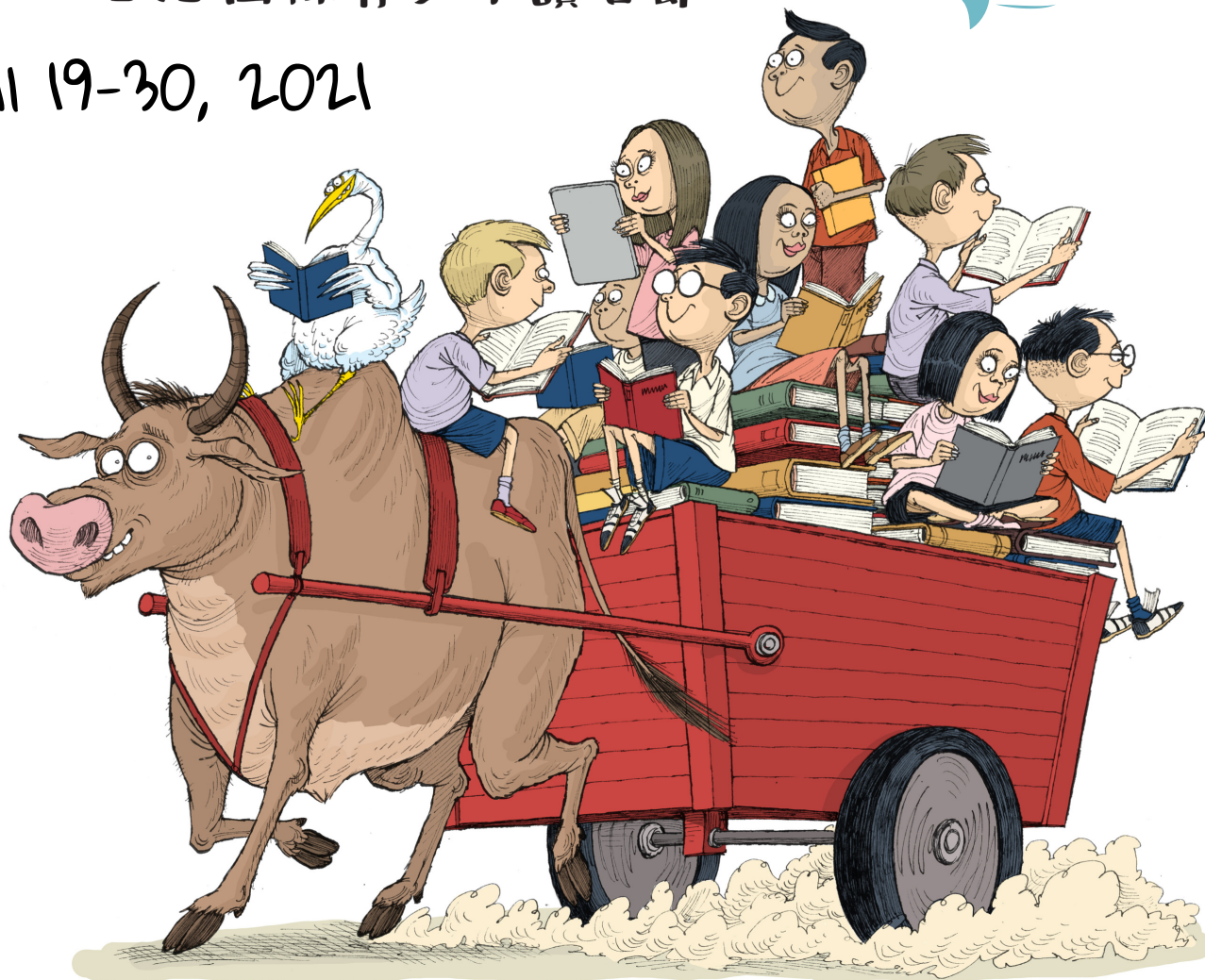




# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

Book now!

April 19-30, 2021

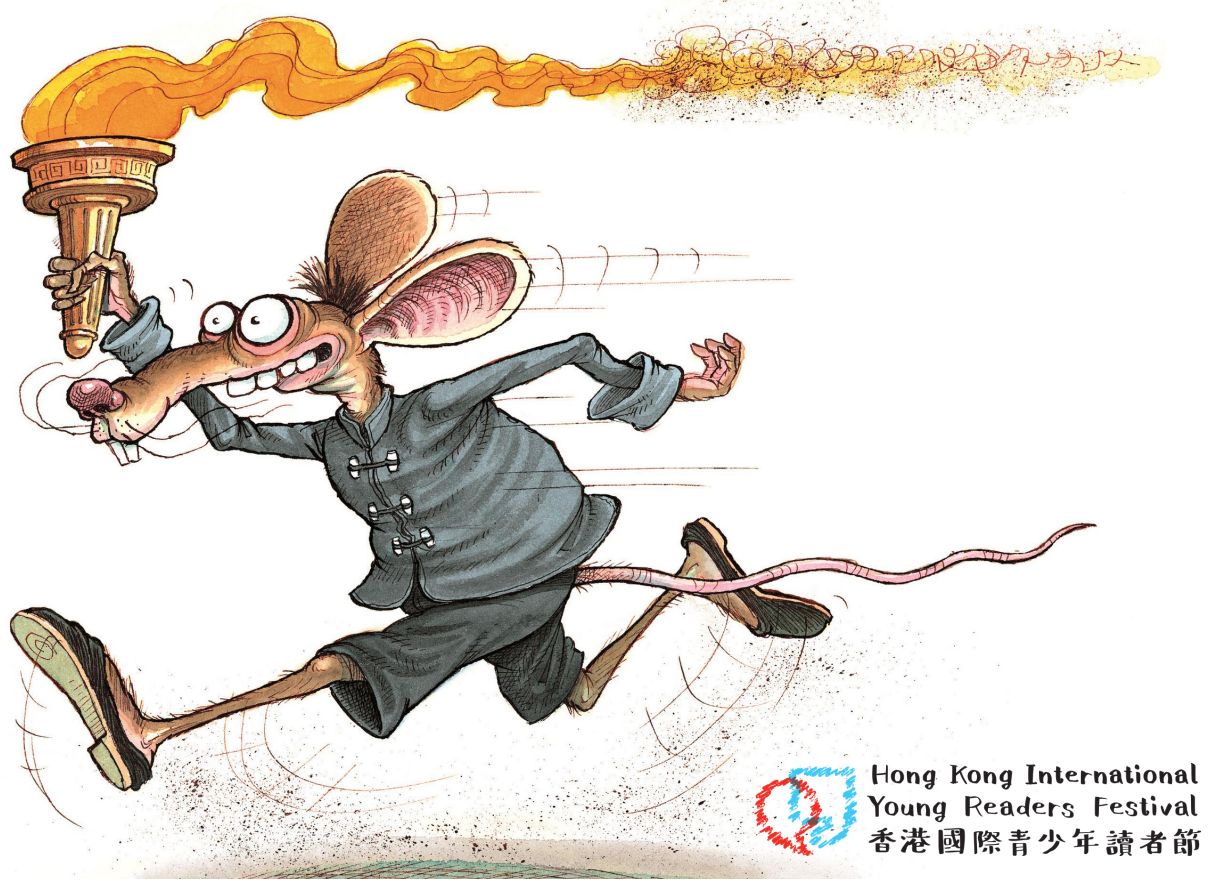


Every year, the Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival brings writers to schools for talks and workshops, creating unique opportunities for young people to meet some of the world's greatest storytellers. In 2019, we worked with more than 40 schools to 10,000 students.

This pack contains the line-up of authors for the 2021 YRF. This year we are partnering with Bring Me a Book to include Chinese author events. Details are in a **separate pack**. Schools receiving funding from the government are eligible for our School Subsidy Scheme. Depending on the application, we may subsidise up to 70%.\*

To organise an author visit to your school, please fill in the booking form in this pack and email Crystal Lau at [crystal.lau@festival.org.hk](mailto:crystal.lau@festival.org.hk), copying in Ann Chan at [ann.chan@festival.org.hk](mailto:ann.chan@festival.org.hk), or via fax at (852) 2153 9260.

\*HKILF holds that final right to subsidy allocations.



## PLEASE NOTE

- Talks last for an hour (inclusive of Q&A); workshops last for an hour and a half.
- The minimum number of students per session is 20, although we will prioritise sessions for schools that book for higher numbers of students.
- There is a possibility for authors who are located in Hong Kong to host in-person talks and workshops. For authors who are located elsewhere, their talks and workshops will only be **online**. In-person and online events are priced differently, please refer to the pricing sheet for details.
- **Dove Tales Theatre, Jerry Craft, and Julia Lovell** have a separate pricing model. Please refer to the pricing sheet for details.
- Bookings start at a minimum price of HK\$1,500 for classes for 30 or less.
- Jerry Craft and Julia Lovell's sessions are at a **fixed time and date**.
- Local schools receiving government funding (government/aided/DSS) can apply for subsidy. **Please complete the School Subsidy Scheme application (last page of the pack) and submit it along with your booking form.**
- 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).



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

## Table of Contents

Deborah Abela <b>(AUS)</b> .....	3
Sarah Brennan <b>(AUS)</b> .....	6
Emma Carroll <b>(UK)</b> .....	9
Bernard Cohen <b>(AUS)</b> .....	11
Jerry Craft <b>(USA)</b> .....	14
Dan Gemeinhart <b>(USA)</b> .....	16
Joanne Li <b>(HK)</b> .....	18
Rachel Ip <b>(HK)</b> .....	20
Victoria Jamieson <b>(USA)</b> .....	23
Mariko Jesse <b>(JA)</b> and Martha Keswick <b>(UK)</b> .....	25
Cynthia Kadohata <b>(USA)</b> .....	30
Mark Llewelyn Evans <b>(UK)</b> .....	31
Julia Lovell <b>(UK)</b> .....	33
Diane Magras <b>(USA)</b> .....	35
Bhakti Mathur <b>(HK)</b> .....	37
Conor McCreery <b>(CAD)</b> .....	40
Craig Phillips <b>(NZ)</b> .....	44
Dove Tales Theatre <b>(HK)</b> .....	46
Touring School Shows by Dove Tales Theatre <b>(HK)</b> .....	48
Ru Xu <b>(USA)</b> .....	50
Suzanne Younan <b>(HK)</b> .....	52
Talk and Workshop prices.....	55
Booking form.....	56
School Subsidy Application form.....	57



Hong Kong International  
Young Readers Festival  
香港國際青少年讀者節

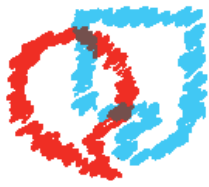


## DEBORAH ABELA

After completing a teaching degree, Deb went to Africa where she was caught in a desert sandstorm, harassed by monkeys and thrown in jail...twice! She produced and wrote a national kids' TV show before leaving to write 26 books for children. Her crankiness about climate change led to the novels, *Grimsdon*, *New City* and *Final Storm* (Aug 2019). *Teresa A New Australian* was inspired by her dad, who, with a million other refugees, made the journey to Australia after surviving the devastation of WW2. *The Stupendously Spectacular Spelling Bee* and sequel, *The Most Marvellous Spelling Bee Mystery*, were inspired by her grade 4 teacher and her first picture book is, *Wolfie, An Unlikely Hero*. She is a proud ambassador for the Premier's Reading Challenge, Room to Read and Books in Homes. Deb has won awards for her books, including the Maurice Saxby Award, US IBBY award for Outstanding International Book and Best Book in Translation, Malta. Deb has been presenting in schools and festivals for over 18 years and loves getting kids excited about books, reading and writing.

### AGE GROUP

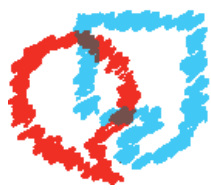
- 5 - 12



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

## Deborah Abela

<b>Author name:</b> Deborah Abela	<b>Location:</b> Australia
<b>Talk:</b> Cheeky Monkeys, Naughty Wolves and Bears in Space	<b>Age Group:</b> 5-7
With her stories of cheeky monkeys, naughty wolves and bears who fly into space, Deb will explain how she writes and why it is so much fun. She will explain how being harassed by monkeys in Africa led her to write the <i>Max Remy</i> series and how a real bear in a zoo inspired <i>Bear in Space</i> , a book about finding friends who love you just the way you are. Deb will even show you how to make your own rocket!	
<b>Workshop:</b> Cheeky Monkeys, Naughty Wolves and Bears In Space	<b>Age Group:</b> 5-7
With her stories of cheeky monkeys, naughty wolves and bears who fly into space, Deb will explain how she writes and why it is so much fun. She loves getting kids excited about books, reading, and writing, so get ready to hear some stories and create your very own. There will be an interactive component in this session, so get your pens and paper ready!	
<b>Talk:</b> Writers Are Troublemakers	<b>Age Group:</b> 8-12
Despite being short, Deb has always had a BIG imagination. When she was 7, she decided she wanted to be a writer and her first story was about a man made of cheese. It was not very good. Find out how, with lots of practice, she has written books about flooded cities, flying machines, WW2, spelling bees and pesky wolves and more importantly, why it is so much fun.	
<b>Workshop:</b> Want to Know the Secret to Writing Stories?	<b>Age Group:</b> 8-14
Have you always loved writing? Do you enjoy inventing exciting characters and plots? Do you have great ideas but sometimes get stuck? Join Deborah Abela, author of over 20 novels, as she takes you through a series of fun activities to help you become a better writer and most importantly, creating characters and plots your readers will love.	
<b>Talk:</b> Spelling Bees, Flooded Cities and Surviving WW2: The Adventurous World of Being a Writer	<b>Age Group:</b> 10-14
Deb has always been short and a bit of a coward which is why she writes books about courageous kids surviving WW2 and battling stage fright, bullies, and sea monsters. Find out how Deb's small ideas grow into stories with exciting plots and lovable characters readers just love.	



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

<b>Talk:</b> How to Teach Writing Like a Writer	<b>For teachers/educators/librarians</b>
<p>How do you teach writing if you are not a writer? How do you get kids excited about creating their own stories? Where do you start?</p> <p>Join Deborah Abela, teacher and author of over 27 books for children, in this practical, hands-on session as she takes you through a series of activities to help your students become better writers. Together, you will explore ways to develop ideas, draft exciting prose and create characters and plots readers will love. Most importantly, you will do it in a way that encourages your students to enjoy writing.</p> <p>The session includes a 20-page handout brimming with fun and inspiring activities to use in your class.</p>	
<p><b>Tech Requirements:</b> No special tech support will be needed for Deborah’s talks. For the workshops, the students will need writing equipment such as pens and paper.</p>	

Dates	(MON) 19 APR	(TUE) 20 APR	(WED) 21 APR	(THURS) 22 APR	(FRI) 23 APR
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Availability (8am to 3pm)	(MON) 26 APR	(TUE) 27 APR	(WED) 28 APR	(THURS) 29 APR	(FRI) 30 APR
	✓	✓			

# Storm Whale

Sarah Brennan illustrated by Jane Tanner



Hong Kong International  
Young Readers Festival  
香港國際青少年讀者節

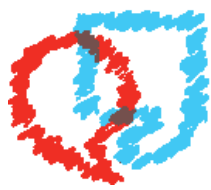


## SARAH BRENNAN

Sarah Brennan is the Hong Kong-based author of the best-selling *Chinese Calendar Tales* and *Dirty Story* series for primary school aged kids, and the highly acclaimed children's picture book *Storm Whale*, illustrated by award-winning Australian artist Jane Tanner. Sarah's books have regularly appeared on bestseller lists in Hong Kong, where at one point, two of her titles outsold the (then) latest J.K.Rowling and Stephenie Meyer titles for 6 weeks running! Her *Chinese Calendar Tales* have been long-listed for Singapore's Red Dot Children's Book Awards and short-listed for the Golden Dragon Book Awards in 2016. In 2017 Sarah's story *Storm Whale*, an evocative picture book based on her childhood, was released by Allen and Unwin in Australia and Old Barn Books in the UK.

## AGE GROUP

- 6-11

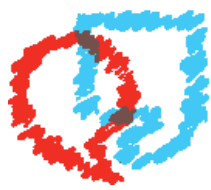


# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

## SARAH BRENNAN

<b>Author name:</b> Sarah Brennan	<b>Location:</b> Australia
<b>Talk:</b> The Marvellous Adventures of Maggie and Methuselah and Q&A	<b>Age Group:</b> 8+
<p>Join Sarah Brennan as she introduces Hong Kong's pre-teens to her brand-new illustrated chapter book: <i>The Marvellous Adventures of Maggie and Methuselah</i> (a Hong Kong mystery)!</p> <p>Maggie loves hanging out with her best friends Methuselah (her talkative African Grey parrot) and Edmund (the richest boy in Hong Kong), but she loathes attending boring parties with her high-flying mum and stay-at-home dad! Little does she know that a Family Fun Day at Government House will trigger a thrilling adventure involving one of Hong Kong's greatest true mysteries: what happened to the immensely valuable Chater Collection, which disappeared on the eve of the Japanese invasion in World War II? Sarah will read an excerpt from her new book, with illustrations of internationally acclaimed Hong Kong artist Charly Cheung up on a screen, followed by an opportunity for Q&amp;A about her writing process and the fascinating history behind the story.</p>	
<b>Talk:</b> The Tale of Oswald Ox and Q&A	<b>Age Group:</b> 5-12
<p>Celebrate the new Year of the Ox with Hong Kong's much-loved author Sarah Brennan, as she tells the tale of Oswald Ox, bone-idle on the farm, just chewing his cud and rolling in the mud while all the other animals are hard at work. No wonder he is in trouble! Then the winter stores go missing, and Oswald is firmly in the frame. Will wisdom and dignity triumph over meanness and greed? A tale for our times! The story reading will be accompanied by Hong Kong's iconic cartoonist Harry Harrison's fabulously funny illustrations up on a screen, and a chance to ask Sarah questions afterwards.</p>	
<b>Talk:</b> How to become a great writer	<b>Age group:</b> 8+
<p>Becoming a great writer is not rocket science! If kids follow my Twelve Top Tips faithfully, then their writing will improve, and may even become GREAT! Sarah will discuss such diverse topics as the commonalities between all great writers; the importance of spending more time reading and writing; reducing time on digital devices; rearranging the furniture at home; keeping daily diaries or writer's notebooks; and living a literary lifestyle!</p> <p>Supported by a colourful PowerPoint presentation, this talk will inspire, inform, and maybe even kick-start good writing habits for a lifetime!</p>	
<b>Talk:</b> Books are a brain's best friend	<b>Age group:</b> 8+
<p>We all know that being a good reader is vitally important to getting good marks at school. But did you know that children who read the most books for leisure and pleasure are also happier, healthier and wealthier than kids who don't...for the rest of their LIVES? Join</p>	





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Hong Kong's much loved author Sarah Brennan for a fascinating, colourful PowerPoint presentation about exactly why this is so, including the amazing science behind the statistics! You will never look at books (or digital screens...) the same way again!

**Tech Requirements:** As these are all Zoom sessions, Sarah will need to share PDFs from the two story-telling sessions and PowerPoint presentations for the two author talks on screen for the attendees. Also, as the sessions are by Zoom it would be great if students had some questions already prepared and the teacher manages the Q&A sessions.

Dates	(MON) 19 APR	(TUE) 20 APR	(WED) 21 APR	(THUR ) 22 APR	(FRI) 23 APR
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Availability (8am to 3pm)	(MON) 26 APR	(TUE) 27 APR	(WED) 28 APR	(THUR ) 29 APR	(FRI) 30 APR
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

## Battle of the Books author



## EMMA CARROLL

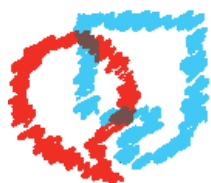
From a very early age, Emma dreamed of being an author. She was a secondary school English teacher for many years before becoming a full time writer, though still has strong links within education and the teaching community. Her stories are usually historical, often spooky, and always led by a cast of impressive female characters.

Emma's debut *Frost Hollow Hall* won the North East Book Award. Her second novel, *The Girl Who Walked On Air* was nominated for the Carnegie Medal. *Letters From The Lighthouse*, was chosen as a 'Waterstones Book of the Month', as was *Secrets of a Sun King*. Both books are popular choices in the Key Stage Two classroom. Emma's latest story, *The Somerset Tsunami* was selected by indie booksellers as their 'Book of the Month', and was 'The Times Children's Book of the Week'. Her stories are published in many different languages. In another life Emma wishes she'd written *Rebecca* by Daphne Du Maurier. Emma lives in the Somerset hills with her husband and two terriers.



## AGE GROUP

- 8+

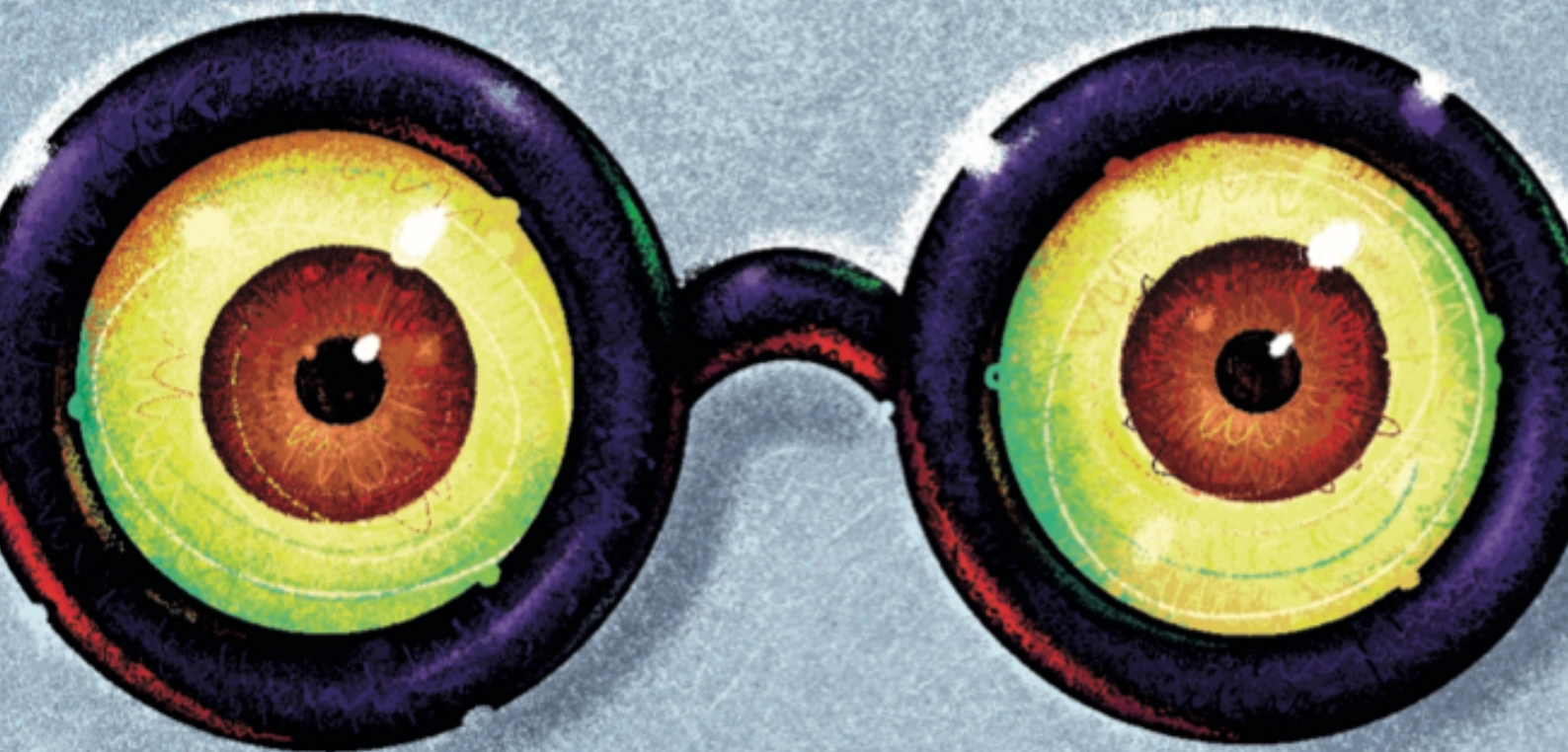


# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

## EMMA CARROLL

<b>Author name:</b> Emma Carroll	<b>Location:</b> UK
<b>Talk:</b> Letters from the Lighthouse	<b>Age Group:</b> 8+
Emma will share with you the inspirations behind writing <i>Letters From the Lighthouse</i> . She will show you the place where she writes, her notebooks, the old props and first-hand stories that helped her recreate an authentic WW2 story. You will also get to meet Emma's writing companions, her two pet dogs Bertie and Olive (named after the book's main character!). There will be a couple of short readings from the book, which you will get to choose. The session will end with a Q&A.	
<b>Workshop:</b> How to trick your brain into being creative	<b>Age Group:</b> 8+
In this fast-paced session, Emma will show you how to trick your brain into being creative. She will set you exercises to create storylines, share questions that help develop a character. She will share tips on where to find story ideas and how to make your work original and inventive. By the end of the session your brain will be buzzing with story ideas!	
<b>Tech Requirements:</b> The sessions will be delivered via Zoom or whichever platform the festival uses.	

Dates	(MON) 26 APR	(TUE) 27 APR	(WED) 28 APR	(THUR ) 29 APR	(FRI) 30 APR
<b>Availability</b> (8am to 3pm)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



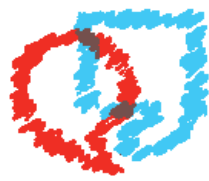
## BERNARD COHEN

Bernard Cohen is the author of five novels, a collection of short stories and a children's picture book. His books have won major awards for being both literary and funny. Bernard's short stories and features have been published on four continents, including in the *Penguin Century of Australian Stories*, *Harvard Review*, *Times Educational Supplement* and *South China Morning Post*. He is currently writing a novel about Georgian London, poetry about quantum physics and short stories about the effects of pandemics and lockdowns.

### AGE GROUP

- 5-13

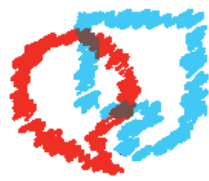
Bernard is founder and director of The Writing Workshop and has taught creative writing to about 100,000 young people. He teaches by telling stories and asking too many questions. He has also taught creative writing in universities.



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

## BERNARD COHEN

<b>Author name:</b> Bernard Cohen	<b>Location:</b> Australia
<b>Workshop:</b> Animal Tales	<b>Age Group:</b> 5-9
In this workshop Dr Bernard Cohen – award-winning author and Director of The Writing Workshop – will help students invent new animals, using diagrams and poetry. Put these all together to create a class-sized encyclopedia of newly invented animals. Students will create characters to send on incredible journeys to discover these fantastic creatures in the wild. The workshop will conclude with a reading.	
<b>Workshop:</b> Spy Stories	<b>Age Group:</b> 8-12
Award-winning author Dr Bernard Cohen will lead students through the sneaky craft of writing gripping stories filled with suspense-building skills of secret identities, almost unbreakable codes, disguised gadgets, red herrings and cliffhangers. This workshop, with its emphasis on codes and scientific invention, should appeal to both natural writers and to more mathematically minded students. The workshop will conclude with a reading.	
<b>Workshop:</b> Mighty Journeys	<b>Age Group:</b> 8-12
Award-winning author Dr Bernard Cohen leads this skills-based workshop in the craft of writing quest and fantasy settings and characters: creating new planets, lost cities, future odysseys, and the strangest challenges ever seen in stories. What would happen if the physics of a land were altered ever so slightly? Why should intelligent creatures be like humans? How do you pack for a journey which may never end? What sort of character would you choose for such an epic adventure? The workshop will conclude with a reading.	
<b>Workshop:</b> Young Writer's Challenge	<b>Age Group:</b> 9-13
In this high-level workshop, award-winning author and Director of The Writing Workshop Dr Bernard Cohen shows how to create characters with deep motivations, loyalties, and rivalries. Students will learn strategies to get inside characters' heads and create unique and compelling narrative voice and will write events from radically different outlooks on life. The workshop goal is to help students develop a sophisticated approach to creating literary characters. The workshop will conclude with a reading.	
<b>Tech Requirements:</b> Students will need writing and drawing paper, pens, and a drawing pencil. For Animal Tales, students will also need coloured pencils.	



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

<b>(MON)</b> 19 APR	<b>(TUES)</b> 20 APR	<b>(WED)</b> 21 APR	<b>(THURS)</b> 22 APR	<b>(FRI)</b> 23 APR
	8:30-13:30		8:30-12:00	8:30-15:30
	✓		✓	✓
<b>(MON)</b> 26 APR	<b>(TUES)</b> 27 APR	<b>(WED)</b> 28 APR	<b>(THURS)</b> 29 APR	<b>(FRI)</b> 30 APR
8:30-13:30			8:30-12:00	9:00-15:30
✓	✓		✓	✓

Middle school  
is hard enough  
without being the...

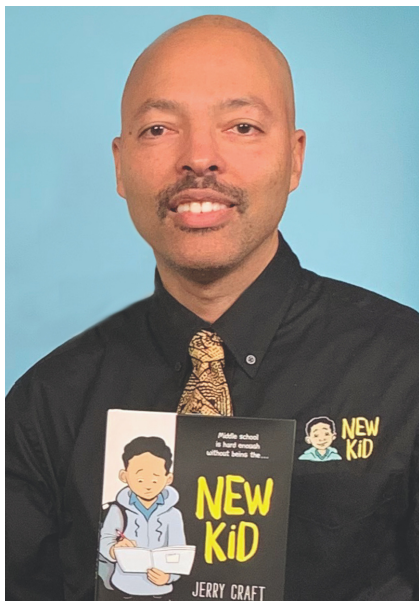
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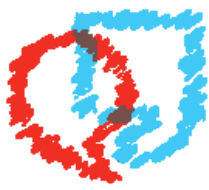
JERRY CRAFT

Battle  
of the  
Books  
author

## JERRY CRAFT

Jerry Craft is the *New York Times* bestselling and Newbery Medal winning author of the graphic novel, *New Kid*. His second graphic novel, *Class Act*, published on October 6, 2020. Craft is also the creator of *Mama's Boyz*, an award-winning comic strip which won the African American Literary Award five times. He is a cofounder of the Schomburg Center's Annual Black Comic Book Festival. He received his BFA from the School of Visual Arts.





# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

## JERRY CRAFT

<b>Author name:</b> Jerry Craft	<b>Location:</b> USA
<b>Event Date:</b> April 22 9:00 – 10:00 AM HKT	
Join Jerry Craft from <b>9:00 -10:00 am HKT on Thursday 22 April</b> for an author talk, drawing demonstration and Q&A. Jerry will be joining this real-time event virtually.	
The Young Readers Festival is delighted to bring popular, prize-winning author Jerry Craft to Hong Kong schools this April. In this real-time one-hour event, Jerry will share his journey to being a published author/illustrator and the creative process behind his hilarious and heart-warming graphic novels.	
<i>New Kid</i> follows seventh grader Jordan Banks as he adapts to a new school, where diversity is low and the struggle to fit in is real. Can Jordan learn to navigate his new school culture while keeping his neighbourhood friends and staying true to himself? The companion book, <i>Class Act</i> , focuses on Jordan’s friend Drew Ellis as he navigates middle school friendships. Can Drew bridge the divide so he and his friends can truly accept each other? And most important, will he finally be able to accept himself?	
<b>Reviews of <i>New Kid</i>:</b>	
“Funny, sharp, and total real! Jordan Banks is the kid everyone will be talking about!” - Jeff Kinney, Author of <i>Diary of a Wimpy Kid</i>	
“ <i>New Kid</i> is at once tender and tough, funny and heart breaking. Hand this to the middle-grade reader in your life right away.” <i>The New York Times Book Review</i>	
“Possibly one of the most important graphic novels of the year.” <i>Booklist</i>	
<b>Fee:</b> \$5,000 per school. No limit on attendance numbers. A recording of the event will be shared with participating schools for subsequent viewing.	
Each school may nominate one student (or teacher) to join the event live and ask Jerry Craft one or more questions. Full details will be sent to participating schools.	





**Battle  
of the  
Books  
author**

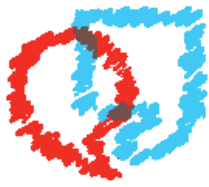


**DAN GEMEINHART**

Dan Gemeinhart is the author of five books for young readers: *The Honest Truth*, *Some Kind of Courage*, *Scar Island*, *Good Dog*, and *The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise*. Before becoming an author, Dan worked for 13 years as an elementary school teacher and librarian, where he developed his love for sharing stories with young readers. He lives in a small town in Washington state with his wife and three school-age daughters. His next book will come out in early 2022.

**AGE GROUP**

- 9-12



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

## DAN GEMEINHART

<b>Author name:</b> Dan Gemeinhart	<b>Location:</b> USA
<b>Talk:</b> TELL YOUR OWN STORY: A Talk with Author Dan Gemeinhart	<b>Age Group:</b> 8+
Join Dan for an engaging virtual talk with a multimedia presentation about his life, his struggles, and his long path to becoming an author. He will share an inspiring message about the importance of working hard, never giving up, and always treating others with kindness.	
<b>Tech Requirements:</b> For Dan's talk, he will need to be able to share his screen for the presentation.	

<b>Dates</b>	<b>(MON)</b> 19 APR	<b>(TUES)</b> 20 APR	<b>(WED)</b> 21 APR	<b>(THURS)</b> 22 APR	<b>(FRI)</b> 23 APR
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Availability</b> (any time before 12pm)	<b>(MON)</b> 26 APR	<b>(TUES)</b> 27 APR	<b>(WED)</b> 28 APR	<b>(THURS)</b> 29 APR	<b>(FRI)</b> 30 APR
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

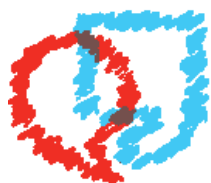


## JOANNE LI

Joanne was born and raised in Hong Kong, then left at the age of 12 to study in the United Kingdom and Canada. Joanne is the Director of Leadership Development at a premium workspace provider, a Professional Certified Coach (PCC) accredited by the International Coach Federation, a corporate trainer and the author of *Please Be You*. *Please Be You* was featured as Bookazine's Top 5 Children's Book in February 2020 and Kickstarter's "Project We Love". Joanne is a proud mother of two beautiful (and crazy) children, Skye and Harris and she is now working on her second children's book.

### AGE GROUP

- ALL



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

## JOANNE LI

<b>Author name:</b> Joanne Li	<b>Location:</b> Hong Kong
<b>Talk:</b> Please Be You: How to cultivate self-love and resilience in children in this digital age	<b>Age Group:</b> ALL
The digital age has opened us up to a whole new world. Social media creates unrealistic body image, social and lifestyle expectation, causing low self-esteem and feelings of loneliness and anxiety. We strongly believe now, more than ever, is a time for us to teach children and young people about self-love and values for them to appreciate their self-worth, accept themselves for who they are, and feel confident, just as they are. Let us explore what these values and concepts are and how through my publishing journey where perseverance, resilience and believing in my own hopes and dreams when no one else did helped me achieve my goals.	
<b>Tech Requirements:</b> For Joanne's talk, she may need to be able to connect her PowerPoint presentation to a big screen.	

Dates	(MON) 19 APR	(TUE) 20 APR	(WED) 21 APR	(THURS) 22 APR	(FRI) 23 APR
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Availability (8am to 3pm)	(MON) 26 APR	(TUE) 27 APR	(WED) 28 APR	(THURS) 29 APR	(FRI) 30 APR
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



Hong Kong International  
Young Readers Festival  
香港國際青少年讀者節



## RACHEL IP

Rachel Ip is a picture book author whose stories are often inspired by real-world events or experiences.

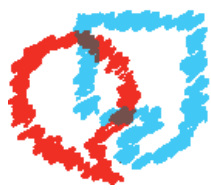
*The Last Garden* (illustrated by Anneli Bray) is a thoughtful story of war, peace and hope. *The Forgettery* (illustrated by Laura Hughes) is a magical adventure about making and treasuring memories.

Rachel's school events explore the real stories which inspire her writing, and insights into her writing and research processes.

Rachel is a board member of Bring Me A Book Hong Kong, a leading family literacy charity. She was born in the UK and has lived in France, Belgium and now Hong Kong, where she has lived for the last 13 years.

## AGE GROUP

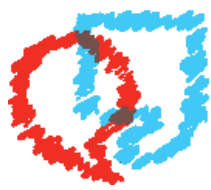
- 3-5



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

## RACHEL IP

<b>Author name:</b> Rachel Ip	<b>Location:</b> Hong Kong
<b>Talk:</b> The Forgettery	<b>Age Group:</b> 3-8
<p>Filled with warmth and gentle humour, <i>The Forgettery</i> is a magical imaginative adventure, celebrating the unique bond between grandparent and grandchild, and touching sensitively on the experience of memory loss.</p> <p>Rachel will share her writer’s notebooks, talk about where she finds her story ideas, planning, research, drafting, and revision processes. She will also share sneak peeks and insights into Laura’s sketch books and illustration process.</p> <p>In the second part of the session, Rachel will read <i>The Forgettery</i> and talk about the inspiration behind the story. Rachel’s talk is packed with memory games and fun facts about how our brilliant brains make memories and includes a “Make your own memory box” activity.</p>	
<b>Talk:</b> The Shape of Stories	<b>Age Group:</b> 5-8
<p>Stories are everywhere – in movies and TV shows, in advertising and video games – and of course, in books! How do you get started writing and planning a story? In this session, Rachel will talk about story plotting, story arcs, story mountains and the many shapes of stories. She will go deeper into the differences between narrative, story and plot, depending on the age of the audience.</p> <p>Rachel will share her writer’s notebooks, talk about where she finds her story ideas, planning, research, drafting and revision processes.</p>	
<b>Talk:</b> The Writing and Illustration process	<b>Age Group:</b> 3-8
<p><i>The Last Garden</i> follows the story of a little girl who tends the last garden in a war-torn city. Everyone is forced to leave and soon the girl must leave her beautiful garden behind. Whilst the garden is left alone, its seeds scatter throughout the city and roots begin to take hold. Slowly, as people return, the city begins to bloom again, and the girl comes home to her garden. <i>The Last Garden</i> was inspired by real gardens made in wartime around the world.</p> <p>Rachel will share her writer’s notebooks, talk about where she finds her story ideas, planning, research, drafting, and revision processes. She will also share sneak peeks and insights into Anneli’s sketch books and illustration process.</p> <p>In the second part of the session, Rachel will read <i>The Last Garden</i> and talk about some of the real gardens that inspired the story. She will also share some fascinating facts about weird and wonderful trees and seeds around the world.</p>	



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

<b>Talk:</b> Conflict and migration	<b>Age Group:</b> 7-11
<p>Rachel will read <i>The Last Garden</i> and talk about some of the historical and contemporary war gardens that inspired the story. Rachel can tailor the talk to include some or all these subjects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why people migrate</li> <li>• Migrants and refugees</li> <li>• Refugee camps</li> </ul> <p>Rachel will also share her writer's notebooks and talk about where she finds her story ideas. She will also share sneak peeks and insights into Anneli's illustration process.</p>	
<p><b>Tech Requirements:</b> For all talks, Rachel will need a microphone and PowerPoint sharing facilities (laptop and projection screen). For in person events, a small table for props would be helpful.</p>	

Dates	(MON) 19 APR	(TUE) 20 APR	(WED) 21 APR	(THURS) 22 APR	(FRI) 23 APR
Availabilities (8am to 3pm)		✓		✓	✓
	(MON) 26 APR	(TUE) 27 APR	(WED) 28 APR	(THURS) 29 APR	(FRI) 30 APR
		✓		✓	



## VICTORIA JAMIESON

Victoria Jamieson is an author and illustrator of graphic novels for young readers, including the Newbery Honor book *Roller Girl*. She received her BFA in Illustration from the Rhode Island School of Design and worked as a children's book designer before becoming a full-time illustrator. She has also worked as a portrait artist aboard a cruise ship, and has lived in Australia, Italy, and Canada. She now lives with her family in Pennsylvania.

### AGE GROUP

- 5 - 14





# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

## VICTORIA JAMIESON

<b>Author Name:</b> Victoria Jamieson	<b>Location:</b> USA
<b>Talk:</b> Making a Graphic Novel	<b>Age Group:</b> 7-14
Victoria will walk students through the process of creating a graphic novel, from brainstorming ideas to creating the final art. Victoria will also demonstrate how she creates the art for her books, with an opportunity for students to draw along with her.	

Dates	(MON) 19 APR	(TUE) 20 APR	(WED) 21 APR	(THURS) 22 APR	(FRI) 23 APR
Availabilities (8am to 3pm)					✓
	(MON) 26 APR	(TUE) 27 APR	(WED) 28 APR	(THURS) 29 APR	(FRI) 30 APR
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

# Learn Chinese the fun way! 趣味学汉语



## Come on an Adventure with Max and Mei 麦思和美美

by Martha Keswick & Mariko Jesse



Hong Kong International  
Young Readers Festival  
香港國際青少年讀者節



### MARIKO JESSE

Mariko was born in Japan, raised in Hong Kong and educated in the UK. She is an award-winning illustrator and printmaker. After studying at Central St Martins College of Art and Design in London, she became an Associate Lecturer there. Mariko's clients include Tiffany & Co., VOGUE and the Mandarin Oriental, and she created the interior artwork for an entire subway station in HK.

### AGE GROUP

- 5-12

She has illustrated over 30 picture books and recipe books. Mariko is currently based in Tokyo, and splits her time between California, Asia and London.



Hong Kong International  
Young Readers Festival  
香港國際青少年讀者節



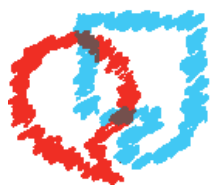
## MARTHA KESWICK

As an author Martha has published the popular bilingual *Max and Mei* picture books series, the factual *Zhongguo Mingren* series about famous people of China and the action-packed *Pangu* comic series for children learning Chinese as a second language.

### AGE GROUP

- 5-12

Martha's work for The Keswick Foundation on disaster related projects in China led her to create *COPE*, a book series designed to enhance the disaster resilience of children. *COPE* was commissioned by the UNDRR (United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction) to produce a book for World Tsunami Awareness Day, and collaborated with UNICEF on the *COPE COVID* booklet to help children stay safe and smiling during the pandemic. Martha and her husband, Ben, have lived in Asia since 1999 and have four children and two naughty dogs!

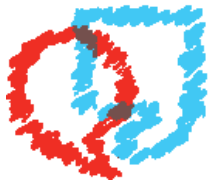


# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

## MARIKO JESSE AND MARTHA KESWICK

<b>Author name:</b> Mariko Jesse and Martha Keswick	<b>Location:</b> Tokyo and UK respectively
<b>Workshop:</b> COPE workshop	<b>Age Group:</b> 6-9
<p>Author Martha Keswick and Illustrator Mariko Jesse have worked together for 15 years, creating over 20 children books. <i>COPE</i> is their latest series which aims to increase the disaster resilience and covers natural hazards ranging from floods to landslides, wildfires to cyclones. With scientific advice from the World Meteorological organisation and Hong Kong Observatory, <i>COPE</i> has been endorsed by the UNDRR, UNICEF and World Vision.</p> <p>Join Martha and Mariko for an interactive session on the writing and illustrating processes of <i>COPE</i>, and learn key instructional messages to prepare for disasters - DROP, COVER, HOLD for earthquakes or GET UP TO HIGH GROUND for Tsunamis.</p>	
<b>Tech Requirements:</b> For Mariko and Martha's workshop, there will be an accompanying presentation.	

Dates	(MON) 26 APR	(TUE) 27 APR	(WED) 28 APR	(THURS) 29 APR	(FRI) 30 APR
Availability (12 to 2pm)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

## MARTHA KESWICK

<b>Author name:</b> Martha Keswick (solo talk)	<b>Location:</b> UK
<b>Talk:</b> Max and Mei talks	<b>Age Group:</b> 5-8
When Author Martha Keswick's son embarked on the long journey of learning Chinese back in 2006, Martha realised there was a lack of fun materials, so decided to write some herself! <i>Max and Mei</i> are colourful, engaging bilingual stories designed to learn Chinese the fun way! During the interactive talks Martha will introduce children to the Chinese Zodiac and read the <i>Max and Mei Monkey and Dinosaur</i> stories in both English and Chinese.	
<b>Tech Requirements:</b> For Martha's workshop, there will be an accompanying presentation.	

Dates	(MON) 19 APR	(TUE) 20 APR	(WED) 21 APR	(THURS) 22 APR	(FRI) 23 APR
Availability (12 to 2pm)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	(MON) 26 APR	(TUE) 27 APR	(WED) 28 APR	(THURS) 29 APR	(FRI) 30 APR
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



Hong Kong International  
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香港國際青少年讀者節



Battle  
of the  
Books  
author

THE THING ABOUT  
LUCK

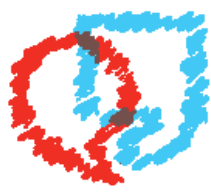


## CYNTHIA KADOHATA

Cynthia Kadohata is the author of ten books for children, including the Newbery Medal winner *Kira-Kira*; the National Book Award winner *The Thing About Luck*; *Cracker*, winner of six state book awards as voted on by kids; and *A Place to Belong*, longlisted for the National Book Award. She was born in Chicago and lives in Southern California.

### AGE GROUP

- 10-14



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

## CYNTHIA KADOHATA

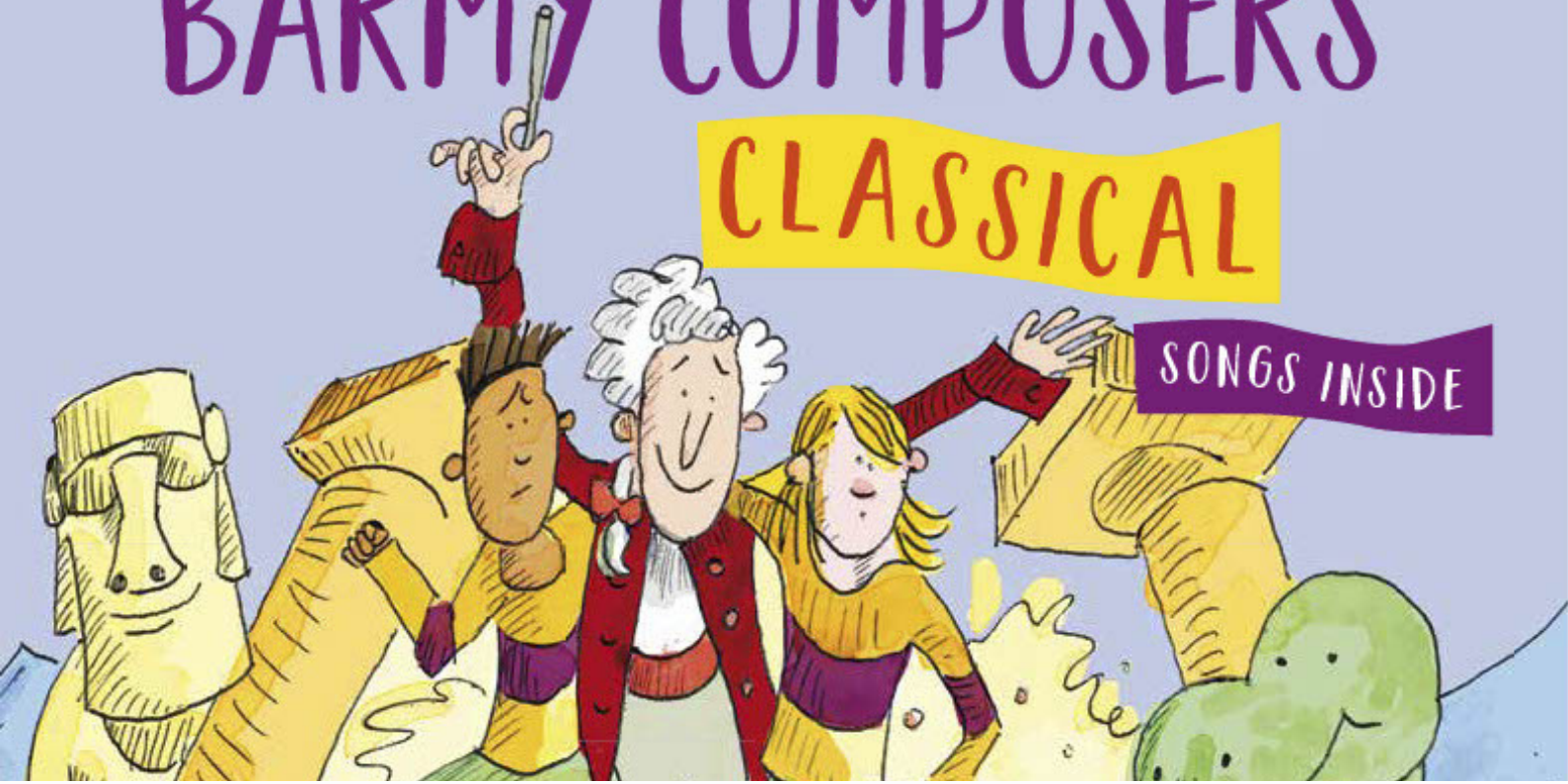
<b>Author name:</b> Cynthia Kadohata	<b>Location:</b> USA
<b>Talk:</b> Cynthia Kadohata's talk	<b>Age Group:</b> 9-14
The talks will center on the research Cynthia did for her books <i>Cracker</i> , <i>The Thing About Luck</i> , <i>A Place to Belong</i> , and <i>Weedflower</i> , as well as describe aspects of her personal life that she used in some of her books that were more autobiographical. For instance, there are quite a few details in <i>Kira-Kira</i> that grew out of her life as a young girl living in Georgia and Arkansas. She will also discuss her journey to become a writer. She can focus more on specific books or personal journey, at a teacher's advance request.	
<b>Tech Requirements:</b> Cynthia's talk will be accompanied by a slideshow. If you use Zoom, some of the slides have videos embedded, and Cynthia will send the slides to you by sharing them via Dropbox.	

Dates	(MON) 19 APR	(TUE) 20 APR	(WED) 21 APR	(THURS) 22 APR	(FRI) 23 APR
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Availability (from 9am to 2pm)	(MON) 26 APR	(TUE) 27 APR	(WED) 28 APR	(THURS) 29 APR	(FRI) 30 APR
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

# The ACADEMY of BARMY COMPOSERS

## CLASSICAL

### SONGS INSIDE



## MARK LLEWELYN EVANS

Welsh opera singer, author and Creative entrepreneur Mark Llewelyn Evans trained at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama & the National Opera Studio, London. In 2015 Mark decided to take his passion of opera further with ABC of Opera and reach out to the next generation. ABC or opera delivers invaluable life-lessons to children through a lively exploration of the lives and music of the world's greatest composers, building confidence, celebrating difference and encouraging creativity. Through joyful explorations of this powerful music and its creators, young learners of all abilities and background develop in so many positive ways.

### AGE GROUP

- 6-11+





# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

## MARK LLEWELYN EVANS

<b>Author Name:</b> Mark Llewelyn Evans	<b>Location:</b> UK
<b>Talk:</b> Classical: The Delights of Opera	<b>Age Group:</b> 6-11+
Discover how opera can delight and educate our young learners. In this fun and engaging event, author and opera singer Mark Llewelyn Evans reopens the doors of the Academy of Barmy Composers with book 2 'CLASSICAL'. On a school trip Jack and Megan (our opera heroes) are unexpectedly whisked back to the Academy of Barmy Composers, Salzburg, Vienna and Paris for another adventure into opera. Tasked with taking the music and stories of Windy Wolfie (Mozart, the penniless prodigy), Tortellini Rossini (the king of the dining table) and the moody but resilient Bilius Beethoven back to the present, will they be able to triumph over the return of Mozart's most evil creation? Join us on this second part of the 500-year history of opera, told like never before.	

Dates	(MON) 19 APR	(TUE) 20 APR	(WED) 21 APR	(THURS) 22 APR	(FRI) 23 APR
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Availability (after 1pm)	(MON) 26 APR	(TUE) 27 APR	(WED) 28 APR	(THURS) 29 APR	(FRI) 30 APR
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

# MONKEY KING

JOURNEY

TO THE WEST



Hong Kong International  
Young Readers Festival  
香港國際青少年讀者節

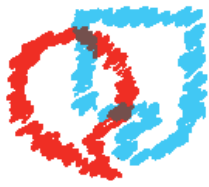


## JULIA LOVELL

Julia Lovell is the translator of *The Real Story of Ah-Q and Other Tales of China: The Complete Fiction of Lu Xun* and the author of *Maoism and The Opium War*. She is a professor of modern China at Birkbeck College, University of London, and writes about China for *The Guardian*, *Financial Times*, *The New York Times*, and *The Wall Street Journal*.

## AGE GROUP

- ALL



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

## JULIA LOVELL

<b>Author name:</b> Julia Lovell	<b>Location:</b> UK
<b>Talk:</b> Journey to the West Event	<b>Age Group:</b> ALL
<b>Event Date and Time:</b> April 19 1:30 – 2:30 PM HKT	
<p>This April, Monkey King somersaults into Hong Kong Schools to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the International Young Readers Festival, in a fresh and humorous new translation of <i>Journey to the West</i> by Julia Lovell.</p> <p>Whether you are already a fan or are new to the legends, this exhilarating retelling breathes new life into the 16<sup>th</sup> century classic. Introduce your students to one of world literature’s most memorable superheroes: Monkey King, a shape-shifting trickster on a kung-fu quest for eternal life.</p> <p>“No book can truly capture the stupendous, absurd glory of life, but <i>Monkey King</i> comes pretty close...Julia Lovell’s magnificent new translation becomes its own cloud somersault, its own gold-hooped staff.” —<b>Junot Díaz</b></p> <p>“A breezy, action-packed narrative...Rich with imaginative world-building that evokes the best Pixar films. —<b>San Francisco Chronicle</b></p> <p>If you’ve ever wanted to read <i>Journey to the West</i> but have been put off by fears of it being too long, too dense, too dry...then put those fears aside. Julia Lovell’s translation is nothing but fun, frantic fantasy writing...She has injected the book with energy, spice, and humour... I can’t imagine having more fun than I did with Julia Lovell’s hilarious translation” —<b>Will Heath, Books &amp; Bao</b></p>	
<p><b>Fee:</b> \$5,000 per school. No limit on attendance numbers. A recording of the event will be shared with participating schools for subsequent viewing.</p> <p>Each school may nominate one student (or teacher) to join the event live and ask Julia Lovell one or more questions. Full details will be sent to participating schools.</p>	

# MAD WOLF'S Daughter

When a lass  
became a legend

**Battle  
of the  
Books  
author**



Hong Kong International  
Young Readers Festival  
香港國際青少年讀者節



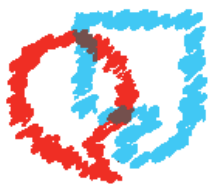
## DIANE MAGRAS

Diane Magras, award-winning author of the *New York Times* Editors' Choice *The Mad Wolf's Daughter*, as well as its companion novel, *The Hunt for the Mad Wolf's Daughter*, grew up on Mount Desert Island in Maine, surrounded by woods, cliffs, and the sea.

She is addicted to tea, castles, Scotland, and most things medieval. Diane lives with her husband and son in New England and finds inspiration in history and very old stones.

## AGE GROUP

- 9-14

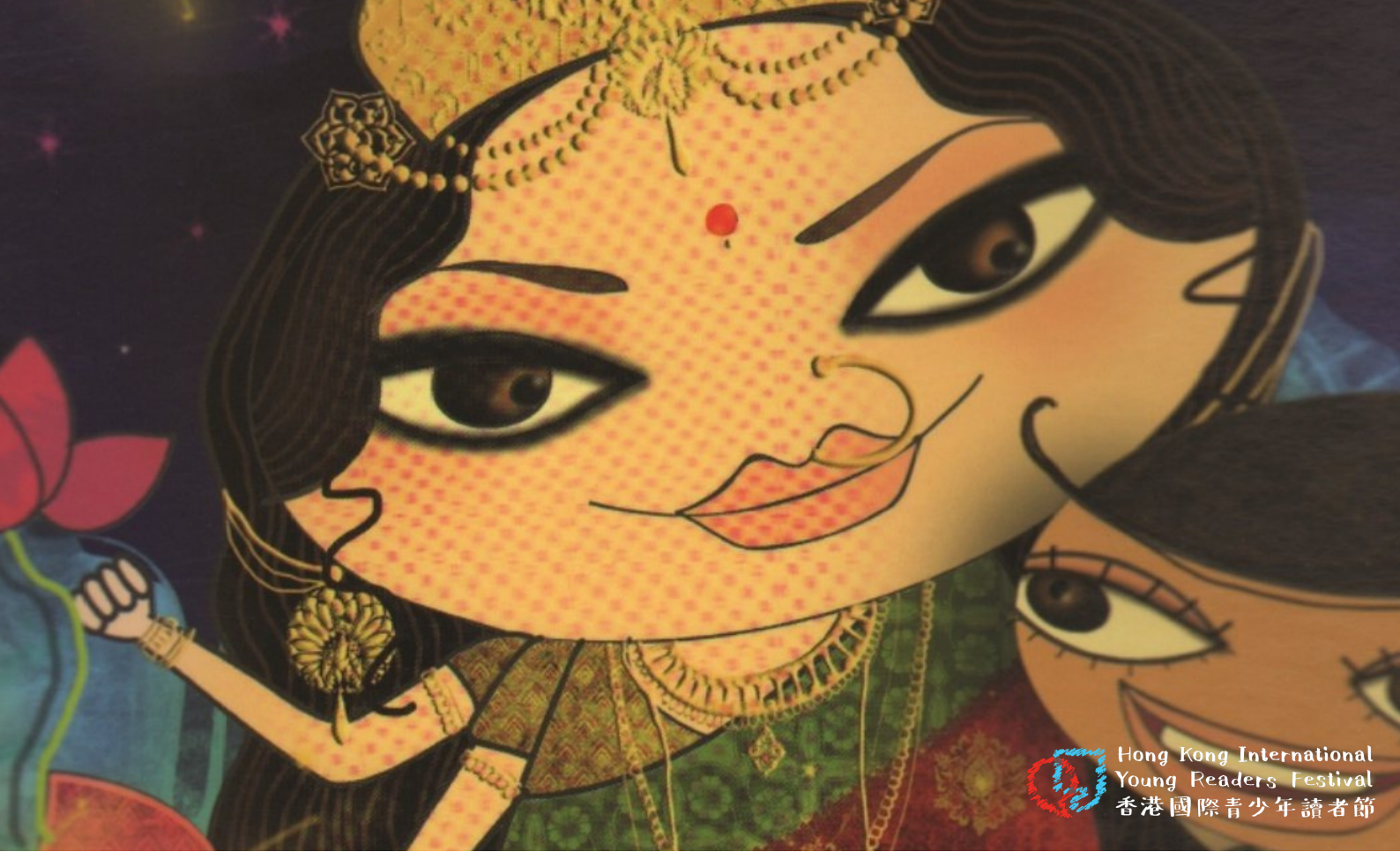


# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

## DIANE MAGRAS

<b>Author name:</b> Diane Magras	<b>Location:</b> USA
<b>Talk:</b> Building the Writing Journey	<b>Age Group:</b> 9-14
<p>Becoming an author involves a journey much like ones that a fictional character would take. Like their characters, a writer needs courage, perseverance, and inspiration to make it to the goal. In this talk, Diane will describe her own writing journey from childhood onward: where her ideas came from, how and where she does research, and the all-important and frequently inspiring process of revision. This presentation includes Make a Premise, an activity in which she will lead students in building a story premise of their own—and then revise it to see in real time how a story can evolve. This session will include a Q&amp;A and a read-aloud. If the class has read <i>The Mad Wolf's Daughter</i> or <i>The Hunt for the Mad Wolf's Daughter</i>, the class may choose the chapter.</p> <p>During the Make a Premise activity, she will need a teacher to play two roles:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. To select the students who participate. She will pose a question, and then ask the whole class to think about an answer. This gets very active, and she enjoys seeing students' enthusiasm rise. Teachers should be aware that students often grow very energetic as they create.</li><li>2. To write down what students say on a whiteboard or other material that students can view as we continue. The activity will have four parts and additional parts as time allows as we "revise" the idea.</li></ol> <p>In advance, she will email the teacher a worksheet to distribute to students, which ensures that all students will have a chance to create, even if they are not picked to share their ideas. The teacher should let her know the week before which chapter she should read (if the class is picking the chapter).</p> <p>If the class is not familiar with her work, the teacher should show the trailer of one or both books: <i>The Mad Wolf's Daughter</i> (<a href="https://youtu.be/7oTgMH6zHn0">https://youtu.be/7oTgMH6zHn0</a>) and <i>The Hunt for the Mad Wolf's Daughter</i> (<a href="https://youtu.be/67uT1GXPuYs">https://youtu.be/67uT1GXPuYs</a>).</p> <p><b>Tech requirements:</b> Diane will need to attend by Zoom or Google Meet and have the slide-sharing option available. If students are attending remotely, teachers should mute students until the interactive Make a Premise activity and the Q&amp;A.</p>	

Dates	(MON) 19 APR	(TUES) 20 APR	(WED) 21 APR	(THURS) 22 APR	(FRI) 23 APR
Availability (from 8:15 to 9:30am)	✓	✓			



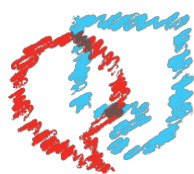
## BHAKTI MATHUR

Bhakti took to writing in 2010 when she created the popular 'Amma Tell Me' Series of picture books about Indian festivals and mythology and has sixteen published titles to date. After a long stint as a banker, she now juggles her time between writing, her passion for yoga and long-distance running, and her family.

### AGE GROUP

- 4-9+

She lives in Hong Kong with her husband, their two children and two dogs. She holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in Creative Writing from the University of Hong Kong and freelances as a journalist. Her articles have been published in the *South China Morning Post*. When not writing or running after her young boys, Bhakti is happiest curled up with a book in one hand and a hot cup of chai in the other.



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

## BHAKTI MATHUR

<b>Author Name:</b> Bhakti Mathur	<b>Location:</b> Hong Kong
<b>Talk:</b> Come celebrate the Festivals of India	<b>Age Group:</b> 4-8
Hear Amma narrate the fascinating stories behind the most popular festivals celebrated in India – the festival of colors (Holi), the festival of lights (Diwali) and the biggest outdoor festival in the world (Durga Puja). Covers three titles – <i>Amma Tell Me About Holi</i> , <i>Amma Tell Me About Diwali</i> , <i>Amma Tell Me About Durga Puja</i> .	
<b>Talk:</b> Tales of the naughty monkey God, Hanuman	<b>Age Group:</b> 4-8
Let Amma take you on a journey with stories of Hanuman. Hear about the tricks that mischievous Hanuman played as a child, hear how he flew across the ocean and about his adventures in the island of Lanka. Covers three titles – <i>Amma Tell Me About Hanuman</i> , <i>Amma Tell Me How Hanuman Crossed The Ocean</i> , <i>Amma Tell Me About Hanuman's Adventures In Lanka</i> .	
<b>Talk:</b> Stories of enigmatic Krishna	<b>Age Group:</b> 4-8
Hear Amma narrate stories of Krishna, the naughty God, who stole butter, lied to his mother and played pranks on his friends. Hear tales of how he fought several demons and destroyed an evil king who wanted to kill him. Covers three titles – <i>Amma Tell Me About Krishna</i> , <i>Amma Tell Me How Krishna Fought The Demons</i> , <i>Amma Tell Me How Krishna Defeated Kansa</i> .	
<b>Workshop:</b> An Author's Journey	<b>Age Group:</b> 9+
This workshop will touch on themes from creating, writing, self-publishing and marketing to exploring self-publishing versus traditional publishing. <i>Note: Based on Bhakti's experience in self-publishing the 'Amma Tell Me' Series.</i>	
<b>Workshop:</b> Travel Writing for Middle Grade	<b>Age Group:</b> 9+
In this workshop, Bhakti will show how to write travel tales that readers will love. She will teach students how to weave together the various elements that create a great travel story – from the setting, the people, and the emotions we encounter. <i>Note: Covers the four titles in the 'Amma Take Me' Series (published by Penguin) to places of historical significance in India.</i>	
<b>Tech Requirements:</b> Projection equipment, screen, clicker, whiteboard, marker.	



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

<b>Dates</b>	<b>(MON) 19 APR</b>	<b>(TUE) 20 APR</b>	<b>(WED) 21 APR</b>	<b>(THURS) 22 APR</b>	<b>(FRI) 23 APR</b>
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Availabilities (8am to 3pm)</b>	<b>(MON) 26 APR</b>	<b>(TUE) 27 APR</b>	<b>(WED) 28 APR</b>	<b>(THURS) 29 APR</b>	<b>(FRI) 30 APR</b>
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓





Hong Kong International  
Young Readers Festival  
香港國際青少年讀者節



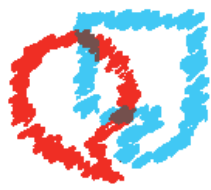
## CONOR MCCREERY

Conor McCreery is the swashbuckling wordsmith/former and oft death-threatened journalist behind the *Kill Shakespeare* (IDW) series, *Adventure Time/Regular Show* (BOOM!), *Assassin's Creed* (Titan Comics), *Sherlock Holmes vs Harry Houdini* (Dynamite) and more! A former business journalist who worked on three continents, Conor started his career in the Canadian film and television industry.

### AGE GROUP

- 11-19

His newest projects are the creator-owned, YA adventure series *Witchmark* (debuting through BOOM! in 2020), and a magic realism comics biography of the legendary *Fela Kuti: Music is the Weapon*, with superstar artist Jibola Fagbamiye. He lives in Toronto with his wife and two children.



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

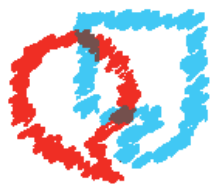
## CONOR MCCREERY

<b>Author name:</b> Conor McCreery	<b>Location:</b> Canada
<b>Talk:</b> I Come to Praise the Bard, Not to Bury Him	<b>Age Group:</b> 11+
<p>Ugh. Shakespeare? EVERYBODY knows Shakespeare is so booooooooring!</p> <p>Well, Canadian comic creator Conor McCreery didn't believe that, and worked with his good friend Anthony Del Col to create the popular series, <i>Kill Shakespeare</i> – a story that takes all of the Bard's greatest heroes (e.g. Juliet, Hamlet, Othello), and most menacing villains (Richard III, Lady MacBeth, Iago) and pits them against each other on a quest to end all tragedy.</p> <p>Conor will introduce the audience to the world of <i>Kill Shakespeare</i> (a world that includes 5 books, a stage-play, a board-game, and an in-development television series), and discuss how they honour Shakespeare, by using his creations in their own comic, show ways the comic can be used to introduce students to the Bard, and show EVERYONE why Shakespeare is WAY more awesome than you might think.</p> <p>As a bonus, Conor will also talk about his other big projects – the re-launch of the <i>Assassin's Creed</i> brand as a comic series, the quirky Victorian buddy cop stylings of <i>Sherlock Holmes vs Harry Houdini</i>, and his OTHER big mash-up <i>Adventure Time X Regular Show</i> where he combined the stars of two of the Cartoon Network's biggest shows into one amazing comic.</p> <p>He will also answer questions about how to be a writer, his career, and the Toronto Raptors – his greatest love beyond his family (most of the time).</p>	
<b>Talk:</b> The Business of Creation (how to take your idea to the market)	<b>Age Group:</b> 13+
<p>Conor McCreery came to comics from the world of business and journalism and used those skills to build the award-winning series, <i>Kill Shakespeare</i>. <i>Kill Shakespeare</i> is a story that takes all of the Bard's greatest heroes (e.g. Juliet, Hamlet, Othello), and most menacing villains (Richard III, Lady MacBeth, Iago) and pits them against each other on a quest to end all tragedy.</p> <p>The idea started as comics and has since moved into the worlds of theatre, merchandise, board games, audio books and film and television. Conor will discuss the entrepreneurial side of their journey. From learning how to raise money, to working with other creators, to courting publishers and learning how to pitch your ideas (whatever they may be), Conor will teach you how to make your creative idea into a creative business.</p>	



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

<b>Talk:</b> Writing for Comics	<b>Age Group:</b> 11+
<p>Conor McCreery is a Harvey and Shuster Award nominated writer best known for the creator owned series, <i>Kill Shakespeare</i> – a story that takes all of the Bard’s greatest heroes (eg Juliet, Hamlet, Othello) and most menacing villains (Richard III, Lady MacBeth, Iago) and pits them against each other on a quest to end all tragedy.</p> <p>Join him for a fun and fast-paced journey through learning how to write for comics. He will discuss everything from how to plan your story, the three masks your character should wear, how to work with an artist to make dynamic page layouts, all the way to the art process (penciling, inking, colouring) and final product elements (lettering).</p>	
<b>Workshop:</b> Master-Class: Writing for Comics	<b>Age Group:</b> 11+
<p>Conor McCreery is a former journalist who has worked on three continents, as well as a Harvey and Shuster Award nominated writer who has worked for IDW, Dynamite, BOOM!, Titan, D.C., and Audible. He’s best known for the creator owned series <i>Kill Shakespeare</i> which he is adapting for TV with co-creator Anthony Del Col and NBC-Universal.</p> <p>Join him for a fun and fast-paced journey on how to write for comics. He’ll discuss everything from how to plan your story, the value of a beat sheet, the two layers every good story MUST have, the three ‘masks’ your characters should wear, all the way to the art process (penciling, inking, colouring) and final production elements (lettering).</p> <p>Students will work to create a collaborative story as a warm-up, then after the lesson section of the workshop is finished, they will work individually or in small groups to create their own improvised stories. These can be presented as prose, comics, or as spoken word to the rest of the group.</p>	
<b>Tech Requirements:</b> Students will need paper, pens, rulers and markers.	
<b>Workshop:</b> Master-Class: The Business of Creation	<b>Age Group:</b> 13+
<p>Conor McCreery came to comics from the world of business and journalism and used those skills to build the award-winning series, <i>Kill Shakespeare</i>. <i>Kill Shakespeare</i> is a story that takes all of the Bard’s greatest heroes (e.g. Juliet, Hamlet, Othello), and most menacing villains (Richard III, Lady MacBeth, Iago) and pits them against each other on a quest to end all tragedy.</p> <p>The idea started as comics and has since moved into the worlds of theatre, merchandise, board games, audio books and film and television. Conor will discuss the entrepreneurial side of their journey. From learning how to raise money, to working with other creators, to courting publishers, and with a special emphasis on “pitching” their ideas. Conor will teach you how to make your creative idea into a creative business.</p>	



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

Students will then work in groups or alone to create their OWN simple business plan, schedule and outline, and budget for a REAL-LIFE IDEA they wish to accomplish (this does not need to be limited to creative endeavours).

Groups will then pitch Conor (using the lessons taught in the pitch section of the workshop), with their ideas. Winners will be named! Advice will be given! Ideas will come one step closer to fruition!

**Tech requirements:** Students will need paper and pens.

**Workshop:** All the World's A Stage: Theatre Immersion

**Age Group:** 11+

In addition to being an award-winning comic-book series, *Kill Shakespeare* is also a popular stage-play – having appeared in cities across Canada, the United States, in Dubai, and in the Globe Theatre, the home of William Shakespeare himself!

In this workshop, Conor McCreery – co-creator of the *Kill Shakespeare* series – will walk students through the creation of the stage-play – a show designed to be easy for schools to perform with limited rehearsal time and resources. The workshop will introduce the concepts behind classic radio-plays, introducing the ideas of how “foley” and music can be improvised, how to perform with art as a background, and simple tech and directing requirements.

Then, groups of students will actually *perform* a selection from the play, choosing their own slides, creating their own sound (foley) and music, and directing their short show.

**BONUS:** All the show materials will be made available for the class to either perform the entire stage-show as a class project, or to allow them to create their own mashups using the Kill Shakespeare universe.

**Tech requirements:** Computer with screen for PowerPoint presentation. Clicker for advancing slides remotely. Access to Dropbox. If possible, Conor requests that there be microphones, chairs and music stands available.

Dates	(MON) 19 APR	(TUE) 20 APR	(WED) 21 APR	(THURS) 22 APR	(FRI) 23 APR
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Availability (from 9am to 12pm)	(MON) 26 APR	(TUE) 27 APR	(WED) 28 APR	(THURS) 29 APR	(FRI) 30 APR
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



Hong Kong International  
Young Readers Festival  
香港國際青少年讀者節



## CRAIG PHILLIPS

Craig Phillips is an illustrator and author and living from New Zealand who has worked in the US and Australian publishing industries for two decades. His work has appeared on covers and inside books for *Random House*, *Penguin*, *Simon & Schuster*, *Harper Collins*, *Walker Books* and most major US publishing houses.

His first solo book, *Giants, Trolls, Witches, Beasts: Ten Tales from the Deep, Dark Woods* was the recipient of the NZ book Awards/Russell Clark Award for Best Illustration, a notable book in the Children's Book Council of Australia's 2018 Book Awards, and more.

## AGE GROUP

- 8+

He is also the co-founder of *Wildling Books*, publishing children's picture books and graphic novels.



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

## CRAIG PHILLIPS

<b>Author name:</b> Craig Phillips	<b>Location:</b> New Zealand
<b>Talk:</b> Behind the scenes of making an award winning graphic novel	<b>Age Group:</b> 8+
Join book illustrator Craig Phillips in a comic book behind-the-scenes show and tell and slideshow. Craig will talk about what went into making his award-winning graphic novel <i>Giants, Trolls, Witches, Beasts: Ten Tales from the Deep Dark Woods</i> as well as give a short drawing demonstration for anybody who wants to learn about creating characters for comics and picture books.	
<b>Workshop:</b> Drawing workshop with Craig Phillips	<b>Age Group:</b> 8+
Join book illustrator Craig Phillips for a session on creating characters using simple but effective steps to build believable animals, humans, and magical creatures of all sorts. Anybody can follow along in this workshop and have some grasp of drawing by the end of the class.  Bring paper, pencils and erasers, or whatever tools you like to draw with. We will also do a quick slideshow before class to show you how Craig's drawing methods are used in all his picture books and graphic novels.	
<b>Tech Requirements:</b> For the workshop, students will need paper, pencils, erasers, and other writing and drawing materials. For the workshop, the maximum number of students is 30.	

Dates	(MON) 19 APR	(TUE) 20 APR	(WED) 21 APR	(THURS) 22 APR	(FRI) 23 APR
Availabilities (8am to 3pm)					✓
	(MON) 26 APR	(TUE) 27 APR	(WED) 28 APR	(THURS) 29 APR	(FRI) 30 APR
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



# DOVE TALES THEATRE

Dove Tales Theatre Company is Hong Kong's premier children's theatre company. They specialize in drama workshops, small and large-scale school productions, and performing English language musicals and dramas for students of all ages and levels. Each year they work with over 50,000 students and 100 schools.

Through their drama workshops, their main goal is to help the students build life skills such as confidence, teamwork, problem solving, empathy and English through drama. They strive to create an environment where the students are encouraged to take risks and understand the best way to grow as a person is to make mistakes.

They write, rehearse and perform all our plays with the age, the level of English, Band Level of the school, and the needs of the English teaching panels in mind.



## DOVE TALES THEATRE COMPANY

<b>Dove Tales Theatre Company</b>	<b>Location:</b> Hong Kong
<b>Session price:</b> \$2,500 per session	
<b>Workshop:</b> Script Writing for Drama	<b>Age:</b> 10+
Have you ever wanted to write your own play? Do you have a story to tell? Let your imagination fly with this exciting workshop! Get ready to learn how to write your very own script from a genuine professional playwright. In this workshop students will learn how to structure a story, create dynamic characters and how to bring their story to the stage.	
<b>Workshop:</b> Creating Characters	<b>Age:</b> 8+
In this workshop we will bring to life some of your favourite characters from stories you have read. Using the different texts and different movement styles, we will explore the process of taking a character from the page and onto the stage. Students will learn how to find clues in the text, use their body and voice and find their character motivation to bring their characters to life.	
<b>Workshop:</b> Performing Shakespeare	<b>Age:</b> 10+
Friends, performers, thespians, lend me your ears! This year, Nathan and Ben will be bringing Shakespeare's words to life in an exciting workshop. Students will learn how to perform these classical stories while mastering skills such as giving and receiving constructive feedback, engaging in critical thinking and gaining confidence with public speaking. All the world's a stage, so come and step into the spotlight!	
<b>Additional requirements:</b> They ask, if possible, for the workshops to take place in a large room where the students can move around. The school hall or multipurpose rooms are great if they are available. If not, a classroom will work.	

Dates	(MON) 19 APR	(TUE) 20 APR	(WED) 21 APR	(THURS) 22 APR	(FRI) 23 APR
			Before 12pm		After 2pm
	✓	✓	✓		✓
Dates	(MON) 26 APR	(TUE) 27 APR	(WED) 28 APR	(THURS) 29 APR	(FRI) 30 APR
			Before 12pm		After 2pm
	✓	✓	✓		✓



# TOURING SCHOOL SHOWS by DOVE TALES THEATRE

## Robin Hood

Welcome to Sherwood Forest; home to the notorious Robin Hood and his band of outlaws. Robin Hood steals from the rich and gives to the poor. But when the Evil Sheriff of Nottingham tries to seize control of the forest and kidnap Maid Marion, it's up to Robin Hood to save the day!



## A Midsummer Night's Dream

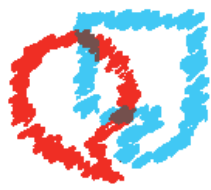


Get ready for Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; a play filled with magic, love and lots of laughter. Deep within a magical forest the four lovers find their lives turned upside down when a troublesome fairy named Puck decides to play Cupid. But as Puck knows, falling in love can make fools of us all. Love is crazy, love is mad. Will true love win out in the end? Our original interactive adaptation will be sure to leave everyone rolling in laughter.

## Reading is Fun

Creating good reading habits can be tough sometimes. Our new drama will take students into the exciting worlds that reading can open up. Follow along as Matt gets transported into the exciting story of Robin Hood. As he reads the story, the world becomes more and more real around him. Unfortunately, reading is not always easy. When he encounters difficult words, he is transported to the magical kingdom where he meets the Phonics Fairy, the Context Clue Chef, and the Compound Knight. This drama will give your students the strategies and tools to overcome difficulties when reading and to help them develop good reading habits.





# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

## TOURING SCHOOL SHOWS by DOVE TALES THEATRE

<b>Name:</b> Dove Tales Theatre Company	<b>Location:</b> Hong Kong
<b>Price:</b> \$12,000 for independent schools, \$10,000 for fully government funded schools.	
<b>Bio:</b>	<b>Format:</b> Live or online
<p>Dove Tales Theatre Company is Hong Kong's premier children's theatre company. They specialize in drama workshops, small and large-scale school productions, and performing English language musicals and dramas for students of all ages and levels. Through their drama workshops, their main goal is to help the students build life skills such as confidence, teamwork, problem solving, and empathy through drama. They strive to create an environment where the students are encouraged to take risks and understand the best way to grow as a person is to make mistakes. All their touring school shows are highly interactive and flexible depending on the English level of the audience.</p>	
<b>Touring shows:</b> <i>Robin Hood, A Midsummer Night's Dream and Reading is Fun</i>	
<p>Each of the shows are 50-60 minutes long and are highly interactive and are followed by a 15-minute Q&amp;A session if the school wants it. They provide the school with a digital educational packet as well as student volunteer scripts for a few students to join us on stage for a short scene. They will need to arrive at the school about 1.5 hours before the performance to set up everything.</p> <p>There is no limit to the number of students that can watch the performance. If schools are worried about social distancing, there are a few options they have done in the past. One option is to have a small group in the hall watching the performance while the rest of the students watch the performance via live stream in their classrooms. The school would need to set up a camera for this option. Another option is for us to provide a fully online performance for the school followed by a Q&amp;A session on Zoom with the actors.</p>	

(MON) 19 APR	(TUE) 20 APR	(WED) 21 APR	(THURS) 22 APR	(FRI) 23 APR
		Before 12pm		After 2pm
✓	✓	✓		✓
(MON) 26 APR	(TUE) 27 APR	(WED) 28 APR	(THURS) 29 APR	(FRI) 30 APR
		Before 12pm		After 2pm
✓	✓	✓		✓



Hong Kong International  
Young Readers Festival  
香港國際青少年讀者節



## RU XU

Ru Xu graduated from the Savannah College of Art and Design after receiving a full academic scholarship. She went on to create the graphic novel series *NewsPrints* with *Scholastic's Gphix* imprint. *NewsPrints* and its sequel *EndGames* have been nominated for an Edgar and an Ignatz. Ru is currently working on a semi-animated webcomic called *Saint for Rent*, which is about inns for time travelers and has been nominated for a Reuben. Her work tends to focus on characters who don't fit conventional gender roles. Her non-storytelling-specific personal interests include historical fiction, coffee-flavored ice cream, and fat birds.

### AGE GROUP

- 8-15



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

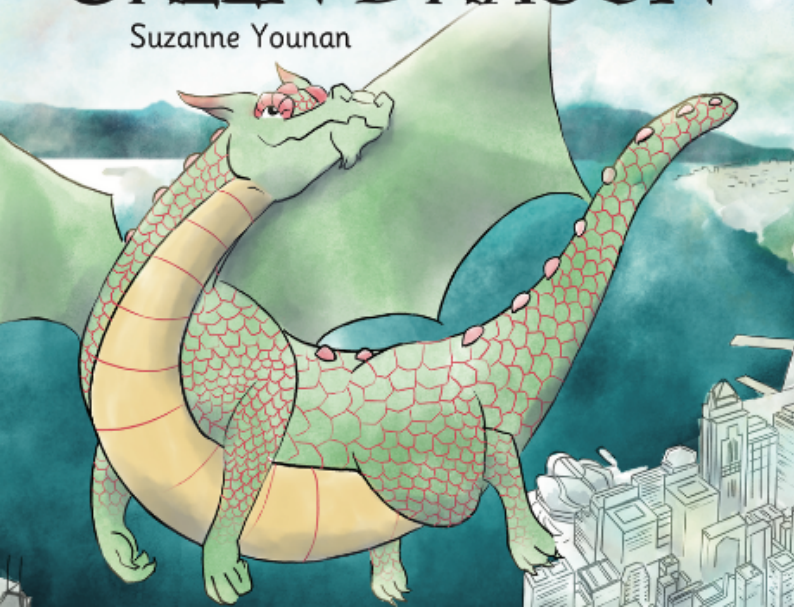
## RU XU

<b>Author Name:</b> Ru Xu	<b>Location:</b> USA
<b>Talk:</b> Call It Newsworthy!	<b>Age Group:</b> 9+
<p>Ru will give a presentation about what influenced the creation of the NewsPrints series, as well as her research and development process for worldbuilding and character design. Learn how she uses references and 3D modeling for backgrounds and concept art. Join her to explore ways of channeling your interests and passions into characters and themes that express you.</p>	
<p><b>Tech Requirements:</b> Projector/screen for slide presentation, clicker to advance slides, audio if necessary for the space provided. Projector/screen/ hookup for iPad Pro screen share.</p>	

Dates	(MON) 19 APR	(TUE) 20 APR	(WED) 21 APR	(THURS) 22 APR	(FRI) 23 APR
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Availability (from 9-11am)	(MON) 26 APR	(TUE) 27 APR	(WED) 28 APR	(THURS) 29 APR	(FRI) 30 APR
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

# THE GREEN DRAGON

Suzanne Younan



# THE GREEN DRAGON

AND THE

## 'OH NO' BIRD

Suzanne Younan



Hong Kong International  
Young Readers Festival  
香港國際青少年讀者節



## SUZANNE YOUNAN

Originally from the UK, Suzanne has lived abroad most of her adult life. She moved to Hong Kong in 2015 with her husband, son and four-legged hiking companion! Suzanne is a true nature enthusiast and environmental guardian. She is also a keen hiker and animal lover.

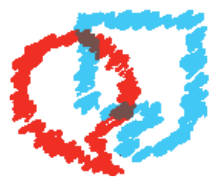
## AGE GROUP

- 5-12

Compelled to write *The Green Dragon* while working in a volunteer organization she founded back in 2017 (Green Dragons HK). Suzanne realised that educating youngsters was key very early into her journey.

Suzanne created the appealing characters to convey a message of refusing and reducing in small steps to make a difference.

Suzanne spends her time visiting schools (or Zooming!), reading the books to school children and holding discussions on how we can all take small steps to make a big difference to the planet.



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

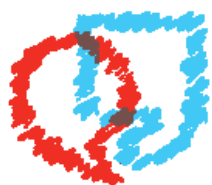
## SUZANNE YOUNAN

<b>Author name:</b> Suzanne Younan	<b>Location:</b> Hong Kong
<b>Talk:</b> The Green Dragon	<b>Age Group:</b> 5-12
<p><i>The Green Dragon</i> tackles the topic of plastic in the ocean and how it affects the sea creatures. The endearing characters help build empathy and install a sense of responsibility for our actions. A difficult topic to raise with young children, this story presents the problems faced in an empathic way but also has a theme of hope, when Leo, the hero of the story takes the message to his community to promote change.</p> <p>This story has a versatile subject and the following discussions can be held after the book reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) How our actions impact the creatures in the ocean and our environment.</li><li>b) What can we do to change habits to help the sea creatures?</li><li>c) How plastic in the ocean affects all living things: plastic in the food chain.</li></ul>	
<b>Talk:</b> The Green Dragon and the Oh No Bird	<b>Age group:</b> 5-12
<p>These books, both set in Hong Kong with familiar scenes and locations, are sure to engage students. The characters are based on creatures that live in Hong Kong and the problems they sadly face due to human habits. <i>The Green Dragon and the Oh No Bird</i> is a more light-hearted story with some comical characters, this story highlights the problem of litter in our Country Parks. Despite recent picnic area closures due to the pandemic, the problem of litter in the parks is still unfortunately an issue. Again, raising awareness to the dangers of plastic and litter in general to the animal population from a different angle, two inspired children get together to create a 'Green Picnic Guide' to help influence the community. This book also hopes to inspire children and young families to get outside and enjoy nature responsibly. The illustrations are packed with things to spot ....'a creature feature' and the book aspires to encourage the youngsters to get outside and see for themselves!</p> <p>Discussion topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) How our choices of convenience impact the creatures in our environment.</li><li>b) How to have a 'Green Picnic' or outing.</li><li>c) How to enjoy nature, what to look for, listen for. This discussion also includes the topic of mindfulness.</li></ul> <p>Suzanne recently created a free activity hike pack for families. Following the hike featured in 'The Green Dragon and the Oh No Bird' book, this useful resource is packed with things to do and see on a beautiful (moderately easy) family hike. Available to all.</p>	



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

Dates	(MON) 19 APR	(TUE) 20 APR	(WED) 21 APR	(THURS) 22 APR	(FRI) 23 APR
					✓
Availabilities (8am to 3pm)	(MON) 26 APR	(TUE) 27 APR	(WED) 28 APR	(THURS) 29 APR	(FRI) 30 APR
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

## YRF TALK AND WORKSHOP PRICES

For non-subsidised schools, the price per session is **capped at a maximum of HK\$7,500**. There will be a **minimum charge of HK\$1,500** per session for talks and workshops.

No. of students	Talk
< 30	\$1,500
30-70	\$3,500
70-150	\$5,000
150+	\$7,500

Format	Workshop (per student)
Live	\$120
Online	\$100

Event price for one off talks (no student limit)	
Jerry Craft	\$5,000
Julia Lovell	\$5,000

Dove Tales Theatre Company (per class, contact for more details)	
Workshops	\$2,500
Touring Shows	\$12,000 (independent schools) \$10,000 (fully government funded schools)





# Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 香港國際青少年讀者節

## Booking Form

Please send us the completed form via email at [crystal.lau@festival.org.hk](mailto:crystal.lau@festival.org.hk) and copying in [ann.chan@festival.org.hk](mailto:ann.chan@festival.org.hk). You will receive confirmation of your booking within 5 working days of receipt of this booking form.

Please note:

- We prioritize schools who show significant interest and offer larger audience numbers for our authors.
- Please refer to the pricing list table for ticket prices for talks and workshops.
- There is a minimum charge of HK\$1,500.
- Talks are 1 hour long, and workshops are 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 April 09<sup>th</sup> 2021 to secure a booking.**

Name and title of contact person:					
Name of school:					
School address:					
Email:			Contact no:		
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 Young Readers Festival 2021

## 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.

<b>School name:</b>	<b>District:</b>
<b>Contact Person:</b>	<b>Position:</b>
<b>Email:</b>	<b>Phone:</b>

### 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for showing interest in our Schools Programme!

Please send us the completed form via email at [crystal.lau@festival.org.hk](mailto:crystal.lau@festival.org.hk) and [ann.chan@festival.org.hk](mailto:ann.chan@festival.org.hk). The result of this application will be advised together with the booking status.