

# NJ SCBWI – 2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**LOCATION:** Princeton Hyatt, Princeton, NJ

map and directions: <http://princeton.hyatt.com/hyatt/hotels/services/maps/index.jsp>

**REGISTRATION: Friday:** 10:30-12:00 (Registration for optional intensive: 8:00-8:30)

**Saturday:** 8:00-8:45

**SCHEDULE:** You will receive your personalized schedule, including your optional critique time and the name of your critique(s), on the day of the conference. Conference hours are:

**Pre-conference Intensive 8:30 am to 12:00 pm** (registration from 8:00)

**Friday Session and Dinner 12 pm to 8 pm** (registration from 10:30)

**Optional Peer Group Critiques 8 pm to 10:30 pm**

**Saturday Session 8:45 am to 5 pm** (registration from 8:00)

**QUESTIONS:** Before the conference: Kathy: 856-478-4110 Laurie: 908-806-6695

[Kathy@newjerseyscbwi.com](mailto:Kathy@newjerseyscbwi.com) [Laurie@newjerseyscbwi.com](mailto:Laurie@newjerseyscbwi.com)

Day of conference: (cell):Kathy: 609-841-3973 Laurie: 908-546-8922

## ONE-ON-ONE CRITIQUE (additional cost)

We will contact you about five weeks before the conference and tell you where to mail your manuscript. This can be either a full picture book or fifteen pages plus a short (1-2 pages) synopsis of a novel. Do not include any illustrations or dummies. (You may share these with your mentor during your critique.) You must double-space and use standard manuscript formatting.

We will forward your manuscript (text only) to one of the mentors for critiquing. Assignment to a particular mentor cannot be guaranteed. During the workshop, you will meet individually with your mentor for fifteen minutes. At that time, you will receive a written critique and your mentor will review your manuscript with you. If there's time, you may choose to discuss other manuscripts or any questions you might have about children's book writing.

You may sign up for more than one critique, but your second critique must be with an author. The cost for an author critique is \$50. You may note your first and second author choice on registration form.

## AUTHOR CRITIQUES

**This year we have the following award-winning authors available to critique your manuscripts.**

**David L Harrison** - Author of 80 Children's Books, Poet Laureate and Keynote Speaker. David will critique **Picture Books, Chapter Books, Rhyme, Free Verse and Middle Grade** manuscripts.

**Susan O'Keefe** - Author of *One Hungry Monster, My Life And Death by Alexandra Canarsie, Death by Eggplant* & more. Susan is also an editor at **Paulist Press** and doing "**All**" genres.

**Sudipta Bardhan** - Author of 13 Picture Books and Seven Non-Fiction Books. Sudipta is available for **Picture Book** critiques.

**Kristin Clark Venuti** - Author of LEAVING THE BELLWEATHERS and three more books coming out. Kristin is doing **Middle Grade and Young Adult** manuscripts.

**Cynthia Balog** - Author of Young Adult Novel FAIRY TALE with three more books coming out. Cyn will be doing **Middle Grade, Young Adult and Fantasy** manuscripts.

**Eileen Kennedy-Moore** - Author of WHAT ABOUT ME? and two adult non-fiction books will be critiquing **Picture Books**.

**Leeza Hernandez** - Illustrator of BORED BELLA, and two more books coming out including debut DOG GONE! with Penguin. Leeza will be available for **illustrators and or writers** to critique and discuss their **Picture Books**.

**Note:** You will find that having a published author critique your work is a great thing to have done. Authors always throw themselves into the manuscript and give 200%.

## CONSULTATION CRITIQUES (additional cost)

Scott Treimel and Simone Kaplan have agreed to do a limited number of consultative critiques over the two day conference. These will be a half-hour in length and the cost is \$110. Simone is accepting picture books and Scott is accepting middle grade and young adult manuscripts. If you are a picture book writer, then you would submit the full manuscript and meet with Simone to discuss what is working and what needs improving. If you have signed up for Scott, you will submit the first 5 pages and a synopsis and come ready to answer questions and discuss your story.

Space is limited for these critiques. The consultative critique does not count as a one-on-one critique, so if you receive a consultation critique, you can still sign up for an editor critique as your first one-on-one critique.

## PORTFOLIO CRITIQUES

Illustrators who sign up for a portfolio critique with an art director, may also get a one-on-one critique with an editor or agent before signing up for an author critique. Just write a note on your registration form that this is what you're doing and sign up for the "one-on-one" critique/review and the "third" critique/review.

## PRE-CONFERENCE INTENSIVES

**POETRY INTENSIVE: The Poetry Intensive will be led by David L Harrison** who says, "Bring your own poems if you wish to self-critique as we go. We'll leave room for exercises and lots of time for questions and discussion, but most of your writing will come later, after the Intensive. During our time together I'll present (with examples and handouts) many fundamental elements of verse. We'll also discuss free verse and compare the poet's approach to both. The purpose of this Intensive is to support your serious efforts to become a published children's poet.

**HISTORICAL INTENSIVE: Historical Fiction = history + fiction Carolyn Yoder will lead this workshop.** Exciting and memorable historical fiction -- novels and picture books -- balances solid research with solid writing. This workshop will explore in depth the research and writing processes -- and touch on rewriting and editing. It will also highlight those novels and picture books that successfully capture the past. Attendees are encouraged to submit first pages which will be critiqued and discussed. Group writing exercises will also make up the workshop.

At Calkins Creek, Carolyn has edited the following historical picture books and novels: BLUE, HEALING WATER, COMFORT, THE INVASION OF SANDY BAY, CAMPING WITH THE PRESIDENT, and UPON SECRECY.

**PICTURE BOOK INTENSIVE: The Picture Book Intensive workshop is led by author Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen.** The idea behind this intensive is to introduce and discuss effective techniques for developing publishable picture book manuscripts, and then to apply those techniques to the participants' manuscripts in concrete ways. Emphasis will be on discussion rather than lecture, and the participants' previously submitted WIPs will be frequently used to demonstrate workshop topics. This intensive is aimed for picture book writers who understand the basic form of the book.

**ILLUSTRATORS' INTENSIVE: The Illustrators' Intensive Workshop will be lead by Denise Cronin, VP, Art Director from Viking Children's Books and Patrick Collins, Creative Director from Henry Holt BFYR.** Illustrators will be assigned to one art director for their pre-assigned illustration project. The assignments will be sent out approximately 8 to 10 weeks before the conference. During this time, illustrators must choose one manuscript—supplied by their assigned art director—and sketch a double page spread to accompany a chosen passage of text. Sketches will be mailed to the art directors by a set deadline to which the art directors will then respond and offer feedback and suggestions for revision. Illustrators will continue to complete the assignment and bring a final color illustration on the day of the intensive for a group critique led by the art directors. Detailed instructions and exact dates will be supplied to illustrators after initial registration.

## **JURIED ART EXHIBIT**

All illustrators attending both days of the conference are invited to exhibit one piece of art in the Regency Foyer on their own easel for the entire conference. **These pieces of art will be judged by the faculty on Friday and Saturday morning by the faculty and a winner will be announced on at Saturday's lunch.** Also, illustrators will be provided a table and space to display their portfolio, postcards and business cards for faculty review on Friday.

The cost for anyone not attending both days is \$25.00. Illustrators who would like to participate and cannot attend on Friday, may drop off their, easel, piece of art and a portfolio early Friday morning or Thursday from 1pm to 8pm for the show. You will need to pick up your portfolio when you check in at registration on Saturday morning. All art pieces will be displayed for the whole two days. If you are unable to get your art delivered on Thursday or Friday morning, you can still display your piece of art and be included in the Juried Exhibit.

Please contact Leeza Hernandez [Leeza@newjerseyscbwi.com](mailto:Leeza@newjerseyscbwi.com) She is our Illustrator Coordinator. Click this link for further details. <http://www.newjerseyscbwi.com/events/illustrators.pdf>

## **FRIDAY NIGHT PEER GROUP CRITIQUE**

If you chosen to participate in the group critique, you will be assigned into a group with other attendees about a month before the workshop. Everyone in the group e-mails a copy of his/her manuscript to the others in the group. This does not have to be the same manuscript as the one for your one-on-one critique. Again, you can submit either a full picture book or fifteen pages plus a synopsis of a novel. Before the workshop, read all the manuscripts and write down your comments. You will share these written critiques with your group members, and give them your written notes, during the workshop.

## **FIRST PAGE SESSION**

If you signed up for a first page session, you may or may not have been assigned to one, depending on whether there is room. Just in case, bring three copies of a first page of a single manuscript with you. Do not put your name on the paper, but do include a title and indicate the genre (picture book, chapter book, middle grade, young adult, non-fiction). Your manuscript must fit on a single sheet of paper. If you submit a second page, only the first page will be read.

Use standard manuscript formatting—double spaced, 12 point Times New Roman or Courier font, one-inch margins all around, half-inch indents for each new paragraph, single column of text. You may include up to the first 24 printed lines (not sentences!) of text from your manuscript. For picture books, this will be more than the first physical page of your manuscript. If your text is rhyming, put each rhyme on a new line.

All the first pages will be read aloud by volunteer readers and two editors/agents will give their critiques.

## **AGENT PITCH SESSION**

If you signed up for an agent pitch session, you may or may not have been assigned to one, depending on whether there is room. At the session, you will have three minutes, one-on-one, with an agent to pitch your book. Since the time is so limited, you should practice your pitch before the conference so you don't waste time. For pitch tips - <http://kathytemean.wordpress.com/2010/03/23/one-line-book-pitch-discussion/>

## **How To Conference**

This session is for everyone who wants to hear tips on how to make the most out of your conference experience. There will also be time to answer questions you have about how things will work over the two days. So register at 10:30am and join us before lunch at 11:00am.

[www.newjerseyscbwi.com](http://www.newjerseyscbwi.com)