Earn up to 3 Hours of Graduate Credit

Words and Pictures: THE ART OF THE MATTER

31st Annual Children’s Literature Conference
June 20–24, 2016
su.edu/childrenslit
Meet the Authors and Illustrators

**Matilda de la Peña**

*I will always write about kids growing up with less. My own experience with poverty is the single most defining piece of my childhood. If my stories create empathy, great.*

Matt de la Peña is the recipient of the 2016 Newbery Medal for his book *Last Stop on Market Street* illustrated by Christian Robinson. He is the author of six young adult novels including *Roll Out Lie, Mexican White Boy, Up Here and I Will See You, all of which were named ALA-YALSA Best Books for Young Adults. His novel, *The Living*, was named a 2014 ALA Pura Belpre Author Honor Book. He is also the author of the critically acclaimed picture book *A Nation’s Hope: The Story of Boxing Legend Joe Louis* illustrated by Kadir Nelson.

**Christian Robinson**

*I love being able to do the work I do. It’s unfortunate that my work might stand out because it features a certain amount of diversity and tackles uneasy topics. Wouldn’t it be wonderful to imagine a day when there isn’t a diversity gap in books for children, to see more kids of different colors on the covers of bestselling books?*

Christian Robinson creatively blends mediums such as collage and paint to illustrate picture books. His unique style has won the Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor, the Robert F. Sibert Honor and Boston Globe-Horn Book Nonfiction Honor for *Jasmine* written by Patricia Hruby Powell. He was honored with the 2014 Ezra Jack Keats New Illustrator award for *Rats!* Some of his other titles include *Gana* written by Kelly DiPucchio, *Leo, a Ghost Story* illustrated by Brian Selznick, as well as the beginning reader series *Silly Baloney.*

**Pam Munoz Ryan**

*I want children to love the book for the sake of the book. I want them to clutch it to their chest and say, I loved this book. I want my books to solicit discussion between students and between students and teachers. I want the children to have affection for what they read.*

Pam Munoz Ryan is the author of the 2016 Newbery Honor winner and New York Times bestseller, *Echo*, as well as the recipient of the Kirkus Prize, the NEA’s Human and Civil Rights Award, and the Virginia Hamilton Literary Award for multicultural literature. She has written more than forty books for young readers. Her celebrated novels, *Eleganza Rising, Riding French, The Dreamer*, and *We Were Liars, Paint the Wind, and The Dreamer*, have received numerous accolades, among them two Pura Belpre Awards, a NAPPA Gold Award, a Jane Addams Children’s Book Award, and an American Book Award. Her picture books include *Amelia and Eleanor Go For A Ride and When Mexican Song, both illustrated by Brian Selznick, as well as the beginning reader series *Silly Baloney.*

**Peter Sís**

*"The really connecting thing in all my books is the fact that somebody’s dreaming about places or searching for someplace, going places. I think, if I wouldn’t have left Prague my books would not be different. And I think everything I did in my books in this country comes from the sentiment of leaving another place and [coming to a new place]."

Peter Sís is an internationally acclaimed illustrator, author, and filmmaker with more than twenty books to his credit. His vast body of work, including the celebrated titles *Say It Loud, Lotta Gold, The Wall: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain*, have earned him a MacArthur Fellowship, Hans Christian Anderson Award, Sibert Award, and three Caldecott Honors. He is also the illustrator of Pam Munoz Ryan’s *The Dreamer*, a Pura Belpre Award winner, *Boston Globe-Horn Book Honor Book, and ALA Notable.*

**Words and Pictures:**

**THE ART OF THE MATTER**

Close your eyes and picture a small clan of ancient people sitting around a fire. One of them stands to deliver a story about the successful hunt of the day while a different member of the group approaches the cave wall. With a special twig and a pool of animal oil mixed with animal fat, our prehistoric artist starts to paint scenes from the oral story. Thus was the beginning of Words and Pictures – the Art of the Matter.

Whether our books are illustrated, or we add our own mental embellishments to longer works, there is no denying that as humans we are drawn to the symbiotic relationship of words and pictures. As teachers and librarians, we depend upon that vital relationship to hook our students on literature.

 каждий день во время нашей недельной конференции вы будете слушать рассказы о своей работе. От будущих и прошлых престижных авторов и иллюстраторов рассказывали о своей работе.

Conference Hours
9 am – 4:30 pm
Monday, June 20 – Friday, June 24, 2016

Shenandoah University
1 Shenandoah University Drive
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22807

Location
Shenandoah University is located in the scenic and historic Winchester, Virginia countryside, 75 miles west of Washington, D.C., affording teaching and learning opportunities. Two major shopping centers are within walking distance.

Faculty
Dr. Karen Hull is the coordinator of the elementary education program at Shenandoah University. In addition to teaching at the University, she has taught elementary and nursery school children. She has also conducted numerous workshops for parent groups and in-service training.

Dr. Mary Bower is the director of the secondary education program at Shenandoah University and teaches courses in undergraduate and graduate education. A former high school English teacher, Dr. Bower has conducted writing workshops for teachers and administrators throughout the South.

Questions?
call 540.565.7215
email infexpl@su.edu
visit www.su.edu/childrenslit
Pat Mora

“I will never know what it’s like to have only one language in my head. I have the pleasure of being able to move back and forth between Spanish and English, and I incorporate both languages in my books.”

Pat Mora founded Children’s Day, El día de los niños, in 1996 to promote family literacy. Pat’s “Abuelos” won many literacy awards including the coveted Pura Belpre Honor Award for Día Day: A Tall Tale about a Giant Winosaur with a Great Big Heart in 1996. Some of her other titles include Agua, Agua, Ahueca, Barro, Chica Cantar Buelo and The Desert is My Family. Many of her books are bilingual, presenting topics affecting Mexican-American families and culture.

Adam Rubin

“The other day, I walked out on stage in front of 600 kids who knew my work by heart. They were screaming out lines from the book and just generally going insane. It’s hard to believe that words I pick out on a laptop in my apartment wind up swirling around the brains of hilarious little kids and creating these really beautiful family bonding moments for people I’ve never met. It’s surreal.”

Adam Rubin is the New York Times best-selling author of seven children’s books illustrated by Daniel Salmieri. His books include Dragons Love Tacos, Secret Pizza Party, Big Bad Bubble, Robo-Sauce, and the Darn Squirrels Trilogy. Those Darn Squirrels received a 2009 Borders Original Voices Award. He spent ten years working as a creative director in the advertising industry before leaving his day job to write full time. He teaches improv to grown ups, showing them how to be more like children, and he loves magic tricks.

Daniel Salmieri

“All children learn differently. Yet we often teach them to read as if they all learn the same way. My books blend traditional reading methods such as phonics and sight words with multisensory techniques such as music and movement to help every child learn to read and love books.”

Daniel Salmieri grew up in Brooklyn, NY, making drawings of fighter jets and Ninja Turtles. He is the illustrator of the best-selling picture books written by Adam Rubin. He has also illustrated Meet the Dullards written by Sara Pennypacker and Around the World on Eighty Legs written by Amy Giberson. His artwork has been awarded the Borders Original Voices Award and the NAIBA 2013 Book of the Year Award. His work has been recognized by The Society of Illustrators and American Illustration.

Sara Pennypacker

“I think maybe the biggest rewards of writing are once the books are done, it’s this long dialogue, I’ve said my part, and then I get to hear back from children, and nothing in the world moves me more than when I get a letter from a kid who says, ‘Until I read your book, I thought I was the only one.’ In the larger sense, what a book does is connect an individual reader with the rest of his tribe.”

Sara Pennypacker is the author of the award-winning New York Times bestselling Clementine series. She has received numerous awards for her books including the Christopher Award for Clementine’s Letter and the Golden Kite Award for Purr in Love. Her other books include Swanny of the Gipsy Mumps, Sparrow Girl and The Amazing World of Stuart. Her latest books include the first book in a new series, Watashi! Our Awesome Thing, illustrated by Marla Frazee and the novel ZIP illustrated by Jon Klassen. She is the founder of the ShirtPocketBooks.org program which lends books provided by authors for community reads.

Jarrett Krosoczka

“It is an awfully sad misconception that librarians simply check books in and out. The library is the heart of a school, and without a librarian, it is but an empty shell.”

Jarrett Krosoczka’s love of fun, shine through in each of the books he has written and illustrated. His books include Punk Farm, Baghead, Peanut Butter and Jellyfish, Ollie, the popular graphic novels in the Lunch Lady series and his chapter book series, Platypus Police Squad. His imaginative books are beloved by children everywhere. He travels to schools where he is embraced by children and lunch ladies. He has received numerous state awards and has won the Children’s Choice Book of the Year twice for the Lunch Lady series, which is being made into a movie featuring Amy Poehler.
**E.B. Lewis**

illustrated by

Woodson, Jacqueline

by

Other Side

The cover of

from the

Above, detail from the

cover of The Other Side by Jacqueline Woodson, illustrated by E.B. Lewis.

**Matt Tavares**

“I’ve been drawing since I was a baby, and my work has always had a sort of illustrative quality, since I’ve always liked making pictures that tell stories.”

Matt Tavares is the author/illustrator of Growing Up Pedro, which was named a 2016 Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children Honor Book. Some of his other books include Becoming Babe Ruth, Henry Aaron’s Dream and Mudball. He is also the illustrator of Henry Aaron’s Dream, which was named a 2016 Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children Honor Book. Some of his other books include Becoming Babe Ruth, Henry Aaron’s Dream and Mudball. He is also the illustrator of Henry Aaron’s Dream, which was named a 2016 Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children Honor Book.

**Wendelin Van Draanen**

“I see literature as a method of guidance, information, and contemplation, and consider it the greatest compliment possible when a reader tells me that a book of mine really made him/her think.”

Wendelin Van Draanen is the author of numerous young adult and middle grade novels and mysteries. Now in its tenth installment, The Sammy Keyes Mysteries have been nominated for the Edgar Allen Poe Award for Best Juvenile Mystery five times, with Sammy Keyes and the Hotel Thief winning the award. Before becoming a full time writer, Van Draanen was a math and computer science teacher. Her first book, How I Survived Being a Girl, was met with acclaim and praise, and her insightful book, Figuring out that last line. That’s how I want to go out.

**Erin M. Javarese**

“Matisse, on his deathbed, with a bamboo pole in his hand, drew on the ceiling. That’s how I want to go out. Figuring out that last line. As artists we need to fill ourselves up to overflowing, and then give it all back.”

Matt Tavares is the author/illustrator of Growing Up Pedro, which was named a 2016 Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children Honor Book. Some of his other books include Becoming Babe Ruth, Henry Aaron’s Dream and Mudball. He is also the illustrator of Henry Aaron’s Dream, which was named a 2016 Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children Honor Book.

**TO REGISTER**

1. **Download** the registration form at www.su.edu/childrenslit and mail with payment to:

   Horset Central
   Shenandoah University
   1660 University Drive
   Winchester, VA 22601

   *If you would prefer a hard copy be sent to you, please email or call*

2. **Complete**

3. **Mail**

   "Southern hospitality extends to a love of books and reading. It was book love from start to finish."

   Andrea Davis Pinkney, Author

   "I’ve really enjoyed this conference, once again! I’m sure I’ll be back in the future, so you’ve got to keep it going. And going, and going, and going…"

   Laura, Librarian

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**Registration rates**

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<th>Regular Registration Rates</th>
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**Theatre**

Shenandoah Summer Music Theatre (on SU’s campus) will be presenting “My Fair Lady” June 16 – June 26, 2016.

We wish to acknowledge support for this conference from the Claude Moore Center for Literacy at Shenandoah University and the Claude Moore Charitable Foundation.

*’Books ground us,’ said President Tracy Fitzsimmons as she welcomed us to Shenandoah University. This phrase struck me as being the perfect introductory remark for the conference. Books have not only grounded me, but have been my ‘rabbit-hole’ and ‘magical wardrobe’ – my escape hatch and gateway. I had to pinch myself to believe that I was really here, part of a crowd of people who all feel the same about the written word and reading!”*

John, Librarian
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540.545.7215

Guest Speakers:
Matt de la Peña
Christian Robinson
Pam Muñoz Ryan
Peter Sís
Pat Mora
Adam Rubin
Daniel Salmieri
Eric Litwin
Sara Pennypacker
Greg Pizzoli
Jarrett Krosoczka
Matt Tavares
E.B. Lewis
Wendelin Van Draanen

“Please share with a colleague!”

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“Words and Pictures: THE ART OF THE MATTER”

“This is where teachers come to play! Next year I will teach my class about the people behind the books and help them to understand the in-depth process of writing. I want to enrich and inspire my students like I have been inspired this week.”

Cheryl, 8th Grade Teacher

“Students need to think and dream and create and be inspired. The Shenandoah Children’s Literature Conference offers just that.”

Sharon Draper, Author

“As my Children’s Literature Conference week comes to an end I want to thank you for providing this amazing opportunity to educators. I have enjoyed each day, each presenter and each break-out session. I value the hard work and dedication that went into planning such an amazing week. Thank you. I’ll be back!”

Janie, 1st Grade Teacher

“Thank you for an energizing week! I came away with more practical and usable lesson ideas than I have from any other class or conference I have attended. Bravo!”

Kathleen, Librarian

“The devoted staff of this conference creates a fun, nurturing, invigorating atmosphere in which artists and educators together celebrate the world of children’s literature.”

Mary Pope Osborne, Author

“I signed up for this conference after being told by several colleagues what a wonderful class it was. Boy, were they right! I was enthralled by the speakers and left with so many wonderful ideas, it made me almost wish summer was over and school was in session again!”

Rebecca, 3rd Grade Teacher