

NEW JERSEY SCBWI 2015 FALL CRAFT WEEKEND WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS



Saturday, Nov. 7, 2015

WS1—1 to 2 p.m.

WS1A: The Picture Book: A Unique Genre (*Picture books are NOT easy!*)

w/ Trinka Hakes Noble

(PB)

Trinka will discuss the unique and complex craft of the picture book featuring her book *The Day Jimmy's Boa Ate the Wash*, illustrated by Steven Kellogg. You will be guided through your own wordless sequence as you hone and enhance your picture book craft.

WS1B: Creating a Broad Research Bank For Your Novel w/ Charlotte Bennardo

(MG/YA)

Go beyond using Google to broaden the depth of research for your novel. As an exercise, attendees will brainstorm about other research tools they have discovered. Charlotte will compile a final list made available as a download post-event.

WS1C: Painting Children—Watercolor w/ Karen Romagna

(Illustration)

Learn some of the tricks that Karen discovered while illustrating her picture book, *Voyage*. Karen will share the importance of good photo reference, using a limited palette, and the emotions you can trigger with facial expressions and body language. Bring sketches of your own characters to work on during the workshop.

WS2—2:10 to 3:10 p.m.

WS2A: Explaining Complex or Unfamiliar Material in Picture Books w/ Laurie

Wallmark

(PB)

Whether you write fiction or nonfiction, a picture book is the perfect medium to introduce concepts and facts to younger readers. But this is of little use if the child (or the adult reader!) can't understand the content being presented. Luckily, because of the very nature of picture books, there are many ways to explain complex and/or unfamiliar material in a way accessible to children. This talk will discuss and give examples, from both nonfiction and fiction, of over twenty such methods.

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WS2—2:10 to 3:10 p.m. (CONTINUED)

WS2B: The Illusion of Life: Writing that Breathes on the Page w/ Mayrose Wood *(MG/YA)*

Everyone knows that a really great book can make you miss your stop on the train! But how do we writers use mere words to establish and maintain such a vivid sense of reality that our readers get lost in the fictional world we've created? Through examples and writing exercises attendees will explore John Gardner's concept of the "fictional dream," and learn how good writing craft can make our stories spring to life in the mind of the reader.

WS2C: Pacing a Picture Book w/ Greg Pizzoli *(Illustration)*

Using some simple text, Greg will work with illustrators to help develop sketches and demonstrate the visual pacing of a picture book.

WS3—3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

WS3A: Rock Tumbling a Picture Book: The Craft of Revision w/ Beth Ferry *(PB)*

In this workshop, we will talk about turning the first draft of a story into a manuscript that is ready for submission by cutting, shaping and polishing each sentence. We will explore four major steps of revision and will do hands-on revision exercises. We will also examine some editor-assigned edits and how they affect the final product.

WS3B: Plot, Plan, and Adapt w/ Matt Myklusich *(MG/YA)*

Mike will discuss his writing process which relies on very detailed outlines, but also knowing when to stick to the plan and when to throw it out the window. Bring a short synopsis of a work-in-progress. Matt will guide attendees to break down their story into acts, in order to help get a handle on story foundation and story destination.

WS3C: Strengthening Our Sketchbook Skills w/ Leeza Hernandez *(Illustration)*

Do you feel you are lacking a sense of creativity and that it's holding you back from generating new ideas, characters and/or stories? Wish you could get a better handle on visual world-building? Not really sure where your illustrative voice is? Through examples, and some simple exercises, attendees will learn how to retool their sketchbook in order to rediscover their illustrative individuality, take inspiration from the world around them and build an arsenal of imagery they can use as fodder for future illustration projects.