

40th
Anniversary Fay B. Kaigler
**CHILDREN'S BOOK
FESTIVAL**

Featuring the best in literature for children and young adults



PROGRAM
2007



THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI
SCHOOL OF LIBRARY
AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI MEDALLION

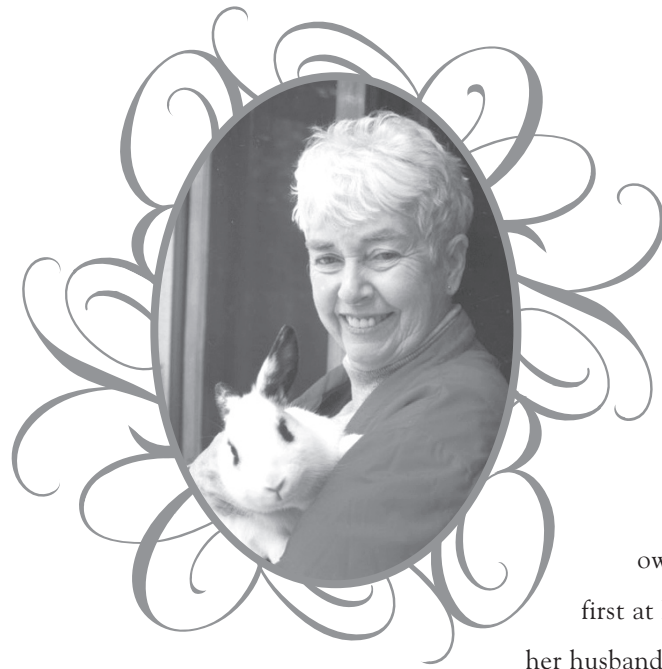
Awarding The University of Southern Mississippi Medallion is the highlight of the Children's Book Festival. This year's recipient is Eve Bunting. The medallion is awarded annually for outstanding contributions in the field of children's literature. Silver medallions are cast for the recipient, for the president of The University of Southern Mississippi, for members of the medallion selection committee, and for the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection's permanent display. In addition, bronze medallions are cast and are available for purchase during the festival.



RECIPIENTS OF THE MEDALLION

1969	Lois Lenski	1989	Lee Bennett Hopkins
1970	Ernest H. Shepard	1990	Charlotte Zolotow
1971	Roger Duvoisin	1991	Richard Peck
1972	Marcia Brown	1992	James Marshall
1973	Lynd Ward	1993	Quentin Blake
1974	Taro Yashima	1994	Ashley Bryan
1975	Barbara Cooney	1995	Tomie de Paola
1976	Scott O'Dell	1996	Patricia MacLachlan
1977	Adrienne Adams	1997	Eric Carle
1978	Madeleine L'Engle	1998	Elaine Konigsburg
1979	Leonard Everett Fisher	1999	Russell Freedman
1980	Ezra Jack Keats	2000	David Macaulay
1981	Maurice Sendak	2001	Virginia Hamilton
1982	Beverly Cleary	2002	Rosemary Wells
1983	Katherine Paterson	2003	Lois Lowry
1984	Peter Spier	2004	Jerry Pinkney
1985	Arnold Lobel	2005	Kevin Henkes
1986	Jean Craighead George	2006	Walter Dean Myers
1987	Paula Fox	2007	EVE BUNTING
1988	Jean Fritz		





EVE BUNTING

39th Southern Miss Medallion Recipient

Children's and young adult author Eve Bunting began her storytelling career in her home country of Ireland. She was born Anne Evelyn Bolton in Maghera, Northern Ireland, and started telling stories to entertain her fellow students at boarding school with her own versions of popular Irish tales. She attended university in Ireland, first at Methodist College in Belfast and then at Queen's College where she met her husband, Edward. The two left Ireland for Scotland after their marriage and had three children, Christine, Glenn, and Sloan. In 1958 the Buntings immigrated to the United States and settled in California. Once her children were grown, the craving to tell stories overwhelmed Bunting again. She took a course in writing for publication and her first book, a retelling of the Irish legend *The Two Giants*, was published in 1972. Since that first book, Bunting has tackled all genres of children's literature, as well as most forms of writing in over 200 titles.

Bunting's books remind writers and readers of the importance of telling stories. She leaves no stone unturned; ranging from light to dark, spooky to heartwarming. Everything has a place in her stories and all topics are presented with careful skill. Throughout her career she has written about latchkey children (*Is Anybody There?*), the Los Angeles riots (*Smoky Night*), missing skeletons (*The Bones of Fred McFee*), and the very timely story a father returning home from war (*My Red Balloon*). She has captured both the tragic and the quirky moments of childhood in an array of cultures. Painful moments always come with a symbol of hope supporting them such as in *One Candle* (2002) and *Gleam and Glow* (2001). In *One Candle*, a simple potato becomes a way to commemorate celebrating Hanukkah at Büchenwald concentration camp, reminding readers of the importance of retaining traditions and histories. Based on a true story, *Gleam and Glow* is an account of a family in Bosnia-Herzegovina who must leave their home and their two pond goldfish. The family returns to find their home destroyed but the pond full of fish, demonstrating that life goes on and can move forward despite ruination. Symbols are not lacking in Bunting's lighter stories either. In *A Picnic in October* (1999), a family's annual visit to Ellis Island for their grandmother's birthday is a time to relate the importance of the Statue of Liberty to immigrants. *A Picnic in October* also has one of the many moments that show how well Bunting understands children's behavior. In the story one child is polite and helpful to a non-English speaking family but then, in true child-like fashion, subsequently pretends to vomit over the boat's railing and spits into the wind with his cousin.

Bunting's attention to the details of childhood, her consideration of hope, and use of emotionally powerful and concise language are important facets that allow her to successfully address so many different and challenging types of material. Her genuine, straightforward style can make unfamiliar topics seem like universal knowledge. Eve Bunting is simply the kind of writer that others aspire to be, and for this she is honored with the 2007 Southern Miss Medallion.

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2007 Speakers

LEE BENNETT HOPKINS

As a child of a working-class family in post-depression America, Lee Bennett Hopkins acquired the fiery independence that would inspire his interest in education and writing.

Hopkins was born in Scranton, Pa., in 1938 but moved to Newark, N.J., at the age of 10 where he helped his divorced mother raise his younger siblings. He worked two, sometimes three, jobs while going to school, receiving a bachelor's degree at the Newark State Teacher's College in 1960 and a master's degree and Professional Diploma in Education Supervision in 1967. Throughout his education, he worked as a teacher at public schools in Fairlawn, N.J., and later as a consultant at the Bank Street College of Education.

In 1968, he began working as an editor at *Scholastic Magazines*. He left this position in 1976 to write and edit full-time. In 1980, Keats College awarded him an honorary doctorate.

Hopkins has written his own poetry and novels as well as classroom instructional aids, but he is best known for his poetry anthologies, of which there are more than 60 volumes. Through his experience as an educator, Hopkins became an advocate for poetry as an essential tool in the classroom. His anthologies feature both contemporary and classic poets and offer children accessible and enjoyable poems that often revolve around a single theme such as sports or holidays. As a teacher, poet and lecturer, he has been celebrated worldwide. He won the Christopher Book Award in 1996 for his autobiographical *Been to Yesterdays: Poems of a Life*. He is also the namesake for the prestigious Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Award for outstanding new poetry awarded by the Pennsylvania Center for the Book, and the Lee Bennett Hopkins Promising Poet Award from the International Reading Association.



RUSSELL FREEDMAN

Russell Freedman grew up in San Francisco and began writing at an early age. He attended college at the University of California at Berkeley, graduating in 1951 with a Bachelor of Arts in English. After college he was drafted and spent three years in Korea. Upon his discharge, Freedman began working as a reporter and later a publicist for television programs. During this period, Freedman decided to try writing biographies, but his goal was more than simply rehashing the details of a person's life. Instead, he attempted to bring to life the complicated historical worlds of his subjects and make his nonfiction as lively and interesting as fiction.

He has published almost 50 books for children and young adults, with subjects ranging from Indian chiefs to presidents. Among his many honors are the 2005 Sibert Medal for *The Voice that Challenged a Nation: Marian Anderson and the Struggle for Equal Rights*, the 1998 Laura Ingalls Wilder Medal, and delivering the 2006 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor lecture. Most recently his book *Freedom Walkers: The Story of the Montgomery Bus Boycott* was named a 2007 ALA Best Book For Young Adults.

The crowning achievement of Freedman's career is no doubt his 1988 Newbery Medal for his pioneering work, *Lincoln: A Photobiography*. This work influenced the entire genre of nonfiction for children and became one of only a handful of nonfiction books to be awarded this honor.



COLEEN SALLEY

A beloved figure in the world of Mardi Gras, Queen Coleen, as she is known in New Orleans, is also a celebrated figure in the world of children's books. Salley graduated from Louisiana State University, and after a 30-year career of teaching at the University of New Orleans, she retired as a distinguished professor of children's literature. She is the winner of several awards for her professional accomplishments, most notably the Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher of the Year in 1972, the Distinguished Faculty Award, L.S.U. Alumni Association in 1983, and the Essae M. Culver Society Award from the Louisiana Library Association in 1989.

Ms. Salley has traveled the world, spreading her *joie de vivre* as an ambassador of reading and oral tradition. She has made presentations in many foreign countries: China, Thailand, Egypt, Austria, Germany, the Netherlands, and Canada to name a few.

The author of three tales of Epossumondas, Coleen continues to delight readers of all ages with her stories and effervescent personality. She appears every year at the New Orleans Jazz Festival where she can be found telling stories in the Children's Tent. Her infectious personality captures readers and friends alike as she spreads the joy of reading and life to all those around her.



JANET STEVENS

An award-winning illustrator, Janet Stevens was born in Dallas, Texas, to a military family. As such, she moved with her family numerous times and was exposed to many different cultures as a child. She believes that her passion for art grew from this nomadic lifestyle. The youngest of three children, Stevens describes her brother and sister as "very smart." She says, "I did not do as well as they did in math or reading, but I was best at drawing." Though she did not believe her work was remarkable as a child, she has since gone on to win awards for her charming characters and engaging animal illustrations.

After graduating from college, Stevens worked in a variety of graphics positions, including designing Hawaiian textile prints. When she showed her original drawings to industry experts, she was told that her artwork was well-suited for children's books. In 1978 she was offered her first contract to illustrate the chapter headings and cover of a collection of holiday poems. She has been illustrating books for over 25 years, and her style of art has evolved during that time. She enjoys experimenting with new techniques and now incorporates computers into her illustrating process.

Her books have been honored with numerous awards. *And the Dish Ran Away with the Spoon* (2001) is an American Library Association Notable Book, a New York Public Library 100 Best Books for Reading and Sharing, and was a Children's Book of the Month selection. *Tops & Bottoms*, which she adapted and illustrated, received a 1996 Caldecott Honor. An author as well as an illustrator, she has collaborated with her sister, Susan Stevens Crummel, on several books, such as *Jackalope* (2003) and *Plaidypus Lost* (2004). She is the illustrator of the *Epossumondas* tales and drew on Coleen Salley as the inspiration for Epossumondas' momma, as well as for the main character in *To Market, To Market* (2002).



SCOTT COOK

Scott Cook reflects that Tennyson's expression "I am a part of all I have met" describes his life. As a native Mississippian and current resident of Sandwich, Mass., he has had the advantage of educational opportunities from various regions of the country. Art lessons from childhood and his participation in little theater productions influenced the course of his formal education. He graduated from Mississippi College in 1974, and continued to study different forms of art, attending The Cape School of Art in Massachusetts, Frudakis Academy in Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, and Haystack Mountain School of Crafts in Maine. These experiences have made him a teacher, artist, and illustrator of children's picture books.

Cook has an impressive list of accomplishments. His first book, *The Gingerbread Boy* (1987), was a *School Library Journal* Best Book of the Year and a *Booklist* Editors' Choice. *Nettie Jo's Friends* (1989), written by Patricia McKisack, was *Parenting Magazine* Best Book of 1989. In 1990, he received a silver medal from the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators and was one of a handful of children's book artists chosen to represent the United States at the Bratislava Biennale in Czechoslovakia. His art has been exhibited at Tiffany and Company New York City, including his Mother Goose and Frog marionettes. The cover of Cook's *Mother Goose* (1994) was featured in this exhibit, as were original paintings from *Nettie Jo's Friends*. *With a Whoop and a Holler* (1998) was a YALSA Notable Book and chosen for the Chicago Public Library Best of the Best List.

Today, Cook enjoys working on landscapes and still-life paintings. He continues to travel to schools and conferences, displaying his art and sharing his love of illustrating with children and adults.

The Ezra Jack Keats Lecture

Ezra Jack Keats (1916-1983) is internationally recognized as one of the most influential creators of picture books in the 20th century. He was author and illustrator of more than 20 books and provided the illustrations for an additional 63 titles in a distinguished career that spanned four decades. The Caldecott-winning *The Snowy Day* (Viking, 1962) was revolutionary by sympathetically dealing with the experiences of an African-American child. This multi-racial and urban world was beautifully reflected in many of his other books. Although comfortable and adept with many mediums, Keats is justly remembered as a true master of collage. His technique of using such favorite characters as Peter, Louie, and Willie in a series of stories is just one reason why the stories of Ezra Jack Keats continue to be loved by children of all ages.

The University of Southern Mississippi is very proud that Ezra Jack Keats was the 12th recipient of the Southern Miss Medallion for outstanding contributions to children's literature. In 1985, the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation established the Ezra Jack Keats Lectureship at the annual Children's Book Festival. Since then, the lectures have been given by the following distinguished individuals:

1985 Brian Alderson	1997 Ann Lundin
1987 Betsy Hearne	1998 Roger Sutton
1988 Nancy Hands	1999 Susan Hirschman
1989 Ellin Greene	2000 Richard Peck
1990 Michael Patrick Hearn	2001 Patsy Perritt
1991 Dorothy Butler	2002 Barbara Elleman
1992 Ann Thwaite	2003 Eliza Dresang
1993 Anita Moss	2004 Eric Kimmel
1994 Anita Silvey	2005 E.B. Lewis
1995 Selma Lanes	2006 Floyd Dickman
1996 Leonard Marcus	



director of Harper's Department of Books for Boys and Girls for more than 30 years. He has also assumed the responsibility of documenting children's literary and artistic history in *Side by Side: Five Picture-Book Teams Go to Work* (2001), *Pass It Down: Five Picture-Book Families Make Their Mark* (2007); and in *The Wand in the Word: Conversations with Writers of Fantasy* (2006).

In addition to profiles of prominent figures in children's literature and publishing, Marcus has also contributed children's books of his own. His latest effort, *Oscar: the Big Adventure of a Little Sock Monkey* (2006), won the 2007 Oppenheim Toy Portfolio Platinum Best Book Award.

Marcus has been a contributing editor to *Parenting* magazine since 1988 and directed the *Parenting* Best Book of the Year Awards for almost 20 years. He is the literary director of the Night Kitchen Radio Theater and a founding trustee of the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art.

He and his wife, author Amy Schwartz, have one son, Jacob. They live in Brooklyn, N.Y.

The Fay B. Kaigler-Ruth Lamont Award

The first presentation of the Kaigler-Lamont Award was made in 1998. The generous financial support of Fay Kaigler of McComb, Miss., has made the award possible. Miss Kaigler is well-known for her love of children and devoted herself for many years as an elementary school teacher to enhancing books and reading in the lives of children. Her students were soon hooked on books. In retirement, she continues to promote books and reading in her local public library. Her dear friend, Ruth Lamont, who for many years was a successful school librarian in Baton Rouge, La., shares her passion for making books integral to children's lives.

The Kaigler-Lamont Award recognizes distinguished accomplishments in promoting children's reading by librarians and teachers in Mississippi schools and by children's librarians in the public libraries of Mississippi.

RECIPIENTS OF THE KAIGLER-LAMONT AWARD

1998	Mattie Rials, Children's Librarian, Pike-Amite-Walthall Public Library System, McComb
1999	Lawana Cummings, Library Media Specialist, St. Martin East Elementary, Ocean Springs and Charjean Graves, Library Media Specialist, William Jones Elementary School, Hattiesburg
2000	Sybil Hanna, Children's Librarian, Jackson Hinds County Public Library, Jackson
2001	Sherry Donald, Library Media Specialist, Oxford Elementary School, Oxford
2002	Linda E. Sikes, Library Media Specialist, Beechwood Elementary School, Vicksburg
2003	Gerrie Ann Weldon, Library Media Specialist, Bayou View Elementary School, Gulfport
2004	Vickie Ross, Branch Manager of the Okolona Carnegie Library in the Dixie Regional Library System
2005	Victoria Penny, Youth Services Coordinator at the First Regional Library System
2006	Carol Phares, Assistant Director and Children's Librarian, Pearl River County Library System



LEONARD MARCUS

Born in Mount Vernon, N. Y., Leonard Marcus believes that he has always been a writer. While on researching the effects of literature on children throughout history, his attention turned to the illustrations found in picture books. He realized then that the best children's book illustrations are wonderful works of art, worthy of the highest regard. He has since spent his career critiquing, researching, and recording the history of children's publishing.

Marcus has been a well-regarded critic and historian of children's publishing for many years. Starting with *Margaret Wise Brown: Awakened by the Moon* (1992), he has offered intriguing glimpses into the minds of some of the most notable and creative figures in children's literature. *A Caldecott Celebration: Six Artists and Their Paths to the Caldecott Medal* (1998) is based on interviews with Robert McCloskey, Marcia Brown, Maurice Sendak, William Steig, Chris Van Allsburg, and David Wiesner. He compiled and edited the letters of Ursula Nordstrom in *Dear Genius* (1998), a history of the visionary

2007 Concurrent Session Presenters

Ann Mulloy Ashmore is a reference and instruction librarian at Delta State University in Cleveland, Miss. Prior to earning her master's degree in library and information science at Louisiana State University, Ann worked for four years at the de Grummond Collection. Currently she is working on a book for Scarecrow Press on civil rights in literature for youth.

Catherine Balkin was the director of Library Promotion at HarperCollins for nearly 14 years, setting up author appearances in schools and libraries and handling all activities and events relating to HarperCollins' participation in institutional conferences. Starting her own business in 2004, she now works as a booking agent for more than 70 authors and artists.

Onva Boshears is professor emeritus of the School of Library and Information Science and a former director of the Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival. He was the recipient of the 1998 Outstanding Achievement Award from the Mississippi Library Commission.

Floyd C. Dickman is a freelance specialist in children's literature. In 2000 he retired from the State Library of Ohio and is currently an adjunct professor at Kent State University and Ohio Dominican University. He is an active member of the Association for Library Services to Children and REFORMA. A member of the Caldecott Committee in 1986, 1994 and 2002, Floyd was named the 1990 Ohio Librarian of the Year by the Ohio Library Association.

Sharon Arms Doucet has a bachelor's and master's in French. She taught French and English as a Second Language for many years before finally going back to her early dream of being a writer. She studied with such Louisiana-based writers as Ernest Gaines and Robert Olen Butler and recently earned her Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing from the Stonecoast Program at the University of Southern Maine.

Dee Jones was the curator of the de Grummond Collection at The University of Southern Mississippi for many years. She is currently the head of Cataloging at the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center Library.

Carrel Muller Gueringer is a pre/lower school librarian at the Academy of the Sacred Heart in New Orleans. She is a published author and Louisiana's Regional Advisor for the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, the organization that awards the Golden Kite Award. She also teaches Writing Children's Literature at the University of New Orleans.

June Lacanski and Rochelle Sides-Renda are graduates of the University of Alabama School of Library and Information Science. They have worked as children's specialists in Birmingham-area libraries for more than 40 years combined. They estimate that they have designed and implemented over 15 gazillion summer reading programs in their combined careers.

Robert Little is president of Solutions Training & Development, LLC. He is a nationally recognized, award-winning, motivational speaker/trainer and author. Robert travels the country delivering skill-packed training and motivational speeches for Fortune 500 companies, small businesses, nonprofits, government agencies, educational institutions and youth organizations.

Angie Manfredi is a graduate student in library and information science at The University of Southern Mississippi.

Dr. Jamie Campbell Naidoo has over eight years experience working in public and school libraries. He has been an elementary school library media specialist and the director of children's services in a public library. He is an assistant professor at the University of South Carolina's School of Library and Information Science and conducts research into various aspects of multicultural children's literature.

Maurine Philpot teaches 11th grade English and journalism at Perry Central High School in New Augusta, Miss. She is a South Mississippi Writing Project Teacher Consultant and two-time graduate of the site's Summer Institute. An occasional columnist for the Hattiesburg American newspaper, Maurine enjoys writing about the ambiguities of life and lessons learned through "moments of grace."

Dr. Ellen Ramp is a graduate student in curriculum and instruction at The University of Southern Mississippi.

Beth Richmond is an associate clinical professor in the College of Education and Psychology at The University of Southern Mississippi. She received her doctorate from Southern Miss in elementary education/reading and special education.

Dr. Eric Tribunella is assistant professor of English at The University of Southern Mississippi. He has a Master of Arts from the University of Florida and a doctorate from The City University of New York Graduate Center. His research and teaching interests include children's and young adult literature, as well as critical theory. He was the recipient of the 2006 Article Honor Award from the Children's Literature Association.

Kevin Clark Walker, M.Ed., NBCT-ECG, has 10 years' experience in early childhood settings. These settings have included both the regular and music classrooms in both domestic and international arenas. He is currently working on his doctorate at The University of Southern Mississippi.

Diane Williams is a storyweaver, keeper of treasured tales, collector of phrases, and a griot. As a griot, she shares stories from books, history, myths, legends, and folktales. Many of her stories are original. In 1999, Diane was a finalist in the National Storytelling Awards Contest. In 2002, she received a storytelling research grant from the National Storytelling Network. That same year, she received the National Storytelling Network's Oracle Award for Regional Leadership and Service. She founded the Mississippi Storyweavers Guild in 1994.

Sue Whitcomb is a graduate student in curriculum and instruction at The University of Southern Mississippi. She received her master's in reading at Southern Miss and is a reading specialist by trade. She is interested in the diversity of our country and its many cultures

The de Grummond Children's Literature Collection

The de Grummond Children's Literature Collection is one of North America's leading research centers in the field of children's literature. While the collection has many strengths, the main focus is on American and British children's literature, historical as well as contemporary.

The collection holds original materials and published works in the McCain Library and Archives on the Hattiesburg campus of The University of Southern Mississippi.

The collection is named for Dr. Lena Y. de Grummond, who founded the collection in 1966. She assembled materials that were sent by contributors from around the world. More than 1,200 artists, illustrators, and collectors have generously donated books and original materials to the collection.

A major acquisition is that of the Ezra Jack Keats collection. The original artwork, typescripts, dummies, and preliminary sketches for 36 books by the Caldecott Award-winning author/illustrator complement the archives of his personal and professional papers already housed in the de Grummond Collection.

Please visit the de Grummond exhibit room located on the 2nd floor of Cook Library, which contains highlights from the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection as well as from the past 40 years of the Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival. Collection curator Ellen Ruffin will be presenting gallery talks in the exhibit room Wednesday, March 28 from 4:30 to 5 p.m. and Friday, March 30 from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

Ellen Ruffin, Curator
de Grummond Children's Literature Collection
McCain Library and Archives
The University of Southern Mississippi
118 College Drive #5148
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001
601.266.4349

Children's Book Festival Speakers, 1968-2007

Arnold Adoff
Jon Agee
Brian Alderson
Valerie Alderson
Aliki
Lee Ames
Berthe Amoss
Nancy Anderson
Kathi Appelt
Jose Aruego
Patricia Austin
Avi
Thomas J. Aylesworth

Molly Bang
Liz Ann Barber
Kathy Barco
Pam Barron
Caroline Bauer
Marion Dane Bauer
Kay Bishop
Quentin Blake
Elizabeth Bowne
Carolyn Brodie
Bruce Brooks
Ashley Bryan
Barbara Bryant

Judy Broadus Bullock
Dorothy Butler
Eric Carle
Carroll Case
Betty Cavanna
Tony Chen
Beverly Cleary
Esmé Codell
Evelyn Coleman
Carroll Coley
Bryan Collier
Pam Conrad
Scott Cook

Floyd Cooper
Barbara Corcoran
Bruce Coville
Donald Crews
Chris Crutcher
Pat Cummings
Floyd Dickman
Tomie de Paola
Carol Doll
Sharon Draper
Eliza Dresang
Mary K. Eakin
Richard Egelski
Barbara Elleman
Ed Emberley
Carol Evans
Tom Feelings
Denise Fleming
Paula Fox
Russell Freedman
Barbara Freeman
Jean Fritz
Chuck Gale
Patricia Lee Gauch
Jean Craighead George
Charles Ghigna
Faye Gibbons
Ellin Greene
Bette Greene
David S. Halacy
Gail Haley
Mary Hamilton
Virginia Hamilton
Nancy Hands
Michael Patrick Hearn
Betsy Hearne
Kevin Henkes
Susan Hirschman
Tana Hoban
Will Hobbs
Bonnie Holder
Lee Bennett Hopkins
Robert Hubbard
Sylvia Hubbard
Irene Hunt
Trina Schart Hyman

Anne Izard
William Joyce
Jean Karl
Erza Jack Keats
Steven Kellogg
Eric Kimmel
Margaret Mary Kimmel
Debra King
Elaine Konigsburg
Joseph Krumboltz
Karla Kuskin
Barbara LeCroy
Betsy Lewin
Ted Lewin
E.B. Lewis
Robert Lipsyte
Anita Lobel
Arnold Lobel
Lois Lowry
Anne Lundin
David Macaulay
Patricia MacLachlan
Leonard Marcus
James Marshall
Jill May
Ann McConnell
Emily Arnold McCully
Barney McKee
Pat & Fred McKissack
Bruce McMillan
May McNeer
Milton Meltzer
Eve Merriam
Barry Moser
Anita Moss
Walter Dean Myers
Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
Elizabeth Nichols
Kevin O'Malley
Iona Opie
Peggy Parish
Laurie Parker
Katherine Paterson
Kate Pearce
Richard Peck
Patsy Perritt

Peggy Pfeffer
Mary Anderson Pickard
Jerry Pinkney
Lillie Pope
Martin Pope
Jack Prelutsky
Robert Quackenbush
James Rice
Bruce Roberts
Evester Roper
Pam Muñoz Ryan
Robert Sabuda
Rose Anne Saint. Romain
Coleen Salley
Jan Scott
Anita Silvey
Peter Sis
Esphyr Slobodkina
Sonya Sones
Frances Lander Spain
Peter Spier
Jay Stailey
Janet Stevens
Whitney Stewart
Eric Suben
Zena Sutherland
Roger Sutton
Ann Thwaite
Alan Tiegreen
Tim Tingle
Jeanne Titherington
Chris Vinsonhaler
Rosemary Wells
Irving Werstein
Maureen White
Nancy Willard
Deborah Wiles
Mo Willems
Garth Williams
Vera Williams
Kathryn Tucker Windham
Diane Wolkstein
Jane Yolen
Herbert S. Zim
Paul Zindel
Charlotte Zolotow

Members of the Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival Advisory Board

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Ellen Ruffin, Curator of the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection, The University of Southern Mississippi McCain Library and Archives

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Dr. Mary Cissell, Assistant Professor, The University of Southern Mississippi School of Library and Information Science

Floyd Dickman, Board Member, Association for Library Service to Children

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Dr. Teri Lesesne, Associate Professor, Sam Houston State University Department of Library Science

Anne Morrison, Librarian, El Paso School District (ret.)

Melissa Wright, Instructor, The University of Southern Mississippi School of Library and Information Science

Children's Book Review Center

More than 2,500 recently published books for children and young adults are available for examination and review at The University of Southern Mississippi Children's Book Review Center. Students in education and library science classes, faculty members, and participants in the Children's Book Festival are invited to visit the Center, which is sponsored by the School of Library and Information Science.

PARTICIPATING PUBLISHERS

Aladdin Books	Fitzhenry & Whiteside	Puffin Books
Albert Whitman & Co.	Free Spirit Publishing	Quail Ridge
Alfred A. Knopf	G. P. Putnam's Sons	R & S Books
Amistad	Greenwillow	Random House
Amulet	Greenwood Press	Regan Books
Ann Schwartz	Gulliver Books	Richard Jackson
Anchor	Grosset & Dunlap	Scholastic
Arthur A. Levine	Harcourt	SeaStar Book
Atheneum	Harper	Shambala
Avon	Harry N. Abrams	Silver Whistle
Ballantine	Henry Holt & Company	Simon & Schuster
Bantam	Holiday House	St. Martin's Griffin
Blackbirch Press	Houghton Mifflin	Stewart, Tabori & Chang
Bloomsbury	Hyperion Books	Sunburst
Blue Earth Books	Innovative Kids	The Modern Library
Blue Sky Press	Joanna Cotler Books	Thistledown Press
Boyd's Mill Press	Katherine Tegen Books	Thomson
Bridgestone Press	Kid Haven Press	Three Rivers Press
Broadway Books	Laura Geringer Books	Tom Doherty Associates
Byron Preiss	Laurel-Leaf Books	Viking Press
Capstone Books	Lee & Low Books	Villard
Clarion Books	LifeMatters	Voyager Books
Clarkson Potter	Little, Brown & Co.	Walker & Company
Cliff Street Books	Magic Carpet Books	Walter Lorraine Books
Cricket Books	Marshall Cavendish	Warner Books
Crown Publishers	Melanie Kroupa	Watson-Guptill
David Fickling Books	Metropolitan Books	Wendy Lamb Books
Delacorte Press	Michael di Capua Books	Windsong
Dell Yearling	Morrow Junior Books	Winslow Press
Dial Books	Odyssey Young Classic	Wordsong
Disney Press	One World	Yellow Umbrella Books
Dorling Kindersley	Orchard	
Doubleday	Pantheon Books	
Dutton Children's Books	Parachute Press	
Farrar Straus and Giroux	Pebble Books	

The History of the Children's Book Festival at The University of Southern Mississippi

In 1968, Dr. Warren Tracy, chairman of the Library Science Department and university librarian for The University of Southern Mississippi, saw his vision for a children's literature conference come to life. The university, under the leadership of Dr. William D. McCain, and the Library Science department hosted the Conference on the Writing, Illustrating, and Publishing of Children's Books, the first of what soon became the annual Children's Book Festival.

Two years earlier, Dr. Lena de Grummond, professor of Library Science, with Dr. Tracy's blessing, had begun to procure early children's books to support the Library Science program. She spent countless hours writing to authors and illustrators of contemporary children's books to acquire original material for the library. Contributions of artwork and manuscripts flowed in from across the United States and Canada. Today, more than 1,200 authors and illustrators are represented in the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection.

In his original vision for a children's literature conference, Dr. Tracy saw the conference as a way to highlight the de Grummond Collection. That first conference in May 1968 was designed to announce the opening of the special children's literature collection. Librarians, teachers, parents, and other adults interested in promoting children's literature were invited for three days of exhibits, workshops, and panel discussions led by publishers and editors of children's books. Dr. Francis Lander Spain, past president of the American Library Association and former head of the children's department of the New York Public Library, spoke at the first evening session, which was open to the public.

In 1969, the conference became known as the "Children's Book Festival" and included an event that became an honored tradition – presentation of The University of Southern Mississippi Medallion, an award for distinguished service in the field of children's literature. A committee of professionals associated with children's literature selects the recipient each year. Unique among literary prizes, the medallion is awarded for an individual's total body of work, rather than for one particular work, and each medallion is different. Cast in silver for the recipient and for permanent display in the de Grummond Collection and in bronze for wider distribution, a profile of the honoree is engraved on the face, or obverse, of the medallion, and an illustration from the honoree's work is engraved on the reverse side. Since the first award to author Lois Lenski at the Second Annual Children's Book Festival, the Southern Miss Medallion has been presented to an outstanding array of children's authors and illustrators.

Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, the festival came into its own. Dr. Tracy continued to attract out-of-state writers and illustrators, enhancing the festival's reputation. From 1977 to 1980, Dr. Onva K. Boshears served as director of the festival. Dr. Jeannine Laughlin-Porter assumed the directorship in 1980. That was the year Ezra Jack Keats, internationally acclaimed author and illustrator for children, was invited to accept the Southern Miss Medallion. Following his visit, Keats became one of the strongest supporters of the Children's Book Festival and the de Grummond Collection. Since his death, the university has acquired his personal and professional papers, original artwork, typescripts, and dummies and preliminary sketches for 36 of his books. The materials are now housed in the de Grummond Collection. In 1985, the Keats Foundation established an Ezra Jack Keats lectureship, with Barbara Cooney as the artist honoree and Brian Alderson as the first Keats lecturer. In years since, the lecture has become a highly regarded feature of the festival. Children's Authors Speak, a collection of speeches compiled by Dr. Laughlin-Porter and Sherry Laughlin, was published in 1993 and includes a number of Keats lectures, as well as speeches by Southern Miss Medallion honorees.

Dr. Boshears, during Dr. Laughlin-Porter's directorship of the festival, continued to work closely with her and chaired the Medallion Selection Committee through spring 1993. In 1994, he resumed directorship of the festival and continued as director until his retirement in 2001. Dr. Rosemary Chance, an assistant professor in the School of Library and Information Science, became the director of the festival in 2002. Upon Dr. Chance's retirement in 2004, Dr. Catharine Bomhold became the director of the Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival.

In 1998, Miss Fay B. Kaigler, a retired elementary school teacher and native Mississippian, generously funded the first Kaigler-Lamont Award to be given for distinguished service to children by a librarian or teacher. On December 5, 2001, the festival was renamed in honor of Miss Kaigler, who contributed a planned gift to the festival in excess of \$1.1 million. Miss Kaigler, a longtime supporter of the festival and the university, taught in the public schools of California and Mississippi for 33 years, instilling the importance of reading in her students. She first attended the festival at the invitation of her friend Ruth Lamont, a children's librarian from Baton Rouge. Over the years the two traveled to Hattiesburg each spring to participate in the festival. Although she is a graduate of Louisiana State University, Miss Kaigler's love of reading and children drew her to Southern Miss through the festival. Her gift to the university will continue the festival's tradition of encouraging writers to strive for excellence in children's literature and of providing information to teachers and librarians.

From its modest beginning of 100 participants, the Children's Book Festival has grown to hundreds of participants representing 22 states. Originally organized to promote the de Grummond Collection, the festival has come into its own. Both the festival and the de Grummond Collection continue to evolve together for the advancement of children's literature, and, year after year, enthusiastic supporters of children's literature come together to celebrate the joy of children's books.

CREDITS

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The University of Southern Mississippi School of Library and Information Science

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Karen Boney

The University of Southern Mississippi School of Library and Information Science
Special Events Coordinator, de Grummond Children's Literature Collection

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Jim F. Clark

President, Clark Systems Corporation, Fayetteville, Ga.

Special Thanks

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI FAY B. KAIGLER CHILDREN'S BOOK FESTIVAL EXPRESSES APPRECIATION TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SUCCESS OF THE 2007 FESTIVAL.

Dr. Shelby Thames, President, The University of Southern Mississippi

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Fay B. Kaigler, McComb, Mississippi

Ruth Lamont, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Dr. Martin Pope, Dr. Lillie Pope, Dr. Deborah Pope, and the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation

LSSA, the student association of the School of Library and Information Science, The University of Southern Mississippi

Members of the Medallion Selection Committee

Members of the Kaigler-Lamont Award Selection Committee

Members of the **Advisory Board**

Wendell's Inc. of Ramsey, Minnesota, for creating and casting the Southern Miss Medallion

Jessica Sherman, former student worker at the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection. Thanks for the new logo!

Volunteer coordinators Micah Walker, Naomi Hurtienne, and Heather Weeden

Faculty, staff, and students of the School of Library and Information Science, The University of Southern Mississippi, particularly the following who helped produce this program:

Angie Manfredi
Ashley Bailey
Dena Davis
Tiwari Goins
Jane Johnson

Patty Johnson
Ashley Roach
Rachel Smith
Halima Welch
Deborah White



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