

PLEASE NOTE: YOU ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT A QUERY TO A MAXIMUM OF TWO EDITORS OR AGENTS WHOSE INTENSIVE BREAKOUTS YOU HAVE ATTENDED. PLEASE BE SURE TO TARGET YOUR SUBMISSIONS CAREFULLY ACCORDING TO THE GUIDELINES GIVEN TO YOU BY THE SESSION LEADERS. WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO USE AT LEAST ONE OF YOUR BREAKOUT CHOICES FOR THE RARE HANDS-ON OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH OUR MASTER STORYTELLERS.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8 9:45AM - 12:15PM

G **FOUR MINUTES OF FAME: PITCH YOUR STORY TO AGENTS PATRICE CALDWELL & CHELSEA EBERLY**

Come hone your querying skills in a live presentation before a small group. In this interactive session, attendees will have two minutes to pitch their stories to Patrice and Chelsea – [this can be a verbal elevator pitch, a reading of a query letter, or a reading of your story's first page](#). It's up to you. Patrice and Chelsea will then have one minute each to let you know how they'd respond if your pitch showed up in their submission file.

PATRICE CALDWELL - AGENT, HOWARD MORHAIM LITERARY AGENCY
CHELSEA EBERLY - AGENT, GREENHOUSE LITERARY AGENCY

LG **PICTURE BOOKS FROM ROUGH DRAFT TO SUBMISSION READY**

This deep-dive workshop will cover the strategies and techniques for writing and revising picture book manuscripts so they are submission ready. Topics to be covered include voice, pacing and pagination, word choice, and what makes a submission stand out to an editor and agent, as well as specific revision methods for nonfiction.

LESA CLINE-RANSOME - AUTHOR
CONNIE HSU - EXECUTIVE EDITOR, ROARING BROOK PRESS/MACMILLAN PUBLISHING
ALEXANDRA PENFOLD - AGENT, UPSTART CROW LITERARY AGENCY

G **THE MAGIC OF VOICE: HOW TO FIND AND DEVELOP A UNIQUE SOUND IN YOUR WRITING**

Agents and editors always say they are looking for "voice". But what does that mean for writers and how do you achieve this elusive goal? With inspiring ideas, practical suggestions, and discussion of writing examples, plus Q&A, Sarah will draw on her several decades in the book business to demonstrate how you can develop your voice skills, and discover yourself in your writing. [Attendees should bring a writing sample \(no more than half a page, either your own work or from a published book\) which you think demonstrates voice. The session will also include a writing exercise, so bring a notepad or laptop.](#)

SARAH DAVIES - FOUNDER/AGENT, GREENHOUSE LITERARY AGENCY

G **WRITING GENRE FICTION (SCIENCE FICTION, FANTASY, AND HORROR)**

Whether you're just starting out or revising your work in progress, this session will help you navigate writing effective genre fiction and avoid common pitfalls. Among the topics we will cover: To prologue or not to prologue, how to approach world-building, avoiding the dreaded infodump, how to balance world-building with plot and character, and the questions to ask yourself along the way. This session will include writing exercises and feedback as well as a Q&A.

MELISSA FRAIN - SENIOR EDITOR, TOR BOOKS/MACMILLAN

G **SCENE BY SCENE: ON FINDING AND WRITING THE STORY OF OUR LIFE**

Before we can write the story of our life, we must remember the details, textures, and scenes that shaped the people we've become. In this immersive memoir workshop, Beth Kephart will share some of the most memorable true moments captured by Jacqueline Woodson, CeCe Bell, Marjane Satrapi, David Small, and others, deconstruct the power of the lines, and encourage participants to craft memorable scenes of their own through guided prompts. Laurie Halse Anderson will join Beth in conversation for the last half hour to discuss two of the most searing poems in Anderson's National Book Award finalist *Shout*.

BETH KEPHART - AUTHOR
LAURIE HALSE ANDERSON - AUTHOR

G **FOUR MINUTES OF FAME: PITCH YOUR STORY TO AGENTS KIRBY KIM & MARIETTA ZACKER**

Come hone your querying skills in a live presentation before a small group. In this interactive session, attendees will have two minutes to pitch their stories to Kirby and Marietta – [this can be a verbal elevator pitch, a reading of a query letter, or a reading of your story's first page](#). It's up to you. Kirby and Marietta will then have one minute each to let you know how they'd respond if your pitch showed up in their submission file.

KIRBY KIM - AGENT, JANKLOW AND NESBIT ASSOCIATES
MARIETTA ZACKER - AGENT, GALLT ZACKER LITERARY AGENCY

G **ALL THE FEELS: CRAFTING EMOTIONALLY RESONANT NOVELS**

The novels that move us, make us cry, or question what we know often make a lasting impact. And sometimes the novels that hit us the hardest are the ones we least expect. This session will delve into creating specific moments or through lines with rich emotional hooks. We will examine real-life MG and YA texts that are unexpectedly evocative, as well as those that are intentionally deeply affecting. [Please bring along a chapter/scene you wish to develop, or a one-page synopsis of your novel to work on during the session.](#)

TIARA KITTRELL - ASSISTANT EDITOR, BALZER + BRAY/HARPERCOLLINS

G **MIDDLE GRADE: TO MAGIC OR NOT TO MAGIC?**

How do you know when a story belongs grounded in realism and when to include magical or speculative elements? Are you writing a middle grade novel and unsure what genre it wants to be? This hands-on workshop with editorial director and life coach Kendra Levin will connect you with the beating heart of your middle grade work (or works)-in-progress and leave you with a compass to guide you in future genre quandaries. [Please bring at least one middle grade novel work-in-progress.](#)

KENDRA LEVIN - EDITORIAL DIRECTOR, SIMON & SCHUSTER BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

NF **FRESH APPROACHES TO INFORMATIONAL PICTURE BOOKS**

Today's informational picture books are a far cry from the nonfiction of our childhood libraries. Join author and educator Kate Messner to explore innovative mentor texts that play with voice, structure, and approach in exploring topics in history, STEM, and more. [Please bring an informational picture book manuscript in progress if you have one, or a list of ideas you'd like to explore.](#) We'll spend time engaging in some creative brainstorming and experiment with different angles and approaches to make even tried-and-true subjects feel exciting and new.

KATE MESSNER - AUTHOR

G CHARACTER STUDY: HOW TO CREATE A MEMORABLE PROTAGONIST

Who are your favorite characters of all time? You might appreciate them even more after this hands-on workshop in which we'll analyze beloved MG, YA, and chapter book characters and reflect on what makes them special. We will look closely at how voice, distinctive details, and purposeful language bring memorable protagonists to life. Please prepare a brief character description based on your own work's main character, including 3-4 short excerpts from your manuscript.

SALLY MORGRIDGE – EDITOR, HOLIDAY HOUSE

PRO MARKETING YOUR BOOK: WHAT TO DO, WHAT'S EFFECTIVE, AND WHAT'S NOT

In this intensive breakout session, Senior Marketing Director Chrissy Noh provides a rare opportunity to work with a marketing executive to figure out how children's book creators can create a successful marketing plan and work with their publishers to best position their book. Participants will learn what's effective and come away with a working marketing strategy and plan. Please bring several marketing ideas or a draft marketing plan with you to work on in the session.

CHRISSY NOH – SENIOR MARKETING DIRECTOR, SIMON & SCHUSTER CHILDREN'S PUBLISHING

I LESSON FROM A LEGEND

Jerry Pinkney is a legend in the field of children's books. His signature style of watercolor and intricate line is distinctive and admired. His masterful storytelling skills are most evident in his wordless books, and he has found unique ways to make well-known stories authentic and personal. While Jerry is celebrated for his powerful portrayal of African American characters, he also has an uncanny talent for creating humanistic and empathic animal protagonists. In this session, Marcia Leonard's questions will take us behind the legend to learn about his process and philosophy, and how he found his own path to creating picture books that capture his passions, interests and concerns. As a special treat, Jerry will demonstrate how he creates his iconic illustrations.

JERRY PINKNEY – AUTHOR/ ILLUSTRATOR

MARCIA LEONARD – INTERVIEWER, FREELANCE CHILDREN'S BOOK EDITOR, CONSULTANT, AND AUTHOR

G CREATING YOUR REVISION GAME PLAN

An intensive workshop for novelists on the process of revision, in all its forms. Areas discussed will include crafting game plans for revision, parsing feedback from others into its most helpful form, knowing when a work is finished, and successful methods and pitfalls from an editor's experience. Participants will be asked to submit a

5-page piece in advance – a section or scene that is giving them trouble. Nick will use some of these submissions as case studies. All of the samples will be revised during the workshop based on specific notes and general principles covered. Email your 5-page sample to lauriemiller@scbwi.org by December 15, 2019 with the subject line "Nick Thomas Revision Intensive Pages." **NICK THOMAS – SENIOR EDITOR, LEVINE QUERIDO**

G THE POETIC PICTURE BOOK

What is the difference between a poem and a picture book? Can you turn a poem into a picture book? And how do you make your plain picture book text more poetic? Authors Jane Yolen and Heidi E.Y. Stemple have answers and exercises to help you with all your poetry and poetic picture book questions.

JANE YOLEN – AUTHOR

HEIDI E.Y. STEMPEL – AUTHOR

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8

1:45PM - 4:15PM

I BEST PRACTICES: PUBLICITY AND MARKETING FOR ILLUSTRATORS
In today's children's book industry, the right publicity and marketing can put your books in more hands. The contributions you can bring to publicizing your book—whether a first book or one of many in a career—are constantly evolving. The sheer range of marketing options – working hand-in-hand with your publisher, employing social media, utilizing your unique connections, creating special giveaways, producing book launch events – can be overwhelming. Happily, as artists and designers, the sky is the limit to your imagination and what you can create. In this professional session, join a New York Times best-selling author-illustrator and a top marketing executive at a major publisher as we bust some myths, explore exciting possibilities, and provide tips and tricks to help your books fly.
PETER BROWN - AUTHOR/ ILLUSTRATOR
CHRISSY NOH - SENIOR MARKETING DIRECTOR, SIMON & SCHUSTER BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

I BEST PRACTICES: FROM ASSIGNMENT TO BOUND BOOK
Art Director Lily Malcom and illustrators Judy Schachner and Lian Cho will address the art director-illustrator relationship and the different ways to approach the publishing process. They will explore every step in the making of a picture book, from signing the initial contract to signing the finished book. Regardless of your publishing experience, you will learn the best ways to make the collaboration smoother and more productive for you and your partners in publishing. **The session will end with an extensive Q&A. Pre-submitted questions welcome, due January 15, to sarahbaker@scbw.org.**
LIAN CHO - ILLUSTRATOR
LILY MALCOM - EXECUTIVE ART DIRECTOR, DIAL BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS, PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE
JUDY SCHACHNER - AUTHOR/ ILLUSTRATOR

NF POINTS OF VIEW IN NONFICTION
Today's most engaging nonfiction offers not only facts, but guides readers in asking questions and offers a fresh perspective to help interpret information. **Bring a one-paragraph summary and up to five pages of a work (any age level) in progress.** We'll use models of existing books as well as

interactive exercises to examine and strengthen your project's unique point of view.
SUSAN DOBINICK - SENIOR EDITOR, NONFICTION, BLOOMSBURY CHILDREN'S BOOKS

G WHAT'S NEXT? DISCOVERING YOUR AUTHOR BRAND FOR A CAREER IN PUBLISHING
Publishing is a career, and a career means writing more than one book. So how can you take the long view and develop an author brand? What's your voice in the children's book marketplace? Discuss with a former Random House senior editor turned agent, and discover tools for finding your strengths and improving your craft accordingly. **Please be sure to bring your current work-in-progress as there will be opportunities to put these tips into practice during the session.**
CHELSEA EBERLY - AGENT, GREENHOUSE LITERARY AGENCY

G ESTABLISHING YOUR YOUNG ADULT NARRATIVE VOICE
Voice may be among the most subjective and difficult to define elements of writing, yet is one of the most vital, especially in YA. What makes an effective voice, and how do you achieve it? In this session, we'll analyze different styles and approaches, receive practical suggestions and ideas, and practice developing our own unique teen voices. This session will include writing exercises and feedback as well as a Q&A.
MELISSA FRAIN - SENIOR EDITOR, TOR BOOKS/MACMILLAN

PRO ADAPTING YOUR WORK FOR FILM, TELEVISION, AND MEDIA
This session is a special opportunity to hear from Hollywood-based Ellen Goldsmith-Vein, founder and principal of The Gotham Group, the leading management and production company in the field of children's and family entertainment. You will learn about all the platforms and media opportunities for your work, examine the business process of how book material is acquired, take a realistic look at the marketplace, and have an opportunity to briefly **present your concept in a one-minute elevator pitch.** A rare opportunity indeed!
ELLEN GOLDSMITH-VEIN, CEO/ FOUNDER, THE GOTHAM GROUP

I DRAWING RACE AUTHENTICALLY
With the increasing awareness of diversity and inclusion in children's books, the ability to capture nuanced facial features when depicting diverse characters has become an invaluable skill for illustrators. In this session, three prolific illustrators known for their distinctive styles will offer clear and frank pointers on how they capture subtle racial distinctions in their characters, from facial features to proportions, from skin tone to hair styles and texture. Through hands-on exercises that focus on seeing both the specific and the variety in individuals within each group, Vashti, Rafael and William will demonstrate how they avoid stereotypes to achieve authenticity in the wide range of races, body types, and skin tones that are represented in their books.
VASHTI HARRISON - AUTHOR/ ILLUSTRATOR
RAFAEL LOPEZ - ILLUSTRATOR
WILLIAM LOW - AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR
PAT CUMMINGS - AUTHOR/ ILLUSTRATOR

G LET'S BE HONEST: WRITING AUTHENTIC AND PERCEPTIVE STORIES FOR PICTURE BOOK READERS
In this session, we'll take a look at what makes picture book voices truthful, genuine, and engaging: from nonfiction that is fun, fresh, and appropriate to fiction that is authentic and honest. We'll cover elements like tone, writing style, and focus, along with discussion and writing exercises. **Please bring a story you're working on.**
EMMA LEDBETTER - EDITORIAL DIRECTOR OF PICTURE BOOKS, ABRAMS BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

G THE STORY ONLY YOU CAN WRITE
What is the story that you are uniquely the best person to tell? Join editorial director and life coach Kendra Levin in this workshop designed to help you unlock fictional characters and plot ideas hidden in your own life experiences and history and tap into the powerful narratives that are authentic to you. Best suited to novelists.
KENDRA LEVIN - EDITORIAL DIRECTOR, SIMON & SCHUSTER BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

LG THE PLOT THICKENS: THE GLORIOUS MESS OF PLOTTING A NOVEL

Put together a perfectionistic nine-times New York Times best-selling middle grade author and his long-suffering editor, set them loose without body armor in front of a large group of writers, and watch the magic happen. A collaborative, fun, and insightful workshop that will dive into the perils of plotting, with hands-on work involving all attendees.

PETER LERANGIS – AUTHOR
DAVID LINKER – EXECUTIVE EDITOR,
HARPERCOLLINS CHILDREN'S BOOKS

G BIG-PICTURE REVISION FOR MIDDLE GRADE AND YOUNG ADULT NOVELS

Revising a novel is about more than tweaking word choice and sentences. It requires a writer to step back and look at the big picture. In this workshop, author and educator Kate Messner shares hands-on, big-picture revision strategies that will help you strengthen your story's themes, characters, pacing, plot, and more. [Please bring a rough draft of your novel, either printed out or on your laptop, and be ready to roll up your sleeves for off-draft revision exercises that will have you seeing your manuscript in new ways.](#)

KATE MESSNER – AUTHOR

G FOUR MINUTES OF FAME: PITCH YOUR STORY TO AGENTS MIRANDA PAUL & MARIETTA ZACKER

Come hone your querying skills in a live presentation before a small group. In this interactive session, attendees will have two minutes to pitch their stories to Miranda and Marietta – [this can be a verbal elevator pitch, a reading of a query letter, or a reading of your story's first page.](#) It's up to you. Miranda and Marietta will then have one minute each to let you know how they'd respond if your pitch showed up in their submission file.

MIRANDA PAUL – AGENT, ERIN MURPHY LITERARY AGENCY
MARIETTA ZACKER – AGENT, GALLT ZACKER LITERARY AGENCY

G THE LANGUAGE OF PICTURE BOOKS

In this workshop we'll explore the many ways sentence rhythm and word choice can enhance, enrich, and echo the action of your picture book plot. [Bring along a sample of your writing to apply the discussed techniques and make specific revisions to improve the language of your book at the word and sentence level.](#)

ANN WHITFORD PAUL – AUTHOR

G FOUR MINUTES OF FAME: PITCH YOUR STORY TO AGENTS ALEXANDRA PENFOLD AND PAUL RODEEN

Come hone your querying skills in a live presentation before a small group. In this interactive session, attendees will have two minutes to pitch their

stories to Alexandra and Paul – [this can be a verbal elevator pitch, a reading of a query letter, or a reading of your story's first page.](#) It's up to you. Alexandra and Paul will then have one minute each to let you know how they'd respond if your pitch showed up in their submission file.

ALEXANDRA PENFOLD – AGENT,
UPSTART CROW LITERARY AGENCY
PAUL RODEEN – FOUNDER/AGENT,
RODEEN LITERARY AGENCY

G WRITING RE-SET

Stuck? Blocked? In a rut? Whatever the term, it's always a frustrating state for a writer. In this intensive breakout session, editor Emma Dryden and author Linda Sue Park will share techniques, strategies, approaches, and hands-on exercises to help you rediscover your writing mojo! [Bring a work-in-progress on a laptop and get ready to write.](#)

EMMA D. DRYDEN – PRINCIPAL,
DRYDENBKS
LINDA SUE PARK – AUTHOR

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

9:45AM - 12:15PM

G FOUR MINUTES OF FAME: PITCH YOUR STORY TO AGENTS PATRICE CALDWELL AND KIRBY KIM

Come hone your querying skills in a live presentation before a small group. In this interactive session, authors will have two minutes to pitch their stories to Patrice and Kirby – [this can be a verbal elevator pitch, a reading of a query letter, or a reading of your story's first page](#). It's up to you. Patrice and Kirby will then have one minute each to let you know how they'd respond if your pitch showed up in their submission file.

PATRICE CALDWELL – AGENT, HOWARD MORHAIM LITERARY AGENCY
KIRBY KIM – AGENT, JANKLOW AND NESBIT ASSOCIATES

Lg TEN PRINCIPLES OF PICTURE BOOKS

Learn about the creation of picture books from inspiration to publication with an experienced picture book writer and established editor. Each phase of the creative process will be detailed from both author and editor point of view, including the collaborative aspect of this process. If you are working on picture books and trying to perfect the craft, this workshop is for you. [Bring a sample of your writing for exercises in revision](#).

MARY CASH – VICE PRESIDENT/EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, HOLIDAY HOUSE
ANN WHITFORD PAUL – AUTHOR

NF VOICES OF OUR PAST: WRITING PICTURE BOOK BIOGRAPHIES

Author Lesa Cline-Ransome discusses how and why we choose our picture book biography subjects and the ways in which they inspire our research, revision, and writing process.

[Attendees are invited to bring a paragraph describing or proposing a new work, along with a rationale for choosing the topic and point of view](#). Through evaluation, discussion, and model texts, topics will be honed and revised to prepare for submission.

LESA CLINE-RANSOME – AUTHOR

G FOUR MINUTES OF FAME: PITCH YOUR STORY TO AGENTS SARAH DAVIES AND MIRANDA PAUL

Come hone your querying skills in a live presentation before a small group. In this interactive session, attendees will have two minutes to pitch their stories to Sarah and Miranda – [this can be a verbal elevator pitch, a reading of a query letter, or a reading of your story's first page](#). It's up to you. Sarah and Miranda will then have one minute each to let you know how they'd respond if your pitch showed up in their submission file.

SARAH DAVIES – FOUNDER/AGENT, GREENHOUSE LITERARY AGENCY
MIRANDA PAUL – AGENT, ERIN MURPHY LITERARY AGENCY

G WRITING RE-SET

Stuck? Blocked? In a rut? Whatever the term, it's always a frustrating state for a writer. In this intensive breakout session, editor Emma Dryden and author Linda Sue Park will share techniques, strategies, approaches, and hands-on exercises to help you rediscover your writing mojo! [Bring a work-in-progress on a laptop and get ready to write](#).

EMMA D. DRYDEN – PRINCIPAL, DRYDENBKS
LINDA SUE PARK – AUTHOR

I BEST PRACTICES: DIGITAL PREPRESS FOR ILLUSTRATORS

Whether your art is partially created using traditional media or it is fully digital from start to finish, there are many essential ways to create, build, and revise your files to ensure the best color and print quality in the final book (while saving much time and effort for you and your entire publishing team). In this professional session, join a publishing prepress expert, an art director, and two noted illustrators as they detail technical tips and tricks, demystify the computer screen-to-printing press process, and demonstrate in real time the best practices for creating digital illustration files.

VASHTI HARRISON – AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR
AL IMPARATO – IMAGING PREPRESS SPECIALIST, SIMON & SCHUSTER
CHRIS SILAS NEAL – AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR
LAURENT LINN – ART DIRECTOR, SIMON & SCHUSTER BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS (MODERATOR)

G THE THRILLER, FANTASY MEET-CUTE: PLAYING AROUND WITH GENRE

Most novels we read are not genre specific. YA fantasy will often include elements of romance or mystery or both. MG novels can be simultaneously sci-fi and fantasy. In this session we will explore ways to effectively weave together genres, subvert tropes and trends, or craft your own unique approach to genre. [Please bring along a short \(no more than one-page\) synopsis for your MG or YA project](#).

TIARA KITTRELL – ASSISTANT EDITOR, BALZER + BRAY/HARPERCOLLINS

G WRITING RESPONSIBLE REPRESENTATION

Whether you're writing characters within your own cultural background or not, we will discuss the benefits and challenges involved in diversifying the characters in your manuscript, and explore techniques on how to write three-dimensional and believable ("authentic") characters. We will discuss concrete examples, pitfalls to avoid, what #OwnVoices means in the industry, and examine our characters with a keen and contemporary eye.

ALVINA LING – VP/EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AT LITTLE, BROWN BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

I NOT JUST A PRETTY PICTURE: INCORPORATING NARRATIVE ELEMENTS IN YOUR ILLUSTRATION

Picture book illustration is visual storytelling requiring polished narrative skills. Illustrators Rafael Lopez and Judy Schachner will share how they create images that pull us into the story, convey a protagonist's personality, emotions, and point of view, and include transitions that make us wonder what comes next. They will analyze how the overall color palette and composition convey the story arc, and how every image does its part in telling the story—establishing mood and emotion, and using expressions and body language to describe action, reaction, and interaction. [Bring a sample of your illustration that shows a setting and at least two protagonists, a piece that you feel is technically accomplished but doesn't quite advance the story](#). During the hands-on part of the session, you will explore ways to sharpen and clarify the narrative elements.

RAFAEL LOPEZ – ILLUSTRATOR
JUDY SCHACHNER – AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR
CECILIA YUNG – EXECUTIVE ART DIRECTOR, G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS AND NANCY PAULSEN BOOKS, PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE (MODERATOR)

G CHARACTER STUDY: HOW TO CREATE A MEMORABLE PROTAGONIST

Who are your favorite characters of all time? You might appreciate them even more after this hands-on workshop in which we'll analyze beloved MG, YA, and chapter book characters and reflect on what makes them special. We will look closely at how voice, distinctive details, and purposeful language bring memorable protagonists to life. [Please prepare a brief character description based on your own work's main character, including 3-4 short excerpts from your manuscript.](#)
SALLY MORGRIDGE – EDITOR, HOLIDAY HOUSE

I WORKING OUTSIDE YOUR COMFORT ZONE

Sergio Ruzzier, the award-winning illustrator known for his whimsical and quirky characters, creates books that can be difficult to categorize. Whether you are searching for a distinctive personal style or feel it is time to push the boundaries of one that has become too comfortable, this hands-on session will help you expand your visual vocabulary. Sergio's case studies of some of his books – how he develops his characters and determines layouts that best capture the relationships, action and humor in a story – will inspire you to try new mediums, palettes, and compositions. His guided drawing exercises will offer you an opportunity to shake up any conventional response you may have had to a narrative and to find surprising new ways to approach your illustrations. [Bring a sample illustration you've done that you like but don't love . . . that you feel needs "something."](#)
SERGIO RUZZIER –AUTHOR/ ILLUSTRATOR

G VOICE, WHAT IS IT?

An intensive workshop on finding and developing voice. We will explore questions such as: What is voice? What is MY voice, and how do I capture it? Why does voice matter in a story, and how does it intersect with other qualities like characterization, setting, and plot? Participants will be asked to submit a 5-page piece in advance, some of which will be used as case studies. Participants will also write a new piece of their own in the workshop, based on specific notes and general principles covered. [Email your 5-page sample to lauriemiller@scbwi.org by December 15, 2019 with the subject line "Nick Thomas Voice Intensive Pages."](#)
NICK THOMAS – SENIOR EDITOR, LEVINE QUERIDO

G PICTURE BOOK BEGINNINGS AND ENDINGS (AND HOW TO GET FROM HERE TO THERE)

The structure of a picture book is a not at all cookie cutter. There are rules, of course, starting with arc: beginnings, middles, and ends. But it's how you get there that makes all the difference. In this workshop, authors Jane Yolen and Heidi E.Y. Stemple dive into the specifics of what makes a strong, beginning, middle, and end of a picture book. [Bring a sample of your work to revise during the session.](#)
JANE YOLEN – AUTHOR
HEIDI E.Y. STEMPLER – AUTHOR

PRO HARSH REALITIES: THE BUSINESS SIDE OF BOOK PUBLISHING

This session will encompass an inside look at how children's publishers think about advances, royalties, sub rights, and overall profitability of their divisions. There will also be a discussion of what children's book editors are looking for today, and the influence editorial boards have over decision-making. Finally, there will be a breakout session in which small groups will prepare brief editorial submissions and will present them to a mock editorial board. A rare opportunity to experience what goes on behind the scenes with a publishing executive.
DOUG WHITEMAN – AGENT, THE WHITEMAN AGENCY