

**San Antonio Society of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators
Newsletter
February 2010**

Website: <http://www.scbwi-swtx.org>



Illustrator: Heather Powers

Letter from RA

With 2010 off to a running start and resolutions already beginning to fade, I think one of the most important things to ask yourself is how badly do you want to work in the field of children's books? There are sacrifices to be made, a commitment of time that needs to be treasured, work that has to fit into the rest of your daily responsibility. The only way to succeed and see those dreams come to reality is to find the perseverance to work toward your goals. Fight for those dreams and carve out a way to fit your writing and illustrating into the rest of your life. There is a kid out there who needs your story, a child who dreams of being carried away by your artwork. Keep moving forward for yourself and for them!

I hope to see a few of you in Austin at their conference. There is still time to make plans to attend the Houston conference in February.

Sincerely,
Heather Powers
Regional Advisor

2010 Schedule

March 20 – Lupe Ruiz- Flores on – **Historical Fiction (Research)** – What compels you to write about a certain topic? What is it you want to explore about it? Learn the nuts & bolts of how to discover those tiny nuggets of truth that will make your story. Join us from 10 a.m. – 12 noon at University of the Incarnate Word.

April 14-17th – **TLA Conference**

May 15 – Annual Critiquenic

July 17- Schmooze at Barnes & Noble, round table discussions

Sept. 18 – 2010 Editor's Day

November 20 – TBA

Upcoming Conferences

Houston Conference

February 20, 2010

TLA IN SAN ANTONIO!

The SCBWI Texas Chapters Booth

Our own SCBWI chapter will play an important role in this year's Texas Library Association (TLA) Conference, to be held April 14 - 17 at the Henry B.

Gonzalez Convention Center, San Antonio.

Each year, the SCBWI sponsors a booth at TLA to promote all our Texas chapters. As the event takes place in our own neighborhood this year, our chapter is coordinating the booth and seeking volunteers.

Please note there is an entrance fee for TLA. We are asking members who are already planning to attend TLA to consider signing up to spend a couple hours at our booth. Your role will be to greet librarians and other visitors, register them for our giveaway drawings for our members' books, and pass out the SCBWI Texas Author and Illustrator Speakers Sourcebook.

The Author and Illustrator Speakers Sourcebook

Our chapter also will create the 2010 Author and Illustrator Sourcebook, showcasing our SCBWI Texas PAL members who offer school and library programs. There is a small fee for inclusion which we will announce after accounting for costs. Those who participate are asked to donate one or more of their books for the giveaway drawing.

If you previously have been listed in the sourcebook and have been contacted by a librarian or school, we'd love to hear your "success story."

To volunteer for our booth, request inclusion in the Sourcebook or share your success story, please contact Catherine Stier, SCBWI-SWTX Special Events Co-coordinator. Email her at info@catherinestier.com.

More details on the TLA booth and Sourcebook to follow soon!

- *Contributed by Catherine Stier*

Librarian Panel

The Librarian Panel session moderated by Peggy Caravantes on January 16 was well attended. If you were unable to make it, here are a few items that were covered. Most requested types of books: **Fiction:** Manga (graphic novels), romance novels, vampires, angels, spirits, wizards, supernatural themes. **Nonfiction:** Gardening, composting, habitats, books for all seasons, topics on Native Americans, science experiments for all ages, pets. **Children:** Bilingual books for children and teens. Silly monsters, super heroes, scary stuff, science fiction and Texas specific ones. **Middle grade:** Weird stuff, believe it or not, ghosts. **Note:** Nonfiction is becoming huge and they need books for the early grades. **School visits:** Author should be engaging, not just read the book. Kids go to author's websites so make it interesting, i.e., post your picture, where you write or illustrate, your pet, your journal, etc. A big thanks to Peggy for putting this together.

Scholarships Available for Highlights Summer Workshop

Applications for scholarships to the Highlights Foundation Children's Writers Workshop at [Chautauqua](#) are now being accepted. The final deadline is February 12, but you are encouraged to apply as early as possible. For more information on the Foundation Scholarship Program or to receive an application form, contact: Kent L. Brown Jr., Executive

Director, The Highlights Foundation,
570-253-1192,
klbrown@highlightsfoundation.org.

Blooming Tree Press Contest

Miriam Hess has announced the 2010 Blooming Press book contract contest for unpublished book writers. This year it is a YA light romance category. Winning this award will result in the offer of a publishing contract for one lucky winner. Submissions start on May 17 and end on October 31, 2010. For more information and to view the 2010 Bloom Award Submission Guidelines, visit their [blog](#).

-- Contributed by Christine Kohler

Blooming Tree Press is a small press located in Austin, Texas. They have created a new imprint, Ready Blade, which will focus on graphic novels. If you know of any local (Texas) illustrators with a style similar in maturity to the Spider-Man or X-Men comics, please pass along the contact information for Ready Blade to Bradford Hees, at bloomingtree@gmail.com.

--contributed by Diandra Mae

Google Claims Procedures Simplified

The Authors Guild has sent a message to its members about a simplified way authors can file a claim to ensure their works get the benefits they are entitled to under the Google Book Search settlement. Authors, or their agents, can submit their bibliography of works covered by the settlement to the claims administrator at BookSettlement@RustConsulting.com. Authors who are unsure if their works are covered in the settlement are advised to submit all titles. In addition to

their name and title of the book, authors can include ISBN, publisher and place and year of publication. "Some authors and agents found the claiming process cumbersome," said Guild executive director Paul Aiken. "The new procedure allows authors to simply e-mail their bibliographies. Sending in additional information such as ISBNs is helpful, but completely optional."

By filing the claim, authors will be eligible to manage their books that are covered by the settlement if the agreement is approved. Filing a claim will also allow authors to receive payment for books covered in the agreement. With books from publishers in most parts of the world now out of the agreement, payment per book could very well go beyond \$60 per title. Deadline for submitting a book to receive a cash payment is March 31, 2011. – *Publishers Weekly* (1/12/2010)

Newbery Medalist Katherine Paterson adds the title of National Ambassador for Young People's Literature to her long list of honors. In a ceremony at the Library of Congress, Librarian of Congress James H. Billington officially named Paterson — who succeeds the first children's ambassador, [Jon Scieszka](#)—to the position. -- *Karen Springen* -- *Publishers Weekly*, 1/5/2010

'Kirkus' to Continue Publication

Magazine asks publishers to send galleys for review

In an email to colleagues today, *Kirkus Reviews* managing editor and nonfiction editor Eric Liebetrau said the publication, which last month was said to be [closing](#) with [staff leaving by the](#)

end of 2009, is working toward an arrangement with an acquiring company to continue publication. Liebetrau said details will be forthcoming in the next two to three weeks, but asked publishers to “please begin sending galleys to the appropriate editors immediately. We will publish a second issue in January, and then reassess the situation and hopefully continue publication in February and beyond.” -- *Publishers Weekly*, 1/5/2010

Lerner Publishing Buys Darby Creek

Lerner Publishing Group has acquired the assets of Darby Creek Publishing and will operate the company as an imprint. The purchase includes 58 titles aimed at the K-12 school library market as well as the trade market. It specializes in books for reluctant readers. Lerner has distributed Darby Creek titles since 2003 and with the purchase all editorial, manufacturing, sales and marketing will be done through Lerner’s Minneapolis office. Darby Creek’s Columbus, Ohio location will be closed. Lerner editor-in-chief Mary Rodgers will oversee the Darby Creek imprint and an editorial director is expected to be appointed. -- *Publishers Weekly*, 1/5/2010

FSG’s Ferguson Gets Her Own Imprint

Margaret Ferguson, a 30-year veteran of Farrar, Straus, and Giroux who has served for the past 16 years as publisher and editorial director at FSG Books for Young Readers, will launch an eponymous imprint with FSG, called Margaret Ferguson Books, in 2011. The imprint was announced Monday in a memo to staffers from FSG BFYR

publisher Simon Boughton, in which he called Ferguson “the heart, soul, and brains of the Farrar, Straus & Giroux children’s publishing program.” The imprint will publish approximately 15 titles per year, across all age ranges and formats. *By John A. Sellers -- Publishers Weekly*

2010 Newbery Medal

When You Reach Me by Rebecca Stead is the 2010 Newbery Medal winner. To view the rest of the 2010 Newbery Honor Awards, Caldecott, Bulpre, and a host of others, visit [The Shelf Talker: A Children’s Bookseller Blog](#) in *Publishers Weekly* online website.

Southwest Texas SCBWI Advisory Board

Regional Advisor – Heather Powers

Newsletter Editor

Lupe Ruiz-Flores

Special Events Coordinators

Maritha Burmeister (conference)
Catherine Stier (TLA booth)

Hospitality Coordinator

Amalia Mondriquez (also conference co-chair)

Illustrator Chair

Jennifer Zinsmeyer Murillo

Bi-Monthly Meeting Coordinator

Peggy Caravantes

Member News

This article originally appeared in PW's Children's Bookshelf

(Excerpt): Arte Público Press is marking its 30th anniversary and the 15th anniversary of its children's imprint, Piñata Books, with the launch of Latino Children's Wellness, a program dedicated to combating childhood obesity and the health problems associated with it.

The press plans to publish two books in the series per year, and will give away copies of **Diane Gonzales Bertrand's** *Adelita and the Calabacita Cousins* later in 2010. – *By Judith Rosen, Publishers Weekly*

Newsletter Input

Please send any author/children's books news for the March newsletter to [newsletter editor](#) by February 22, 2010.



Illustrator: Heather Powers

Happy Valentine's Day!

Blog/Twitter Roundup

We want to support those members who are trying out social media to promote their writing and illustrating. These members responded to the roundup.

Carolyn Flores

Website: www.carolynflores.com

Peni Griffin

Website:

<http://users.idworld.net/griffin/0writing.htm>

Blog: <http://penigriffin.blogspot.com/>

Kristi Holl

Website: www.KristiHoll.com

Blog: <http://institutechildrenslit.net/Writers-First-Aid-blog>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/profile.php?id=100000124793583>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/KristiHoll>

Heather Powers

Twitter: www.twitter.com/HPIllustration

Blog:

<http://www.humbleartsjournal.blogspot.com>

Lupe Ruiz-Flores

Website: www.luperuiz-flores.com

Blog: www.luperuiz-flores.blogspot.com

Catherine Stier

Twitter: www.twitter.com/Catherine_Stier

Blog: <http://catherinestier.blogspot.com/>

Website: www.catherinestier.com

Catherine Winn

Blog:

<http://catherineawinn.blogspot.com>