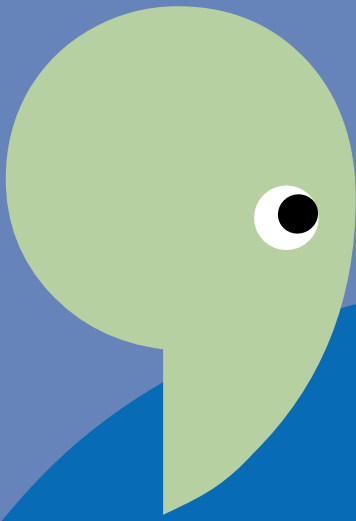


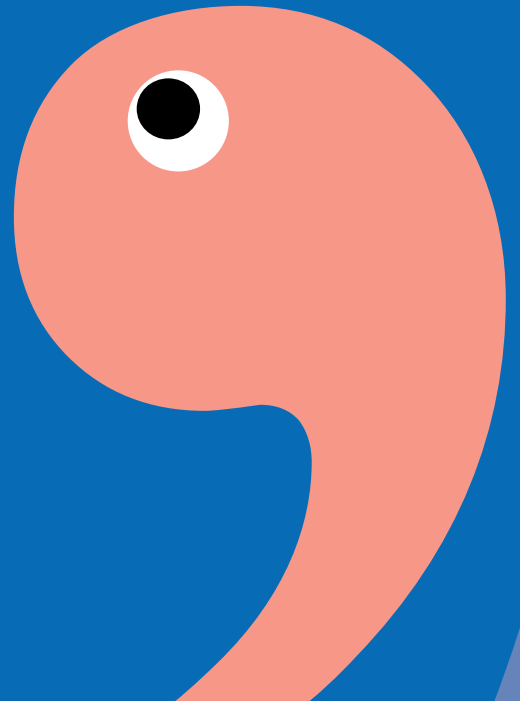


SYDNEY
WRITERS
FESTIVAL




PRIMARY SCHOOL DAYS

29 April–5 May 2021



WELCOME TO PRIMARY SCHOOL DAYS



Join us for an engaging and educational journey into the world of literature.

Sydney Writers' Festival's Primary School Days program is designed to nurture the next generation of readers and storytellers.

Our hugely popular sessions bring together prominent children's authors and young readers for a fun, interactive and educational day that inspires a deeper enjoyment of books and reading.

During four 45-minute sessions, writers and illustrators perform from their work, talk about their craft and take questions from students.

The Primary School Days program is best suited to school children in Years 3 to 6.

DATES AND VENUES

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Thursday 29 April | Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre, Penrith WAITLIST |
| Friday 30 April | Sydney Town Hall |
| Monday 3 May | Sydney Town Hall WAITLIST |
| Tuesday 4 May | The Concourse Concert Hall, Chatswood WAITLIST |
| Wednesday 5 May | Riverside Theatres, Parramatta |

To join the waitlist, email ticketing@swf.org.au.

BOOKING

Booking forms are included in this mail pack. You can also find an online booking form at swf.org.au/primary-school-days-2021.

Primary School Days at Penrith, Chatswood and Sydney Town Hall (Monday) have reached current capacity; however, we encourage you to join the waitlist by emailing ticketing@swf.org.au.

We recommend booking promptly for Sydney Town Hall (Friday) and Riverside Theatres to avoid disappointment.

Bookings affected by changes to NSW Health guidelines that prevent excursions from taking place will be fully refunded.

Visit swf.org.au/education-faqs for the latest COVID Safe information, our venues' COVID Safety Plans, and our payment terms and conditions.

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact: ticketing@swf.org.au | (02) 9256 4200

Core Funders



CITY OF SYDNEY



Australia Council for the Arts

Principal Partner



Sydney Writers' Festival
Level 3, 10 Hickson Road, NSW 2000 | swf.org.au

THE PROGRAM

Jessica Townsend: The Rules of Magic

How does a young girl who crossed the road to school with her nose in a book grow up to write the biggest selling Australian debut children's book on record? Join bestselling author of the Nevermoor series **Jessica Townsend** as she shares the secret to building fantastical worlds you can't wait to get lost in. Hint: it's not all about magic and dragons and centaur roller derby. Sometimes, the truly magical worlds are a lot like our own.

Kirli Saunders: Caring for Country

What role do young people play in caring for the environment? When does a child become a custodian of the land where they live? Join proud Gunai Woman and award-winning writer **Kirli Saunders** as she discusses her verse novel *Bindi*, the heartwarming story of 11-year-old Bindi as she navigates bushfires, broken wrists and big art assignments. Interweaving Gundungurra language throughout, *Bindi* is an evocative, poetic exploration of Country and community and a powerful call to care.

Emily Rodda: A Life of Stories

From *Rowan of Rin* to the Deltora Quest series, **Emily Rodda's** stories have been treasured by readers for more than 30 years. Five-time recipient of the Children's Book Council of Australia Book of the Year Award, Emily has always known what children love to read. In this special session, Emily discusses her new magical mystery *Eliza Vanda's Button Box* and shares her secrets on what makes a story special.

Andrew McDonald and Ben Wood: Puzzling Pigeons

Join author **Andrew McDonald** and illustrator **Ben Wood** for some crime-fighting, puzzle-solving, mystery-busting hilarity. Creators of the bestselling Real Pigeons series, Andrew and Ben present a mystery live on stage for students to solve. Full of humour and heart, students will laugh, wonder and think their way through this thrilling interactive storytelling event.

TIMETABLE

| | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| 9.30am | Arrive at venue |
| 10am | Morning sessions |
| 11.30am | Lunch break |
| 12.30pm | Afternoon sessions |
| 2pm | Finish |

All sessions run for 45 minutes. We recommend students bring their own lunch. Please note, pre-signed books will be available for purchase on the day.

The Primary School Days program is hosted by Nat Amore.

MEET THE AUTHORS



Nat Amore

Nat Amore is passionate about encouraging kids to read, write and explore their imaginations without boundaries. She is the author of the bestselling debut children's book *Secrets of a Schoolyard Millionaire*. Her second book, *The Power Of Positive Pranking*, came out in June, 2020. Nat is the writer and director of the international award-winning short film *Elemenopee*, and host of the KidLit podcast *One More Page*.

natamoore.com



Emily Rodda

One of the most successful, prolific and versatile writers in Australia, Emily Rodda has written or co-authored more than 90 books for children. Her children's books range from picture books to young adult novels, and include the award-winning Rowan of Rin series and outstandingly successful Deltora Quest series. Emily has won the Children's Book Council of Australia Book of the Year Award a record five times. Her next book, *Eliza Vanda's Button Box*, will be published in May this year.

emilyrodda.com



Jessica Townsend

Jessica Townsend lives on the Sunshine Coast, Queensland. Her pet fascinations include public transport, ancient cities, hotels, opera singers, Halloween, secret societies and gigantic cats – all of which have weaselled their way into Nevermoor, her record-breaking and *New York Times* bestselling series. The first instalment of the Nevermoor series was the biggest selling Australian children's debut since records began and has received numerous awards including the 2018 Australian Book Industry Award for Book of the Year and 2017 Aurealis Award for Best Children's Fiction.



Kirli Saunders

Kirli Saunders is a proud Gunai Woman and an award-winning writer of poetry, plays and picture books. In 2020, she was named the NSW Aboriginal Woman of the Year. Kirli created *Poetry in First Languages*, delivered by Red Room Poetry, supporting First Nations language conservation and celebration. Her debut picture book, *The Incredible Freedom Machines*, was shortlisted for the Prime Minister's Literary Awards. Her most recent work, *Bindi*, was the inaugural winner of the Western Australia Premier's Daisy Utemorra Award.

kirlisaunders.com



Andrew McDonald

Andrew McDonald is a children's author who lives in Melbourne, Australia. He writes the bestselling Real Pigeons series, which is soon to be adapted into a television series for Nickelodeon. Andrew's books have been shortlisted for the Readings Children's Book Prize and the Australian Book Industry Awards. Andrew loves writing stories that make kids laugh, gasp, think and wonder. He also enjoys baking his own bread, which he eats down to the last breadcrumb (sorry pigeons).

mrandrewmcdonald.com



Ben Wood

Ben Wood is the illustrator of the bestselling Real Pigeons series and has always been drawn to books with both humour and heart. He has illustrated over 28 books for children. Ben has had notable listings for the Children's Book Council of Australia and has been shortlisted for the Readings Children's Book Prize and the Australian Book Industry Awards. His latest book, *Real Pigeons Get Bready* with Andrew McDonald, was released in November, 2020.

benwood.com.au

Disclaimer: Details in this brochure are correct at the time of publication. Sydney Writers' Festival reserves the right to add, withdraw, or substitute artists, and to vary the program should the need arise. Please note that a waiting list is kept for booked out School Days.