SCBWI SoCal NEWSLETTER



Fall/Winter Issue 2026



illustration by Carolyn Le

Fall/Winter Issue 2026

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illustration by Heather Soodak



illustration by Cyndi Wojciechowski



illustration by Farnaz Nadim

FALL HARVEST REPORT

by Carlene Griffith

The Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrator's Southern California chapter hosted its annual Fall Harvest Conference on October 3, 2026, at Cal State Fullerton. Writers and Illustrators, both new to the industry and seasoned professionals, from all over Southern California, including Los Angeles and San Diego, gathered for the one-day event. Attendee TY CHANG said, "*This was my first time attending a SCBWI conference — I found the format very good since it provided a wide range of topics and insights into the publishers and agencies.*" Attendee PAM ADAMS said, "*This is my third year attending the Fall Harvest conference and it was my favorite one yet!*"

Of the 168 registered attendees, 92.6% attended in person and 7.4% attended via Zoom. The jam-packed schedule started with an 8:00 am check-in and ended with pitch sessions at 5:30 pm. A fall themed photo booth inspired by the art of Banner Contest winner KAY RYU FELLING greeted visitors at the door, where pictures were taken



banner illustration by Fay Ryu Kelling

with reunited friends. Attendees had ample time to visit and engage with fellow SCBWI children's book creators before, during breaks, at lunch and after the event. RAIGHNE DAVIDSON said, "*I love SCBWI. These conferences are so warm and comfortable that a huge group of introverts can come together and enjoy an entire day of meeting people while learning about their beloved craft. You've created an awesome community. Thank you!!*" Attendee LAURIE YOUNG said her biggest benefit for attending was: *"getting to spend time with great people I only get to see occasionally." SCOTT SUSSMAN said, "I really enjoyed seeing everyone in person. The day flew by. Bev did a dynamite job."*

Regional Advisor BEV PLASS started planning the year's event back in May with regional team members JODI RIZZOTTO, CARLENE GRIFFITH, HEATHER SOODAK, GINA CAPALDI, and member volunteers, TIM BURKE, KELLY POWERS and CRYSTAL SHREK. Planning events such as this has many facets for them and the contribution of volunteers is what makes SCBWI so unique. Whether securing speakers, ordering coffee and meals, coordinating critique submissions, or running the Zoom camera, we couldn't do these events without these amazing members donating their time, talents, and efforts.

In addition, we'd like to thank RODOLFO MONTALVO, SCBWI member, Arts Professor, and award-winning artist, for organizing the nine Cal State Fullerton Student Volunteers this year for us. This year's group stood out for their willingness to pitch in without ...

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illustration by Haana Yoo

Carlene Griffith is SoCal's co-Assistant Regional Advisor and acting Newsletter Editor. She is the author of Amazon's best-selling book *10 MINUTE PLAYS FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES*.

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being asked, and for being there when help was needed. In exchange for their service, they were given the opportunity to showcase their portfolios and hear all the professional authors and industry speakers for free.

The conference started off with a fun ice breaker activity led by KELLY POWERS. Attendees had fun throwing paper snowballs at one another. LISA VENDITELLI KARMEL said, "*Your team always does a fantastic job! Loved the ice breaker!! Very fun. Liked that it was kid like and silly before we spoke to each other. Really loosened people up. Excellent conference!!*"

From there we settled in for a lineup of fantastic speakers including award winning author JUDY CAMPBELL-SMITH (Baseball for Breakfast). Judy's talk called **Unforgettable Final Pages: Getting Creative with Back Matter in Your Picture Book** explored in depth how back matter really can have a significant impact in your picture books. LISZE BECHTOLD said, "*Judy Campbell Smith's talk on back matter broadened my understanding of how a story's supporting research can be used, even outside the book itself.*"



ANDREA LONEY (Abby and Orbit) talk on **Creator Care: Managing Rejection, Expectations, Imposter Syndrome, Writer's Block, "Champagne Problems," and More** was extremely well received, attendee KIM-HOA UNG said, "*I really enjoyed Andrea's presentation on creator care. Publishing is so tough. It is nice to know that I'm not the only person who feels down and struggling with the industry. Loved Andrea's talk and positivity! She inspires me to keep going.*" Attendee, CARRIE SCHNEIDER said, "*Andrea J Loney's presentation was an absolute gift. I felt seen in my struggles and came away with new perspectives on how to thrive in this career*".

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2026 Newbury Honor Book winner, Author AUBREY HARTMAN, (The Undead Fox of Deadwood Forest) spoke on **The End Game: Crafting an Ending that Sticks with Readers Forever.** Attendee, MEGAN MORALES said, "*Aubrey's session was incredibly insightful — how she mapped out story structure and her tips for giving characters more depth. I'll definitely be leveraging this information going forward.*"

Special guest, industry professional speakers included VP & Publisher ALVINA LING (*Alvina Ling Books)*, Literary Agent CARTER HASEGAWA (*Tugeau 2 Art & Literary Agency*), and Literary Agent MICHAELA WHATNALL (*Dystel, Goderich & Bourret LLC.*) Their talks covered a variety of topics such as using mentor text, crafting your books narrative, character, voice and structure, and how to use specificity when writing a pitch.

When asked which presenter influenced your thinking the most, LISZE BECHTOLD said, "*Michaela Whatnall's talk on writing queries was pointed and succinct. I have heard/seen many talks on queries, but Michaela's reasoning for their particular recommendations made a lot of sense.*" MICHAEL LENT said, "*Alvina Ling's presentation on character, voice, structure and plot offered a rare opportunity to listen to how a veteran editor evaluates and shapes material. The topic aligned precisely with the issues I have been addressing with a MG rewrite. Especially exciting was the news of Alvina's imprint.*" KIM-HOA UNG said, "*The presentations by Alvina, Carter, Michaela, Judy, Andrea, and Aubrey were so inspiring and helpful. The topics they chose were great. I left the conference feeling motivated and more confident to work on my writing. Thank you so much for the wonderful opportunity to learn with you all, SCBWI SoCal!*"

Before lunch, Illustrators enjoyed a breakout room with Art Director KARINA GRANDA (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers) who spoke on **Illustrating imagination: A deep Dive on Creating Art for Middle Grade Books** and celebrated Author-illustrator PRISCILLA BURRIS (Sabrina Sue: The Epic Adventure) who spoke on **Staying in the Game: Moving Forward When You Hit Hurdles in Your Career as an Illustrator.**

Illustrator breakout attendee, CARRIE SCHNEIDER said, "*I'm particularly excited to lean into middle grade art with everything I learned from Karina Granda!*" HEATHER SOODAK said, "T*he speaker's topics were FAB!!!! Stuff I didn't even know I needed to know!*" LISA VENDITELLI KARMELL said, "*The presentations were excellent. They were topics you don't hear often but are important. The talks were enlightening and left me buzzing with ideas.*"

During breakout room time, writer attendees enjoyed hearing young adult and middle grade First Pages read randomly

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for live professional feedback in the main hall. Later, Picture Book First Pages were read so author-illustrators could participate. JANIE EMAUS said, "*I loved the advice given during First Pages. They are insightful and help with my own first pages.*" Attendee JOY THOMPSON said, "*First page panels are always so beneficial, to hear what real editors and agents think about what they're reading and what's working and what's not. It also shows in real time how sometimes it's just a matter of taste and what works for one doesn't work for another.*"



Author Book signings were available during breaks, and both writer and illustrators could enter contests to receive recognition in their chosen genres. This year's winners were announced at the end of the conference including five categories. Winners in the Picture Book Dummy category were JULIE SHAHIN COLLARD (first place) and CAROLYN LE (runner-up). In the Picture Book category: JANIE EMAUS (first place) and CHARLOTTE GOODE (runner-up). In the Middle Grade category: SCOTT SUSSMAN (first place) and ANN SUK WANG (runner-up). And in the Young Adult Category: RILLA JAGGIA (first place) and TIM BURKE (runner-up).

Tables displayed attending author books and artists' portfolios. Many also participated in paid opportunities for written critiques before the conference and the agent pitches after. Attendee DEBRA KAY SCHMIDT who participated in the pitch session said, "*The one-on-one pitch was a fantastic opportunity to pitch my ideas to an agent, who invited me to submit a project to them.*"

Overall, it was a successful day, and many went home inspired and recommitted to creating the best children's books for the market. CAROL HUGHES said, "*The entire conference was outstanding from the opening introduction to the closing goodbye. I got to learn some very helpful crafting tips from a host of incredibly talented and friendly speakers.*" FAY KELLING said, "*It was a great event. I loved connecting with folks and all of the talks were so valuable and wonderful. Super organized and well put together event. Thank you!*"



Conference Question:

What advice would you give to someone just starting out?

"Don't be afraid to write or draw outside your comfort zone."
—Trinity Foskett, Illustrator, drawing for 10 years

"Just do it. Get started, and do it."
—Karen Kelley, Illustrator, former microbiologist and lifelong artist

"Dare to fail gloriously." —Jude Atwood, Author

"Have fun."
—Leah Lanning, Author/Illustrator, for 8 years

"Start with what brings you joy and the rest will follow."
—David Kim, Illustrator for (officially) a year

"Throw everything into your rough draft and just write it badly."
—Kelly Powers, Author for 13 years

"Follow your interests." —Michaela Whatnall, Agent for 7 years

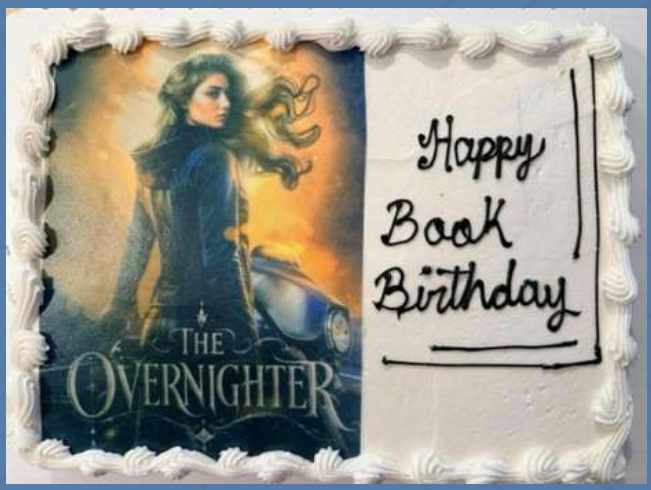
"Think of your first kidlit years as an internship with amazing mentors and colleagues. Every "no" is a chance to learn, and before you know it, you will start hearing "yes" — and you'll mentor others!" —Carrie Schneider, Author/Illustrator for (officially) 6 years

"Read as much as possible."
—Bev Plass, Author since her children had chicken pox (roughly 30 years)

background art by Carrie Schneider

The Book Launch

by Jodi Rizzotto



When the final proofs are done, it's time to plan the book launch.

With the help of Kathleen Troy and Dylan & Friends, my indie-published debut YA novel, *The Overnighter*, was going to have a book birthday.

But first I had to get the word out about my book. Kathleen and her team helped me set up my newsletter campaign. First, a teaser about the book. Then the cover reveal, followed by the presale notice with links to buy the book.

In addition to the newsletter, I posted updates about *The Overnighter* on my website, with links to my social media accounts. Years ago, I set up my website on WordPress when I started publishing short stories in anthologies. I was glad it was already in place.

When she released her latest book, Heather Buchta Blyth, a SCBWI friend and mentor, solicited a street team to promote it. She asked friends to read advanced digital copies of her book and post reviews on Goodreads and Amazon when it was released. I decided to do this for my book, and eight dedicated writing friends agreed to read and review *The Overnighter*.

Another helpful idea from Kathleen Troy was buying a Kirkus review. Kirkus is a publication that reviews books. You must pay for the review, but it is worth it since they have a solid reputation and many schools and public libraries will not order your book without one. After reading their review, I could approve it to be published on their site or decline. I was happy with my review, so I approved it. Then I could use excerpts from the review on the back jacket of my book and in my blurbs on Amazon and other places.

When my release day for *The Overnighter* was set, I emailed my street team to be ready with their reviews. Although it took some work, I felt that my prep work before the launch was successful. In the first week, my book was in the Top 100 for Paranormal/Shifter genre books on Amazon.

Meanwhile, I was working on the book launch party. Since the book was about the Harley Owners Group, I asked some of my HOG friends to ride together to the launch party on their Harleys. My friend, Crystal Schreck, would video their entrance so I could use it later for a promo.

The book launch turned out to be a fun party. Eleven Harleys roared down the street, circled around and parked in front of my house. Family, writing friends, riding friends, and church friends all turned out to celebrate my debut novel. Guests were treated to *Overnighter* original design temporary tattoos, commemorative poker chips, food, and cake. Some people brought copies of the *Overnighter* for me to sign, while others bought books from me there.

After ten years, numerous SCBWI conferences, hundreds of agent rejections, and six versions of my book, it felt great to celebrate the book birthday of The Overnighter.

In the slow-paced, turbulent publishing world, we need to enjoy every milestone.



Jodi Rizzoto is SoCal's co-Assistant Regional Advisor. Her writing genres include MG and YA contemporary fantasy, and speculative short stories for adults.

Don't Quit

by Kelly Powers

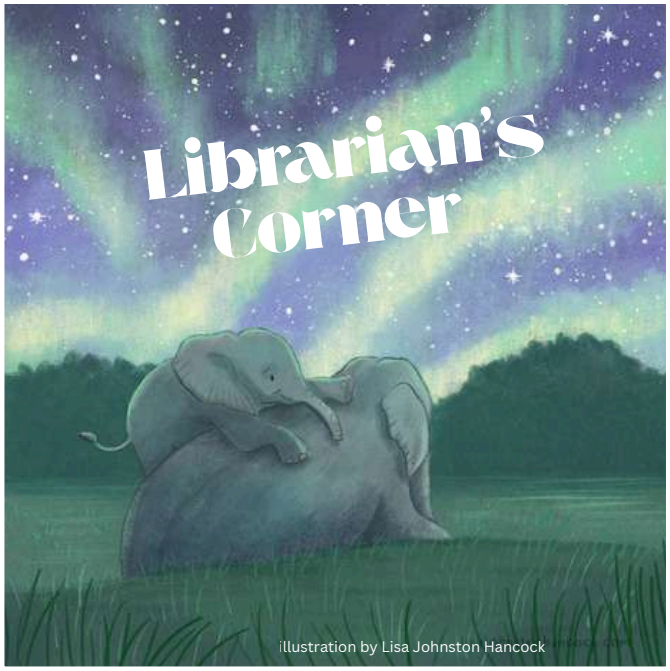


illustration by Lisa Johnston Hancock

I work in what would be called a small school library. From my desk, I can easily see from one side of the room to the other, and my shelves hold roughly twelve-thousand books. Though that would be quite a few in a home, for a library, it's miniscule.

Still, as I look out at my packed shelves, I see something most don't: hope. Each of these authors, from the writers who only have their debut novels out, to the prolific ones like R.L. Stine, every single one of them started where we are now. With an idea and the dream of one day seeing their name on a book on a shelf.

Though I know we've all heard the rags-to-riches stories, and we've all placated ourselves with the knowledge that even Stephen King had a wall of rejection letters in his bedroom, it doesn't change the fact that writing is hard. Everyone in every position in the publishing process will tell you the same. It takes dedication, research, time, and that's just to get a rough draft finished! To see a manuscript published also takes fortitude, luck, and a persistence that goes far beyond what would seem reasonable to a normal person.



illustration by Heather Soodak

Your book is and forever will be a piece of you. As writers, we store a fraction of our soul in every story, then try to steel ourselves for the inevitable pain as we send that piece out into the world, hoping someone will find it and love it as much as we do. And unfortunately, we find most do not — " that is, until someone does.

Your story, your soul, has merit, and though times are tough right now, people are still getting through. Debuts are still being published. Voices once silenced are now being heard. If this project isn't working for you, try another, and another until something clicks. With each bit of soul we weave into our narratives, we understand more about ourselves and invite others to learn and grow with us.

So, please, don't quit.

After all, my little library is proof that dreams can and do come true.

Kelly Powers has been a member of SCBWI for over ten years and leads one of the MG/YA critique groups for the SoCal Chapter. She's been a lover of kid-lit since she was old enough to hold a book in her hands and has turned that passion into a career as a junior high school librarian.

GRAMMAR NERD

by Tim Burke



Should've, could've, would've

the "ve" in these words does NOT mean "of." It's short for "have."

These words are the equivalents of
"**should have**," "**could have**," and "**would have**," respectively —
NOT "should of," "could of," or "would of."

You should've told me = You should **have** told me.
He could've won = He could **have** won.

Misplaced/Dangling Modifiers

(place the phrase next to whatever the phrase is talking about)

Wrong: Riding my bike down the street, a dog attacked me.
(the dog is not riding my bike. The phrase needs to be next to "I.")
Correct: Riding my bike down the street, I was attacked by a dog.
Correct: While I was riding my bike down the street, a dog attacked me.

Wrong: Angry with me, I climbed out the window before Dad could wallop me.
Correct: Angry with me, Dad just missed grabbing me as I climbed out the window.
(I'm not angry with me. Place the phrase next to Dad)

Wrong: Hungry for the taste of a human, I dodged the monster and took off down the street.
(The monster — not "I" — is hungry.)
Correct: I dodged the monster, hungry for the taste of a human, and took off down the street.
Correct: Hungry for the taste of a human, the monster grabbed for me as I took off down the street.

Wrong: Quaking in my boots, the monster chased me.
(Who's doing the quaking?)
Correct: Quaking in my boots, I was chased by the monster.

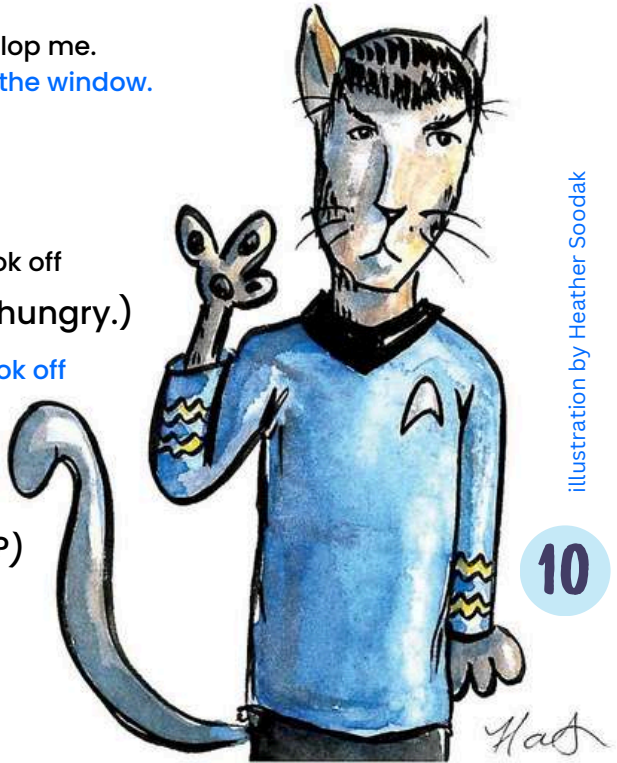


illustration by Heather Soodak

monster by Carrie Schneider

Idioms

on purpose v.s. by accident (NOT "on" accident)

Correct:
He failed the test on purpose to anger his parents.

Wrong:
I tripped on accident and fell hard to the pavement.

Correct:
I tripped by accident and fell hard to the pavement.



Prepositions

in (location) v.s. **into** (motion/going into something)

Location
He walked in the room.
(He's already in the room and walking around inside the room).

Motion
He walked into the room.
(He started outside the room and moved into the room)

between (two things) v.s. **among** (more than two)

Correct: There was an argument between the two brothers.

Wrong: There was an argument between the three brothers.
Correct: There was an argument among the three brothers.

Tim Burke *is a former SoCal chapter RA. He writes MG and YA. He has had short stories published in the two national adult Crime Fiction magazines Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine and Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine. Is repped by Jennie Kendrick/Red Fox Literary. Genuflects daily to his four-pawed Uberlord, Shadow. You can contact him at tim@timburketales.com and visit his website at www.timburketales.com .*

KILLER Openings

compiled by Tim Burke

"There was no warning the night the wall went up."
A Night Divided by Jennifer A. Nielsen

"When I was little, a kid pointed at me on the playground and shouted, 'Her arms fell off!'."
Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus by Dusti Bowling

"Until September 5th, the day the gray rolled in and choked Seattle's sky with ash, Nomi had almost forgotten about the prophecy."
When Tomorrow Burns by Tae Keller

"Day 1
I think I might be dead."
That's Not My Name by Megan Lally

"The Seven Werewolf Courts enforce few laws."
Bitten by Jordan Stephanie Gray

"For example, on the eve of what would come to be known as one of the most monumental days of my life, I was hauling around an old ice cream bucket just in case I wasn't done feeling sick."
Trust Fall by Lynn Painter

"This is a story about magic and where it goes and perhaps more importantly where it comes from and why, although it doesn't pretend to answer all or any of these questions."
Equal Rites by Terry Pratchett

"YOU. You've chosen and chosen well. Maybe this one will be the one who stops you. Maybe she'll be different. Maybe she'll be enough."
The Naturals by Jennifer Lynn Barnes

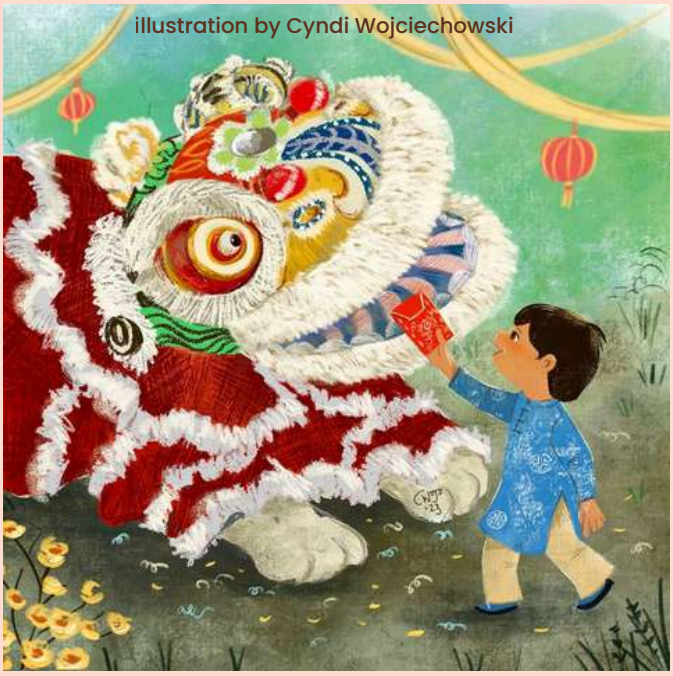


illustration by Cyndi Wojciechowski

"Caviar is disgusting, and anyone who says otherwise is a liar.."
Falling Like Leaves by Misty Wilson

"The best day of my life happened when I was five and almost died at Disney World. I'm sixteen now, so you can imagine that's left me with quite a few days of major suckage."
Going Bovine by Libba Bray

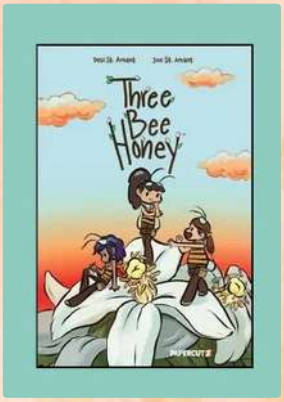
"It's hard to imagine what my parents were thinking when they decided to name me Shakespeare. They were probably drunk, considering the fact that my father is an alcoholic and my mother gets loopy after one glass of wine.."
Spanking Shakespeare by Jake Wizner



Member GOOD NEWS

Compiled by Desi St. Amant

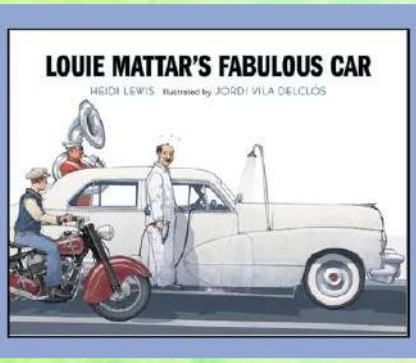
The first volume of Desi St. Amant's debut middle grade graphic novel series, THREE BEE HONEY, came out on October 20, 2026 with Papercutz!
It is illustrated by her husband, Jon St. Amant. They're also available for school and library visits and interactive workshops. The series is about three bee sisters who find an unusual way to save their endangered hive, blending a story about friendships and adventure with bee science. Instagram: @st.amantstories, TikTok and YouTube:@stamantstories, Website: stamantstories.com



Su Moon's debut picture book, VLAD IS MAD! came to bookstores August 4, 2026.



Vlad is a young vegan vampire working on his emotional regulation. He's so mad, he turns FRUIT-BATS! With the help of his dad, can he turn his mood around? Instagram: @sailor_smoon, Website: https://www.smoon.studio



Heidi Lewis' nonfiction picture book, LOUIE MATTAR'S FABULOUS CAR, published by Creative Editions and illustrated by Jordi Vila Delclòs, was released on August 11th!
Bluesky: @heidilewis.bsky.social, Instagram: @heidilewisauthor, Website: http://www.heidilewis.info

Charlotte Van Ryswyk's middle grade cozy steampunk fantasy, THE SECRET OF THE MOON DIAL: A TALE OF TURICUM, came out on August 18, 2026. Instagram: @turicum_tales, Website: charlottevanryswyk.com



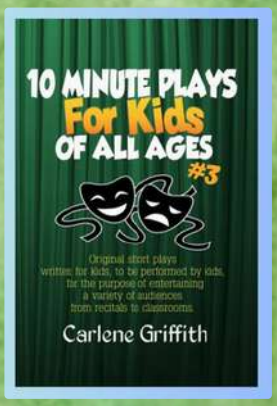
If you are a SoCal member who has good news to share, we'd like to celebrate you by announcing it on social media and our website. You must be a SCBWI SoCal member and you must "follow" our region on SCBWI.org. Check out our SCBWI SoCal regional page for more information. To share your good news: Visit https://socal.scbwi.org/member-good-news/ and fill out the online form.

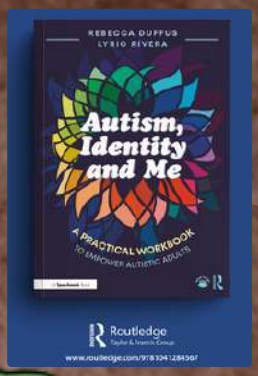
Alexandra Evans has recently published her first children's book, THE STAR WHO LOST HER SHINE, with fellow SCBWI member, Matilde Sannito.
It was a top new release on Amazon its first week of publication! Social: @alexhueyevanswrites, Website: Alexhueyevans.com



Carlene Griffith is excited to share that Volume 3 of her #1 Bestselling 10 MINUTE PLAYS FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES was released on October 27th!

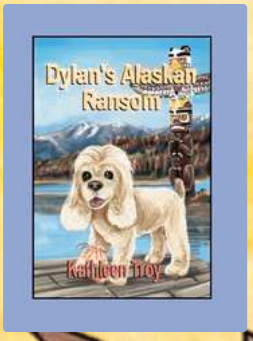
Social:
Instagram: @cmgriffith123
FB: @carlene.fieldgriffith
Website: www.carlenegriffith.com





Carrie Schneider illustrated this AUTISM, IDENTITY AND ME workbook written by Rebecca Duffus and Lyric Rivera (Neurodivergent Rebel)

It publishes in November, and is available for pre-order now! Find it on the Routledge website, and see the children's version as well.



Kathleen Troy has published her latest cozy mystery, DYLAN'S ALASKAN RANSOM. Dylan, Casey, and Sumo travel to Alaska to compete in the annual Sleuth Contest, hoping to win prize money for lifesaving treatments for sick children. But before the contest can even begin, the famous Dylan's Dog Squad detective team is pulled into a dangerous new race to solve a heist. Social: @kathleentroyauthor, Website: https://www.kathleentroy.com/



Christine Rivera Creque's debut picture book THE SAME LUNA is available now!

A heartwarming picture book that celebrates Puerto Rican culture, family traditions, and the universal search for belonging — for bicultural and bilingual families everywhere.

Socials: Instagram: @authorchristineriveracreque
Website: https://christineriveracreque.com

Tina Athaide is excited to share her new book SUNSHINE IN THE MONSOONS, a moving grandmother - grandchild picture book that reminds us to look for the silver lining in even the biggest storm clouds.
Socials: @IG: @tinaathaide
[X]: @tinaathaide
Threads: @tinaathaide
FB: @tinaathaide
Website: https://www.tinaathaide.com



Busy Bees!

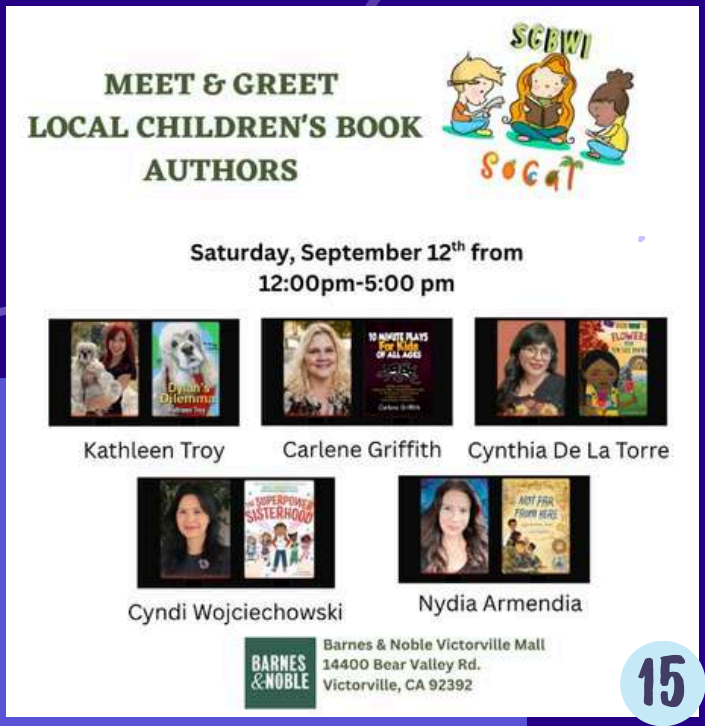
Fall/Winter 2026

September was a busy time for SCBWI SoCal authors and illustrators. SCBWI SoCal secured a booth at the 2026 Orange County Children's Book Festival held on Sunday, Sept 20th at Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa where published authors took shifts throughout the day to promote their books. When asked what they thought about the event author, KIM DAVIS said, "It is a fantastic way to showcase local authors and illustrators who might not be known to the audience of readers. It was well organized and I loved the various activities planned throughout the day that pulled in families from across Southern California." When asked the same, LYNETTE TOWNSEND said, "When I arrived for my afternoon time slot, I loved seeing our booth filled with children and their parents.





On September 12th, authors and illustrators had the opportunity to participate in Barnes & Noble Victorville's Meet & Greet Author and Illustrator book signing event in Victorville, CA at the Victor Valley Mall.

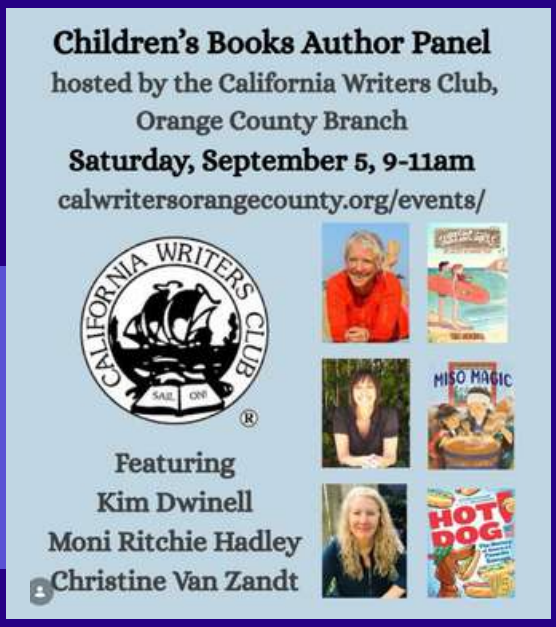


Busy Bees!

Fall Winter 2026



September 5th, authors participated in the Children's Books Panel hosted by Californa Writers club of Orange County branch, Anaheim.



In-person meetups are happening! On November 1st, authors from the Inland Empire Critique group met up for Dinner and Drinks at the BabaLoo Lounge in Palm Desert to celebrate one of their own, Jeff King's, new album "What's the Key to Finding the Key!' release on Spotify. What a great way to encourage one another on this creative journey of ours.

Announcement!



SCBWI SOCAL HAS A NEW ILLUSTRATOR COORDINATOR:

Nadia Roldan

Welcome to Nadia Roldan as our new Co-Illustrator Coordinator! Nadia became a member of SCBWI in 2011. When it comes to her art, she loves to work in watercolor and digitally. She has a B.A in art education from SCULB and a MFA in illustration from the Academy of Arts.

If you want to read about her, she's featured in our illustrator interview.

Stay updated on all things SCBWI.org. Subscribe to the SoCal Chapter today, so you can be informed of events and opportunities in your neighborhood.

NEW UPDATED GENERATIVE AI POLICY

The following addenda apply to all members, whether you're seeking traditional publication or choosing alternative publishing, including hybrid or self-publishing. We have given careful thought to these points and feel they will best protect the creativity and integrity of the work SCBWI members create.

Generative AI is not to be used to generate, rewrite, illustrate, or alter any portion of work, including but not limited to Awards, Grants, Scholarships, Draw This, the Member Bookstore, the illustrator gallery, BookStop, the portfolio showcases, pitching events, critiques, or consultations at any SCBWI global or regional events or conferences.

When submitting text or illustrations to any of the above, members must check the box on the submission form confirming that no GenAI was used in the creation of their text or images. We will not accept submissions without this declaration.

Members must remove any GenAI created content from the SCBWI website by December 31, 2026. This includes any such content in the member bookstore or the illustrator gallery.

SCBWI reserves the right to disqualify submissions or rescind awards if they are discovered to have been created with GenAI.

Finalists may be asked to provide evidence of the development of their submitted work, such as preliminary sketches, drafts, revision history, layered source files, or other process documentation. Failure to provide reasonable process evidence may result in disqualification.

A panel of Advisory Council members will review the process evidence on a case-by-case basis if the submission is believed to have been created with GenAI. SCBWI will not be using AI detectors to assist in this process.

For more information see SCBWI Generative AI Policy Questions and Answers on SCBWI.org

News, Opportunities, & Upcoming Events!



Registration for 2027 New York Conference Opens October 29!

Register for an unforgettable in-person event with keynotes by Pete Oswald and Catia Chien, industry panels, one-on-one critiques, a half-day illustrator intensive, and much more. Limited seats available!

SAVE THE DATE

Winter conference NYC March 5-7, 2027, Registration Opens Oct 29th

OC Book Fair November 14th Old town Tustin

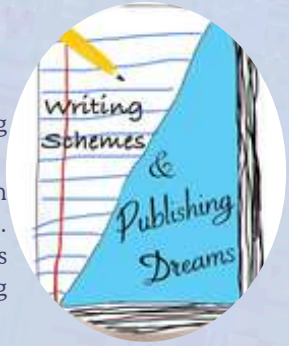


HAVE A BOOK THAT CAME OUT BETWEEN January 1, 2024 and December 31, 2026?

SCBWI Members: Promote your Work and create your own page on BookStop 2026 for only $25

SCBWI BOOKSTOP

(PLEASE NOTE: Books created using Generative AI (including text, images, book covers, or illustrations) are NOT ELIGIBLE for inclusion in BookStop.)



Writing Schemes & Publishing Dreams is a writing podcast **Brett Jewell** and **Liz Turney** developed as a result of the connection we formed in our SCBWI critique group. We decided to share our writing discussions with the world, hoping it will help aspiring authors navigating the world of writing and We discuss our journeys, the craft, challenges writers face, lessons we've learned, tools we use, and realities of becoming an author. We cover a variety of topics from finding your voice and developing unforgettable characters to revision, querying, publishing, and everything in between. All presented with a fun combination of learning and laughter. In the future we also plan to interview authors as a way to help promote their author journeys and books, so if anyone is interested, they are welcome to reach out.

We invite everyone to check us out, let us know what topics and questions you want discussed most, and subscribe so you can listen/watch the latest episodes.

Spotify: Writing Schemes and Publishing Dreams
YouTube: @WritingSchemesPublishingDreams
TikTok: @writingschemes
Instagram: @writingschemespodcast
Threads: @writingschemespodcast
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Artist Contributions:

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- **Sheila Fein**
- **Lisa Johnston Hancock**
- **Heather Soodak**
- **Carrie Schneider**
- **Cyndi Wojciechowski**



illustration by Heather Soodak



illustration by Carolyn Le