahima) (Indonesia)

Utthe has learned to dance since four years old, inspired by her mom who was a dancer in her youth. Starting her interest in Balinese and Malay dances led her to participate in student exchange activities and goodwill walkouts outside Indonesia. Today, Utthe has deepened the elements of performing arts other than dance, and sought experience as a dancer, stage manager, instructor, facilitator, choreographer, costume designer, dance competition jury, and people development trainer.

» [KitaKaya! Cross-Platform Storytelling about the Diversity in Indonesia](#)



Vachirawan Tapsua (Thailand)

Vachirawan, together with Vachirawan Tapsua, founded of Littleblackoz Studio, which explores art and storytelling techniques to develop quality, engaging children's books. Their character designs are unique and intriguing, yet they have one thing in common—a good heart. Littleblackoz Studio aims to create children's picture books that are fun to read and make children (and adults) happy. They spend time crafting each book to communicate with children and we are delighted everytime they hear our creations talk to children and touch their heart. Their outstanding books include *Baba, Nana, and the Four Friends Series*.

» [Diversity and Inclusion in Children's Books in Thailand](#)



Vanessa Chng (Singapore)

Vanessa is an Associate Librarian from the Children & Teens team in the National Library Board (NLB), Singapore. She works with primary and secondary schools to build and sustain strong reading cultures through outreach programmes and literary packages for students. She is also in the project team responsible for the conceptualisation of children

programmes and services for the new Punggol Regional Library. Vanessa enjoys reading translated Asian literature.

» [Blueprint for Sustainable Reading Programmes](#)



Vanitha Tonn (Australia)

சிங்கப்பூராகிய வளிதா, அவரது கணவருடனும், இரு பிள்ளைகளுடனும் சிட்டியில் வசிக்கிறார். Marketing துறையில் 8 வருடங்களுக்கு மேல் வேலை செய்த இவர், வனிக மேலாண்மைத் துறையில் முதுகலை பட்டம் பெற்றுள்ளார். தன் முதல் குழந்தை பிறந்தபோது, பிள்ளைகள் தமிழ் கற்பதற்கு முறையான தமிழ் புத்தகங்கள் இல்லாததை உணர்த் தொடங்கினார். இதனால், 2017-ஆம் ஆண்டில் 'வாரணம்' பதிப்பகத்தைத் தொடங்கி வண்ணமயமான, சுவாரசியமான தமிழ்ப் புத்தகங்களை குழந்தைகளுக்கு உருவாக்கும் முயற்சியில் இறங்கினார். வளிதா இதுவரை எட்டு நூல்களை வெளியிட்டுள்ளார்.

Originally from Singapore, Vanitha lives in Sydney with her husband and two little children. Having worked as a Marketing Manager for over eight years, Vanitha holds a Masters' degree in Business Administration. Unable to find good quality Tamil books for her own children, Vanitha turned to self-publishing and started Vaaranam Children's Books in 2017. The Vaaranam brand has now grown to eight Tamil books, including books with innovative elements such as lift-the-flaps, touch and feel textures and even an interactive clock! Vanitha is currently working on her next book project.

- » [Generating Children's Interest in Tamil](#)
- » [Publishers Discuss: Diversity and Inclusion in Books](#)



Vicmon (Thailand)

Piengpitch Sartsasi a.k.a VIC-MON is an illustrator and cartoonist from Thailand. After drawing the covers of more than 200 books, she started to draw her own webcomic *3rd Time Kiss* for COMICO and *HOUR 25th* for LINE WEBTOON. She still continues to draw book covers while working on her new webcomic project.

- » [The Art of Writing Romance](#)
- » [The Wonderful World of Webcomics](#)



Yang Shu Hung (Singapore)

Blessed with the opportunity of having been through a bilingual education system, Shu Hung is passionate in both English and Chinese literature. She became a teacher after she graduated from NUS Chinese Studies, firmly believing that the two languages are not mutually exclusive. She went on to pursue Masters in Teaching Chinese as a Second Language in Taiwan, where she also took a certification course to become an EL/CL interpreter. She is currently still working as a teacher, hoping to instill the same love for languages and literature in her students as her teachers had.

» [Translators Talk: Humour in Children's Book](#)



Zubaidah Mohsen (Singapore)

Zubaidah's career spans three decades of librarianship, managerial roles, and leading projects; heading the first RFID library, setting up the Children's Services, seeding the Early READ programme and focusing on the professional development of Librarians and Job Redesign project for Library Officers. Zubaidah holds Master of Science Degrees in Information Studies and in Early Childhood Education. Presently Zubaidah oversees the Malay Language Services, responsible for the overall strategic directions and implementation of quality nationwide reading programmes for the Malay Language. Her team works on the development of the Malay physical and digital library collections in the public library network.

- » [Discovering MTL Literature for our Children](#)
- » [Novel Initiatives to Learn Mother Tongue Languages](#)

Moderators



Angela Yang (Singapore)

Angela is Deputy Director, Professional & Education Development at PAP Community Foundation. She has over 10 years of experience in the education sector, planning and overseeing the development and implementation of the school's curriculum. She works with her team of specialists to lead curriculum change, pedagogical direction, and ensures that the curriculum meets children's developmental needs.

» [Discovering MTL Literature for our Children](#)

Bijal Vachharajani

See page 70.



Caren Lai (Singapore)

Caren is the Assistant Director to the Grants Team at the Education & Community Outreach (ECO) Division in NHB. Her team oversees and administers the heritage project grants under the NHB Heritage Grants Scheme.

Prior to her rotation to ECO in April 2021, Caren was the Registrar and Assistant Director in the Collections Management Department at the Heritage Conservation Centre (HCC).

Caren holds a degree in Applied Mathematics from the National University of Singapore, and a Master in Arts Administration from the University of New South Wales in Sydney. She is also certified in Basic Western Paintings from the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore.

» [Humour, Heritage and Hawkers](#)

Chua Hong Koon

See page 71.



林美莲 (Connie Lum) (Singapore)

林美莲博士, 是职总优儿学府母语课程策划总监, 管理I70所学前中心。她拥有近20年学前教育和培训经验, 在课程设计方面积累了大量的宝贵经验, 多次接受媒体的访问, 分享有关学前教育的心得, 并经常到国内、国外讲学。

Dr Lum has worked in the early childhood field for over 20 years. She is currently Director, Mother Tongue Languages (NTUC First Campus). She works closely with principals and teachers in delivering the Chinese curriculum and programmes to children through curriculum writing, training of teachers, evaluating children's learning environment, and conducting continuous review of curriculum tools and techniques.

» [绘本为何有帮助孩子爱上阅读的魔力?
Why Are Picture Books Useful in Developing a Love for Reading in Children?](#)



Daphne Lee (Malaysia)

Daphne is the consulting editor at Scholastic Asia, a division of Scholastic Press, where she champions the creation of Asian content by Asians. To this end, she helped develop and is an advisor to the ongoing Scholastic Asian Book Award and Scholastic Picture Book Award, which have their home at the annual Asian Festival of Children's Content in Singapore. Daphne is also a writer with a particular interest in Asian supernatural folklore. She is the author of *Bright Landscapes: A Short Story Collection* (*Laras 99*).

» [Translation in Southeast Asia](#)



Darel Seow (Singapore)

Darel is a visual storyteller who illustrates the tales of the natural world through his unique brand of wry wit and whimsy. He believes in the draw of storytelling as a means of engagement, creating experiences that simultaneously excite and educate. Particularly interested in museums and culture, he has worked with art, cultural and educational institutions to encourage learning through the power of imagination and play.

- » [The Struggle with Loss: Books as a Coping Mechanism](#)



David Liew (Singapore)

David has illustrated *Ellie Belly*, *The Adventures of Squirky* and *The Plano Adventures*. His adventures in children's literature continue with *The Change Makers* and *Eye Spy* series released in 2020. He is the Regional Advisor to the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators in Singapore. In response to the pandemic, he and the SCBWI Regional Team had converted their monthly meetup talks and weekly critique sessions to virtual formats, and thus opened the door for participation that transcends geography and time zones. He and SCBWI Singapore Illustrator Coordinator Paula Pang have launched a collaborative effort with their counterparts in Indonesia to launch "Talking Pictures" – a monthly Zoom talk and chat session for illustrators.

- » [Bonds, Bridges & Books: Building Better Mental Wellness](#)
- » [The Animal Allure](#)
- » [The Role of Stories: Why We Write for Children](#)



Denise Tan (Singapore)

Denise started Closetful of Books after six years of working with children's literature. With Closetful of Books, she shares her love for reading through specially-tailored workshops with authors and illustrators and super-duper fun book fairs in local and international schools. Denise also puts her studies in Mass Communications and English Literature to good use by spending all her time reading.

- » [How to Talk to Children About War](#)



Denon Lim Denan (Singapore)

Denon Lim Denan is the executive director and chief editor of Lingzi Media, and President of the Singapore Association of Writers. He is also a poet, having won the Golden Point Award and been short-listed for the 2006 Singapore Literature Prize. His new poetry collection «如果还有萤火虫» (*If There Are Still Fireflies*) was published in December 2017.

- » [哪里好笑?! What's So Funny?!](#)



Elaine Fong (Singapore)

Elaine has worked as a librarian for over 25 years in companies, public libraries and international schools. She has a master's degree in library science from the University of British Columbia and a master's in education from Sheffield University, where her thesis was on reading motivation in EAL students.

- » [Some Talk, Some Action](#)



Emma House (UK)

Emma is an international publishing consultant. She has over 20 years experience in the global publishing industry and is the former Deputy CEO of the Publishers Association (UK), and held senior positions at the London Book Fair before setting up her own consultancy. Emma is a Board member of the PublishHer initiative established by Bodour Al Qasimi to improve gender equality in publishing, and a trustee of the Publishing Training Centre UK. She is a regular moderator and speaker at industry events. She is a passionate traveller and reader.

- » [Publishers Discuss: Supporting the Sustainable Development Goals](#)



Eriko Shima (Japan)

Eriko works in a university helping students who are learning together from different backgrounds and cultures. Before that, she used to work in a museum and made some educational programs for school children. Her team has also conceptualised and executed inclusive programs for the visually

impaired. Her graduate work included field studies and research on wildlife ecology and conservation.

» [Finding Humour in the Ordinary](#)

Evelyn Sue Wong

See page 74.



Geraldine Teo-Zuzarte (Singapore)

Geraldine is Group Professional Practices Officer at NTUC First Campus and Centre Director of The Caterpillar's Cove Child Development and Study Centre. She is an appointed ECDA Fellow and was awarded the SkillsFuture Fellowship in 2017 in recognition of her expertise in early childhood education.

- » [Don't Forget to Laugh: Finding and Using Humour in Children's Literature](#)
- » [Keep Moving Forward: Growth and Development through Science and Picture Books](#)



Helen Wang (UK)

Helen Wang translates Chinese children's books into English. In 2017, she won the Marsh Christian Award for Children's Literature in Translation for her translation of «青铜葵花» (*Bronze and Sunflower*) by Cao Wenxuan, as well as the Chen Bochui Special Contribution Award for translation and increasing visibility of Chinese children's literature.

» [Translators Talk: Translating the "Picture Book"](#)



Holly Thompson (US/Japan)

Holly (www.hatbooks.com) is a longtime resident of Japan and author of the verse novels *Falling into the Dragon's Mouth*, *The Language Inside and Orchards*; the novel *Ash*; and picture books *Twilight Chant*, *One Wave at a Time*, *The Wakame Gatherers*, and the forthcoming *Listening to Trees: George Nakashima, Woodworker*. A graduate of the NYU Creative Writing Program, she writes for children, teens and adults, and teaches creative writing and literature at Yokohama City University.

Photo by Carter Hasegawa

» [Translators Talk: Humour in Children's Book](#)



Hwee Goh (Singapore)

Hwee Goh spent 16 years as a TV journalist at Channel News Asia before extending her writing to books. In 2015, she produced the bestselling *Lee Kuan Yew* and a few non-fiction titles for kids. She followed through in 2018/9 with *The Plano Adventures*, a fantasy series based on science, with co-author Mo Dirani. Hwee is also an Editorial and Communications specialist at The Media Consultants Singapore.

- » [A New Spin on Singapore Stories](#)
- » [How to Nurture Eco-consciousness through Picture Books](#)



Jason Polim (Indonesia)

Jason is an experienced business leader with a proven track record and demonstrated history of working in various industry, especially in education management. He has been in the education industry for more than 12 years and counting, spanning from K-12 education and Higher Education. Primarily focusing on English Language learning, he is now leading a team of talented people across Southeast Asia in Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia and Singapore.

» [Using STEAM to Motivate the Next Generation in their Learning Journey](#)



José Borghino (Australia/Switzerland)

José is Secretary General of the International Publishers Association (IPA). As IPA Policy Director, he organized the Prix Voltaire (IPA's Freedom to Publish Prize), and managed the IPA's activities in the educational publishing sector, including the Educational Publishers Forum. Before joining the IPA, José worked at the Australian Publishers Association, was Executive Director of the Australian Society of Authors, a lecturer in literary journalism and creative industries at the University of Sydney, and editor of the online news magazine *NewMatilda.com*. José held senior positions at the Literature Board of the Australia Council and was the founding editor of *EDITIONSReview*.

» [The Metaverse: Exploring the Future of Books](#)

Julia Marshall

See page 78.



Kartini Anwar (Singapore)

Kartini bertugas sebagai pensyarah di Jabatan Bahasa dan Kebudayaan Melayu, Institut Pendidikan Nasional (NIE), Universiti Teknologi Nanyang, Singapura. Kartini mengajar kursus-kursus seperti Sastera Melayu Tradisional, Sastera Melayu/Indonesia Modern, Sastera Kanon, Teori Kritikan Sastera, Pendramatisan Teks Sastera, Sastera Kanak-kanak & Remaja dan Pengajaran Sastera Melayu. Beliau banyak membentangkan kertas persidangan tentang kesusasteraan dan di antaranya telah diterbitkan dalam jurnal tempatan dan antarabangsa. Kartini juga terlibat dengan tugas penyuntingan dan menjadi anggota panel juri untuk Anugerah Persuratan.

Kartini is a lecturer in the Malay Language Division of the Asian Languages & Cultures Academic Group, National Institute of Education (NIE), Nanyang Technological University (NTU). She teaches subjects on Malay literature such as Classical and Modern Literature, Indonesian Literature, Children's and Adolescent's Literature, Literary Criticism, Dramatization of Literary Texts, The Teaching of Literature. She presented academic papers at regional and international conferences. Kartini is also involved in academic and literary editorial works and judging panel of literary awards.

» [Mencipta Buku Bersiri Terkenal untuk Kanak-Kanak
Creating a Popular Children's Book Series](#)

Kayce Teo

See page 79



Kim Beeman (Singapore)

Kim Beeman is Head of the Senior Library at Tanglin Trust School in Singapore. She has previously worked as a teacher-librarian at independent schools in Bangkok and New York City, and was a cookbook librarian in New York City for many years. Kim has a Masters of Library and Information Science from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

» [AFCC Keynote: Light Up with Literature!](#)



Lim Cheng Tju (Singapore)

Lim Cheng Tju writes about history and popular culture. His articles have appeared in the *Journal of Popular Culture* and the *International Journal of Comic Art*. He co-authored *The University Socialist Club and the Contest for Malaya: Tangled Strands of Modernity* (Amsterdam University Press / NUS Press, 2012).

» [When Comics Come to the Classroom](#)



Loh Chin Ee (Singapore)

Chin Ee is Associate Professor and Deputy Head (Research) at the English Language and Literature Academic Group at the National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University. She is the co-editor of *Little Things, Poetry Moves* and co-author of *Teaching Poetry to Adolescents: A Teachers' Guide to Little Things* by Ethos Books. She is also the co-editor of *Literature Education in the Asia-Pacific: Policies, Practices and Perspectives in Global Times* (Routledge, 2018).

» [Developing Critical Reading Skills for our Children](#)

Low Ying Ping

See page 81.



Malavika Nataraj (Singapore)

Malavika is a writer, editor and Japanese-English translator based in Singapore. She has translated educational children's titles for Shogakukan Asia and other content for several corporate clients. Her book for children, *Suraya's Gift*, was published by Penguin-Random House (India) in 2015. She also has a passion for cultural history and was an active Japanese museum guide at the National Museum of Singapore and the Asian Civilizations Museum from October 2018 till October 2021. She has recently returned to graduate school to pursue research in 18th century Japanese literature.

» [Shifting Perceptions: Translating Stories From Languages Other Than English](#)



Norami Aliza Haron (Singapore)

Norami Aliza Haron has more than 18 years of experience as an early childhood practitioner working with young children and families. She holds a Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood Education) with Honours degree and a Master of Education (Early Childhood Education) degree from University of South Australia. Norami has conducted several workshops for parents and professionals.

Norami Aliza is the Programme Head for Continuing Education and Training Courses (CET) at the National Institute of Early Childhood Development (Ngee Ann Polytechnic Campus). She has more than 20 years of experience as an early childhood practitioner. Norami is a seasoned trainer with experience in training educators, and in conducting workshops for parents.

» [Pengembawaan Tim: Developing Different Modes of Publishing Amidst the Pandemic](#)



Nor Lastrina Hamid (Singapore)

Having organised community events and working with youths and volunteer groups for the past 10 years, Lastrina has built an interest in climate issues and how people respond to climate impacts. In 2015, Lastrina co-founded Singapore Youth for Climate Action (SYCA) to engage youths in climate action or environment-related volunteerism. Moving forward, Lastrina is interested in exploring regional works including the intersections of climate change, human rights, and youths, in Southeast Asia and Timor Leste.

» [Environmental Advocacy in Children's Books](#)



Peter Schoppert

Peter has made his career in publishing in Singapore, first in art book publishing as Editorial Director of Editions Didier Millet in the 1990s, and more recently as Director of the National University of Singapore Press, his current position. Along the way he took detours into internet publishing and management consulting.

» [The Flow of Book Information](#)

Quek Hong Shin

See page 84.



Rosslyn Prosser (Singapore)

Rosslyn is Programme Leader for the MA Creative Writing at LASALLE College of the Arts, Singapore. Rosslyn has a PhD in Gender Studies with academic and creative publications in life-writing and memory.

» [Of Women and Girls: A Study of the Female Figure in Korean Children and YA Literature](#)



Serene Chuang i (Singapore)

Serene is a bilingual Preschool Teacher based in Singapore. As an educator for both Chinese and English Language, she believes in creating a positive learning environment for the children. Serene holds a postgraduate diploma in Early Childhood Teaching under the support of Ministry of Education and Bachelor Degree in Life Science from Singapore National University.

» [The Magical Adventure of Snow and Friends](#)



Seetha Lakshmi (Singapore)

Dr. Seetha is an Associate Professor and the Assistant Head of the Asian Languages and Culture(Tamil) at the National Institute of Education, Singapore. She has led teaching and research concerned primarily with Standard Spoken Tamil, Curriculum Review, Classroom Pedagogy, Tamil lexicography, Teaching Tamil as a second language, Tamil pedagogy for the Tamil Diaspora and Teaching Tamil through Media.

» [Generating Children's Interest in Tamil](#)



Shelly Bryant (Singapore)

Shelly is a translator, poet and writer. She has translated work from the Chinese for Penguin Books, Amazon Crossing, Epigram Publishing, the National Library Board in Singapore, Giramondo Books, HSRC, Rinchen Books, and Maclehose Press. Her translation of Sheng Keyi's *Northern Girls* was long-listed for the Man Asian Literary Prize in 2012, and her translation of You Jin's *In Time, Out of Place* was

shortlisted for the Singapore Literature Prize in 2016.

- » [Resources for Translators](#)
- » [Translated Children's Books in Thailand: Challenges and Opportunities](#)

Shoba Dewey Chugani

See page 87.



Shreya Davies (Singapore)

Shreya Davies is the Assistant Editor at Difference Engine, and has worked on editing comics, as well as literary fiction and non-fiction publications. Her writing has appeared in *The Epigram Books Collection of Best New Singaporean Short Stories (Vol 4)* and *Mahogany Journal*. She never leaves home without a book in tow.

- » [Drawn Narratives](#)

Sim Ee Waun

See page 88.



孙宝琦 (Sun Baoqi) (Singapore)

孙宝琦,新加坡教育学院/新加坡南洋理工大学教育学硕士、博士,目前任职于新加坡教育学院儿童发展研究中心,主要研究领域为儿童认知发展,双语早期阅读及双语教学。近期主要研究本地中小学阅读文化和学生双语阅读习惯,探索如何结合家庭,学校和各种社会资源的力量来培养孩子良好的双语阅读习惯。

Sun Baoqi is Research Scientist at the Centre for Research in Child Development, National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. Her research encompasses socio-cultural-cognitive perspectives on language learning with particular focus on children's bilingual education and biliteracy development. One of her recent projects focuses on primary school children's reading habits in their two languages, and how schools, families, and communities can work together in building a bilingual reading culture.

- » [从故事学习人生](#)
- » [Learning Life Lessons from Stories](#)



苏章恺 (Su Zhangkai) (Singapore)

新加坡文史研究及教育工作者,曾在成康中学及南洋女子中学校执教,并于获教育部特委为阳光老师。是首位获得新加坡教师学院卓越贡献奖的华文教师。曾任香港电影资料馆特约专项研究员,台湾国立屏东大学海外研究项目共同主持人,也曾兼任新加坡国立大学中文系兼职导师。

Su Zhangkai was formerly a part-time lecturer with the Department of Chinese Studies at the National University of Singapore and a secondary school teacher. His teaching experience includes teaching Chinese Language, Chinese Culture, Translation, Values Education and Bicultural Programme at Seng Kang Secondary School and Nanyang Girls' High School. He was conferred the 2013 Fellow of Academy of Singapore Teachers in recognition of his outstanding contribution towards professional development. He also translated many picture books, including *The Little Chef* (Pustaka Nasional, 2018) and *Bear With Me* (Sprout Language Centre, 2019).

- » [童书创作的苦与乐](#)
- » [The Joys and Pains of Writing a Children's Book](#)



Thameem Ansari (Singapore)

Having master's degree in computer applications and human resource management, Worked in Consulting, Telco, High tech, cyber security and education industry with around 14 years of overall industry experience, Have been part of several digital transformation programs for companies like IBM, Hewlett Packard, Starhub, Checkpoint Software,

- » [Visual Literacy in the 21st Century](#)

Vanitha Tonn

See page 91



Vivian Teo (Singapore)

Vivian worked as a financial journalist and editor for 14 years at major US and UK trade publications. She became a freelance writer to spend more time with her two daughters and write about things close to her heart. This led to, *My BFF Is an Alien*, her first middle-grade novel. She now writes on parenting, education, finance and social issues; her work has been featured in CNA and CNA Lifestyle. She also enjoys blogging on her parenting and lifestyle website at www.vivanteo.com.

- » [Popular Romance Tropes in YA Fantasy and How to Write Them](#)

Zubaidah Mohsen

See page 91.

In conjunction with the Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism's Special Call for Proposals (Picture Books), the Singapore Book Council is organising a series of talks and workshops aimed at providing aspiring picture book writers with a firm grounding to produce picture books set in local contexts for children aged 0 to 6 years.



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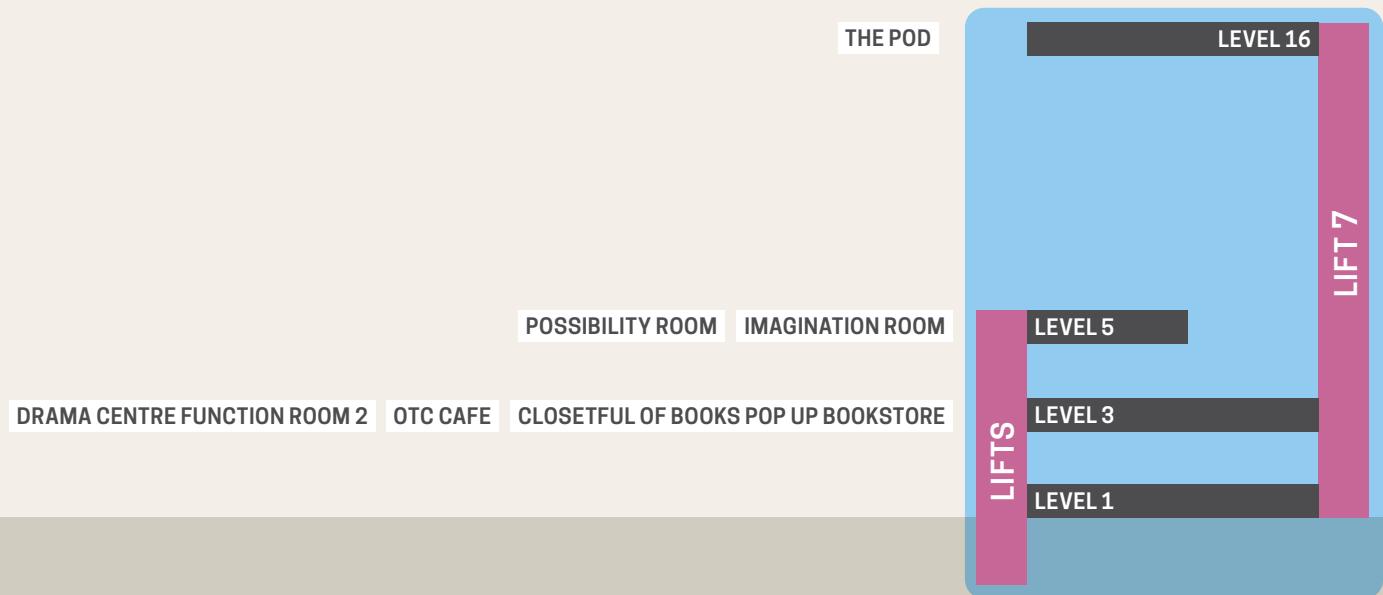
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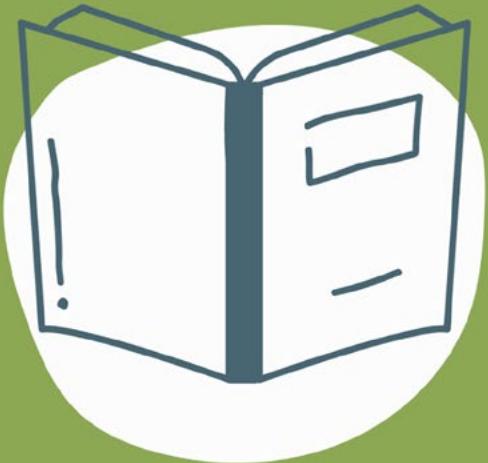
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Notes



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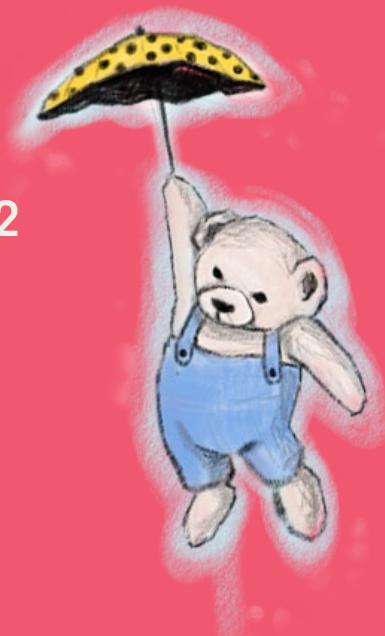


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90 Goodman Road, Block E, #03-32
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Cover illustration by J.H. Low

Information correct at time of printing. The festival organisers reserve the right to change speakers, events, session times, dates, and/or other details when necessary.