



SYDNEY  
WRITERS  
FESTIVAL

# SECONDARY SCHOOL DAYS

**30 April–4 May 2021**



# WELCOME TO SECONDARY SCHOOL DAYS

Hear from Australia's most  
exciting literary talents

**The Secondary School Days program is a wonderful opportunity for students to listen, investigate and question, alongside some of Australia's leading writers.**

Throughout the day, writers inspire and challenge students through a thoughtful discussion of literature and ideas. The program is designed to grow students' enjoyment of books, writing and reading by providing them with new perspectives, insight into writing processes and encouragement to consider their own creative pursuits.

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

The Secondary School Days program is programmed with students in Years 7 to 10 in mind but is suitable for all high-school students.

## DATES AND VENUES

<b>Friday 30 April</b>	<b>Seymour Centre, Chippendale</b>
<b>Monday 3 May</b>	<b>The Concourse, Chatswood</b>
<b>Tuesday 4 May</b>	<b>Riverside Theatres, Parramatta</b>

## BOOKING

Booking forms are included in this mail pack. You can also find an online booking form at [swf.org.au/secondary-school-days-2021](http://swf.org.au/secondary-school-days-2021).

We recommend booking promptly 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](http://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](mailto:ticketing@swf.org.au) (02) 9256 4200

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Sydney Writers' Festival

Level 3, 10 Hickson Road, NSW 2000 | [swf.org.au](http://swf.org.au)

# THE PROGRAM

## Zana Fraillon: Luring the Imps

Discover the strange characters and wonderful worlds waiting in the shadows with award-winning author **Zana Fraillon**. Zana leads students in a workshop on wrangling guardians, portals, gatekeepers and more into fantastic tales of epic proportions – and offers her insights into the art of writing along the way. Students leave with a whole class of characters they can write about back at school. *Students should bring a notebook and pen for this session.*

## Garth Nix: Character Magic

How do you create compelling characters in a magical world? Join award-winning author **Garth Nix** as he tells students when it comes to character building, which rules to obey, which to bend and which to break. Magic lies at the heart of everything Garth writes – from the bestselling the Old Kingdom fantasy series to his whimsical regency romance *Newt's Emerald*. Join Garth as he reveals how to create characters that feel real in a world that definitely isn't.

## Gary Lonesborough: Finding Courage

What if exploring who you are takes a lot of courage? How do you find it? Yuin writer **Gary Lonesborough's** first book, *The Boy from the Mish*, is a funny and big-hearted queer Indigenous young adult novel, set in a rural Australian community. A branch of hope extended to teenagers who think they're alone, Jeremy Lachlan speaks to Gary about this beautifully written story on finding love – and yourself.

## Leanne Hall: You've Got This

Whether writing urban fantasy or contemporary crime, **Leanne Hall** is a strong advocate for teenagers being the heroes of their own stories. But knowing who you are – and being able to write about it – isn't an easy task. In this session, Leanne speaks to students on her newest book, *The Gaps*, a compelling examination of ethics, privilege and representation, and how to channel your own experiences and passions into your writing.

## 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.*

# MEET THE AUTHORS



## Jeremy Lachlan

Jeremy Lachlan was born and raised in Griffith, country NSW, but now calls Sydney home. His debut novel, *Jane Doe and the Cradle of All Worlds*, was a 2019 Australian Book Industry Award winner, and he once took home \$100 in a karaoke competition, of which he's equally proud. His second novel, *Jane Doe and the Key of All Souls*, was released in January, 2020.

[jeremylachlan.com](http://jeremylachlan.com)



## Leanne Hall

Leanne Hall is an author of young adult and children's fiction. Her debut novel, *This Is Shyness*, won the Text Prize for Children's and Young Adult Writing, and was followed by a sequel, *Queen of the Night*. Her novel for younger readers, *Iris and the Tiger*, won the Patricia Wrightson Prize for Children's Literature at the 2017 NSW Premier's Literary Awards. Leanne works as a children's and young adult specialist at an independent bookshop and her fourth book, *The Gaps*, will be published in March, 2021.



## Gary Lonesborough

Gary Lonesborough is a Yuin man from Bega, NSW. Growing up, he was always writing. Gary moved to Sydney to study film, and would work on the feature film *Jasper Jones*. As a role model for Aboriginal youth and an emerging talent in the arts, Gary received the Bega Valley Shire Council's Young Citizen of the Year Award, the Patrick White Young Indigenous Writers' Award, and the Copyright Agency Fellowship for First Nations Writers. *The Boy from the Mish* is his debut young adult novel.

[garylonesborough.com](http://garylonesborough.com)



## Zana Fraillon

Zana Fraillon is an internationally acclaimed, award-winning author, with work published in over 15 countries. Her 2016 novel, *The Bone Sparrow*, won the Australian Book Industry Award for Book of the Year for Older Children, the Readings Young Adult Book Prize and the Amnesty CILIP Honour. It was also shortlisted for the Prime Minister's Literary Awards, the Queensland Literary Awards, the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize, the Gold Inky and the CILIP Carnegie Medal. *The Lost Soul Atlas* is her fifth book and her third for young adult readers.

[zanafraillon.com](http://zanafraillon.com)



## Garth Nix

Garth Nix has been a full-time writer since 2001, but has worked in many parts of the publishing industry. His books include the Old Kingdom fantasy series, *Newt's Emerald*, *A Confusion of Princes* and the Keys to the Kingdom series. More than 5 million copies of his books have been sold around the world. Garth's work has appeared on the bestseller lists of *The New York Times*, *Publishers Weekly* and *USA TODAY*, and has been translated into 42 languages. His most recent book is *The Left-Handed Booksellers of London*.

[garthnix.com](http://garthnix.com)

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.