

The Austin Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators
presents

2006 "Follow Me" Fall Conference

8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. October 21, 2006

Texas School for the Deaf

1102 South Congress, Austin, TX 78704

FEATURING

Bruce Coville, author

Sara Crowe, agent, Harvey Klinger Agency

Suzanne Cruise, art licensing agent

Esther Hershenhorn, author/book doctor

Lynne Polvino, associate editor, Clarion

Tony Sansevero, illustrator

Don Tate, illustrator

Conference Highlights:

- A Program Designed to Meet the Needs of Writers and Illustrators at Every Stage of the Game – from beginners to those focused on career building.
- A Stellar Line-Up of Speakers.
- SCBWI members who register early are eligible for a Manuscript or Portfolio Critique.
- An Art Portfolio Contest with a Special Prize for the Winner.
- Silent Auction of Unique Items Created By Our Incredible Member Artists.
- Registration Fee includes a Continental Breakfast, plus a delicious box lunch from Sweetish Hill Bakery. Vegetarian items will be included.
- Bookfair/Signing featuring Books by Our Speakers and Austin SCBWI Members.

Capacity for this conference is limited. To ensure a spot, register early.

Registration is \$105 for SCBWI members, and \$115 for nonmembers.

Please note that registrations must be postmarked by Oct. 16, 2006, in order to guarantee a lunch. Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate walk-ins.

Conference Speakers & Critique Faculty

Dianna Hutts Aston has defied the odds in a tough picture book market and has burst onto the scene with great success. This year's releases are: AN EGG IS QUIET, illustrated by Sylvia Long (Chronicle, 2006), which has garnered stars from Publisher's Weekly and Kirkus; MAMA OUTSIDE, MAMA INSIDE, illustrated by Susan Gaber (Henry Holt, 2006); and MAMA'S WILD CHILD/PAPA'S WILD CHILD, illustrated by Nora Hilb (Charlesbridge, 2006). Dianna has been a featured speaker for the Texas Book Festival, the Texas Library Association and many other groups. (www.diannaaston.com)

Bruce Coville is the author of 90 books for children and young adults, including the international bestseller MY TEACHER IS AN ALIEN, and the wildly popular UNICORN CHRONICLES series. His books have appeared in over a dozen countries around the world and sold more than sixteen million copies. Bruce was born in Syracuse, New York, in 1950. His family lived in farm territory, about 20 miles north of Syracuse. Bruce grew up around the corner from his grandparents' dairy farm, where he spent a great deal of time as a child, dodging cows and chores as well as he was able. He has been, at various times, a teacher, a toymaker, a magazine editor, a gravedigger, and a cookware salesman. He is also the founder of FULL CAST AUDIO, an audiobook publishing company devoted to producing full cast, unabridged recordings of material for family listening. Bruce lives in New York, with his wife, illustrator Katherine Coville. (www.brucecoville.com, www.unicornchronicles.com, www.fullcastaudio.com)

Sara Crowe graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and the Radcliffe Publishing Course. She joined Harvey Klinger Inc. after two years at Trident Media Group as Foreign Rights Agent selling rights for Russell Banks, Michael Ondaatje and Louis Sachar, among others. She began her publishing career at the Wylie Agency in New York and also worked in Wylie's London office. She seeks literary and commercial fiction, young adult and middle-grade fiction and non-fiction. She is not currently accepting picture book submissions. Recent sales include Ben Dolnick's debut novel, RADIO SILENCE to Vintage in the US and to HarperPress in the UK, Kristen Tracy's young adult debut, LOST IT, to Simon Pulse, Elizabeth Holmes's middle grade debut, PRETTY IS to Dutton, Deputy Editor of the Chronicle of Higher Education Peter Schmidt's COLOR AND MONEY, How Rich White Kids are Winning the War Over College Affirmative Action to Palgrave Macmillan, Yuko Taniguchi's debut novel THE OCEAN IN THE CLOSET to Coffee House Press, Coert Voorhees's young adult debut FRANKIE TOWERS to Hyperion (spring 2007); Karen Schreck's debut young adult novel DREAM JOURNAL to Hyperion (fall 2006); and Erin Vincent's debut non-fiction for young adults, GRIEF GIRL, to Random House Children's (spring 2006). (www.harveyklinger.com)

Suzanne Cruise, an accomplished artist whose career includes a staff position as an illustrator at Hallmark cards, began representing artists who wanted to license their work over 15 years ago. In that time, Cruise has been an integral part of the art licensing boom and has participated in what has become a rapidly growing multi billion dollar business. Her breakout session, The Basics of Art Licensing, is a must for anyone interested in licensing his or her work. This session will cover the fundamentals of art licensing; how it works, basic definitions of terms you should know, what makes art suitable for licensing, how to present designs to a potential licensee, how deals and contracts are structured, tips on working with an agent and much more.

Whilst Chicago children's book author **Esther Hershenhorn** was out and about learning how to tell a good story well, four American Presidencies came and went - and two were re-elections! Still, she says she wouldn't have had it any other way. Esther now spends her days doing what she loves and loving what she does: writing picture books and middle grade fiction, including Sydney Taylor Book Award Winner CHICKEN SOUP BY HEART, teaching adult Writing for Children classes at the University of Chicago's Writer's Studio and the Newberry Library and coaching writers of all ages to help them tell their stories. Esther also serves as SCBWI-Illinois' Regional Advisor and on SCBWI's Board of Directors. (www.estherhershenhorn.com)

Lynne Polvino grew up in Fredonia, New York, and received a B.A. from Sarah Lawrence College with a concentration in writing and social sciences. She started working at Clarion Books, an imprint of Houghton Mifflin Co., about seven years ago as an administrative assistant, and gradually took on more and more editorial responsibilities. She is now an associate editor, and works on a wide range of projects, including picture books, nonfiction, fiction, and poetry, for infants through grade twelve. Lynne is currently building her own list, which includes books such as THE FOOT-STOMPING ADVENTURES OF CLEMENTINE SWEET by Kitty Griffin and Kathy Combs, illustrated by Mike Wohnoutka; BEFORE HOLLYWOOD: From Shadow Play to the Silver Screen by Paul Clee; THE AMETHYST ROAD, by Louise Spiegel, and the forthcoming chapter book NIKKI AND DEJA by Karen English. Prior to her arrival at Clarion, she worked for several years as an assistant at a small literary agency in the West Village, where she was introduced to the ins and outs of the publishing business. She lives in Brooklyn, New York. (www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com/clarion)

Tony Sansevero received his art education at the Massachusetts College of Art, in Boston, and has been working as a full-time freelance illustrator for over 13 years. He currently runs Magical Ideas, an illustration studio in Austin, where he creates a diverse array of illustration and artwork for picture books, magazines, book covers, greeting cards, portraits, and private commissions. During his last several years in Texas, he has focused on fantasy art and the educational book market. He has illustrated more than 20 picture books and teen novels, including Bruce Coville's I WAS A SIXTH-GRADE ALIEN series, SING, HENRIETTA, SING! by Lynn Downey, Donna Guthrie's THE SECRET ADMIRER, and THE WORLD ACCORDING TO ROCK, by local author Jerry Wermund. He is an award-winning fine artist as well. Tony is a member of the Society Of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, and has talked at several hundred schools and organizations on the joys of illustration. He loves cooking, hiking, tree climbing, Halloween, animals, music, books, good theater and bad horror movies. He dislikes cottage cheese. (www.tonysansevero.com)

Cynthia Leitich Smith is the award-winning author of JINGLE DANCER (Morrow, 2000), INDIAN SHOES (HarperCollins, 2001), and RAIN IS NOT MY INDIAN NAME (HarperCollins, 2001)(Listening Library, 2001) as well as several middle grade and YA short stories, published by Cicada, HarperCollins, and Roaring Brook, respectively. She is a member of the faculty at the Vermont College M.F.A. program in Writing for Children and Young Adults. Her website at www.cynthialeitichsmith.com was named one of the top 10 Writer Sites on the Internet by Writer's Digest and an ALA Great Website for Kids. Her Cynsations blog at cynthialeitichsmith.blogspot.com was listed as among the top two read by the children's/YA publishing community in the SCBWI "To Market" column. Cynthia looks forward to the release of a picture book, SANTA KNOWS (Dutton, 2006) and a young adult gothic fantasy novel, TANTALIZE (Candlewick, 2007). She lives in Austin with her husband, author Greg Leitich Smith.

Don Tate has been creating art for children's products and publications for over 23

years. He is a full-time graphics reporter/illustrator for the Austin American-Statesman, but is most gratified by the work he does for children's books. With a bold, dynamic style, Don's acrylic, and oil paintings bring to life the pages of the children's books he illustrates. Booklist Magazine described his work as "fresh and fanciful," while Publisher's Weekly declares that his exuberant illustrations keep the pages turning. With a bold color palette, his paintings exude energy and fun. Since the publication of his first children's picture book, SAY HEY! A Song of Willie Mays (Hyperion, Jump At The Sun), in the spring of 2000, Don has illustrated five more books, and has three more in the works. Lately, he has added author to his resume, and is now the recipient of Lee & Low Books New Voices Honor for a manuscript that he has written. (www.dontate.com)