

FEATURED AUTHORS & ILLUSTRATORS



DAVID CATROW AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR

- Catrow has illustrated more than 100 books for children, including several NYT bestsellers - *I Like Myself, Stand Tall Molly Lou Melon, I Ain't Gonna Paint No More!* and *When God Made You* - just to name a few.
- His scholastic book series *MAX SPANIEL* has sold over a million copies!
- Catrow is a self-taught artist having received his training as a biologist!
- Prior to his work creating picture books, Catrow was a syndicated cartoonist whose editorials appeared in over 1,000 daily newspapers in the US and Canada.
- He also works in film and TV creating the visual development for the animated features *Horton Hears a Who!*, *Despicable Me* and many others.
- Catrow lives in Chicago where he is relentlessly supervised by his dog River.



LAUREN CASTILLO AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR

- Castillo studied illustration at the Maryland Institute College of Art and received her MFA from the School of Visual Arts in New York City.
- She is the author and illustrator of the 2015 Caldecott Honor winning book, *Nana in the City*.
- She has a new chapter book series, *Our Friend Hedgehog*.
- Castillo has also illustrated several critically acclaimed picture books, including Kirkus Prize finalist *Imagine* by Juan Felipe Herrera, *Twenty Yawns* by Jane Smiley, and *Yard Sale* by Eve Bunting.
- She currently draws and dreams in Harrisburg, PA.



ALEX LONDON AUTHOR

- London is the author of over 30 books for children, teens, and adults, with over 3 million copies sold.
- His middle grade fantasy series, *Battle Dragons*, won the Nevada Young Readers Book Award and has appeared on multiple state reading lists for middle and elementary schools from Massachusetts to Hawaii.
- For young adults, he's the author of the cyberpunk duology *Proxy*, an ALA Top Ten Quick Pick for Reluctant Young Readers, Best Fiction For Young Adults, and Rainbow List selection.
- The epic fantasy trilogy, *Black Wings Beating*, was an NBC Today Show Pick, a Kirkus Best Young Adult Fantasy selection, a Seventeen Magazine best of 2018 pick, a We Need Diverse Books 2018 Must Read, and a 2020 Rainbow List selection.
- He's been a journalist and human rights researcher reporting from conflict zones and refugee camps, a young adult librarian with New York Public Library, an assistant to a film agent, and a snorkel salesman.
- He lives with his husband, daughter, and hound dog in Philadelphia, PA.



KATY HUDSON AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR

- Hudson is the author/illustrator of two, U.S. best selling picture books, *Too Many Carrots* and *A Loud Winter's Nap*.
- She has been a full-time illustrator of picture books since her first book, *Bear and Duck*, was published in 2015.
- Her books have been translated into over 16 different languages.
- Her illustrations have been used on many things from cards and tea towels to London Underground posters.
- Hudson grew up in the North East of England, she went to art school in Bath and now lives in London, UK, with her partner and two children.

FROSTBURG
STATE UNIVERSITY

Children's Literature Centre
101 Braddock Road
Frostburg, MD 21532-2303



"Building a Passion for Lifelong Reading"

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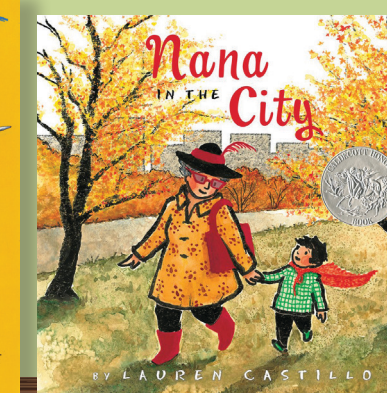


43RD ANNUAL SPRING FESTIVAL of Children's Literature

Friday & Saturday, April 24 & 25, 2026
LANE UNIVERSITY CENTER

FROSTBURG
STATE UNIVERSITY

FEATURED AUTHORS & ILLUSTRATORS



DAVID
CATROW



LAUREN
CASTILLO



ALEX
LONDON



KATY
HUDSON

Workshops will feature topics on making science come to life, using poetry for literacy skills, AI, public library resources, read-alouds, becoming an author or illustrator, and SEL strategies & techniques!

Educators from MD & PA can earn Continuing Professional Development Credits.

EARLY-BIRD PRICING
POSTMARKED BY
MARCH 27



43RD ANNUAL

SPRING FESTIVAL of Children's Literature



Friday & Saturday
April 24 & 25, 2026
LANE UNIVERSITY CENTER

FROSTBURG
STATE UNIVERSITY

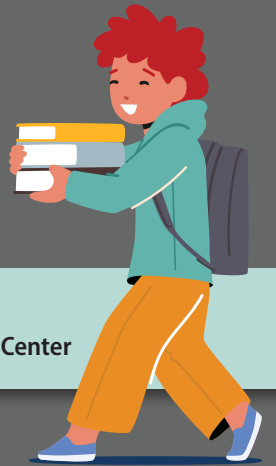
www.frostburg.edu/clc

Friday, April 24

- 5 PM
 - Registration
 - Book Sales
 - Silent Auction Browsing
 - Alumni Networking Hour
Refreshments will be provided
Alice R. Manicur Assembly Hall, LUC
- 6 PM
 - Opening: Dr. William Bingman and Dr. Tom Palardy
Co-Founders of the Children's Literature Centre
Alice R. Manicur Assembly Hall, LUC
- 6:15 PM
 - Welcome: Dean's Office Representative - College of Education, Behavioral and Health Professions
- 6:30 PM
 - Betty R. Roemmelmeyer Advocate Award Presentation
- 6:45 PM
 - Presentation: David Catrow
Alice R. Manicur Assembly Hall, LUC
- 7:30 PM
 - Break
- 7:45 PM
 - Presentation: Lauren Castillo
Alice R. Manicur Assembly Hall, LUC
- 8:30 PM
 - Reception
 - Book Sales
 - Open Autographing
 - Silent Auction Browsing

Saturday, April 25

- 7:30 AM
 - Registration
 - Complimentary Breakfast
 - Book Sales
 - Silent Auction Browsing
- 8:30 AM
 - Opening: Dr. Sarah O'Neal CLC Director
Alice R. Manicur Assembly Hall, LUC
- 8:40 AM
 - Welcome: FSU Administration
- 8:50 AM
 - Performance by FSU Theatre Department based on the children's book ***How I Became a Pirate***
Alice R. Manicur Assembly Hall, LUC
- 9 AM
 - Presentation: Alex London
Alice R. Manicur Assembly Hall, LUC
- 9:45 AM
 - Break
Book Sales & Silent Auction browsing will be open
- 10:15 - 11:15 AM
 - Professional Development Workshops
Session One | EHSC
- 11:20 AM - 12:20 PM
 - Luncheon | Second Floor, LUC
- NOON
 - Silent Auction Closes
- 12:30 - 1:30 PM
 - Professional Development Workshops
Session Two | EHSC
- 1:45 PM
 - Presentation: Katy Hudson
Alice R. Manicur Assembly Hall, LUC
- 2:30 PM
 - Closing Remarks
 - Silent Auction Winners
 - Door Prizes
- 2:45 PM
 - Open Autographing



LUC – Lane University Center
EHSC – Education & Health Sciences Center

Frostburg State University is located in Frostburg in Allegany County, Maryland. It is 150 miles west of Washington and Baltimore and 100 miles southeast of Pittsburgh. The University is near U.S. 40 and off Interstate 68, at Exit 33. Signs will be posted on campus directing participants to the conference location.



Submit one registration form per participant. Forms may be photocopied for additional registrants. Registration will be limited to 350 attendees.

Group Rates

Group registration will be given to four or more individuals attending from the same school. Registrations must be mailed together. Online registration does not apply. For more information, contact the Children's Literature Centre.

Bring a Friend Discount!

If you bring a new friend to the Festival, you receive \$5 OFF your regular registration price. To participate in this special promotion, the two registrations must be mailed together. Online registration does not apply. For more information, contact the Children's Literature Centre.

Festival Scholarships Available

The Annetta H. and Lloyd M. Marshall Elementary Education Endowed Fund, through the FSU Foundation, Inc., provides a full scholarship to the Festival for FSU students, and partial scholarships to alumni and educators. Please email CLC at clc@frostburg.edu if you are interested in applying for a festival scholarship.

Last day to register for the Festival is April 17

R. MARGARET HAMILTON COMMUNITY OUTREACH HOUR

In conjunction with the Spring Festival, children ages 5-12 are invited to attend the Children's Hour at various locations on Friday, April 24. Speakers will make a 45-minute age-specific presentation to share the process of writing and/or illustrating.

- **DAVID CATROW - 10 AM**
FSU Lane University Center Manicur Assembly Hall
- **ALEX LONDON**
All Allegany County Middle Schools
- **KATY HUDSON**
Westernport Elementary
- **LAUREN CASTILLO - 10 AM**
Frostburg Public Library

* See the website below for details.



www.frostburg.edu/clc

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Children's Literature Centre
Dr. Sarah O'Neal
Frostburg State University
101 Braddock Rd., Frostburg, MD 21532-2303
Phone 301-687-3133 | clc@frostburg.edu

Administered by the FSU Foundation and sponsored by the FSU Department of Educational Professions' Children's Literature Centre. FSU is committed to making all of its programs, services and activities accessible to persons with disabilities. To request accommodation through the ADA Compliance Office, call 301-687-3035 or use a Voice Relay Operator at 1-800-735-2258. Frostburg State University is a smoke-free campus.

Find us on:

- www.facebook.com/clcfu
- [@fsu.clc](https://www.instagram.com/fsu.clc)
- www.pinterest.com/CLC1982

REGISTRATION FORM – 2026 SPRING FESTIVAL OF CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Registration also available online at www.frostburg.edu/clc

Please Print

Name _____

Home Phone _____ Email _____

School or Agency Where Employed _____ County/State _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

1. Payment – Make checks payable to FSU Foundation, Inc. (memo CLC)

	Both Days	Friday Only	Saturday Only
Single Attendee, Through March 27, 2026	\$85	\$45	\$60
Single Attendee, After March 27, 2026	\$90	\$50	\$65
Full-Time FSU Student	\$40	\$20	\$30
Group (4 or more)	\$75 (per person)	\$35 (per person)	\$50 (per person)

Total Bill:

Registration Fee (from above) _____

Contribution to a CLC Endowment _____ **Total:** _____

- I would like to give to the:
- Brodell Children's Literature Endowment
 - Mary K. Finan Endowment for the Children's Literature Centre
 - Children's Literature Centre Endowed Fund
 - Annetta H. and Lloyd M. Marshall Elementary Education Endowed Fund
 - William L. Wilson, Jr. and Elizabeth Gracie Wilson Children's Literature Centre Endowed Fund

2. Further information

- This is my first time attending the Festival.
- I have attended a previous Festival at FSU. _____ # of years
- Frostburg State University Alumni
- I am planning to attend the Alumni Reception

3. Art Displays

Would you consider making an art display with your students based on a Festival featured book? You will receive a free book at the Festival for making a display! If you check yes, we will email you more information on how to make a display! Yes No

4. Accommodations

- Vegetarian meal Gluten-free meal None
- Allergies: _____
- Other: _____

Detach and send the completed registration form to:

CLC FESTIVAL REGISTRATION
c/o Dr. Sarah O'Neal
Department of Educational Professions
Frostburg State University
101 Braddock Road
Frostburg, MD 21532-2303

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

1 Creepy, Crawly, and Growing: Bringing Insects and Plants to Life in the Classroom

Sarah Llewellyn - Home Horticulture/Ag Educator UME Allegany County, University of MD Extension

In this hands-on workshop, we'll explore fun and creative ways to teach about insects and plants in your classroom. The presentation will focus on pollination experiments, understanding the role of insects in nature, providing native habitats necessary for native pollinators and providing educators with a variety of engaging activities to use in their classroom. You'll learn simple, standards-based lessons that make science come alive while helping students see the incredible connections between insects and plants. Come ready to learn about insects, native plants, carnivorous plants and engage in lessons to help spark curiosity in your students!

2 Poetic Pathways to Literacy: Using Poetry to Strengthen Literacy Skills and Confidence in Learners

Tori Glass - Reading Specialist
Frederick County Public Schools

Explore how poetry can serve as a bridge to literacy, helping students build confidence and comprehension one verse at a time. Participants will learn adaptable strategies to support phonemic awareness, fluency, and comprehension while fostering creativity, critical thinking, and self-expression through poetic practice.

3 Beyond the Buzz: Bringing AI to Life in Your Classroom

Christine Hurley - Library Media Specialist
Washington County Public Schools

AI is everywhere — from the apps we use to the tools our students are already exploring — but what does it really look like in a classroom? In this fast-paced, interactive session, we'll demystify Artificial Intelligence and explore ways it can spark creativity, save time, and support deeper learning. Participants will get hands-on with popular AI tools like large language model chatbots and image generators, see examples of age-appropriate classroom applications, and discuss how to guide students in using AI ethically and responsibly. Whether you're a teacher, a librarian, or a future educator, you'll leave with practical lesson ideas, fresh inspiration, and the confidence to turn AI from a buzzword into a powerful teaching ally.

4 Integrating Library Resources to Inspire Lifelong Readers

Shea Morse - Coordinator of Public Services & Kate Metzger - Coordinator of Children's Programming, Allegany County Library System

Allegany County Library System invites participants to explore how library resources can enrich the reading lives of children and families while supporting educators and librarians both in the classroom and beyond. This interactive workshop highlights the wide range of digital and physical offerings available through ACLS, including curated online databases, eBook and eAudiobook collections, early literacy tools, and special collections such as our Wonderbooks, Launchpads, and Playaways. Attendees will learn practical strategies for integrating these library resources into lesson planning, fostering lifelong reading habits, and connecting young readers to authors and stories that reflect their communities.

5 Capturing the Magic of a Read-Aloud

Barbara Ornstein - Professor Emeritus
Frostburg State University

While the instructional benefits of a daily classroom read aloud is well-documented, the mesmerizing magic of a read-aloud can be elusive. In this session, we will surround ourselves with a varied collection of the best read-alouds available, as well as discuss the amazing benefits and best strategies for a daily read-aloud in your classroom. Participants are invited to bring one of their favorite classroom read-alouds to share.

6 If I Can Do It, So Can You: Tips for How to Get Your Children's Book Published

Jonathan Roth - Art Teacher & Author
Montgomery County Public Schools

Jonathan Roth has been an elementary art teacher in Maryland public schools for almost 30 years. Early on, when not teaching, he began to write and illustrate books for young readers and delve into learning not only how to improve his craft but how to get his foot in the door of the competitive children's book publishing world. It was a long journey with many ups and downs, but flash forward to present day and he now has eight books out in the world from major publishers with more on the way. In this workshop geared toward fellow educators and librarians, he will give an overview of the practical steps aspiring authors and illustrators need to take today to create and submit high-quality work to agents and editors. If he can do it, you can too!

7 Integrating Social Emotional Learning in Your Classroom and School

Melanie DeMoss - SEL Coach
Allegany County Public Schools

Grounded in research, theory, compassion and humor, participants in this workshop will view their work through the lens of social-emotional learning (SEL). Participants will explore the core capacities of SEL, consider ways to integrate SEL strategies that work both in and out of the classroom, and practice simple techniques.

8 Munsch Madness: Engaging Young Readers with the Books of Robert Munsch

Charlotte Chung - Librarian
Monongalia County Schools, WV

In March of 2025, kindergarten and first-grade students at Suncrest Elementary School participated in MUNSCH MADNESS—a month-long library celebration dedicated to the works of Canadian author Robert Munsch. The program was so successful that students insisted it continue into April! In this presentation, attendees will be introduced to Munsch and his body of work. Using Suncrest Elementary's MUNSCH MADNESS as a case study, attendees will explore why Munsch's books remain beloved by children more than 40 years after their original publication. Participants will also take away specific programming ideas for Munsch titles such as *David's Father* and *Mmm, Cookies!*

BOOK SALES

Books written and illustrated by the featured speakers will be available for purchase at the Festival.

All purchased books help to defray the cost of the Children's Literature Centre's yearly events.

Only books purchased at the Festival may be placed in Closed Autographing. Other books may be autographed during open autographing sessions.

