

## 4 - 15 March 2019

# Schools Programme Pack

Every year, the Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival brings writers to schools for talks and workshops, creating unique opportunities for young people to meet some of the world's greatest storytellers. In 2018 we worked with more than 60 schools to 9,000 students.



Talks last for an hour and workshops for an hour and a half. All international writers possess work visas to conduct sessions in Hong Kong.

**Schools receiving funding from the government are eligible for our School Subsidy Scheme.** Books can be ordered through the Festival's official bookseller, Swindon Books.

To organise an author visit to your school, please fill in the booking form in this pack and email Fiona Chung at [Fiona.chung@festival.org.hk](mailto:Fiona.chung@festival.org.hk).

## Session information

Talks last for an hour (inclusive of Q&A); workshops last for an hour and a half.

Tickets are priced at HK\$50 per student for talks and HK\$100 per student for workshops.

For non-subsidised schools, the price per session is capped at a maximum of HK\$7,500 (i.e. you will not be charged more than HK\$7,500 regardless of the number of students participating).

The minimum number of students per session is 20.

For local schools receiving government funding (government/aided/DSS), the price per session is subsidised by up to 70%. Please complete the School Subsidy Scheme application and submit it along with your booking form.

	TALK	WORKSHOP
PRICE PER STUDENT (HK\$)	50	100
STUDENT CAPACITY	N/A	20 - 40 (subject to author requirements)

## Authors

### Tristan Bancks

Tristan Bancks is a children's and teen author who started out as an actor and filmmaker. His books include the Tom Weekly series of weird-funny-gross short stories and *Two Wolves (On the Run in the US)*, a crime-mystery novel for middle-graders. *Two Wolves* won Honour Book in the 2015 Children's Book Council of Australia Book of the Year Awards and was shortlisted for the Prime Minister's Literary Awards. It also won the YABBA and KOALA Children's Choice Awards, as did his latest thriller novel, *The Fall*, for ages 10 and above. *Detention*, a gripping new book about a daring escape and a lockdown in a school, is out in July 2019.



Dates: 11 - 15 March

Target audience: 8-14, flexible and subject to discussion

Tech requirements: Laptop, projector and screen, audio, clicker, mic

### Sessions

#### **Talk – My Life and Other Stuff I Made Up**

How do you use the odd, boring, funny parts of life and turn them into interesting stories? Learn from Tristan, author of the Tom Weekly series, how inspiration lies in literally every waking (or not) moment, from the conventional to the cringe-worthy.

#### **Workshop – The Basics of Short Story Writing**

A hands-on workshop discovering the essential elements and processes of writing a short story.

## **Talk – Write Like A Filmmaker**

Tristan shares his experience working in TV and film and how cinematic tools help with important facets of storytelling such as world-building, pacing and narrative voice.

## **Kate Beasley**

Kate Beasley is the author of *Gertie's Leap to Greatness* and *Lions and Liars*. She holds a Masters in Writing for Children and Young Adults from the Vermont College of Fine Arts. She lives with her family in Claxton, Georgia, with two dogs, one parrot, a lot of cows and a cat named Edgar.



Dates: 4 - 8 March

Target audience: 7 - 12

Tech requirements: Laptop, projector and screen, clicker, mic

## **Sessions**

### **Talk – Meet Kate Beasley**

Meet Kate, author of *Gertie's Leap to Greatness*, a Battle of the Books reading, in an interactive session on her work as well as the writing and publishing process. Session includes a fun group writing exercise (no pen and paper/supplies necessary) and Q&A.

### **Workshop – Descriptive Writing**

Kate will lead students in round-robin style with writing activities that focus on description and detail.

## Jack Cheng

Jack Cheng is the author of the middle grade smash-hit *See You in the Cosmos*. Jack Cheng was born in Shanghai and grew up in Michigan. After nearly a decade in New York, working in advertising and tech, he now lives in Detroit.

Dates: 11 - 15 March

Target audience: 9+

Tech requirements: Laptop, projector and screen, clicker, mic



## Sessions

### Talk – See You in the Cosmos

Hear from Jack about his writing journey and how he came to write his middle grade smash-hit *See you in the Cosmos*, a tale of family, going in between worlds and all that lies beyond.

## Matthew Cordell

Matthew Cordell is the Caldecott Medal winning author and illustrator of *Wolf in the Snow*, and the illustrator of numerous highly acclaimed children's books including *The Only Fish in the Sea* and *Special Delivery* (both by Caldecott Medal winning author, Philip C. Stead), *First Grade Dropout* and *Second Grade Holdout* (both by Audrey Vernick), *The Knowing Book*, *Bob Not Bob*, *If the S in Moose Comes Loose*, *Rock 'n' Roll Soul*, and the wildly popular *Justin Case* series. Matt is also the author and illustrator of many celebrated picture books including *Another Brother*, *Wish*, *Dream*, and *Hello! Hello!*



Dates: 4 - 8 March

Target audience: 5 - 7

Tech requirements: Laptop, projector and screen, clicker, mic

## Sessions

Matt's presentations focus on his process, his creative journey, where ideas come from, and storytelling.

**Talk - A Look Inside the Studio of Matthew Cordell--his work and life history**

**Talk - WOLF IN THE SNOW--the making-of and its year of Caldecott (for mixed-ages)**

Tech requirements: Laptop, projector and screen, clicker, mic

## Lamar Giles

Lamar Giles is a well-published author and a founding member of We Need Diverse Books. He is a two-time Edgar Award finalist in the YA category, for his debut YA thriller *Fake ID*, which has been optioned for Sony Pictures, and his second YA thriller, *Endangered*. His third YA thriller, *Overtuned*, was named a Kirkus Best Book of 2017. Lamar has two novels forthcoming in 2019: his debut middle grade fantasy *The Last Last-Day-Of-Summer* and his fourth YA thriller *Spin*.



Dates: 4 - 8 March

Target audience: 12 - 18

Tech requirements: Laptop, projector and screen, clicker, mic

## Sessions

### **Talk – Mirror’s Edge: Reflections of a Once Reluctant Reader**

In this engaging talk, Lamar shares how he started out as a strong reader only to become frustrated by the lack of books that mirrored his own identity. He eventually returned to reading (and subsequently writing) after discovering writers and characters that seemed familiar. Lamar will discuss several books that delve into examples of diverse representation offering mirrors of and windows into the lives of the readers who are too often overlooked.

### **Workshop - Story Starters**

Ideas are everywhere; we must train ourselves to recognize them. In a series of short, fun exercises, student writers will use photos, props and personal experiences as the basis for their own epic tales. Students will need stationery and paper for writing.

## **Candy Gourlay**

Candy Gourlay is a Filipino author based in London. She is the author of *Tall Story*, *Shine* and *Bone Talk*, which was just shortlisted for the Costa Children’s Book Award. Her novels have been listed for many prizes including the Waterstones, Blue Peter, the Carnegie and the Guardian Prize.

Dates: 11 - 14 March

Target audience: 4 - 10



## Sessions

### **Talk – Is it a Mermaid?**

In this interactive session, Candy will give a short, hilarious intro about writing picture books, followed by a reading of *Is it a Mermaid?* Also includes

live drawing and a fun story building exercise. For nursery, reception and years 1 and 2.

Tech requirements: Laptop, projector and screen, clicker, mic, audio, flipchart and markers

### **Talk – The Hero’s Journey**

The hero’s journey is a fundamental pattern found in the greatest narratives - from classic Greek mythology to contemporary fiction. In this talk, Candy illustrates the narrative using familiar images from *Star Wars* to *The Incredibles*, and how it links to her personal writing journey.

Tech requirements: Laptop, projector and screen, clicker, mic

### **Talk – Focus on Geography**

*Tall Story* is set in a Philippine village that suffers from many earthquakes. Hear Candy speak about how calamity influences the mythology of a people, their stories and the legends of various countries. For years 3 to 6.

Tech requirements: Laptop, projector and screen, clicker, mic

## **Jane Houg**

Jane Houg has lived in Hong Kong and China for over thirty years. The Commercial Press Hong Kong has published a range of her children’s books: the young adult novel *Bloodswell* as well as books for younger readers: *Cat Soup and Other Short Stories*, *Pun Choi: Retellings of Chinese Folk and Fairy tales*, *Hong Kong Movers and Shakers* and *Hong Kong History Girl*. Houg also writes for Oxford University Press, Pearson Education Asia and Sing Tao Publishing Corporation.

Dates: 5 - 16 March

Ages: 7 - 12



## Sessions

### Talk – Hong Kong History Girl

Join Jane as she speaks about her latest release, *Hong Kong History Girl*, an exciting journey through some of Hong Kong's most fascinating places. Jane will touch upon employing history for fiction and the exuberance of Hong Kong as a historical setting.

## Zohab Khan

Zohab Khan is an educator, motivational speaker, poet, didgeridoo player and hip hop artist. Zohab is the 2014 Australian Poetry Slam Champion and co-founded The Pakistan Poetry Slam in 2015. Having conducted over a thousand poetry and self-development workshops across the globe, he has inspired change and confidence in countless people through his high-energy spoken word poetry and brain hacks. His first poetry collection *I Write* reached bestseller status in Australia and 2019 marks the release of his first self-development book for teenagers.



Dates: 11 - 15 March

Ages: 13+

Tech requirements: Mic

## Sessions

### Talk – Slam Poetry Performance

Hear an exciting and inspiring slam poetry performance from Zohab Khan, the 2014 Australian Poetry Slam Champion, as he confronts a range of social justice issues from racism to gender inequality and socio-economic disparities. A proficient didgeridoo player, harmonica beat-boxer and comedian, Zohab combines his performance with a discussion on self-

development focussed on creating visions, achieving goals and confidence-building techniques.

### **Workshop – I Write**

Zohab presents a poetry writing and slam performance workshop, with a focus on developing poetic techniques and writing skills. For slam performance workshops, there will be additional content on voice projection and presentation.

## **Libby Lam**

Libby Lam, aka “Lady Libby”, is a best-selling children’s book author and illustrator who grew up in Hong Kong. Known for her unusual story plots and vibrant images, Libby has learnt her trade at Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) Hong Kong since 2011. Her three published books are *Checklisted Beauty*, shortlisted at a number of book contests including the 2016 Eric Hoffer Book Award, *My Best Friend Sunny* and, the latest, *Crispy Children*. She lives in Hong Kong with her husband and their two daughters.



Dates: 7 - 9, 14 - 15 March

Ages: 6 - 15

## **Sessions**

### **Talk – How to Create a Picture Book**

Join Libby as she delves into the processes of creating a picture book. At the end of the talk, students will get to develop skills in creating a storyline, and designing characters and compositions for a storybook that achieves good visual storytelling effects. Includes drawing demo and audience participation.

Requires laptop, projector and screen, clicker, microphone, flipchart, whiteboard and markers. Targets upper primary and middle school.

### Workshop – Turning Daily Life into Fantasy

All the fun and unfathomables of life makes it just slightly fantastical! Many fictional narratives are grounded in the mundane before the promise of an adventure. Join Libby in this workshop as she encourages students to see the world differently and draw inspiration from daily life. There will be a presentation followed by games. By the end of the workshop, students will come up with a backbone of an original story and learn how to create original characters.

Requires laptop, projector and screen, audio, visualiser with a camera, flipchart, whiteboard and markers. Students will need to bring sketchbooks and pencils.

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. Several everyday objects (e.g. pencil sharpener) will be placed on each table. Please refer to photos.





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Six tables are placed in the back of the hall, for the creativity games to take place. Several everyday objects are placed on each table to inspire students to develop original contents

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## Patrice Lawrence

Patrice Lawrence is an award-winning writer, whose debut YA novel, *Orangeboy*, won the Bookseller YA Prize and the Waterstones Prize for Older Children's Fiction, and was shortlisted for the Costa Children's Book Award and many regional awards. *Indigo Donut*, her second book, was shortlisted for the Bookseller YA Prize, was Book of the Week in *The Times*, *The Sunday Times* and *The Observer*, and was one of *The Times*' top children's books in 2017. Both books have been nominated for the Carnegie Award.



Dates: 13 - 15 March

Ages: 8+

Tech requirements: Laptop, projector and screen, clicker, mic

## Sessions

### Talk – Meet Patrice Lawrence

How did Patrice Lawrence become a writer? Hear Patrice speak about her love for books, places, her multi-ethnic family and names, which have all contributed to building her craft. This session is tailored to the age group as Patrice touches upon her various publications, including *Granny Ting Ting*, *All Things Bright and Beautiful*, *Orangeboy*, *Indigo Donut* and her forthcoming *Snap*. She will also provide writing tips and advice for budding writers.

## Dora Tsang

Dora Tsang is an author/illustrator of children's books, a maker of art and lover of life. Her verse novel *Blue<sup>2</sup>* was shortlisted for the 2018 Scholastic Asian Book Award. She is also the winner of the 20<sup>th</sup> Eye Level Children's Literature Award and her story *Much Hairdo About Nothing* was published in 2013. Dora loves to explore the world. In the summer of 2018, she finished a three-month-long 1800-km walk from Northern France to Rome and is currently turning her epic journey into an illustrated book.



Dates: 4 - 8, 11 - 15 March

Ages: 6+

## Sessions

### **Talk – Much Hairdo About Nothing**

Dora is a children's author and illustrator based in Hong Kong. In this fun storytelling session, Dora reads aloud from her picture book, *Much Hairdo About Nothing*, which won the 20th Eye Level Children's Literature Award, and engages students in simple arts and crafts. For ages 5 to 7 and groups of 30 or fewer.

Tech requirements: Flipchart, markers

### **Talk – Link, the Theatre**

Join Dora in a very special "screening" of her picture book story, *Link*, with a suitcase-sized rolling theatre. This is followed by discussion with students about the story and its themes. For ages 9 to 12 and groups of 30 or fewer.





### Talk – The 1,800km-long Story

Last summer, Dora did a 3-month walk from Northern France to Rome, covering a distance of 1,800km. Hear her speak about how she turns her long journey into an illustrated book of verse. Students will get to hear about how dreams, even the most unique, can be pursued and how experiences can be recounted in creative ways. For ages 12 and up.

Tech requirements: Laptop, projector and screen, clicker, mic



### Workshop – The Friendship Between Illustrations and Words

In this workshop, students will work in pairs/groups to understand how words and images work together to tell stories. For ages 9 to 12 and groups of 30 or fewer.

## Jen Wang

Jen Wang is an Asian American cartoonist, writer and illustrator based in Los Angeles. She has published three books: *Koko Be Good*, *In Real Life* and *The Prince and the Dressmaker*. Wang is a co-founder and organizer for Los Angeles-based comics festival Comic Arts LA.

Dates: 4 - 8 March

Ages: 12+

Tech requirements: laptop, projector and screen, clicker, mic



## Sessions

### **Talk – All About Comics**

So how do you create comics and books? Learn from Jen, the author of *In Real Life* and *The Prince and the Dressmaker*, how she got into drawing comics and the processes involved.

### **Workshop – Draw with Jen!**

Learn from Jen, cartoonist and illustrator, how to draw characters and objects from daily life. You might be able to create your own style! Requires paper and art materials.

## **Howard Wong**

Howard Wong is an award nominated writer and creative consultant. His passion for creative content, narrative and intellectual development has led him to work in animation, comics, high-end collectible toys, mobile & web games, transmedia narrative development, intellectual property development, marketing and branding. He has written for Marvel Comics, Image Comics, Bandai, and other leading industry companies. His collaborative works in comics have been nominated for the Joe Shuster Award's Gene Day Award, Comic Book Buyer's Guide Fan Award for Favourite Graphic Novel, and Ghastly Award for Favourite Horror Anthology. Howard has been nominated for the Joe Shuster Award for Outstanding Canadian Comic Book Writer.



Dates: 4 - 8, 11-15 March

Ages: 12+

Tech requirements: laptop, projector and screen, clicker, mic

## Sessions

### **Workshop - Hold the Hero and Villain**

This workshop focuses on the importance on the characters around the hero(es) and villain(s) of the story, the roles they play and how they affect other characters and the story. This workshop can be geared towards ages 14 and up.

### **Workshop – How to Build Superhero Team**

In this workshop students will learn that it's not just about putting together a group with superpowers together that makes a great team, but how to build a cast of characters with depth, goals and relationships, that makes one. This workshop can be geared towards ages 12 and up.

### **Workshop - How to Build a Universe**

With the polarity of superhero films and their connected stories spanning multiple worlds and timelines, this workshop explains how it all works. Students will learn world building, the importance of a shared universe and how to develop interconnected stories involving a large cast of characters. This workshop can be geared towards ages 14 and up.

### **Workshop - How You Finish a Story**

Students will learn basic structure of a story and the details of the story they will be tasked to complete however way they want. The goal is learn how to develop and write a satisfying ending that addresses all the topics, conflicts and problems setup from the first half of the story. Review and critique some of the students' endings. This workshop can be geared towards ages 12 and up.

### **Workshop - The End is the Beginning of Another**

This workshop explains how to construct an ending for a story while laying the foundations to continue and connect to the start of a new story. With the popularity of connected storylines like that from Marvel Studio films, this is a great workshop for students to learn how to make plans for a large overarching story that is supported by the foundations of other stories, creating a rich tapestry for readers to enjoy. This workshop is geared towards ages 14 and up.

### **Workshop - How to Write a Comic Book Script**

In this workshop students will learn how to write a comic book page using a comic book script format. One page of script is broken down and shown both

in script and visual form, while some tricks of the trade are shared along the way. This workshop is geared towards ages 14 and up.

### **Workshop - How Do You Get Published?**

This is sharing and Q and A session with Howard Wong, where he shares his own experiences with crowd funding, indie publishers and working with publishers like Marvel. Students will get learn the basics of how to get their work to publishers, the challenges they will face and how self-publishing works and doesn't. This workshop is geared towards ages 14 and up.

### **Workshop - Ask Me Anything**

Having worked in animation, comics, mobile games and toys, Howard Wong has some fun stories from his own experience. He connects his experiences working in creative industries to that from his childhood, which inspires students creatively. Schools are required to send questions from students ahead of time for them to be addressed during this session. This workshop is geared towards ages 12 and up.

## **Joanne Wong**

Joanne Wong is an illustrator and writer from the UK living in Hong Kong. As a former art teacher, she inspired children's creativity through art classes. Now working as a full-time illustrator and author, Joanne's passion is to create inspiring picture books with lovable characters for children. Joanne received an MA in Illustration from University of Arts London at Camberwell College and illustrated *The Tiny Human Hotel* written by Emeri B. Montgomery, published in 2017.



Dates: 11 - 15 March

Ages: 3 - 5

## Sessions

### **Workshop – The Tiny Human Hotel**

In this fun workshop, Joanne will read from a picture book she illustrated, *The Tiny Human Hotel* by Emeri B. Montgomery, and teach students how to draw and colour in the character Grace from the picture book. For years 3 to 5 and requires art supplies.

### **Workshop – Draw Yourself as a Baby!**

Joanne will teach students about drawing human proportions, as an infant and when people grow up, by asking students to draw younger versions of themselves. For 6+ years and requires art supplies.

Photo credit

Tristan Bancks: Amber Melody | Kate Beasley: Cindy Beasley | Lamar Giles: Adrienne Giles | Candy Gourlay: Randy Quimpo | Jen Wang: Ye Rin Mok

# Booking Form

Please send us the completed form either via fax at **(852) 2153 9260** or via email at [fiona.chung@festival.org.hk](mailto:fiona.chung@festival.org.hk), copying in [info@festival.org.hk](mailto:info@festival.org.hk). You will receive confirmation of your booking within 5 working days of receipt of this booking form.

Please note:

- All bookings are on a first come, first served basis. If your booking is not successful in the first instance, we will offer alternatives.
- Tickets are priced at HK\$50 per student for talks and HK\$100 per student for workshops.
- 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.

Name and title of contact person:					
Name of school:					
School address:					
Email:					
Contact number:			Fax:		
Event name	Preferred date and time	Author	No. of students	Age of students	Total cost (HKD)
<b>Total</b>					

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature and chop

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 2019

### 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 English and nurturing a love of reading in our Schools Programme. The Festival reserves the right of final decision for the amount of subsidy.

School name: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

School type:

1.  Secondary School     Primary School
2.  Aided                       Government                       Direct Subsidy

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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:

\_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for showing interest in our Schools Programme!

Please send us the completed form via fax at (852) 2153 9260 or via email at [fiona.chung@festival.org.hk](mailto:fiona.chung@festival.org.hk), copying in [info@festival.org.hk](mailto:info@festival.org.hk). The result of this application will be advised together with the booking status.