



Hong Kong International
Literary Festival
香港國際文學節

**YOUNG
READERS
FESTIVAL
2024**

**SCHOOL PROGRAMME
4-8 MARCH**

青少年讀者節





Hong Kong International
Literary Festival

香港國際文學節

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ABOUT HKILF

Events for adults and families will run from **March 4-10 2024**. Visit our website and follow us on social media to keep up to date!

The Hong Kong International Literary Festival (HKILF) inspires the joy of reading by bringing the world's writers and stories to Hong Kong's diverse communities. A dynamic year-round programme and an annual festival offer dialogue, entertainment and perspective, while **the Young Readers Festival (YRF) motivates students to engage with all aspects of the written word, improving communication skills, while nurturing the art of writing and storytelling.**

The annual festival features established and emerging writers from around the world, alongside local literary talents, in a programme that includes panel discussions, book talks, readings, workshops, walks, school programmes, performances, and more.

HKILF is an acknowledged landmark in the city's cultural landscape and has brought a distinguished roster of guests to Hong Kong for over twenty years. Past speakers include **Margaret Atwood, Amy Tan, Shehan Karunatilaka, Irvine Welsh, Kevin Kwan, Jonathan Kaufman, Cheryl Strayed, David Sedaris, Jason Reynolds, Pico Iyer, Ian Rankin, Yann Martel, Julia Donaldson, Neil Gaiman, Michael Morpurgo and Emily St. John Mandel**, among many others.

We are a not-for-profit, charitable organisation dedicated to showcasing the best of literary arts in Hong Kong and around the world. For more information, please visit our website at

www.festival.org.hk



Hong Kong International
Literary Festival
香港國際文學節



litfest_hk



**Hong Kong
International
Literary Festival**

ABOUT YRF

WHO WE ARE:

A world renowned festival that promotes the importance of reading and literacy in our community and schools.

WHAT WE DO:

Connect schools to local and international kidlit stars and experts.

Offer in-person workshops, presentations, as well as online events for students.

WHY WE DO IT:

To nurture literacy in our schools and community. To give students authentic experiences that are inspiring, relevant, culturally rewarding, and joyful.

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READERS
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**Hong Kong
International
Literary Festival**



Hong Kong International
Literary Festival

香港國際文學節

SAVE THE DATE

March 4-10
2024

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AND
SOCIAL MEDIA TO GET
EXCITING FESTIVAL
ANNOUNCEMENTS

festival.org.hk



[litfest_hk](https://www.instagram.com/litfest_hk)

Hong Kong Stories
香港故事



2024 STUDENT STORY SLAM

How to Enter:

1. Write your true, first person story
 2. Submit before 14 January 2024
 3. Selected stories will compete **LIVE** at the HKILF on 9 March 2024
- www.hongkongstories.com

Open to all secondary school students in
Hong Kong



Hong Kong International
Literary Festival
香港國際文學節

SUBMIT
HERE





POETRY

COMPETITION

詩歌創作比賽

Language 語言:
Chinese/ English 中文/英文

Division 組別:
1. Junior Group - Chinese 少年組-中文
2. Junior Group - English 少年組-英文
3. Public Group - Chinese 公開組-中文
4. Public Group - English 公開組-英文

*Junior (below 16 years old) 少年組 (16歲以下)
*Public (16 years old or above) 公開組 (16歲及以上)

Prize 獎品:
Bookazine voucher
Bookazine 書券
Chance to read your poem at HKILF 2024
得獎者有機會於香港國際文學節 2024 活動中朗讀作品

Judges 裁判:
Chio Hio Tong & Dr. Sayed Gouda 趙曉彤 & 顧德博士

Submission Deadline 截止提交作品日期:
4-2-2024

Winners will be announced during HKILF 2024 .
得獎者名單將於香港國際文學節 2024 期間公佈

theme 主題

HOME 家



Submit your work
via QR code
請掃碼提交作品



Hong Kong International
Literary Festival
香港國際文學節

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DAN SANTAT

WWW.DANSANTATBOOKS.COM
INSTAGRAM: DSANTAT
FACEBOOK: DAN.SANTAT
TWITTER/X: DSANTAT

AVAILABILITY

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Bio

Dan Santat is a 2023 National Book Award winner of the graphic memoir, *A First Time For Everything*, and New York Times Best Selling author of titles such as *After the Fall*, *Are We There Yet?* and *The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend* which won the 2015 Randolph Caldecott Medal. He is also the creator of the Disney animated series, *The Replacements*. Dan lives in Los Angeles, CA.

TALK: A Slow Growing Mass of Tangible Thoughts, 8+, Lang: Eng

Dan discusses the origins of some of his best known work *Beekle*, *After the Fall*, *Are We There Yet?*, and *A First Time for Everything*. He shares insights into how his work evolves from metaphors, inspiration from his family, and other ideas. Find out how these thoughts become best selling children's books that express complex topics and ideas.

Materials Required: Microphone, Projector (I have HDMI and VGA connections) used with my iPad Pro. Possibly a drawing pad with Sharpie markers if I do a drawing demonstration

TALK: A First Time for Everything, Age 10+, Lang: Eng

Dan discusses his memoir *A First Time for Everything* and a three week trip through Europe in the Summer of 1989 and how it changed Dan as an insecure 13 year old kid and blossomed into a more confident person after two tumultuous years in middle school.

Materials Required: Microphone, Projector (I have HDMI and VGA connections) used with my iPad Pro.

WORKSHOP: Basics of Drawing, All Ages, Lang: Eng

Dan gives kids and kids at heart, a basic lesson on how to draw complex objects using basic shapes and building on those basic components to create more complex objects.

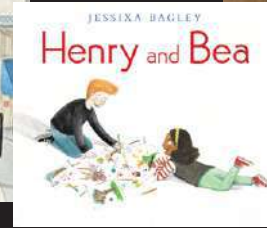
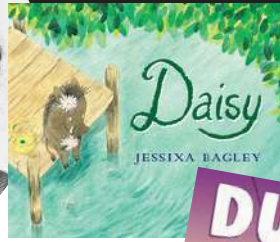
Materials Required: Microphone, Projector (I have HDMI and VGA connections) used with my iPad Pro. A drawing pad with Sharpie markers to do a drawing demonstration.



JESSIXA BAGLEY



WWW.JESSIXA.COM



AVAILABILITY

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Bio
 Jessixa Bagley is children's book author/illustrator with a background in fine art and comics. She has had work featured in publications such as: *New American Paintings*, *Nickelodeon Magazine*, *Highlights Magazine*, and *Illustoria Magazine*. Her debut picture book, *Boats for Papa*, received numerous awards and accolades including the 2016 SCBWI Golden Kite Award for best picture book text and a 2016 Washington State Book Award. Her picture book *Laundry Day* received a 2018 Ezra Jack Keats Honor Award for writing. Many of her picture books are also Junior Library Guild Selections. In her work, she is drawn to animals and emotional themes inspired by her own experiences.

TALK: Making Graphic Novels About Your Life, Age 8+, Lang: Eng
 Writing from a personal place can be the best place to start when looking for content. It can be challenging to write about your life but knowing the right places to bring in fiction can help make it fun! In this talk, Jessixa will talk read a portion of her debut middle grade graphic novel, *Duel*, and talk about the personal origins of the book (her history of fighting with her sister, the passing of her father, her past as a fencer), her process for writing a graphic novel, and how she collaborated with her husband, Aaron Bagley, who illustrated the book!

Materials Required: Projector, Screen, Laptop, Easel with Paper and Markers, Clicker (PowerPoint to be installed on laptop)

TALK: Where Does Inspiration Come from?, Age 5-12, Lang: Eng
 When we create, we make things that speak to our souls. We might be inspired by our family, our favourite song, or perhaps a beloved pet! Jessixa reads from her book *Maurice* which is all about connecting to our artistic muse. She talks about the process of following her heart when making the *Maurice* and of course her real-life inspiration for the book! Jessixa will do a drawing demonstration that leads the kids to connect with their own personal inspirations.

Materials Required: Projector, Screen, Laptop, Easel with Paper and Markers, Clicker (PowerPoint to be installed on laptop)

TALK: You've Got a Friend In Me, Age 5-12, Lang: Eng
 It's a wonderful thing to be different! We all have our own likes, dislikes, hobbies, things we are good at... but those differences can sometimes make you feel alone too. Jessixa reads from her acclaimed author/illustrated picture book *Daisy* about a little warthog who is made to feel different by some of her classmates but learns that there are friends out there who understand her and see her for who she is. Jessixa will talk about making the book and how her own experiences inspired the story. Included in the presentation is a drawing demo on how to draw *Daisy*! Jessixa will include a drawing activity sheet for kids to draw their own special magical fort inspired by *Daisy's* fort from the book!

Materials Required: Projector, Screen, Laptop, Easel with Paper and Markers, Clicker (PowerPoint to be installed on laptop)

AVAILABILITY

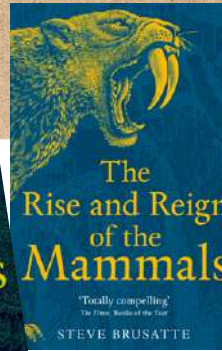
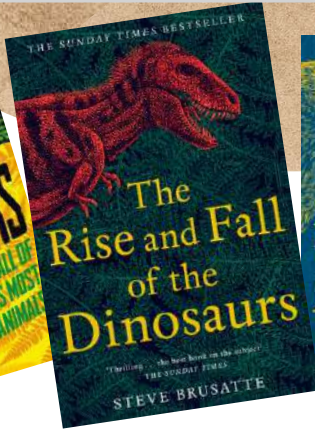
ANNE ○ STEVE ✓

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
			✓ ○	✓ ○



ANNE BRUSATTE

STEVE BRUSATTE



INSTAGRAM: STEVE.BRUSATTE

TWITTER/X: @STEVEBRUSATTE

TWITTER/X: @ANNEBRUSATTE

INSTAGRAM: ANNEBRUSATTE

Bio

Steve Brusatte is a palaeontologist and professor at the University of Edinburgh. He has travelled around the world digging up dinosaurs and named more than 15 new species. Steve has written several books for kids and adults, most notably the adult pop science book *The Rise and Fall of the Dinosaurs* (2018), which was a New York Times bestseller in the USA and Sunday Times bestseller in the UK, and *The Rise and Reign of the Mammals* (2022). He was the palaeontology advisor for the 2022 film *Jurassic World: Dominion* and was the resident palaeontologist for the BBC's *Walking with Dinosaurs* franchise.

Anne Brusatte was born in Bristol, England, lived in New York City for several years but now calls Edinburgh home. She taught primary school for over ten years in two different countries and is very used to children knowing far more about dinosaurs than she ever will. *Dugie the Dinosaur* is her first book.

TALK: The Rise and Fall of the Dinosaurs and the Reign of the Mammals, 12+, Lang: Eng

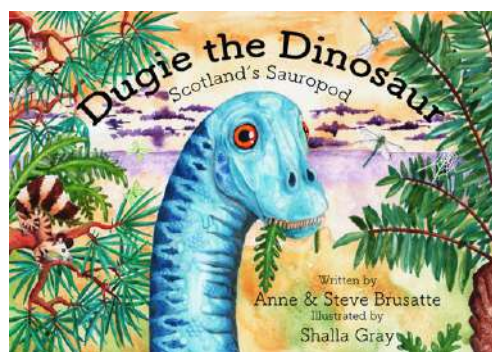
This talk can be focused on Dinosaurs, Mammals or include discussions on both. I will talk about the origins and evolution over time based on the fossil record and my work as a palaeontologist and writer.

Materials Required: Projector for ppt slides, laptop to run ppt, glue sticks and wireless mic. I won't plan on using my own laptop because it may not be compatible with HK cords and plugs.

WORKSHOP: Dugie the Dinosaur, Age: 5-8, Lang: Eng

Steve and Anne will jointly deliver this talk about Jurassic-age dinosaurs based on real fossils found in Scotland. This is an interactive workshop that includes a reading, Q&A about fossils and palaeontology. There will be a hands on exercise drawing dinosaurs and pasting feathers (as the scientific consensus now is that many dinosaurs had feathers!).

Materials Required: Projector, a laptop to run ppt slides, wireless mics, and colouring sheets for all of the students (we can send the template and you can print out enough copies for the students). We can bring the feathers!



AVAILABILITY

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



RACHEL IP

WWW.RACHELIP.COM



Bio

Rachel Ip is an award-winning picture book author. She writes a mix of fiction and non-fiction books, inspired by the world around her. She loves speaking to students about storytelling: from finding the right idea, to creating characters and writing compelling stories. She's an author ambassador for Bring Me A Book Hong Kong, the leading family literacy charity in Hong Kong. Rachel has spent the last 15 years in Hong Kong, where she lives with her family.

TALK: *The Wild Outside*: How to write compelling non-fiction, Age: 7-11, Lang: Eng

From finding the right idea and an intriguing hook, to exploring different non-fiction formats, Rachel will share how she researches and writes her non-fiction books. She will talk about the importance of credible primary and secondary research and how to create fact-filled, compelling non-fiction writing. She will read extracts from *The Wild Outside*, a beautifully illustrated, narrative non-fiction book which encourages children to stop, notice, name and celebrate nature in their surroundings—and beyond. Because just outside your own front door, there is a whole world of nature to explore.

Materials Required: This talk includes PPT slides with photos and short video clips, so a slide sharing mechanism with audio is required. A small table/area for props is also helpful.

TALK: *The Wild Outside*: Exploring the wild world around us, Age: 5-9+, Lang: Eng

This talk is about stopping, noticing, naming and celebrating the nature in our surroundings—and beyond. Students will learn about different plant habitats around the world and the many ways plants have shaped our world: from providing food and shelter, to clothing, medicine and more. Packed with ideas for getting Wild Outside, Rachel will encourage students to think like scientists, sharing tips for creating their own nature observation books and connecting with the wonderful, wild world around us. She will read extracts from *The Wild Outside*, share her notebooks and talk about how she writes non-fiction.

Materials Required: This talk includes PPT slides with photos and short video clips, so a slide sharing mechanism with audio is required. A small table/area for props is also helpful.

TALK: *The Last Garden*: Exploring Conflict and Migration, Age: 7-11, Lang: Eng

This is a story about a young girl who tends *The Last Garden* in a war-torn city. In this talk, Rachel will cover topics of conflict and migration, talking about some of the historical and contemporary war gardens that inspired the story. Students will explore some of the reasons why people migrate. Rachel will also talk about migrant and refugee experiences, refugee camps and humanitarian aid.

Rachel will share her writer's notebooks and talk about where she finds her story ideas. She will share sneak peeks and insights into Anneli's illustration process.

Materials Required: This talk includes PPT slides with photos and short video clips, so a slide sharing mechanism with audio is required. A small table/area for props is also helpful.



**DORA YUET LAN TSANG
(LUNA ORCHID)**

LUNAORCHID.WORDPRESS.COM

AVAILABILITY

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Bio

Dora is a writer, artist and nature guide. Living in the deep bright woods in Limousin, France, with a friendly French boar and a three-legged cat, she writes books about the trials and triumphs of life, as well as quirkily humorous stories for young children. Her creative versatility is demonstrated by her publications: a lyrical art book about her 1800-km peregrination (From Alpha to Alpha), a verse novel for young adults (Blue2) and a picture book for children (Much Hairdo about Nothing). When not writing, Dora can be found in the woods looking for her wandering cat, and illustrating her own life odyssey at home.

TALK: Suitcase Theatre, Age 4-8, Lang: Eng/Canto

講座：行李箱劇場，年齡 4-8 歲，語言：粵語/英語

What is story-telling? With the help of a handmade suitcase theatre, Dora will “tell” you some stories. This “talk” aims to bring surprises and perhaps a hint of emotion, to stimulate the audience to interact, and to involve them in the fun art of storytelling.

Dora將以手工製作的行李箱劇場講述一些故事。本次講座旨在帶來驚喜和一絲感動，激發小讀者的思考、促進互動，一同體會講故事這有趣藝術。

Materials Required: a stable table and a room that we can dim the lights

所需材料：一張枱（需穩固）、可調暗燈光的房間

TALK: Texts and Images, Age 12+, Lang: Eng/Canto

講座：文字與圖像，年齡 12+，語言：粵語/英語

We are bombarded with texts and images every single day, from social media to this very document under your eyes. They appear so much that sometimes we are even unaware of their presence, let alone their essence. In this talk, students will be shown different texts and images, and asked to pay attention to the power of these two mediums. Students will be encouraged to not just be passively influenced by what they see and read, but actively reflect upon them, and use these mediums to help them express themselves. This talk is based primarily on my art book “From Alpha to Alpha” in which drawings, poems and story-telling are all woven into one.

我們的生活每天都充斥著文字與圖像，它們可能來自社群媒體，以及你正在翻閱的這份小冊。如此資訊爆炸環境下，我們有時甚至忽略了這些信息的存在，更別提深究其本質。本次講座將引導學生關注文字和圖像兩種媒介的力量，並鼓勵學生積極反思，利用這些媒介表達自己，而不僅是盲目地受到所見所讀的影響。講座主要基於Dora融繪畫、詩歌和講故事為一體的藝術書《從阿爾法到阿爾法》。

Materials Required: a projector and screen, mic

所需材料：投影機及螢幕、咪高風

WORKSHOP: Demystifying Poetry, Age 12+, Lang: Eng

What is too impossibly boring to read, too cryptic to comprehend, too limited to the taste of a few literary geeks, and too frightening for a normal human being like you and me (or a cat) to write? If your answer is poetry, this may be the workshop for you. Using different activities, we will pull back the veil that obscures and mystifies poetry, and discover its very naked truth: FUN, SIMPLE, DIRECT, WELCOMING, SOOTHING. This workshop WILL NOT make you a great poet, but it will help you find the GUTS to express yourself BETTER.

Materials Required: projector, screen, mic, paper, and writing instruments



RACHEL SMITH



WWW.HONGKONGSTORIES.COM

AVAILABILITY

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Bio

Rachel Smith is an key organiser of Hong Kong Stories, a Hong Kong community based storytelling group. She leads development workshops, provides one on one coaching, produces a weekly podcast and has performed on stage for the past 10 years. With *Hong Kong Stories*, she oversees the production of popular monthly storytelling shows at the Fringe Club, and has taught workshops and performed in festivals in Hong Kong and overseas. Rachel is always keen to develop opportunities to hear and share stories and share her love of storytelling with the community. When not involved in Storytelling Rachel is a multi-disciplinary artist.

TALK: Finding Your Story, Age: 15+, Lang: Eng

Rachel brings students through some of the keystones of telling their own stories. Through sharing one of her own and providing relevant examples, she gives students a jumping off point for starting to tell their own stories. This talk includes some interactive large group games that encourage the students to participate in finding their own stories. Teachers will also be given references and audio files from previous Hong Kong Stories Slam students for their classes to listen to if desired. Classroom teaching points for storytelling are also included. (Large groups welcome)

Materials Required: Rachel will have a PPT presentation including slides and for groups larger than 15 a microphone is required. Rachel will bring an apple mac laptop with HDMI cable, and a flash drive with the presentation on.

WORKSHOP: Develop Your Story, Age: 15+, Lang: Eng

In this workshop, students will be led through the process of finding their story and beginning to develop it into a story that is shareable on stage. This workshop focuses on what makes a story successful, and pitfalls to avoid along with some hints and tips about what is interesting to the audience and why that should be the storyteller's number one priority. Before the workshop, students should be given an opportunity to listen to one of the podcasted stories, a downloadable or streamable link will be provided. Teachers will also be given references and audio files from previous Hong Kong Stories Student Story Slams to help bring the student work forward. Classroom teaching points for storytelling are also included. (Max 15 students)

Materials Required: Whiteboard

AVAILABILITY

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



RASHIN KHEIRIYEH



WWW.RASHINART.COM

INSTAGRAM: [@RASHIN.KHEIRIYEH](https://www.instagram.com/rashin.kheiriyeh)

TWITTER/X: [@RASHINART](https://twitter.com/rashinart)

Bio

Rashin Kheiriyeh is a multi-award-winning author-illustrator, animator, and painter who has more than ninety children's books to her credit. Her books have been published in at least twelve countries and she was nominated for the 2023 & 2024 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award for outstanding contributions to children's literature. She is also the recipient of a Sendak Fellowship Award, a 2009 New Horizon Award (Bologna Ragazzi), and is a six-time winner of the Bologna Book Fair Illustration competition. Rashin Kheiriyeh is the character artist of the most popular animation series on national television in Iran called "Shekarestan" ("Sugarland"). She now lives in Washington, DC.

WORKSHOP: *The Shape of Home*, Age: 4-12, Lang: Eng

In this workshop Rashin will read *The Shape of Home*, and talk about the inspiration and the process of picture book making, she will give a drawing demonstration, and play a game with maps of countries.

Materials Required: Wireless mic, water, chair, paper, marker, clipboard, world map, screen for showcasing the pdf files

WORKSHOP: *Rumi: Poet of Joy and Love*, Age: 4-12, Lang: Eng

Rashin will read *Rumi*, and talk about the inspiration and the process of picture book making, she will give a drawing demonstration, and students will be invited to create their own collage inspired by a flower garden.

Materials Required: Wireless mic, water, chair, coloured paper, marker, clipboard, glue stick, scissor, screen for showcasing the pdf files

WORKSHOP: *Don't Be a Bully, Little Tiger!* Age 4-12, Lang: Eng

Reading *Don't Be a Bully, Little Tiger!* Rashin will talk about the inspiration and the process of picture book making, she will give a drawing demonstration, and students will be invited to create their own tiger collage.

Materials Required: Wireless mic, water, chair, coloured paper, marker, clipboard, glue stick, scissor, screen for showcasing the pdf files

AVAILABILITY

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



SAMUEL PORTEOUS

[SCMP.COM/AUTHOR/SAMUEL-PORTEOUS](https://scmp.com/author/samuel-porteous)

[BOOKANDFILMGLOBE.COM/AUTHOR/SAM-PORTEOUS/](https://bookandfilmglobe.com/author/sam-porteous/)
[CHINGLINGFOOBIO.COM](https://chinglingfoobio.com)



Bio

Samuel Porteous is an award-winning Shanghai/Hong Kong-based artist/illustrator/author represented by Creative Artists Agency (CAA). Sam's work focuses on the special place China holds in the Western imagination. He is also an artist in residence at Shanghai Tan Garden. Simplified and Traditional Chinese character versions of Ching Ling Foo: America's First Chinese Superstar, Sam's biography of the legendary magician will be published in Spring 2024. Sam is also the author/illustrator behind the Constable Khang's Mysteries of Old Shanghai graphic novels series under the pen name Nathaniel Scobie. His key works are in the process of being adapted into theatrical release film/streaming series and/or documentary format.

TALK: Ching Ling Foo: America's First Chinese Superstar, Age: 14+, Lang: Eng

On the eve of the 20th century Ching Ling Foo, reportedly the greatest illusionist ever seen on American soil, along with his talented family overcomes on stage attacks, deportation attempts, homeland tragedy, and a diabolically clever American copycat to make an indelible impact on American popular culture becoming one of the highest paid, most popular acts in the US. Sam's talk focuses on the Foo troupe's socio-cultural impact at the height of the first Yellow Peril scare during an earlier American Pacific Pivot in an era of technological and social disruption and the lessons it provides for today.

Materials Required: Laser pointer, PPT Projector compatible with a 2019 MacBook Pro running Mac Operating System Monterey Version 12.6, Water

TALK: China in the Western Imagination: How the West Perceives China, Age: 14+ Lang: Eng

This talk will be based on Sam's SCMP Post Magazine "China in the Western Imagination" series. Sam will discuss using words and his related art the story behind and socio-political impact of i) Bret Harte's 1870 poem, "The Heathen Chinese" ii) Legendary Chinese magician Ching Ling Foo and his 1898-1900 and 1912-1915 tours of America iii) Chee Toy the teenage Ragtime singing sensation of 1912-1915 and iv) Zhang Chongren Chinese artist and friend of Tintin creator Herge. Zhang played a pivotal role in Herge's philosophical and artistic development and creation of "Tintin and the Blue Lotus" (1935) Herge's first masterpiece.

Materials Required: Laser pointer, PPT Projector compatible with a 2019 MacBook Pro running Mac Operating System Monterey Version 12.6, Water

TALK: Adapting Your Book to Film - Why It's Good to Have an Agent. Age: 14+, Lang: Eng

Sam will outline his experiences negotiating with film producers and documentary makers seeking to licence his works for adaptation to theatrical films, streaming series and documentaries as well as foreign publishers seeking foreign language rights. He will discuss what can go right and what can go wrong in the subsequent "development process" and the importance of having an agent.

Materials Required: Laser pointer, PPT Projector compatible with a 2019 MacBook Pro running Mac Operating System Monterey Version 12.6, Water



JAMES M. ZIMMERMAN

WWW.THEPEKINGEXPRESS.COM

AVAILABILITY

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
		✓	✓	✓

Bio

James M. Zimmerman is the author of *The Peking Express: The Bandits Who Stole a Train, Stunned the West, and Broke the Republic of China*. He is a Beijing-based author and lawyer who has lived and worked in China for more than twenty-five years. He is among China's leading foreign lawyers and represents companies and individuals confronted with the political and legal complexities of doing business in Mainland China. He is the former four-term chairman of the American Chamber of Commerce in China. In addition to Beijing, he maintains a home in San Diego, California.

TALK: Time Travel to the Land of Bandits & Warlords: How to Write About the Lives of People Living in the Past, Age: 12-18, Lang: Eng

Everyone has a story to tell, and everyone has lived through historical times. Telling a person's life's story in the context of history requires the writer – in hindsight – to put herself or himself in the shoes of the characters, and at the scene of the events. It's nothing short of time travel. Learn how James views writing historical non-fiction as a rewarding and unforgettable journey to the past.

Materials Required: I will bring a laptop for PPT. Prefer wireless mic to be easy to walk around. I will bring my own laptop for PPT. No mic is needed if room acoustics are fine.

WORKSHOP: Getting History Right: Chasing Records of Historical Events Around the World, Age: 12-18, Lang: Eng

As a writer of historical non-fiction, James will talk about the obsession – his obsession – with research. Getting history right requires a deep dive into the memoirs, statements, letters, memorabilia, and photographs of those that lived through and witnessed history. Sleuthing around for historical records in family attics, archives, and libraries is much like the work of a detective, a gumshoe. And there is no greater satisfaction to the writer to uncover novel and firsthand accounts, facts, details, and perspectives that aid in writing the story.

Materials Required: I will bring a laptop for PPT. Prefer wireless mic to be easy to walk around. I will bring my own laptop for PPT. No mic is needed if room acoustics are fine.



RITU HEMNANI



AVAILABILITY

WWW.RITUHEMNANI.COM
INSTAGRAM: @AUTHORRITUHEMNANI
FACEBOOK: @RITUHEMNANIAUTHOR
LINKEDIN: RITU HEMNANI
BLUESKY: RITU HEMNANI

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Bio

Ritu Hemnani is an author, journalist, and teacher, who hopes for every child to see themselves in the pages of a book and know that their stories matter. Ritu is ethnically Indian, a British national, and calls Hong Kong her home, where she lives with her husband and three children. Her picture book, *Gope And Meera - A Migration Story* was published in 2017. *Lion Of The Sky* Ritu’s debut historical middle-grade novel in verse, published by HarperCollins/Balzer+Bray in 2024. Ritu shares the seeds of her writing journey in her 2019 TEDx Talk, An Inheritance Worth Sharing: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g-GelCkt-t4>

TALK: Introducing The Verse Novel, Age: 8-16, Lang: Eng

Why is this style of storytelling in free verse with creative punctuation and blank space gaining popularity in classrooms all over the world? Ritu will introduce her debut novel in verse, *Lion Of The Sky*, and share about the power of verse in conveying emotion, exploring complex themes, and tackling social issues through rhyme, rhythm, lyrical language, and vibrant imagery to create a more intimate and impactful reading experience. Ritu will lead a lively discussion around her novel's themes of family, friendship, and belonging to inspire students to fall in love with the vehicle of verse.

Materials Required: Wireless mic, clicker, large screen to connect to MacBook Air, table at the front to display my books.

WORKSHOP: Free Verse Writing Workshop, Age: 10-18, Lang: Eng

In this workshop, students will be introduced to Ritu's debut novel in verse, *Lion Of The Sky*, and travel back in time to the 1947 Partition of India. As they dip into her poems, they will step into the shoes of Raj, a 12-year-old boy, who is forced to leave his only home and start a new life in a new place where both he and his family are not welcome. Ritu will share her tips and tricks for writing free verse poetry and after exploring the themes of migration and belonging, students will write and share their own free verse poems.

Materials Required: Wireless mic, clicker, large screen to connect to MacBook Air, table at the front to display my books and students should have something to write with and write on, or laptops.

TALK: Having Fun With Poetry, Age 8-11, Lang: Eng

Through lively language and sound games, song lyrics, picture books, and out-of-the-box activities related to her debut novel in verse, *Lion Of The Sky*, Ritu's talk will inspire, delight, and help students re-engage with the fun art form of poetry.

Materials Required: Wireless mic, clicker, large screen to connect to MacBook Air, table at the front to display my books.

AVAILABILITY

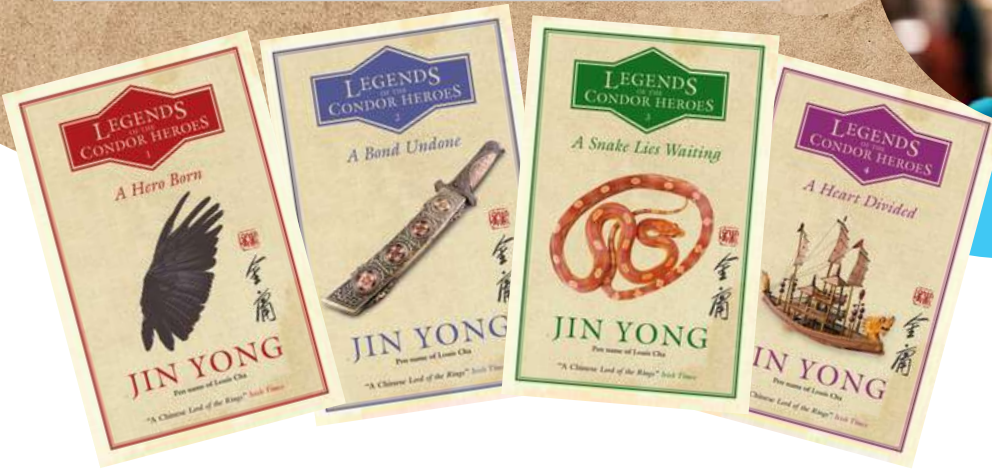
4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
			✓	✓



GIGI CHANG

INSTAGRAM: GIGITRANSLATES

TWITTER/X: GIGICCHANG



Bio

Born in Hong Kong and now living in Shenzhen, Gigi Chang translates from Chinese to English. Her translations include Jin Yong's wuxia martial arts series *Legends of the Condor Heroes* (co-translated with Anna Holmwood and Shelly Bryant) and *Return of the Condor Heroes* for MacLehose Press, classical Chinese dramas for the Royal Shakespeare Company and contemporary Chinese plays for the Royal Court Theatre.

TALK: Kung Fu Fighting with Words, Age: 14-18, Lang: Eng/Canto/Mand

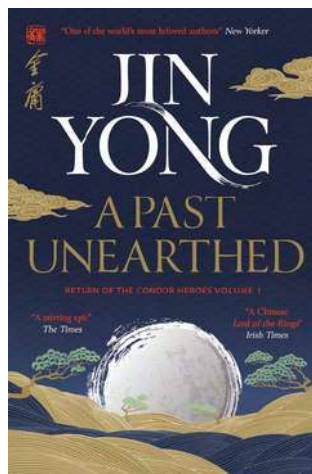
講座：筆下功夫，年齡：15-18歲，語言：粵語/英語

How do we write action scenes as exciting as those in movies? Can we speed up and slow down movement, create sound, lighting and other cinematic effects, with just the written word? This talk draws from the speaker's experience of working on the English translation of Jin Yong's wuxia classic, *Legends of the Condor Heroes*, to explore the different techniques in creative writing that allow martial masters and their legendary kung fu to leap off the page.

如何才能寫出像電影一樣精彩的動作場面呢？我們能否運用文字來加快和減慢角色動作，創造聲效、燈光和其他電影效果？本次講座基於Gigi對金庸武俠經典作品《射雕英雄傳》的英譯經歷，探討多種創作技巧，讓武林高手和他們的傳奇功夫躍然紙上。

Materials Required: Computer and projector/large screen to play a short presentation in PDF, Any kind of mic if the group/room is large (I won't be bringing any equipment)

所需材料：電腦、投影機及大螢幕（用於播放PDF格式的簡短演示），若人數較多/場地較大則需要咪高風。（演講者將不會攜帶任何設備）



AVAILABILITY

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



JORDAN RIVET

JORDANRIVET.COM



Bio

Jordan Rivet is an American author of YA science fiction and fantasy featuring determined heroines, vivid worlds, and daring missions. She has written twenty-four novels in multiple series, including Wake Me After the Apocalypse, the Art Mages of Lure fantasy trilogy, and the Lost Clone sci-fi series. Originally from Arizona, Jordan lives in Hong Kong, where she is a full-time writer.

TALK: How to Write a Novel in 8 Steps, Age 13+, Lang: Eng

How do you turn a blank page into a book? Walk through the process of writing a novel from idea to final draft with Jordan Rivet, author of 24 YA fantasy and science fiction books. Students will see how a working writer actually works and learn skills they can apply to their essays and writing projects. Topics covered include outlining, story structure, writing a messy rough draft, revision, getting feedback, and polishing a final draft. Students are encouraged to read, try new things, and enjoy the writing process.

Materials Required: Projector for PowerPoint. I will bring the presentation on a Macbook, on a USB, and saved on the cloud in case it's easier to use the school's computer.

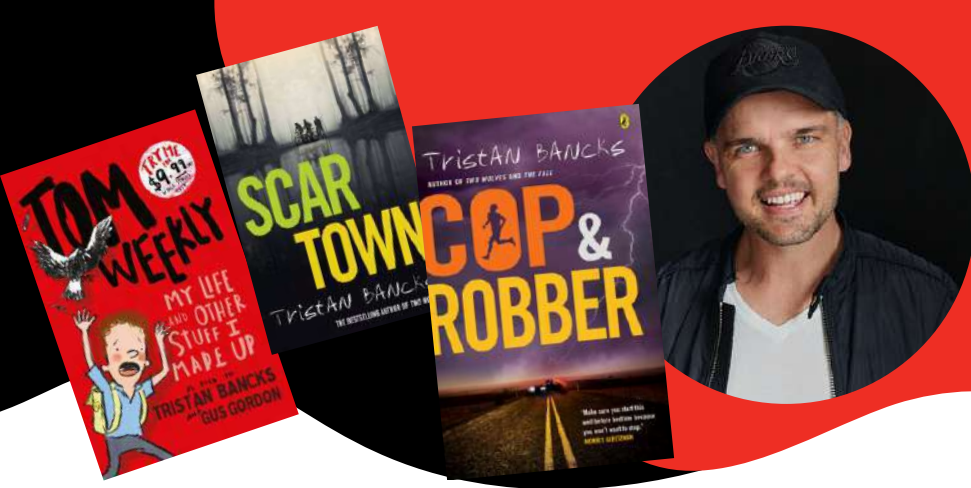
WORKSHOP: World-building in Science Fiction and/or Fantasy, Age: 13+, Lang: Eng

In this hands-on writing workshop, students will explore fantasy or science fiction writing, exercise their creativity, and develop skills that can be used in any type of fiction. Exercises include world-building practice, developing a conflict for a new story, and learning to use the five senses to enhance setting. Students will finish the workshop with the material for their own sci-fi or fantasy story!

Schools can choose to focus on either fantasy or science fiction depending on what suits their curriculum or opt for a general world-building workshop.

Materials Required: Projector for PowerPoint, students will need pens and paper. I will bring the presentation on a Macbook, on a USB, and saved on the cloud in case it's easier to use the school's computer.





TRISTAN BANCKS

WWW.TRISTANBANCKS.COM

AVAILABILITY

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Bio

Tristan Bancks tells stories for the page and screen. His new book is a suspense-thriller, *Scar Town*, for age 10+. His other books for kids and teens include *Two Wolves*, *The Fall*, *Detention*, *Cop & Robber*, *Ginger Meggs* and *the Tom Weekly series*. His books have won and been shortlisted for many awards, including a Children’s Book Council of Australia Honour Book, the Prime Minister’s Literary Awards and YABBA children’s choice book awards. Tristan is working with producers to develop his books for the screen and he is an author-advocate for literacy non-profit Room to Read. Find out more at tristanbancks.com

TALK: VisionBoarding, Age: 10+, Lang: Eng

From soundtracks to storyboarding, movie trailers to animation, writing a book can be a totally 3D experience. See author Tristan Bancks's Vision Board, which helps him create his crime-mystery novels *Two Wolves*, *The Fall*, *Detention*, *Cop & Robber* and *Scar Town*. Learn how you can fuse TV, the web, video, music, maps, apps and old-fashioned books to write your own extraordinary stories. Tristan's background is in acting and filmmaking and this talk brings his stories to life in exciting ways, taking you on a transmedia tour behind-the-scenes on the writing of his award winning books. Full of laughs and inspiration to read and create.

Materials Required: Data projector and speakers. I will bring my laptop and adaptors for HDMI and VGA as well as my clicker. A whiteboard would be handy for a workshop. And a handheld mic if it's a large room, please. Water would also be great!

TALK: Your Life & Other Stuff You Made Up, Age: 10+, Lang: Eng

Author Tristan Bancks will take you through the process of generating story ideas from your own memories and experiences. He will show you how to push those personal experiences beyond the everyday recount as he has done in his series of *Tom Weekly short story collections* and novels *Two Wolves*, *The Fall*, *Detention*, *Cop & Robber* and *Scar Town*. Tristan will show you how to use freewriting, memories, drawing, maps and images to gather ideas and then how to apply imagination to fill in gaps that memory won’t supply.

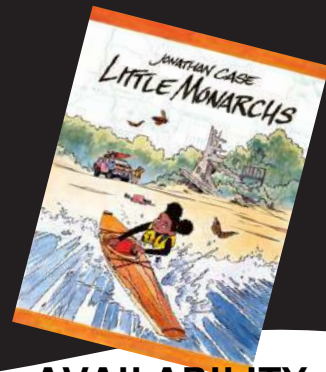
Materials Required: Data projector and speakers. I will bring my laptop and adaptors for HDMI and VGA as well as my clicker. A whiteboard would be handy for a workshop. And a handheld mic if it's a large room, please. Water would also be great!



JONATHAN CASE

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS AUTHOR

WWW.JONATHANCASE.NET



AVAILABILITY

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Bio

Jonathan Case’s work includes eight graphic novels published by Disney, DC Comics, Cartoon Network/BOOM!, Dark Horse Comics, and Random House. His latest, *Little Monarchs*, is a tense speculative fiction story grounded in real science. Highly researched, richly painted, and hand-lettered with traditional tools, *Little Monarchs* was selected as a best book of 2022 from NPR, School Library Journal, Booklist, and Publishers Weekly. It also represented Jonathan’s home state of Oregon at the Library of Congress’s National Book Festival. Jonathan lives in Silverton, Oregon with his wife and two daughters.

WORKSHOP: Draw Everything!, Age: 8+, Lang: Eng

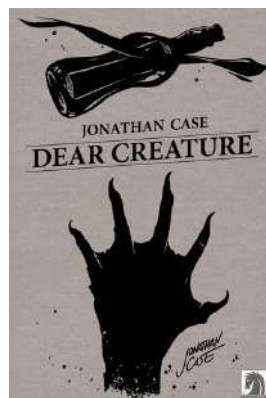
Join award-winning cartoonist Jonathan Case to explore drawing techniques that you can apply to your own illustrations, comics, and animation. You’ll learn how a professional illustrator uses simple tools of observation to bring extra life to a drawing. Jonathan will demonstrate watercolours, digital art tools, and drawing with pen and ink. This workshop is best for a group up to about 50, so people can see what I’m up to when drawing on large paper.

Materials Required: A whiteboard or large pad of paper is good for me to have, along with a projector with HDMI input for my iPad Pro (USB C connection, but I’ll bring an adapter to connect it to HDMI). For the audience, just paper and pencils with erasers (extra nice-to-have: brush-tipped pens).

TALK: Little Monarchs - Bringing Reality into Comics, Age: 8-12, Lang: Eng

Award-winning author Jonathan Case (Disney, DC Comics, Dark Horse) offers a look inside his acclaimed graphic novel, *Little Monarchs*. You’ll learn: how Jonathan became a professional comics creator, the natural science and reality behind his newest book, and drawing methods that you can apply to your own art!

Materials Required: Projector, HDMI connection. Wireless mic helpful if addressing assembly-size groups.



AVAILABILITY

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
	✓			✓



LIBBY LAM

LADYLIBBYSART.COM



Bio

Libby Lam is a bestselling children's books author and illustrator from Hong Kong who has nurtured her dream of creating books since the age of 8. Known for her unconventional storylines and vibrant illustrations, Libby aims to inspire confidence and kindness in children through works like *Checklisted Beauty*, *My Best Friend Sunny*, *Crispy Children*, and *Ten-Star Service*. She takes pride in collaborating with charitable organisations, using her books to support their causes. Committed to promoting children's literacy and fostering creativity, Libby conducts workshops and delivers speeches at educational institutions, creative communities, and literary festivals.

TALK: How to Create a Picture Book, Age: 6-12, Lang: Eng/Canto

講座：如何創造圖畫書？年齡：6-12歲，語言：粵語/英語

Participants will develop a basic understanding in creating a storyline, designing characters and compositions for a storybook that achieves good visual storytelling effects. Drawing demos and audience participation included.

透過本次講座，參與者將基本了解故事情節創作、人物設計和故事書構成，以及如何運用它們創造良好的視覺敘事效果。講座亦包含繪圖演示和觀眾參與環節。

Materials Required: Laptop, projector, screen, remote mouse, microphone, flipchart, whiteboard

所需材料：筆記型電腦、投影機及螢幕、遙控滑鼠、咪高風、活動掛圖、白板

WORKSHOP: Turning Everyday Life into Fantasy, Age: 6-15, Lang: Eng/Canto

工作坊：把日常變成幻想，年齡：6-15歲，語言：粵語/英語

This is a creativity workshop with half in presentation and another half in games. Participants will be guided to develop a new pair of lenses to see the world differently and be able to 1) draw inspirations from daily life in creating an original story and 2) turn everyday objects into original characters in the story. Participants will leave the workshop with an idea of an original story developed through the games, which they could further develop in future lessons under the guidance of their teachers. They will also practise the skills in creating original characters through games and demos.

本次創意工作坊分為演示和遊戲兩個部分。Libby將引導參與者用全新的視角看待周遭世界，並且體驗（1）從日常生活汲取靈感，創作原創故事（2）將日常物品變成故事中的原創角色。參與者將了解用遊戲塑造故事的方法以及透過遊戲和演示練習創造原創角色的技巧，並在未來的課程中經由老師的引導進一步發展這些能力。

Floor plan: Half the floor allocated for audience seating, another half allocated for 6-8 tables (more tables required for more participants) placed in separate stations. (Max 100 students, 12 students per group)

場地設置：場地一半分配給觀眾座位，另一半擺放6-8張枱（視乎參與者數量增減），零散地擺放於不同位置。（人數上限為100人，12人為一組）

Material Required: Laptop, projector, screen, remote mouse, microphone, and audio equipment to play music, Flipchart, whiteboard, participants will need to bring a sketchbook and a pencil to the workshop.

所需材料：筆記型電腦、投影機及螢幕、遙控滑鼠、咪高風、用於播放音樂的音響設備、活動掛圖、白板，參與者需攜帶素描本和鉛筆。

AVAILABILITY

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
	✓			



ROOM TO READ HK

WWW.ROOMTOREAD.ORG

INSTAGRAM: ROOMTOREAD

FACEBOOK: ROOMTOREAD



Bio

Founded in 2000 on the belief that World Change Starts with Educated Children®, Room to Read is creating a world free from illiteracy and gender inequality through education. We are achieving this goal by helping children in historically low-income communities develop literacy skills and a habit of reading, and by supporting girls as they build life skills to succeed in school and negotiate key life decisions. We collaborate with governments and other partner organisations to deliver positive outcomes for children at scale. Room to Read has benefited more than 39 million children and has worked in 23 countries and in more than 182,000 communities, providing additional support through remote solutions that facilitate learning beyond the classroom. Room to Read aims to benefit 40 million children by 2025. Learn more at www.roomtoread.org.

WORKSHOP: International Women's Day Workshop by Room to Read, Age 10+, Lang: Eng

What would happen if every girl in the world could discover her own power? To celebrate International Women's Day on 8 March 2024, Room to Read will be hosting a one-hour storytelling workshop featuring She Creates Change, a multi-media storytelling initiative that highlights the magic that happens when girls discover their own power and gain access to role models, both on the page and in person. Room to Read will share a selection of stories and classroom activities showcasing some of these inspiring changemakers, participants in Room to Read's Girls' Education Program. These young women have used life skills such as critical thinking, self-confidence, and empathy to overcome a range of obstacles, design better futures for themselves and their families. Through this workshop, we hope you will feel inspired by the stories of these young women heroes and to join Room to Read in advancing gender equality through girl-focused storytelling and help every girl acquire life skills that will allow them to imagine and realise their greatest potential.

Materials Required: AV equipment for powerpoint, Students should have pen and paper



ALICE Y. CHAO

AYCHAO.COM

INSTAGRAM: AY_CHAO

AVAILABILITY

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Bio

Alice is the #1 Sunday Times bestselling author of *Shanghai Immortal*, the first in a trilogy following charmingly profane half-fox spirit, half-vampire Lady Jing. She's lived in Calgary, Paris, Stockholm, Beijing, London, and Hong Kong, where she's been interloper, compatriot, tourist, and foreigner. As a result of her experiences, she's fascinated by the interplay between self-perceived versus imposed identity and how this intersects with belonging, themes she enjoys exploring in her stories. A recovering lawyer and xiaolongbao enthusiast, Alice now lives in London with her family. Find her online at aychao.com and @ay_chao on Twitter and Instagram.

TALK: Supercharge Your Story: Harness the power of MRU, Age: 13+, Lang: Eng

MRU, or Motivation Reaction Units, are the building blocks of a story—a causation chain of stimulus and reaction. Used wisely, MRU can deepen emotional resonance, strengthen character, infer backstory, amplify world building, crank-up tension, and more. We will look at how these units work, use some examples from the students to create a supercharged, layered, story.

Materials Required: Powerpoint projector with appropriate wires to connect to Macbook OR powerpoint projector with school laptop (will email the ppt if this is the case). Blank paper. Ensure that every student has a pencil/pen and something to write on (notebook, etc).

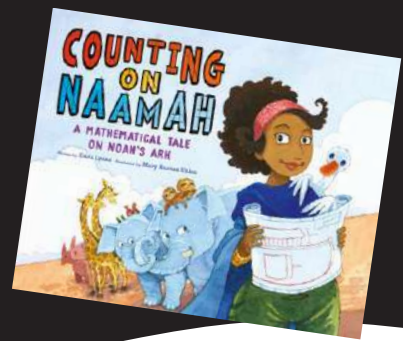
TALK: Behind the scenes from Draft to Published Book, Age 14+, Lang: Eng

1 hour talk with Q&A covering the journey from querying, to submissions, multi-publishing house auction, book production, cover design, pre-launch checklist (blurbs, panels, publicity), launch, selling foreign rights, and what happens next. With examples of a query letter, a submission pitch, an agent edit letter, an editor's edit letter, blurb requests, blurbs, a royalty statement, international distribution, etc.

Materials Required: Powerpoint projector with appropriate wires to connect to Macbook OR powerpoint projector with school laptop (will email ppt if this is the case).



ERICA LYONS



AVAILABILITY

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

WWW.ERICA-LYONS.COM
INSTAGRAM: ERICALYONSWRITES
FACEBOOK: ERICALYONSWRITES
TWITTER/X: EFLYONS

Bio

Erica Lyons is Hong Kong-based children’s book author. Her picture book debut, *Alone Together on Dan Street*, was a 2023 National Jewish Book Awards finalist. She's also the author of *Counting on Naamah*, *Intergalactic Afikoman*, September 2023 and *Zhen Yu and the Snake*, Kar-Ben/ Lerner, September 2023. Forthcoming titles include *On a Chariot of Fire*, Levine Querido, March 2024, *Saliman and the Memory Stone*, Apples & Honey Press, May 2024, and *Mixed-Up Mooncakes*, with co-author Christina Matula, Quill Tree, September 2024. She’s the chair of the Hong Kong Jewish Historical Society and the founder and director of PJ Library Hong Kong.

TALK: Storytelling Traditions, Age: 7-11, Lang: Eng

What are folklore/ traditional tales? Why are they important? This talk will look at my books *Zhen Yu and the Snake* and *Counting on Naamah* as well as others to explore storytelling traditions.

Materials Required: screen for use with powerpoint

TALK: The Texts behind the Text, Age: 5-11, Lang: Eng

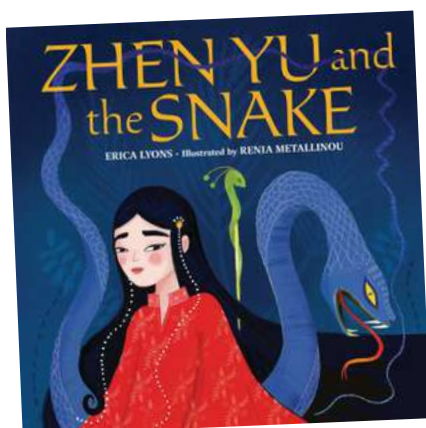
Counting on Naamah is a (girl powered, STEM) retelling of Noah's Ark. There’s a whole lot of animals on the ark and not just two of each kind. There’s also a whole lot of text packed into this picture book. This is a look at the text/texts behind the picture book.

Materials Required: screen for use with powerpoint

TALK: Zhen Yu and Jewish History, Age: 8-12, Lang: Eng

What is the Jewish story in China? A look at my picture book, *Zhen Yu and the Snake*, as a starting point for a talk about the Jewish history of China spanning from the 9th century through the present day.

Materials Required: screen for use with powerpoint



AVAILABILITY

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
	✓			



**MULTI
SCHOOL
ONLINE
EVENT
SPECIAL PRICING**

MUHAMMAD NAJEM



YOUTUBE: @MUHAMMADNAJEM
VIMEO: MUHAMMADNAJEM
TIKTOK: @MUHAMMAD.NAJEM?LANG=AR
LINKEDIN: MUHAMMAD-NAJEM

MUHAMMADNAJEM.COM
INSTAGRAM: MUHAMMADNAJEM20
FACEBOOK: MUHAMMADNAJEM20
TWITTER/X: MUHAMMADNAJEM20

Bio

21-year-old Muhammad Najem is currently living as a refugee in Turkey after escaping from the Syrian war in 2018. Before this, he lived through seven years of the war in the eastern city of Ghouta in Damascus and one year in Idlib. At age 15, he began filming and reporting to broadcast to the world the horrors of the bombings, death, and destruction occurring every day in his homeland. He shares the stories of the Syrian people on YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, and was featured in Know Your Rights and Claim Them, by Angelina Jolie. The 2022 graphic autobiography, *Muhammad Najem, War Reporter*, which he co-authored with CNN producer, Nora Neus and illustrator Julie Robine, is on The Hong Kong Battle of the Books list for this year.

ONLINE TALK: War Stories and the Rights of Children around the World, Age: 13+, Lang: Eng

Muhammad will share his childhood experiences of living through a war and becoming a refugee in a multi school event via zoom. He will also discuss how he came to report on the war and the process of writing his book. YRF staff will gather questions from schools in advance and work with 1-2 Year 9 students from Chinese International School who will interview Muhammad for the talk. Hollie Arnulphy representing YRF and the Head of English at Chinese International School - Greg Zimmerman will act as moderators where needed to ensure it runs smoothly. There may be time for on-the-spot questions at the end, depending on the number of participants we receive.

Materials Required: Computer, webcam and Zoom

Time: Tuesday, 5 March 2024, 2-3pm

AVAILABILITY

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



JOHN WONG

WWW.HKIHSS.HKU.HK/EN/PEOPLE/JOHN-D-WONG/



Bio

An associate professor and a business historian at the University of Hong Kong, John Wong's research focuses on the flow of people, goods, capital and ideas. With a particular interest in Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta/Greater Bay Area, he explores how such flows connected the region to the Chinese political centre in the north as well as their maritime partners in the South China Sea and beyond. John received his BA(Hons) in Economics from the University of Chicago, MBA from Stanford University, and PhD in History from Harvard University. He holds the designation of Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA).

TALK: Hong Kong Takes Flight: how geopolitics, economic development and business entrepreneurs shape the way we fly today, Age: 14+, Lang: Eng/Canto

講座：香港振翅：地緣政治、經濟發展及商界人士如何塑造今日航空業？，年齡：14+，語言：粵語/英語

John will discuss how global events and macroeconomic factors animated the development of commercial aviation in Hong Kong. Find out how he put it all together in his book, which tells the story not only of aviation but also of Hong Kong's growth.

王迪安博士將討論全球事件和宏觀經濟因素是如何推動香港商業航空的發展。他的著作《香港振翅》不僅介紹香港航空業，也講述了香港的發展故事。學生們將在本次講座中了解他如何將諸多影響要素整合到這部作品中。

TALK: Not Merely History: A look into non-fiction with *Hong Kong Takes Flight*, Age: 14+, Lang: Eng/Canto

講座：不僅是歷史：《香港振翅》與非虛構，年齡：14+，語言：粵語/英語

John will talk about the research process, and the methods he uses to write books filled with facts and research. He explains how his book went from idea to product.

王迪安博士將談論研究過程以及撰寫非虛構作品的方法，並闡釋他如何將腦內想法逐步轉化成實體書籍。



SIOBHAN MCDERMOTT

INSTAGRAM: SIOBHANMCD91

AVAILABILITY

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Bio

Siobhan McDermott was born in Hong Kong and grew up on a steady stream of stories filled with Chinese legends and Irish folklore. She now lives in the UK and continues to order dim sum in Cantonese tinged with a distinctly Irish lilt. *Paper Dragons: The Fight for the Hidden Realm* is her debut novel and was inspired by moments across her life: from childhood trips on the Discovery Bay ferry to travelling around Taiwan, Italy and Spain.

TALK: Paper Dragons, Age: 9-12, Lang: Eng

Enter the hidden underwater realm of Hok Woh as Siobhan explores what goes into creating a fantasy world. In this interactive talk, students will get writing prompts to help take moments from their own lives and make them magical, and get a chance to create their very own mythical creature. Event includes a reading from *Paper Dragons* and a Q&A.

Materials Required: Either a powerpoint projector with cables that can connect to a Macbook OR a powerpoint projector connected to a school laptop, Remote clicker to move between powerpoint slides OR a stand for laptop, A2 paper flip chart and thick markers, Microphone (only if speaking to a large group), All students will need a pen/pencil and a notebook to write in



CHERIE DIMALINE



AVAILABILITY

WWW.CHERIEDIMALINE.COM

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Bio

Cherie Dimaline is an internationally bestselling, award-winning author. Her 2017 book *The Marrow Thieves* was named by TIME magazine, one of the “Best YA Books of All Time”. *Empire of Wild* became an instant Canadian bestseller and is being adapted into an opera. *Hunting By Stars* was a 2022 American Indian Library Association Honor Book and her new novel *VENCO* debuted at #1 on Canadian bestseller lists. Critically acclaimed 2023 YA titles include *Funeral Songs for Dying Girls* and *Into the Bright Open*. Cherie lives in her Georgian Bay Métis Community and writes/produces for screen and stage.

TALK: We All Need Indigenous Stories, Age: 12+, Lang: Eng

A discussion on how traditional stories can help us navigate our current world and make sense of the past. (Would be great if students came with questions to facilitate a dynamic conversation at end of talk)

Materials Required: mic (wireless or handheld) if in a large room, water, podium if available (okay if not)



AVAILABILITY

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
8:00-14:00	8:00-14:00	8:00-14:00	8:00-14:00	8:00-14:00
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

**ONLINE
EVENT
SPECIAL
PRICING**



ALINA CHAU

**BATTLE OF THE
BOOKS AUTHOR**

**ALINACHAU.COM
INSTAGRAM: ALINACHAU
THREADS: ALINACHAU**



Bio

Alina Chau 周曉芬 is an award-winning author and illustrator. Her unique cultural heritage strongly influences her artistic and storytelling voice. Having grown up in Hong Kong in an Indonesian-Chinese family during the British colonial era and later immigrant to the US, her creative vision is a fusion of diverse cultures. Her debut graphic novel, *Marshmallow and Jordan*, received the Junior Library Guild Gold Standard and the 2023 Best Middle-Grade Graphic Novel Sakura Award in Japan. She also illustrated numerous acclaimed children's picture books, including *The Nian Monster*, which received the 2018 Asian Pacific American Librarians Association Picture Book Honor.

ONLINE TALK: From Script to Printed Page, Age:11-14 (Middle Grade), Lang: Eng/Canto

Explore the process of writing and illustrating a graphic novel, and create a comic of your own! In this program, I will share behind-the-scenes photos, production notes, and do live drawing. Students will be exposed to the creative brainstorming and thinking processes of professional story development, to empower them to create their own stories.

線上講座：從腳本到書頁，年齡：11-14歲（中階），語言：粵語/英語

探索圖像小說的寫作和插圖過程，創作屬於自己的漫畫！本次線上講座Alina將分享創作筆記、幕後照片，並展示現場繪畫。學生們將體驗創意頭腦風暴以及專業的故事構思過程，讓他們能夠更好地創造屬於自己的故事。

Materials Required: Business Zoom account link

所需材料： Zoom商業帳戶連結



AVAILABILITY

4 MAR	5 MAR	6 MAR	7 MAR	8 MAR
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



MAOSHAN CONNIE

INSTAGRAM: MAOSHANCONNIE



Bio

Maoshan Connie graduated with a Master degree in Children's Literature from the University of Cambridge. Currently, she is working as a full time picture book and community map artist. She founded an online tree conservation mailbox in 2014, for people to write love letters to trees in the city. Connie has participated in both local and international exhibitions, her most recent solo exhibition was: "A special spring exhibition at Museum of Picture Book Art: This is where Maoshan Connie began her journey" at Hachi & Seizo Tashima Museum of Picture Book Art in Japan.

TALK: Animal Rescue Work, Age: 6-12, Lang: Eng/Canto

講座：動物救援工作，年齡：6-12歲，語言：粵語/英語

Connie will read her bilingual book *Deserve* and give a presentation on her work with animal rescue centres. She will discuss how her work inspired her to write a story and why it's important to address difficult topics in children's books.

貓珊將為讀者們朗讀她的雙語書《我們都值得被愛》，並講述她在動物救援中心的工作經歷。她還將討論激發她書寫故事的靈感來源，以及在童書中探討困難議題的重要性。

Materials Required: Laptop, projector, screen.

所需材料：筆記型電腦、投影機及螢幕

WORKSHOP: Community Map Drawing, Age: 6-12, Lang: Eng/Canto

工作坊：繪製社區地圖，年齡：6-12歲，語言：粵語/英語

In this workshop Connie will share her creative process and how she puts her ideas on paper. Observing the communities and people that live in them help her create lively settings for her books or commissioned work. She will read from one of her books. Participants will be able to create their own map.

對社區和街坊的細緻觀察使貓珊在創作書籍或委託約稿時能夠繪出生動的場景。本次工作坊中，貓珊將分享她的創作過程，以及她如何將腦內靈感活現於紙上。她將朗讀自己的繪本作品，並指導參與者們創造屬於自己的地圖。

Materials Required: Laptop, projector, screen. Participants will need large sheets of paper for map drawing, drawing materials.

所需材料：筆記型電腦、投影機及螢幕。參與者需要準備繪圖用具及大張白紙（用於繪製地圖）。



Hong Kong International Literary Festival 香港國際文學節

YRF TALK AND WORKSHOP PRICING

The price per session is **capped at a maximum of HK\$8,000**. There will be a **minimum charge of HK\$2,800** per session for talks, and a **minimum of HK\$3,500** per session for workshops.

Number of students	Talks - up to 1hr
<30	2,800HKD (93pp)
31-70	4,000HKD (57pp)
71-150	6,500HKD (43pp)
151 +	8,000HKD (27pp*) *based on 300 students

Number of students	Workshops - up to 1hr 30min
Maximum 30 students (unless author has specified another number)	150HKD pp

Online Events	Online Talks
Muhammad Najem - Multi School Event	1000HKD (per login)
Alina Chau	2000HKD

Notes:

- All talks and workshops will be conducted in English unless otherwise stated.
- A non-refundable cancellation fee of 20% will be charged upon cancellation by the school 72 hours prior to the scheduled talk or workshop.
- **A class teacher or school representative must be present during all in school events to help monitor and manage students.**
- Q&A time is included within the time frame for talks and workshops.
- Please note that photos and videos of participants may be taken during the activities, which may be used by the organiser and the major sponsor for educational and promotional purposes in any way deemed appropriate, including dissemination through printed and online channels. Participation in the programme will constitute the participants' consent to the above arrangement.



Hong Kong International Literary Festival 香港國際文學節

Booking Form

Please send us the completed form via email to bookings@festival.org.hk
You will receive confirmation of your booking within 5 working days of receipt of this form.

Please note:

- We prioritise schools who show significant interest and offer larger audience numbers.
- Please refer to the pricing list table for prices for talks and workshops.
- There is a **minimum charge of HK\$2,800** per session for talks, and a **minimum of HK\$3,500** per session for workshops.
- Talks are up to 1 hour long, and workshops are up to 1.5 hours long.
- The festival reserves the right to change the programme, including the sessions for which booking has been confirmed. Once your booking is confirmed, payment should be received within 2 weeks or your reserved seats may be released.
- Please submit your form by **February 2, 2024** to secure a booking.

Name and title of contact person:					
Name of school:					
School address:					
Email:					
Phone:					
Event Name	Preferred date and time	Author	No. of students	Age of students	Total cost (HKD)
				Total	

Signature and chop

Date



Hong Kong International
Literary Festival
香港國際文學節

Young Readers Festival 2024
Application for School Subsidy Scheme

All government and aided schools are eligible for the School Subsidy Scheme. The scheme serves to encourage the participation of government and aided schools committed to promoting literacy and nurturing a love of reading through our programmes. The Festival reserves the right of final decision for the amount of subsidy.

School name:	District:
Contact Person:	Position:
Email:	Phone:

School type:

- Secondary School Primary School
- Aided Government Direct Subsidy

1. How did you hear about the Festival and our Schools Programme?

- Festival website Friends/Teachers Promotional materials
 Newspapers E-newsletters Other (please specify) _____

2. At your school, how many subjects use English as a medium of instruction?

_____ out of a total of _____

3. Is English a foreign language for most of your students?

- Yes No

4. What is the approximate pass rate of your students in English language exams (e.g. HKDSE, TSA, GCSE etc.)?

5. Does your school organise or participate in any activities/programmes that promote the learning and use of English (e.g. book clubs, creative writing clubs etc.)?

- Yes No

If yes, please elaborate:

Please send us the completed application along with your booking form to

bookings@festival.org.hk

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