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Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival Programs

2003

Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival

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*The
36th
Annual*



Fay B. Kaigler
Children's Book Festival

School of Library and Information Science

and the

de Grummond Children's Literature Collection

The University of Southern Mississippi

April 2-4, 2003

History of the Children's Book Festival

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 USM 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 USM 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 USM 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.

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 17 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.

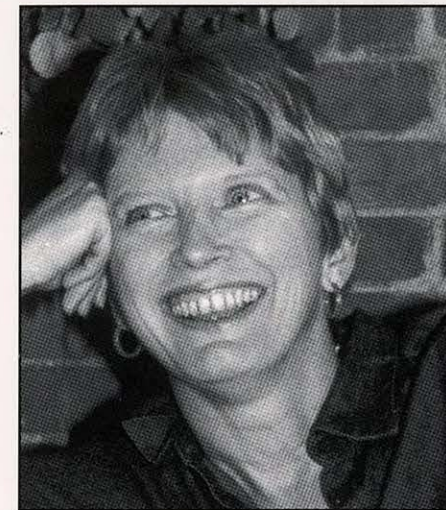
The University of Southern Mississippi Medallion

Awarding The University of Southern Mississippi Medallion is the highlight of the Children's Book Festival. This year's recipient is Lois Lowry. 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, and for the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection's permanent display. In addition, a number of bronze medallions are cast and are available for purchase during the festival.



Past Recipients of the Medallion

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



LOIS LOWRY

We are pleased to honor critically acclaimed author Lois Lowry as the recipient of the 35th annual The University of Southern Mississippi Medallion. We are not alone in honoring Lowry for her writing – she has twice received the prestigious Newbery Medal from the American Library Association for *Number the Stars* in 1990 and four years later for *The Giver*. Other organizations recognizing her brilliance include the International Reading Association, the National Jewish Libraries, the Christophers, the Boston Globe and Horn Book, and the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators.

Born in Hawaii in 1937, Lowry's family moved frequently since her father was a career military officer. As a child, Lowry lived in New York, Pennsylvania, Tokyo, and Rhode Island. After attending Brown University for just two years, Lowry married a Naval officer in 1956 and continued the repeated moves required of a military wife. The couple lived in California, Connecticut, Florida, South Carolina, and finally

Cambridge, Massachusetts, when her husband left the service. They eventually moved to Maine, where Lowry resumed her education, graduating from the University of Southern Maine.

By this time, Lowry was the mother of four children, and, despite all odds, found time to begin the writing career she had dreamed of as a child. Her first book, *A Summer to Die*, was published in 1977 and portrays an adolescent's struggle to deal with her older sister's illness and eventual death. Although fictionalized, the story stems from the emotions felt by Lowry when her older sister, Helen, died of cancer when Lowry was 25.

Although Lowry's 29 books vary in content and style, they all deal with the same general theme - the importance of human connections. She has been praised by critics for her ability to deal realistically with the concerns of young adults.

Some of Lowry's most popular books are those in the Anastasia series, featuring Anastasia Krupnik, her father Myron, mother Katherine, and her younger brother, Sam. The series begins with *Anastasia Krupnik* when the heroine is 10 years old. Eight books and many challenges later, Anastasia is 13 and immensely popular with young readers. Anastasia's brother, Sam, was born when she was 10 years old. Young readers requested more stories about Sam, so there are now four books dealing with his childhood adventures.

Single-parent family life is explored in three books about the Tate family – 11-year-old Caroline, her 13 year-old brother, J.P., and their mother Joanna solve problems with love and humor. Titles in this series are *The One Hundredth Thing about Caroline*, *Switcha round*, and *Your Move, J.P.!*

Thirteen years after her first children's book was published, Lowry received the Newbery Medal for *Number the Stars*, a chilling novel based on a factual account of the resistance movement in Nazi-occupied Denmark. A mere four years later, Lowry was honored once again with a Newbery Medal for *The Giver*, a powerful fantasy that describes a seemingly perfect society.

Like others writing for children and young adults, Lowry's words and concepts are often challenged by censors. Her problems with censorship began with her third published book, *Anastasia Krupnik*. Lowry was criticized for "irreverent references to Catholicism" and the use of a curse word. Her first book to receive the Newbery Medal, *Number the Stars*, also had a problematic use of the word "damn." Her most controversial book is *The Giver*, for which Lowry received a second Newbery Medal. The problem this time is not "dirty language," but rather a rebellious hero named Jason. In this utopian society there is no free will or individualism. Jason has to make a choice when he finally understands what sacrifices must be made to maintain his society.

Lowry's newest title, to be released in April 2003, is *Silent Boy*. It is the story of the precocious 10-year-old daughter of the town doctor who befriends a touched boy. Please visit www.loislowry.com for more information about her books, her thought-provoking speeches, and a compilation of frequently asked questions.

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, Mississippi, 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, Louisiana, 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, Saint Martin East Elementary School, 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

Members of the Kaigler-Lamont Award Selection Committee:

2003 Chair, William McMullen, librarian, Northeast Regional Libraries, Corinth, Mississippi

Dr. Elizabeth Haynes, assistant professor, The University of Southern Mississippi

Debra Marolt, teacher, West Corinth Elementary, Corinth, Mississippi

Ellen Ruffin, library media specialist, Rowan High School, Hattiesburg, Mississippi

Children's Book Festival Speakers, 1968-2002

Arnold Adoff	Tom Feelings	May McNeer
Jon Agee	Denise Fleming	Milton Meltzer
Brian Alderson	Barbara Freeman	Eve Merriam
Valerie Alderson	Russell Freedman	Barry Moser
Aliki	Jean Fritz	Walter Dean Myers
Lee Ames	Chuck Gale	Elizabeth Nichols
Berthe Amoss	Patricia Lee Gauch	Scott O'Dell
Nancy Anderson	Jean Craighead George	Iona Opie
Jose Aruego	Charles Ghigna	Peggy Parish
Patricia Austin	Faye Gibbons	Laurie Parker
Thomas J. Aylesworth	Bette Greene	Katherine Paterson
Molly Bang	David S. Halacy	Kate Pearce
Liz Ann Barber	Gail Haley	Richard Peck
Kathy Barco	Mary Hamilton	Patsy Perritt
Pam Barron	Virginia Hamilton	Peggy Pfeffer
Caroline Bauer	Kevin Henkes	Mary Anderson Pickard
Marion Dane Bauer	Tana Hoban	Lillie Pope
Kay Bishop	Will Hobbs	Martin Pope
Elizabeth Bowne	Bonnie Holder	Jack Prelutsky
Carolyn Brodie	Lee Bennett Hopkins	Robert Quackenbush
Bruce Brooks	Robert Hubbard	James Rice
Ashley Bryan	Sylvia Hubbard	Bruce Roberts
Barbara Bryant	Irene Hunt	Evester Roper
Judy Broadus Bullock	Trina Schart Hyman	Jan Scott
Dorothy Butler	Anne Izard	Esphyr Slobodkina
Eric Carle	William Joyce	Frances Lander Spain
Carroll Case	Jean Karl	Peter Spier
Betty Cavanna	Steven Kellogg	Jay Stailey
Tony Chen	Margaret Mary Kimmel	Whitney Stewart
Evelyn Coleman	Debra King	Eric Suben
Carroll Coley	Elaine Konigsburg	Zena Sutherland
Bryan Collier	Joseph Krungold	Alan Tiegreen
Pam Conrad	Karla Kuskin	Tim Tingle
Scott Cook	Barbara LeCroy	Jeanne Titherington
Barbara Cooney	Madeleine L'Engle	Chris Vinsonhaler
Floyd Cooper	Robert Lipsyte	Rosemary Wells
Barbara Corcoran	Anita Lobel	Irving Werstein
Donald Crews	Arnold Lobel	Maureen White
Chris Crutcher	Anne Lundin	Garth Williams
Pat Cummings	David Macaulay	Vera Williams
Tomie de Paola	Patricia MacLachlan	Kathryn Tucker Windham
Carol Doll	James Marshall	Diane Wolkstein
Mary K. Eakin	Jill May	Taro Yashima
Richard Egelski	Ann McConnell	Jane Yolen
Barbara Elleman	Emily Arnold McCully	Herbert S. Zim
Ed Emberley	Barney McKee	Paul Zindel
Carol Evans	Bruce McMillan	Charlotte Zolotow

36th Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival Program

"Featuring the best literature for children and young adults"
All events are in Hattiesburg Lake Terrace Convention Center, First Floor,
(except for the de Grummond Gallery Talk)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2

2 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Early Registration
Location: Lobby

2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Book Sales
Location: Lakeview I

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Concurrent Workshops (2)

Workshop 1: "Please pass the trombone": Poetry in the Classroom" (Quote from A Monster Is Bigger than 9)
Presenter: Nancy Willard

Workshop 2: "Adult Books and Teen Readers: A Winning Combination"
Presenter: Deb Taylor

5 p.m. - 6 p.m. Gallery Talk at de Grummond
Location: USM Campus, McCain Library, fourth Floor

Dinner on your own!

7 p.m. - 8 p.m. Storytelling: "Telling Stories, Creating Worlds"
Presenter: Mary Hamilton
Location: Exhibit Halls B and C

THURSDAY, APRIL 3

7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Registration
Location: Lobby

8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Book Sales
Location: Lakeview I Exhibits

9 a.m. - 10 a.m. Medallion Session: "Journey to an Unknown Place"
Location: Exhibit Halls B and C
Speaker: Lois Lowry

10 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Refreshment Break
Location: Central Hallway

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. General Session - "The Tree of My Life"
Location: Exhibit Halls B and C
Speaker: Peter Sis

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Luncheon: "The Road Ahead"
Location: Exhibit Hall A
Speaker: Sharon Draper

1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Autograph Session
Location: Hallways

1 p.m. - 2 p.m. Concurrent Workshops (2)
Workshop 3: "Audience Participation for K-3"
Presenter: Mary Hamilton

Workshop 4: "The International Language of Children's Literature"
Presenter: Dee Jones

2 p.m. - 3 p.m. Concurrent Workshops (2)
Workshop 5: "My Favorite New Books, New Authors and New Artists for Children"
Presenter: Coleen Salley

Workshop 6: "'You Gotta Read This!' Booktalking to Teens"
Presenter: Sean George

3:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. Gallery Talk at de Grummond
Location: USM campus, McCain Library, fourth Floor

Dinner on your own!

7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Dessert Reception
Location: Lake Terrace

FRIDAY, APRIL 4

7:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m. Registration
Location: Lobby

8 a.m. - noon Book Sales
Location: Lakeview I Exhibits

9 a.m. - 10 a.m. Ezra Jack Keats Lecture: "Radical Change: Celebrating 21st Century Children and Their Books"
Location: Exhibit Halls B and C
Speaker: Eliza Dresang

10 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Refreshment Break
Location: Central Hallway

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Autograph Session
Location: Hallways

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Gallery Talk at de Grummond
Location: USM campus, McCain Library, Fourth Floor

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Concurrent Workshops (2)
Workshop 7: "Reading from A to Z: Fun with Alphabet Books"
Presenter: Kathy Barco

Workshop 8: "Coming of Age with Diversity"
Presenter: Deborah Taylor

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Concurrent Workshops (2)
Workshop 9: "Reacting to Radical Reads"
Presenter: Eliza Dresang

Workshop 10: "Little Red Riding Hood Uncloaked: Sex, Morality, and the Evolution of a Fairy Tale"
Presenter: Catherine Orenstein

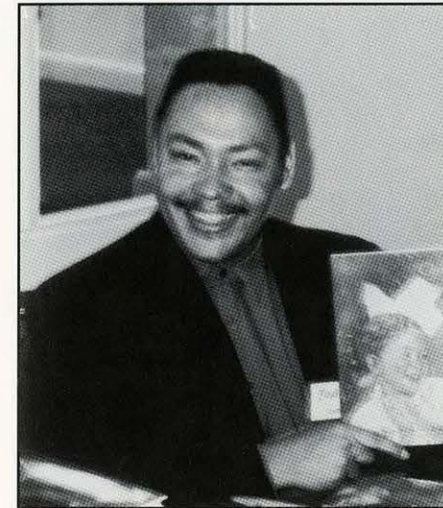
12:30 p.m. - 2 p.m. Luncheon: "Foundation of a Career"
Speaker: Floyd Cooper
Location: Exhibit Hall A

2 p.m. - 3 p.m. Concurrent Workshops (4)
Workshop 11: "From Morals to Munchkins: The Evolution of 19th Century Children's Literature"
Presenter: Dee Jones

Workshop 12: "Information Literacy Through Collaboration"
Presenter: Mary Beth Applin

Workshop 13: "Once Upon a Planet: A Space-themed Program"
Presenter: Kathy Barco

Workshop 14: "From Laughter to Tears: Running the Gamut of Young Adult Literature"
Presenter: Teri Lesesne



FLOYD COOPER

Floyd Cooper drew his first picture when he was three years old. "My father had just built a house," he told an interviewer for *BookPage* in 1994. "I picked up a piece of sheet rock and started scratching a really cool picture of a bird on the side of the house. [My father] didn't think it was too great, but I kept drawing because I couldn't stop."

After graduating from the University of Oklahoma in 1980 with a fine arts degree, Cooper began a career in advertising and freelance art. His first picture book in 1988, Eloise Greenfield's *Grandpa's Face*, earned him a Notable Book award from American Library Association. Since then he has published 48 picture books, including three which he authored himself, *Coming Home: From the Life of Langston*

Hughes (1994), *Mandela: From the Life of the South African Statesman* (1996), and *Cumbayah* (1998). His latest book, *Mississippi Morning*, by Ruth Vander Zee, is due out in September 2003.

Cooper's other awards include a 1990 Parents' Choice Award for *Laura Charlotte*, a collaboration with Kathryn Osebold Galbraith and the 1995 Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award for *Meet Danitra Brown* by Nikki Grimes.

Illustrating picture books for children is more than a profession to Cooper, as he states in a 1996 brochure: "My personal goal is to take the reader on a journey into the story, to get a sense of the smells, the atmosphere, and the emotions conveyed by the characters." He also looks for stories that address problems in our society which affect children. "I feel children are at the frontline in improving society. This might sound a little heavy, but it's true. I feel children's picture books play a role in counteracting all the violence and other negative images conveyed in the media."



SHARON DRAPER

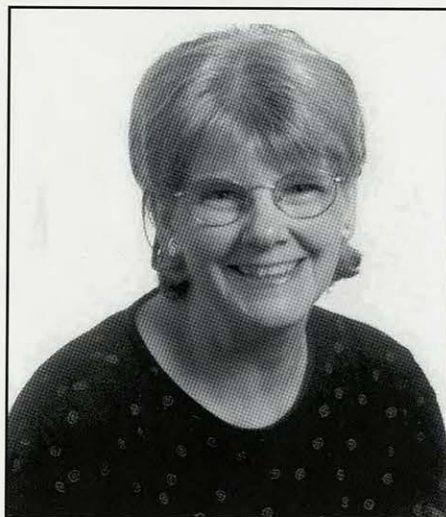
In her own words, Sharon Draper is "a creator, an educator, a visionary [who] approaches the world with the eyes of an artist, the ears of a musician, and the soul of a writer."

Draper has spent more than 30 years teaching junior high and high school students and was named the 1997 National Teacher of the Year. Because her students often rebelled when asked to read the assigned texts, Draper set out to write something for young people that would be exciting and contemporary, yet have a solid literacy base. The result was the award-winning *Tears of a Tiger*, published by Simon and Schuster in 1994. This title became the first volume of a trilogy that would eventually include *Forged by Fire* (1997) and *Darkness Before Dawn* (2001). Her body of work includes 10 books for children

and young adults, as well as several books that focus on teaching.

Sharon Draper travels extensively, discussing issues of literature, reading, and education. Her audiences include people of all ages in countries throughout the world. Her advanced degrees include the doctor of humane letters from the College of Mount Saint Joseph and the doctor of arts from Cincinnati State University. Her multitude of awards and honors include Ohio's Outstanding High School Language Arts Educator, Ohio Teacher of the Year, and Ohio Pioneer in Education. She is the recipient of the Excellence in Education Award, The Milliken Family Foundation National Educator Award, the Dean's Award from Howard University School of Education, the Pepperdine University Distinguished Alumnus Award, the Marva Collins Education Excellence Award, and the Governor's Educational Leadership Award.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, Draper now lives in Cincinnati with her husband and golden retriever, Honey. Visit her Web site at sharondraper.com and find out her favorite color, what she eats for breakfast, whether she can cook and sew, and the worst hotel in which she has ever stayed.



ELIZA DRESANG

Our 2003 Keats Lecturer is as familiar with the publishing world as she is with a college campus. Dr. Eliza Dresang is a professor at Florida State University's School of Information Studies, where she teaches courses in the management of information organizations. Dresang's primary areas of research interest are intellectual access to information, information seeking behavior, and diffusion of innovation, particularly as related to multimedia, networked information systems, and handheld digitally-influenced resources. She has developed an analytical approach to resources for youth known as "radical change." She has published extensively in this area, including her book *Radical Change: Books for Youth in a Digital Age* (Wilson, 1999). Dresang has also written one book for youth, *The Land and People of*

Zambia, which was named as an outstanding social studies book of the year.

Dresang received her bachelors of arts degree from Emory University, her master of library science degree from the University of California at Los Angeles, and her doctorate in library and information studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Prior to her appointment at FSU, she served as director of library technology and communication in the Madison Metropolitan School District for 16 years. In her first two years at FSU, Dresang served as the school's learning resource coordinator, overseeing the setup of the school's computer labs and participating in the initial development of its Web-based instruction. She also developed the Web-based internship program. Dresang is an active member of the American Library Association (ALA), where she serves on the Executive Board of the Association for Library Service for Children and the ALA Council. Intellectual freedom is a major focus of her professional involvement and she has particular interest in the ethnic and cultural information needs of children and young adults and in the instructional role of the information specialist in all libraries.

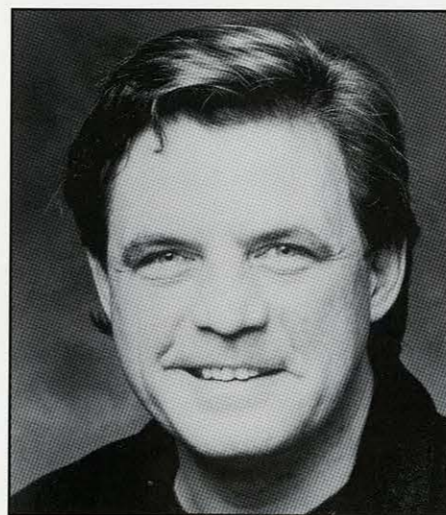


MARY HAMILTON

Mary Hamilton grew up on a family farm in Meade County, Kentucky, in the 1950s. Her childhood was typical of a rural youngster, revolving around family, the farm, school, and church. Her love of reading led her to enroll at the University of Kentucky, where she received a bachelor of science in secondary education in 1974. After graduation, she taught high school English for five years before receiving a master's in library science, also from the University of Kentucky, in 1979. She worked as a children's librarian for the Grand Rapids Public Library in Michigan from 1979 to 1983, when she began full-time work as a professional storyteller.

Hamilton has appeared at the National Storytelling Festival in Jonesboro, Tennessee; the Corn Island Storytelling Festival in Louisville, Kentucky; WinterTales in Oklahoma City; and the Florida Storytelling Camp. She also uses storytelling at professional conferences to set the stage for learning. Keynote venues include the National Storytelling Conference, Appalachian Educational Laboratory, and Clemson University's Professional Development Conferences for Women. In addition to her conference presentations, Hamilton leads workshops on storytelling technique and presentation skills. She spends nearly 300 days a year at storytelling residencies for schools in Florida, Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Missouri, and North Carolina.

With Cynthia Changaris, she cofounded Scheherazade's Legacy, producer of storytelling in education workshops and a supplier of storytelling resources. Hamilton's storytelling expertise can be enjoyed on the following audiocassettes: *The Winter Wife*, *1000 Ideas and Then Some*, *Some Dog and Other Kentucky Wonder Tales*, *Stepping Stones – Stories for Ages 4-10*, *Haunting Tales*, and *Sailing the Flying Ship: Stories and Thoughts on Navigating Life*.



PETER SÍS

An internationally acclaimed illustrator, author, and filmmaker, Peter Sís (pronounced cease) was born in Czechoslovakia in 1949. Sís attended the Academy of Applied Art in Prague and, later, the Royal College of Art in London, where he studied with Quentin Blake. Like his father before him, Sís became a filmmaker and won the Golden Bear Award at the Berlin Film Festival for his animated film, *Heads*.

Sís had hoped to combine his two loves – illustration and animation – by illustrating his own stories and turning them into animated films. A fortuitous meeting with author/illustrator Maurice Sendak led to an introduction to legendary Greenwillow art director Ava Weiss. A short time later, Sís started work on the illustrations for his first book, *Bean Boy*, by George Shannon, published in 1984.

Nearly 20 years and more than 55 books later, Sís' work has been recognized five times by The *New York Times* Best Illustrated Books of the Year and he has earned the Society of Illustrators' Silver and Gold Medal. Two of his books, *Starry Messenger* and *Tibet – Through the Red Box* were named Caldecott Honor Books in 1997 and 1999, respectively.

Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis first saw the work of Peter Sís in 1989. Later that same year, after a visit to the newly independent Czechoslovakia, Onassis contacted Sís and encouraged him to create a children's book about his homeland. With her encouragement, Sís produced *The Three Golden Keys*, the last book to be edited by Jacqueline Onassis before her death in May 1994.

In addition to illustrating stories of his own creation, Sís provides a magical artistic touch to the words of others. His illustrations complement the story of *The Whipping Boy*, written by Sid Fleischman, recipient of the 1987 Newbery Medal. Sís has also illustrated books by Jack Prelutsky, George Shannon, Kate Banks, and Jacques Taravant. Later this year, check your bookstores for Sís' newest titles: *Animal Sense* by Diane Ackerman and a book detailing the life of Charles Darwin.



NANCY WILLARD

Born in Ann Arbor, Michigan, in 1936, Nancy Willard had her first poem published at age 7. She also created miniature books, and in 1954 when she was a high school senior, *A Child's Star* was published in the *Horn Book* magazine. Although equally adept at both illustrating and writing, Willard concentrated on her first love – words. She had already received several honors for her writing, including merit awards in the *Atlantic Monthly* Creative Writing Contest for high school students.

After high school, Willard remained in Ann Arbor and received her bachelors of arts degree from the University of Michigan in 1958. Two years later she received an masters of arts degree in medieval literature at Stanford University, and finally in 1963, earned her doctorate in modern literature from the University of Michigan.

Before her first children's book was published in 1974, Willard already had several books of poetry for adults in print and was the recipient of the O.Henry Award for best short story in 1970. Willard is a multifaceted writer, equally at ease creating books of poetry, novels, picture books, fairy tales, and fantasy. *The Merry History of a Christmas Pie*, published in 1974, was her first book of poetry for children, followed by *Sailing to Cythera and Other Anatole Stories*, *Simple Pictures are Best*, *The Island of the Grass King*, and *Papa's Panda*, among many others.

A Visit to William Blake's Inn: Poems for Innocent and Experienced Travelers, illustrated by Alice and Martin Provensen, received the Newbery Medal in 1982, making it the first book of poetry to ever win this prestigious award. Recognizing

Willard's creative genius, her editors have always chosen the best illustrators to complement her words — Tomie de Paola, David McPhail, Leo and Diane Dillon, Emily McCully, Lillian Hoban, Jane Dyer, and Barry Moser.

Willard's creativity is revealed in all aspects of her writing, particularly her book titles, as evidenced by *Pish, Posh, Said Hieronymus Bosch*; *The Nightgown of the Sullen Moon*; *Starlit Somersault Downhill*; *The Moon & Riddles Diner and the Sunnyside Café*; and *The High Rise Glorious Skittle Skat Roarious Sky Pie Angel Food Cake*.

After more than 25 years, Willard continues to create magical and inspirational worlds for her readers. The future holds great promise with *The Mouse, the Cat and Grandmother's Hat* and *Cinderella's Dress* being released later in 2003, and *Sweep Dreams* illustrated by Mary GrandPré in 2004.

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 title *The Snowy Day* (Viking, 1962) was revolutionary in sympathetically dealing with the experiences of a black child. A multiracial 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 is very proud that Ezra Jack Keats was the 12th recipient of its medallion awarded for outstanding contributions to children's literature. In 1985, the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation established the Ezra Jack Keats Lectureship. Lectures have been given by the following individuals: '

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

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- Gathering Blue* by Lois Lowry. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2000.
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Workshop Presenters

- Mary Beth Applin, information services librarian, USM Libraries
- Kathy Barco, youth services coordinator, New Mexico State University
- Dr. Eliza Dresang, professor, Florida State University, and 2003 Keats Lecturer
- Sean George, youth services coordinator, Memphis/Shelby County Public Library and Information Center
- Mary Hamilton, professional storyteller, recording artist, and workshop leader, Kentucky
- Dee Jones, curator, de Grummond Children's Literature Collection, The University of Southern Mississippi
- Dr. Teri Lesesne, associate professor, Department of Library Science, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas
- Catherine Orenstein, author, New York City
- Coleen Salley, professor emerita and author, University of New Orleans
- Deborah Taylor, coordinator of school and student services, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Maryland
-

Members of the Medallion Selection Committee, 2003

- Chair, Dee Jones, curator, de Grummond Children's Literature Collection, The University of Southern Mississippi
- Brian Alderson, scholar, critic and former editor for children's books, *The Times* (London)
- Dr. Kay Bishop, associate professor, SUNY Buffalo, New York
- Dr. Carolyn Brodie, associate professor, Kent State University, Ohio
- Dr. Rosemary Chance, assistant professor, The University of Southern Mississippi
- Ilene Cooper, editor, Children's Books, *Booklist*, Chicago, Illinois
- Floyd Dickman, specialist in children's literature, Columbus, Ohio
- Sean George, youth services coordinator for Memphis/Shelby County Public Library and Information Center
- Dr. Elizabeth Haynes, assistant professor, The University of Southern Mississippi
- Deborah Taylor, coordinator of school and student services at the Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Maryland
- Dr. Maureen White, associate professor, University of Houston, Clear Lake, Texas
-

Children's Book Review Center

More than 3,000 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. The center is open at selected times during the Children's Book Festival.

Participating Publishers

Abrams	Frederick Warne	McElderry
Aladdin	Greenwillow	Morrow
Arcade	Harcourt Brace Jovanovich	Mulberry
Atheneum	Harper Keypoint	North-South
Bradbury Press	Harper Trophy	Peaceable Kingdom
Carolrhoda	HarperCollins	Pelican Publishing
Clarion Books	Henry Holt	Picture Book Studio
Collier	Houghton Mifflin	Puffin
Crestwood House	Joy Street/Little, Brown	Putnam & Grosset Group
Crowell	Knopf	Random House
Crowell/Abelard-Schuman	Knopf/Bullseye	Scholastic
Crown	Knopf/Dragonfly	Scribners
Dell/Laurel-Leaf Book	Lerner Publication	Seaver Books/Henry Holt
Dial Books	Lippincott	Sierra Club
EZ Nature	Little, Brown	Simon and Schuster
Farrar, Straus & Giroux	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard	Sports Illustrated for Kids
Four Winds	Macmillan	Viking Kestrel

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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. Although 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 its facility on the fourth floor of 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, author of several children's books, who founded the collection in 1966. She assembled materials that were sent by contributors from around the world. More than 1,200 people have generously donated books and original materials to the collection. In addition, holdings include 70,000 published books.

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.

For more information, please contact

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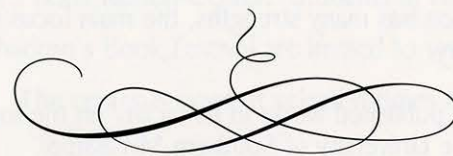
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