



Illustrator Update - February 2026

Oregon SCBWI Special Events!



Save the Date!

2026 Oregon SCBWI Conference

When: May 30th

Where: Wingspan Conference Center, Hillsboro. *We can't wait to celebrate, connect, and create with you!*

Registration Opening March 7!

(Shout out to conference logo illustrator Gabrielle Ferroggiaro)

Exciting News!

As if the conference itself wasn't exciting enough, we're delighted to announce that there will be a **Portfolio Showcase** at the May Oregon SCBWI conference! This exhibition highlights Oregon SCBWI illustrators' work and includes awards and prizes. Spots will be limited and filled on a first-come, first-served basis (approximately 25 spots available).

We're also offering a **First Look** live illustration critique with conference faculty — a real-time, group feedback session with only 10 spots available, also first come, first served.

Registration is expected to open March 7, so start polishing those portfolios and mark your calendar! You'll want to register early to take advantage of these amazing opportunities!

Oregon SCBWI February Featured Illustrator



Brianna Rose Lengel
Oregon SCBWI Featured Illustrator

Our February Featured Illustrator is Brianna Rose Lengel! Brianna brings a rich mix of fine art training, graphic design, and picture book storytelling to her work. From redrawing Beatrix Potter as a kid to exploring dramatic light, surreal influences, and bold design today, Brianna's creative path is layered and evolving. [Brianna's Website](#)

Featured Illustrator



Would You Like To Be Featured in 2026?

[CONTACT US](#) and tell us a bit about yourself: include a link to your website, online portfolio or social media. *It's your time to SHINE!*



VIRTUAL Draw Together - Join Us!



For folks who can't make it to our monthly in-person **Draw Together** sessions, Jordan and Robin (your Illustrator Coordinators) are hosting a limited series of online gatherings this winter.

During our **winter meetings** we'll ask a few questions and *learn from you* how to make these gatherings useful and fun. At the March meet up, we'll decide (together) whether or not to continue. If you're interested, your participation is *essential* for these online gatherings to continue.

Joins us for one of the remaining two calls:

Monday, **February 23rd**: 7 - 8:30 pm | Monday, **March 23rd**: 7 - 8:30 pm

[Meeting link HERE](#), and on the **Draw Together** Oregon website page. Questions? **contact us: oregon-ic2@scbwi.org, or oregon-ic@scbwi.org**

Draw Together

Join us for the next in-person **Draw Together Gatherings** in these areas - say 'hello' to your hosts and **INVITE FRIENDS!**



KASSY KEPPOL, FLORENCE



AVERY JEPSON, PORTLAND

FLORENCE DRAW TOGETHER

FEB: Friday, Feb. 27th
MAR: Friday, Mar. 27th

TIME: 5-7pm
WHERE: Florence Regional Art Alliance, 120 Maple Street, Florence
| HOST: Kassy Keppol

PORTLAND DRAW TOGETHER

MAR: Monday, March. 9th
APR: Monday, April 13th

TIME: 6-7:30pm
WHERE: Honey Latte Café, 1033 SE Main Street, Portland
HOST: Avery Jepson

HAVE FUN • DRAW TOGETHER • CHAT WITH OLD FRIENDS • MEET NEW ONES!

If you would like to start a Draw Together group near you, contact us [here](#).



SCBWI VIRTUAL & HYBRID Event Listings

• Here are a few of SCBWI regional listings for illustrators and Author/Illustrators. More listings are available and they're updated often: [click the link above to find out more.](#)

Great for Illustrators:

Color Theory with Jan Betton

A Colorful Tale: Storytelling with Color Theory Do you ever struggle with picking a palette or would you like to learn more about how color works? Calling all illustrators! Color provides impact, mood, and is a way of focusing attention. Learn how to use color to emphasize storytelling. Add to your toolbox with this virtual workshop on color theory. Author, illustrator and teacher, Jen Betton will talk about how to use color for maximum impact in your work, using examples from illustration and animation.

Presented by SCBWI NY Metro (\$10 Members)

February 26, 2026
7:30 - 9pm EST

[Learn More](#)

Great for Illustrators:

Style: An Illustrator's Tool

"Stick to one style!" "Only show one style in your portfolio, otherwise art directors and editors won't know what they're going to get." Like many illustrators, you may have heard this advice ad verbatim. But is it really true? In this talk, children's book illustrator Charlie Mylie will dive deep into visual "style". Mylie will share a theory of how style is created, what it means, and what we can do with it as artists.

Presented by SCBWI KS/MO (\$15 Members)

Speaker: Charlie Mylie

**February 28th, 2026
1-2pm CST**

[Learn More](#)

Great for Illustrators:

Yes and . . . with Corinna Luyken

A discussion of picture books, improvisation, mistakes, creative uncertainty, ugly art, and the benefits of a cat-proof cabinet with acclaimed author-illustrator Corinna Luyken, creator of *The Book of Mistakes*, *My Heart*, and *The Tree in Me*.

Presented by SCBWI Rocky Mountain (\$20 Members)

Presenter: Corinna Luyken

**March 17, 2026
7-8:15pm MST**

[Learn More](#)

Great for Illustrators:

The Novelty of Graphic Novels

The March Oregon Level Up webinar will feature award-winning author/illustrator Mark Fearing! This event will explore the history of graphic novels, current expectations of the format, and the techniques that make them work. Through rich examples, Mark "pops the hood" on workflow, pacing, art style, and the challenges of storytelling across panels, offering a technically and historically grounded perspective on this rapidly evolving form. You'll come away inspired to push your creativity and deepen your understanding of the fundamentals behind compelling graphic novels for young readers. A recording will be available for 30 days. Registration closes March 22.

Presented by Oregon SCBWI (\$10 Members)

Speaker: Mark Fearing

**March 25, 2026
7-8pm PST**

[Learn More](#)





Check out other
SCBWI Opportunities:

[SCBWI AWARDS AND GRANTS](#)

[FEBRUARY DRAW THIS](#)

[SCBWI PODCASTS](#)



Hello from the Co-Cos: Your Illustrator Coordinator Team



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As we move through February, a reminder that the work you're doing—sketching, revising, observing, dreaming—all counts. Growth in illustration is rarely linear, and so much of it happens quietly before it ever shows up on the page. Stay curious, stay connected, and keep making space for the kind of work only you can make.



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