

# Asian Children's Writers & Illustrators Conference 2008

5 – 7 June | 8.30 a.m. – 6.00 p.m.  
National Library, 100 Victoria Street

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## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Professor Shirley Geok-lin Lim (USA)

Dr. Ken Spillman (Western Australia, AUS)

John Danalis (Queensland, AUS)

Joyce Dunbar (U.K.)

## SPEAKERS

Suchen Christine Lim

Rosemarie Somaiah

Selina Lee

Kelley Cheng

Emily Lim

Er Lai Kuan

Panna Kantilal

Adeline Foo

Lee Jin Pyn

Coonoor Kripalani

Shamini Flint (Plenary Moderator)

## CONFERENCE FEES

**Full conference package:** (Early Bird rate – deadline 5 May): S\$200 per person

**Full conference package:** S\$240 per person

**Two-day package:** S\$160 per person

**Single day package:** S\$80 per person

### Registration Fees

All prices are in Singapore dollars and GST inclusive.

### Full conference package includes:

- Participation in all conference sessions (5 & 6 June) and a masterclass (7 June)
- Book Launch & Networking event
- Morning and afternoon tea
- Lunch
- Conference folder
- Name badge

### Disclaimer

The speakers, topics, times, conference rates are correct at the time of publication. In the event of unforeseen circumstances, the ACWIC 2008 Organising Committee reserves the right to delete or alter items in the Conference program.

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6. Name badge

Allocation of seats will be strictly on a 'first come, first served' basis.

### Registration & Payment

Registration is on a first come first served basis upon receipt of registration form and payment.

To secure a place, payment should be made prior to the commencement of the conference.

### Cash payment

- Cash payment shall be made in person to the National Book Development Council of Singapore at Level 3, Geylang East Community Library, Geylang East Avenue 1, Singapore 389777. Office hours: Mondays to Fridays, 9.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

- An official receipt can be issued upon request. Please do not send cash by mail.

### Cheque Payment

- Payment can be made by cheque. Cheques must be made in Singapore currency, drawn on a Singapore Bank.

- All cheques are to be made payable to "NBDCS" before the conference.

- Please print name of delegate on the reverse side of the cheque and mail it with the registration form to the following address:

ACWIC 2008

National Book Development Council of Singapore

50 Geylang East Avenue 1 Singapore 389777

- Overseas delegates may pay by telegraphic transfer to the following account:

Account No. 006-007301-8, DBS Bank Ltd (Singapore),

Blk 123, Bukit Merah Lane 1, #01-78, Alexandra Village, Singapore 150123.

Swift Code DBSSSGSG.

Upon receipt of your registration, you are deemed to have read and understood the conference registration procedures and accepted the terms contained therein.

### **Substitution / Cancellations and Refund Policy**

- Substitutes are allowed, but the organisers would appreciate prior notification of at least 5 days before the conference. Please inform us in writing by 30 May 2008.
  - Cancellation received before or on 23 May, 2008: 75% refund.
  - Cancellation received after 23 May, 2008 or no notice: no refund.
  - If for reasons beyond the control of the organisers the conference is cancelled, registration fees will be refunded following deduction of unavoidable expenses
  - No refund will be given in case of no-show, late arrival, unused services, unattended events or early termination of attendance.
- All refunds will be processed after the conference.

### **Disclaimer**

All information is correct at time of printing. The conference organisers reserve the right to change speakers, events and/or session times, dates, prices and other details as necessary. At all times, delegates are responsible for their own conduct, actions and consequences.

## ACWIC 2008: Popularising Asian Children's Books Worldwide

### SPEAKERS

#### Professor Shirley Geok-lin Lim



Shirley Geok-lin Lim (Ph.D., British and American Literature, Brandeis University), Professor of English at the University of California, Santa Barbara, is the recipient of the Commonwealth Poetry Prize, two American Book Awards, Fulbright Distinguished Fellowships, and Wein International Fellowship. She has published six volumes of poetry, a memoir, two novels, two critical studies, and numerous refereed articles, and has edited/co-edited a number of anthologies. She has served as chair of Women's Studies at UCSB and Chair Professor of English at University of Hong Kong, and was Visiting Professorial Fellow at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies in 2007. Her young adult novel, *Princess Shawl* is just out with Maya Press.

#### Dr. Ken Spillman



With 23 books to his name, Dr Ken Spillman is one of Australia's most prolific authors, editors and critics. His work includes fiction for children, teenagers and adults; short film and documentary video scripts; poetry; history; travel writing; sports writing; and criticism. He studied media and literature at Griffith University in Brisbane and Murdoch University in Perth. Dr. Spillman has won or been shortlisted for numerous literary awards, and the US reference Contemporary Authors has compiled an entry on his career. His latest novel for teenagers, *Love is a UFO*, was published by Pan Macmillan in February 2007. Dr Spillman has taught at university and frequently conducts residencies and workshops at libraries, writers' centres and schools.

#### John Danalis



John Danalis is an Australian children's book writer and illustrator, book designer and storyteller. He is committed to working with young people and helping them to nurture the storyteller within. He is also a popular presenter and workshop tutor at schools. John and his partner Stella Danalis have their own design and illustration studio, Peripheral Vision. Now in its fifteenth year, and with almost 100 national awards behind them, their studio is 100% literature and publishing based. John's first picture book *Uncle Lou's Tattoos* was released in 2000 and since then he has written or illustrated six other titles.

## Joyce Dunbar



Joyce Dunbar was born in Lincolnshire and has an English degree from Goldsmiths' College, London and was for many years a teacher in the drama department at a college in Stratford-upon-Avon. She has written over seventy books for children. These include picture books for a range of ages, a series of short funny novels and a longer novel called *Mundo And The Weatherchild* which was runner up for The Guardian children's fiction award in 1986. Her books are translated into many languages, including Japanese, Zulu and Hebrew. She also wrote the *Mouse and Mole Stories* which have been animated for television. Joyce regularly visits schools as an author and teaches on creative writing courses on the Greek island of Skyros and elsewhere. She is currently a Writing Fellow of the Royal Literary Fund at the University of East Anglia and is working on a book for adults.

## Suchen Christine Lim



Prize-winning author, awarded the inaugural Singapore Literature Prize in 1992 for her novel, *Fistful of Colours*. Her fourth novel, *A Bit of Earth*, was short listed for the same prize in 2004. Suchen's other novels are *Ricebowl* and *Gift from The Gods*. Her latest book, *The Lies That Build A Marriage*, is a collection of short stories. Besides fiction, Suchen Christine Lim has written extensively for schools. 11 of her children's stories were published as Big Books by SNP Singapore for the Ministry of Education. In 1997, she was awarded a Fulbright fellowship to attend the International Writers' Program in the University of Iowa and returned as the university's International Writer-in-Residence in 2000. In 2005, she was writer-in-residence in Scotland, where she conducted writing sessions in Scottish schools. She has taught creative writing in Ateneo de Manila University, and has mentored Singapore students in the Creative Arts Programme and adult writers in the National Arts Council Mentor Access Programme.

## Kelley Cheng



Kelley Cheng is Editorial Director of Page One Publishing and Creative Director of Page One Group, Kelley graduated in 1994 with an honours degree in architecture, but went beyond her expertise to publish, as conceptualised and envisioned by her, the definitive design magazine from Asia – *ish* magazine, which has won the prestigious Design for Asia Award in 2005. Kelley serves on the advisory panel for many Singapore government organisations, including the National Art Gallery and Singapore Furniture Industry Council and as a judge in many international design competitions like the Singapore Design Awards and Design for Asia Award.

## Rosemarie Somaiah



Rosemarie Somaiah of Asian Storytelling Network tells stories in local and international schools, over the radio, in libraries and on the MRT. She has performed in Singapore, Scotland, Hong Kong, Hungary and India. Her books include *Gateway to Singapore Culture* (2004) by Asiapac Books; *Colours of Harmony* (2005), *Colours of Love* (2006) and *A Giving Heart* (2007) published by the Inter-Religious Harmony Circle; and *Indian Children's Favourite Stories* (2006) by Tuttle Publishing. Rosemarie leads The Storytellers' Circle of the Society for Reading and Literacy (SRL) and is a member of the Storytelling Association (Singapore) and Singapore Drama Educators Association (SDEA).

## Coonor Kripalani



Coonor Kripalani is the author of four unique, bright and cheerfully illustrated, bilingual (Hindi/English) books for pre-school children to learn the Hindi alphabet, numbers, colours and shapes. These are a new (2007) edition of her Hindi books published the year before.

Coonor is Honorary Research Fellow at the Centre of Asian Studies, University of Hong Kong. She is the author of a succinct biography of Mahatma Gandhi, and several peer-reviewed articles on popular Hindi film, published in academic journals. She lives in Singapore and continues research and writing on Hindi film and radio broadcasting in India, as well as pursuing her passion of creating beautiful bilingual books for children.

## Lee Jin Pyn



Hailed as a National Talent by Singapore's press and media authorities, Jin Pyn's debut picture book *The Elephant and the Tree* was named "a rare new classic", likened to Eric Carle's *A Very Hungry Caterpillar*. Not surprisingly, her work became the first Singapore literary content to be represented by acclaimed literary agency Sandra Dijkstra Literary Agency (whose successes include Amy Tan's *Joy Luck Club*, Maxine Hong Kingston's titles, and the recent *Skinny Bitch*). The title promptly picked up by Running Press, a subsidiary of Perseus Books, named Publisher of 2007 by U.S. *Publisher's Weekly*, remains one of the few from Singapore to garner international interest. Jin Pyn recently starred in one of the biggest Animal Planet's original productions aired globally.

## Emily Lim



Emily Lim is the author of *Prince Bear & Pauper Bear*, a winner of 2007's First Time Writers and Illustrators Publishing Initiative. The story is inspired by her personal setbacks, and motivated her to use her book for a meaningful purpose – her book launch raised close to \$10,000 for Club Rainbow (a charity for children with chronic illnesses). She self-published this children's illustrated book and is now looking for an international publisher for future reprints. She is presently working on her second book and is also a freelance writer and regular contributor to *Impact Magazine*, a Christian publication for working adults.

## Adeline Foo



Adeline first started writing to amuse her three children. Her first book, *Ben's Friends from the Rainforest*, won the First Time Writers & Illustrators Publishing Initiative award in 2006. The story about Camy and Supermonkey has also been adapted into a cartoon. Since then, Adeline has not stopped writing. Her children are definitely not complaining. She has published *Secret Hoarder*, *Lost in the Secret Garden* and *The Midnight Tree*.

## Panna Kantilal



Panna Kantilal is a Senior Librarian and she has been with the National Library Board for 12 years. She initially started work at the Bukit Merah Community Library and then she went on to work in the collection development department for children and young people's materials. She has ten years of experience in this field. She is also an avid storyteller.

## Er Lai Kuan



Er Lai Kuan is a Librarian with the National Library Board. She has been with the library for 12 years – eight years in the finance department and the past four years with the collection development department selecting materials for children and young people.

## Selina Lee



Selina Lee is the Senior Manager of Scholastic, who oversees Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore. She has been in the children book industry for over 7 years, and has wide and varied experience marketing children books in Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore.

Scholastic is the world's largest publisher and distributor of children's books, teaching resources and educational technology. The company creates quality educational and entertaining materials and products for use in school and at home, including children's books, technology-based products, teachers' resources and classroom educational materials. Since Scholastic's entrance into local markets, the company has evolved from being a publisher in the distant land of the US, to a publisher who knows our local needs.

## Shamini Flint (Plenary Moderator)



Shamini Flint is the author of the much-loved *Sasha* travel series as well as numerous other picture books including *Jungle Blues*, *Turtle takes a Trip* and her latest, *AT-Rex Ate My Homework*. Shamini, an ex-lawyer and stay-at-home mum, has sold over 50,000 books in the last few years from the UK to Australia and is really enjoying her career switch. New books in the pipeline for 2008 include *What Colour Were the Dinosaurs?* and *Party Time!*

## PROGRAMME

### Keynote 1

By Prof. Shirley Geok-Lin Lim

#### GROWING CHILDREN'S CREATIVE BONDS: HISTORY, FANTASY AND THE IN-BETWEEN

In an old nursery rhyme, the question goes, "Mary, Mary, quite contrary, how does your garden grow? With silver bells and cockle shell and pretty maids all in a row." This keynote asks instead, how do our children grow in a contrary world that is full of mixed messages, impossible goals, and conflicting values? A major resource to help our children develop their skills for a challenging future while still encouraging them to dream the impossible dream lies in books. But children need the right books for this complicated development, not simply more exam-oriented texts or technological how-to studies. The keynote will discuss some ways to encourage social and community identity-formation through children's literature specific to a new generation in Asian cultures. More particularly, the keynote address will look at the relationship between forms of imaginative storytelling, from the ways in which a country's history is narrated to forms of fantasy, and the in-between that forms the reservoir of a nation's Imaginary and so the earliest literary memories for the nation's children.

### Keynote 2

By John Danalis

#### A THIRST FOR FABLES; A HUNGER FOR MYTHS

Human kind is being starved of story – at least the nutritious kind!

John will discuss the need for meaningful story in an age when mythical traditions and life affirming fables have been bulldozed aside by rationalism and branded culture. Examining the growth of "outside the book" opportunities such as partnering with communities to create collaborative narratives, John will detail ways in which creators of children's literature can tap into new income streams and assume leadership and guiding roles in society.

Finally, John will share his thoughts on why Singapore is ideally situated to become a world fountainhead of children's literature.

### Keynote 3

By Dr. Ken Spillman

#### A CONSIDERATION OF CONTEMPORARY CHILDREN'S FICTION AND ITS RESPONSE TO THE OMNIPRESENCE OF VISUAL MEDIA AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION.

The appearance of books for young readers has changed dramatically over the last thirty years—gone are those boxy covers and dense black lines of print. Keynote speaker Dr Ken Spillman will explore these changes in the context of the rise of visual culture and the increasing visual literacy of children. He will argue that it is folly to ignore interrelationships between books and other media, and that the key to engaging young readers—particularly 'reluctant readers'—is to recognise patterns of reading that are emerging in digital societies. Exposure to DVDs, the Internet, communication by email, chat, message boards, phone sms and other new technology all influence the receptivity of children to books and the way they navigate texts.

Publishers are responding to these influences and engaging with new literacies in an evolving market. Rather than being supplanted by new media and forms of communication, books have maintained relevance and popularity by appropriating some of their attractions. The trend is

toward symbiosis, and Dr Spillman will suggest that teachers and parents can benefit from a better understanding of the place of books in the world of 21st century children.

#### Keynote 4

By Joyce Dunbar

#### CHILDREN BOOKS AS A BRIDGE BETWEEN ADULTS AND CHILDREN

Picture books have to appeal on two levels simultaneously - to the adults who choose and read the books - and to children. It enables them to share in each other's world on a very deep level. The adult sees the world through fresh eyes, the child is enriched by visual and verbal ingenuity and perception.

But picture books are also turning into a global industry, on the one hand not taken seriously by the 'serious' art and literary world, on the other hand with recognisably huge commercial potential. There are really two bridges, of very different kinds.

How will the idealism that inspires so many picture books artists and writers survive these conditions? How do the different perspectives combine? What are the hidden processes at work? This keynote will offer some interpretations of picture books and will explore the achievement and potential of this unique art form.

#### Concurrent Session 1

By Kelley Cheng

#### THE ARCHITECTURE OF BOOKS

Book design, like architecture, has certain basic fundamentals such as form, function, structure, space, rhythm, pace. A good book designer, like a good architect, should be able to choreograph these elements into a complete whole that harmonises with each other, which is also pretty much like a musical score. A musical score takes on different architecture depending on the genre – classical, jazz, pop, each has a different structure of scoring. There is no difference in designing a book. It could be interesting for one to try and understand the making of architecture or the writing of a music score as a new approach to designing a book.

#### Concurrent Session 2

By Prof. Shirley Lim

#### IMAGINING AND SHAPING STORIES FOR YOUNG ADULTS

This workshop, aimed at teachers, writers and other interested participants, focuses on helping them to understand the art of storytelling for young adults and their finding their own way to the stories they want to write. The workshop is for participants at all levels. While examining successful stories to serve as models, it offers basic strategies for revving up the creative process, generating story boards and structuring plots, constructing character through dialogue, and so forth.

### Concurrent Session 3

By John Danalis

#### BEYOND ENTERTAINMENT – CREATIVE WRITERS AS PROBLEM SOLVERS AND GUIDES

Blessed with a unique “way of seeing”, children's writers and illustrators are highly regarded by society, yet all too often, poorly rewarded. Expanding on the themes of his keynote talk, John will outline ways in which children's writers can deploy their craft – and vision – in the classroom, community and boardroom.

Underpinning this workshop will be an illustrated story (created especially for the conference) that will showcase the creative processes of conceptualizing, researching, writing, and illustrating. This book will then be used as a launching pad to explore John's belief that narrative, when opened to collaboration, can provide cathartic expression to individuals, communities and society.

### Concurrent Session 4

By Rosemarie Somaiah

#### PREPARING FOR LIFT OFF! – WRITING FOR STORYTELLING

The power of the oral tale passed on by word of mouth for generations is well known, and storytelling is gaining popularity once again for entertainment, in education and in the boardroom. Reading aloud from a literary story is different from oral storytelling. How do you shape your story so that it is ready for lift off? If you want your story told, are working with creating contemporary oral stories, or telling traditional tales, this workshop is for you.

### Concurrent Session 5

By Selina Lee

#### HOW TO DISTRIBUTE YOUR BOOKS TO A LARGER & WIDER AUDIENCE

Distributing your books via traditional channels such as retail bookstores and online sales has its limitations. Over the last year, Scholastic has helped local writers distribute and promote their book to over 2000 schools across Singapore and Malaysia, at volume far bigger than any distributor or bookstore chain combined. Find out about this new distribution alternative and how to get Scholastic to distribute your books.

### Concurrent Session 6

By Joyce Dunbar

#### WHAT MAKES PICTURE BOOKS WORK?

Picture books, like poems, are metaphors, with special magic and meaning. At best, they explore important ideas in a way that is very accessible.

How is this done? How do the words and pictures work together? How do we spin straw into gold? A hands-on workshop in which participants practice the elusive art of transforming the everyday into the exceptional.

## Concurrent Session 7

**By Suchen Christine Lim**

### **PLAY, PICTURE, PITCH : WRITING FOR CHILDREN THE PPP WAY**

Suchen will provide a brief history and a critique of Big Books and stories written for Singapore schools. She will share with the delegates the agony and ecstasy of writing a Big Book story for schools and she will also talk about the adventures of 2 Big Books in Singapore, the US and Scotland. Delegates will also hear from some of Suchen's tips on writing: how to play, picture and pitch a story for children.

## Concurrent Session 8

**By Coonoor Kripalani**

### **BUCKING THE TREND: PUBLISHING BILINGUAL BOOKS FOR CHILDREN**

#### **An author's personal journey**

Coonoor will discuss the merits of producing bilingual books and the challenges she faced along the way: in the content, to provide the familiar in a cultural context, and yet make them modern and upbeat; in the form, to present the unusual and unexpected, to present a visual treat; in the production, to find the right publisher who subscribes to the same philosophy, and is willing to create the product and market it.

The bilingual nature of the books makes them accessible to a wider audience. Coonoor will conclude with how the market has responded.

## Concurrent Session 9

**By Dr. Ken Spillman**

### **AN INTRODUCTION TO THE WRITING OF SCRIPTS FOR FILM AND THEATRE**

This workshop will introduce participants to the practice of writing scripts for theatre and film. It will highlight the fundamentals of scriptwriting as well as the particular constraints of the medium for presentation. Emphasis will be on 'The Art of the Possible' – a vital concept in the collaborative media and for young creators especially. Reference will be made to successful scripts from theatre, film and television and participants will be provided with script samples. In addition, those involved in the workshop will be asked to 'speed conceive' a short film and write an opening scene in script format. The aim of the workshop will be to excite participants about the creative possibilities of writing for performance, and teachers attending will leave equipped to inspire their students. It will be interactive from beginning to end.

## Concurrent Session 10

**By Adeline Foo, Lee Jin Pyn & Emily Lim**

### **ASPIRING WRITERS' FORUM**

Everyone has a story to tell. But what makes a story "marketable"? Is it just the publisher that you have to convince in taking up your story? What about the illustrator that you have to enthruse in partnering your effort? Hear from Adeline Foo on her story in spinning off tales that sell, in creating fans out of children and parents alike. How does the international publishing scene work? Should you have an agent? How do you let your tale travel around the world? Jin Pyn will touch on these issues based on her experiences and research. Emily Lim will share about her personal journey of writing and self-publishing including: experiences encountered, tips I picked up and learnt through research, first encounters and advice which experts gave on her book. She also will share some first-time author myths and assumptions in children's book writing which she started with.

## Special Session

By Er Lai Kuan & Panna Kantilal

### ASIAN CHILDREN'S COLLECTION AT THE NATIONAL LIBRARY BOARD

This session will be geared towards the selection of children's materials where senior National Library Board (NLB) staff members Lai Kuan and Panna will explain what Asian Children's Literature is in terms of NLB's collection. They will share with the audience the history, the scope and coverage of the collection and the challenges they face in developing such a collection. As the same time they will specifically talk about Singapore children's literature, such as the categorisation of the collection by NLB, the influences and changing trends observed in Singapore children's literature.

**Asian Children's Writers & Illustrators Conference 2008**  
**National Library, 100 Victoria Street, Singapore**

**Day 1:** 5 June 2008 (Thursday)

TIME	EVENT
8.30 a.m.	<b>Registration</b>
9.20 a.m.	<b>Welcome Address</b> Ms. Serene Wee, Chairman, NBDCS
9.30 a.m.	<b>Keynote 1</b> Prof. Shirley Lim <b>GROWING CHILDREN'S CREATIVE BONDS: HISTORY, FANTASY AND THE IN-BETWEEN</b>
10.15 a.m.	Tea Break
10.45 a.m.	<b>Concurrent Session 1</b> Kelley Cheng <b>THE ARCHITECTURE OF BOOKS</b>
	<b>Concurrent Session 2</b> Prof. Shirley Lim <b>IMAGINING AND SHAPING STORIES FOR YOUNG ADULTS</b>
12.15 p.m.	<b>Lunch</b>
1.45 p.m.	<b>Keynote 2</b> Dr. Ken Spillman <b>A CONSIDERATION OF CONTEMPORARY CHILDREN'S FICTION AND ITS RESPONSE TO THE OMNIPRESENCE OF VISUAL MEDIA AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION.</b>
2.30 p.m.	<b>Concurrent Session 3</b> John Danalis <b>BEYOND ENTERTAINMENT – CREATIVE WRITERS AS PROBLEM SOLVERS AND GUIDES</b>
	<b>Concurrent Session 4</b> Rosemarie Somaiah <b>PREPARING FOR LIFT OFF! – WRITING FOR STORYTELLING</b>
4.00 p.m.	Tea Break
4.30 p.m.	<b>SPECIAL SESSION</b> Panna Kantilal, Er Lai Kuan <b>ASIAN CHILDREN'S COLLECTION AT THE NATIONAL LIBRARY BOARD (includes a tour of NLB and its Asian Children's Library)</b>
5.30 p.m.	<b>CONSULTATION CLINIC</b> Meet the key players (Publisher, Distributor, Writer, Illustrator and Printer) in the book industry

**Asian Children's Writers & Illustrators Conference 2008**  
**National Library, 100 Victoria Street, Singapore**

**Day 2:** 6 June 2008 (Thursday)

TIME	EVENT
8.30 a.m	<b>Registration</b>
9.15 a.m.	<b>Keynote 3</b> Joyce Dunbar CHILDREN BOOKS AS A BRIDGE BETWEEN ADULTS AND CHILDREN
10.00 a.m	<b>Tea Break</b>
10.30 a.m.	<b>Concurrent Session 5</b> Selina Lee HOW TO DISTRIBUTE YOUR BOOKS TO A LARGER & WIDER AUDIENCE
	<b>Concurrent Session 6</b> Joyce Dunbar WHAT MAKES PICTURE BOOKS WORK?
12.00 p.m.	<b>Lunch</b>
1.30 p.m.	<b>Keynote 4</b> John Danalis A THIRST FOR FABLES, A HUNGER FOR MYTH
2.15 p.m	<b>Concurrent Session 7</b> Suchen Christine Lim PLAY, PICTURE, PITCH : WRITING FOR CHILDREN THE PPP WAY
	<b>Concurrent Session 8</b> By Coonoor Kripalani BUCKING THE TREND: PUBLISHING BILINGUAL BOOKS FOR CHILDREN – AN AUTHOR'S PERSONAL JOURNEY
3.45 p.m	<b>Tea Break</b>
4.15 p.m.	<b>Concurrent Session 9</b> Dr. Ken Spillman AN INTRODUCTION TO THE WRITING OF SCRIPTS FOR FLIM AND THEATRE
	<b>Concurrent Session 10</b> Lee Jin Pyn, Adeline Foo, Emily Lim EMERGING WRITERS FORUM
5.15 p.m	<b>Q &amp; A : PLENARY SESSION</b> All speakers MODERATED BY SHAMINI FLINT
6.00 p.m.	<b>BOOK LAUNCH &amp; NETWORKING SESSION</b>

**Asian Children's Writers & Illustrators Conference 2008**  
**National Library, 100 Victoria Street, Singapore**

**Day 3:** 7 June 2008 (Saturday)

8.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

**First Time Writers & Illustrators Publishing Initiative 2008 Masterclass**

You will get the opportunity to spend the day getting invaluable tips and guidance from internationally acclaimed writers, illustrators and editors.

Programme details to be available soon.

**ABOUT THE SPEAKERS:**

**Joyce Dunbar**

Joyce Dunbar was born in Lincolnshire and has an English degree from Goldsmiths' College, London and was for many years a teacher in the drama department at a college in Stratford-upon-Avon. She has written over seventy books for children. These include picture books for a range of ages, a series of short funny novels and a longer novel called *Mundo And The Weatherchild* which was runner up for The Guardian children's fiction award in 1986. Her books are translated into many languages, including Japanese, Zulu and Hebrew. She also wrote the *Mouse And Mole Stories* which have been animated for television. Joyce regularly visits schools as an author and teaches on creative writing courses on the Greek island of Skyros and elsewhere. She is currently a Writing Fellow of the Royal Literary Fund at the University of East Anglia and is working on a book for adults.

**Laurent Linn**

Laurent Linn is Art Director for *Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers*. As an illustrator and book designer, he works with noted authors, illustrators and editors creating literature for readers of all ages. After college, where he studied art and design in Paris and New York, he made costumes and sets for theatre companies such as New York Shakespeare Festival. He then joined Jim Henson's Muppets where he designed and built puppet in the renowned Muppet Workshop. For his design work on *Sesame Street*, he won an Emmy Award. After becoming the Creative Director for the *Sesame Street Muppets*, he developed new characters and art directed the children's book publishing and product lines. As a freelance designer and art director, he has collaborated with a variety of clients on unique projects, from major ad campaigns to international exhibitions. Laurent is also a member of the *Children's Book Committee at Bank Street College* in New York, reviewing new books and voting for the Annual Book Awards.

**Mark McVeigh**

Mark McVeigh is Editorial Director of *Aladdin Paperbacks* at *Simon and Schuster Books for Young Readers*. After two post-graduate years spent working in Paris, Mark studied at the NYU School of Education and received a Master's of Early Childhood Education. After teaching sixth grade in Brooklyn, New York, Mark began his publishing career at *Golden Books*. In the years since, he has worked at *Scholastic*, *Random House*, *HarperCollins*, and *Dutton Children's Books*. Mark has had the good fortune to work with Maurice Sendak, Else Minarik, Gregory Maguire, and Donald Sobol. His 2007 list at Dutton included *Dead High Yearbook*, Dutton's first graphic novel, and *Freak Show* by James St. James, hailed by Kirkus in a starred review as "A groundbreaking, eye-opening, romantic, bittersweet story of one boy's determination to seek acceptance for who he is and right the wrongs of his world, one dress at a time."

**Edward Necarsulmer IV**

Born and raised in New York, Edward earned a BA in Philosophy from Denison University. After a stint on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, he began his career in publishing as an intern at Random House Books for Young Readers. Edward then moved to the agency side, working briefly at Sterling Lord Literistic before becoming an assistant agent at *Curtis Brown, Ltd.* In 2004, Edward became the Director of the Children's Department at *McIntosh & Otis, Inc.* where he now represents a diverse list of *Newbery and Caldecott Award* winners, as well as some of the most promising new talent in the field.