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Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival
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1998

Children's Book Festival

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University of Southern Mississippi

University of Southern Mississippi

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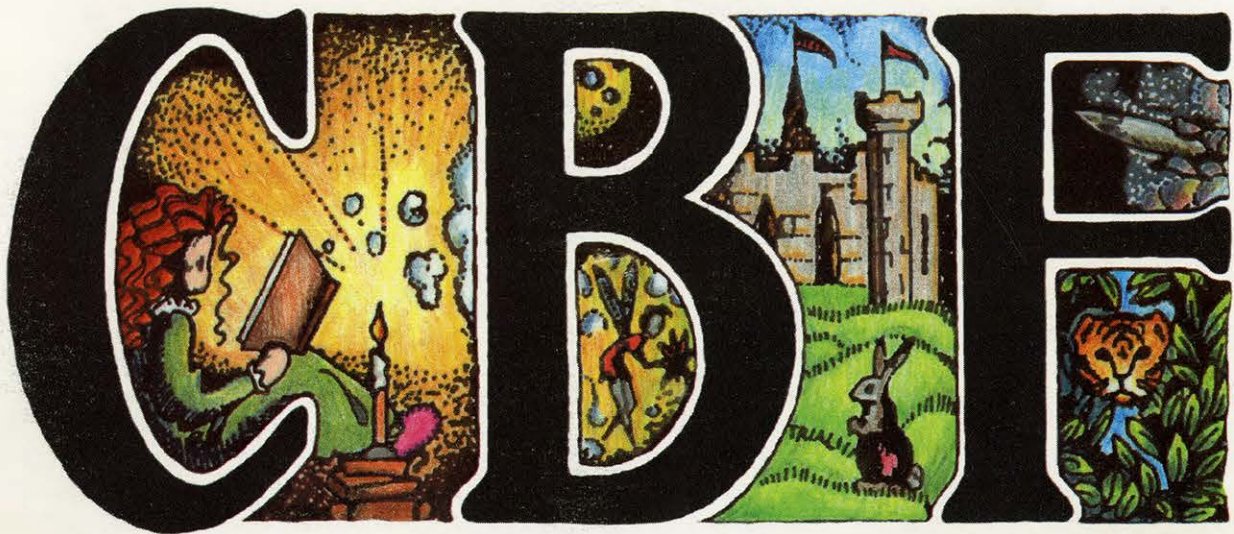
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*The
Thirty-First
Annual*



Children's Book Festival

Thirtieth Anniversary Year 1997-1998

The University of Southern Mississippi

March 18-20, 1998

History of the Children's Book Festival

In 1968, Dr. Warren Tracy, chairman of the Library Science Department and University librarian for The University of Southern Mississippi, saw his vision for a children's literature conference come to life. The University, under the leadership of Dr. William D. McCain, and the Library Science Department hosted the Conference on the Writing, Illustrating, and Publishing of Children's Books, the first of what soon became the annual Children's Book Festival.

Two years earlier, Dr. Lena de Grummond, professor of Library Science, with Dr. Tracy's blessing, had begun to procure early children's books to support the Library Science program. She spent countless hours writing to authors and illustrators of contemporary children's books to acquire original material for the library. Contributions of artwork and manuscripts flowed in from across the United States and Canada. Today, more than 1,200 authors and illustrators are represented in the collection, which in 1976 officially became known as the "de Grummond Children's Literature Research Collection."

In his original vision for a children's literature conference, Dr. Tracy saw the conference as a way to highlight the de Grummond Collection. That first conference, in May 1968, was designed to announce the opening of the special children's literature collection. Librarians, teachers, parents, and other adults interested in promoting children's literature were invited for three days of exhibits, workshops, and panel discussions led by publishers and editors of children's books. Dr. Francis Lander Spain, past president of the American Library Association and former head of the children's department of the New York Public Library, spoke at the first evening session, which was open to the public.

In 1969, the conference became known as the "Children's Book Festival" and included an event that became an honored tradition — presentation of The University of Southern Mississippi Medallion, an award for distinguished service in the field of children's literature. A committee of professionals, associated with children's literature, selects the recipient each year. Unique among literary prizes, the medallion is awarded for an individual's total body of work, rather than for one particular work, and each medallion is different. Cast in silver for the recipient and for permanent display in the de Grummond Collection and in bronze for wider distribution, a profile of the honoree is engraved on the face, or obverse, of the medallion, and an illustration from the honoree's work is engraved on the reverse side. Since the first award to author Lois Lenski at the second annual Children's Book Festival, the USM Medallion has been presented to an outstanding array of children's authors and illustrators.

Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, the festival came into its own. Dr. Tracy continued to attract out-of-state writers and illustrators, enhancing the festival's reputation. From 1977-1980, Dr. Onva K. Boshears served as director of the festival. Dr. Jeannine Laughlin-Porter assumed the directorship in 1980. That was the year Ezra Jack Keats, internationally acclaimed author and illustrator for children, was invited to accept the USM Medallion. Following his visit, Keats became one of the strongest supporters of the Children's Book Festival and de Grummond Collection. Since his death, the University has acquired his personal and professional papers, original artwork, typescripts, and dummies and preliminary sketches for thirty-six books by Keats. The materials are now housed in the de Grummond Collection. In 1985, the Keats Foundation established an Ezra Jack Keats lectureship, with Barbara Cooney as the artist honoree and Brian Alderson as the first Keats lecturer. In years since, the lecture has become a highly regarded feature of the festival. *Children's Authors Speak*, a collection of speeches compiled by Dr. Laughlin-Porter and Sherry Laughlin, was published in 1993 and includes a number of Keats lectures, as well as speeches by USM Medallion honorees.

Dr. Boshears, during Dr. Laughlin-Porter's directorship of the festival, continued to work closely with her and chaired the Medallion Selection Committee through spring 1993. In 1994, he resumed directorship of the festival. This year, 1998, marks the first presentation of the Kaigler-Lamont Award to a librarian for distinguished service to children. Miss Fay Kaigler and Mrs. Ruth Lamont have funded the award to honor each year an individual who brings books and children together.

From its modest beginning of one hundred participants, the Children's Book Festival has grown to 1,000 participants representing seventeen states. Originally organized to promote the de Grummond Collection, the festival has come into its own. Both the festival and the de Grummond Collection continue to evolve together for the advancement of children's literature, and, year after year, enthusiastic supporters of children's literature come together to celebrate the joy of children's books.



The University of Southern Mississippi

Awarding The University of Southern Mississippi Medallion is the highlight of the Children's Book Festival. This year's recipient is Elaine Konigsburg. The medallion is awarded annually for outstanding contributions in the field of children's literature. Silver medallions are cast for the recipient, for the President of The University of Southern Mississippi, and for the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection's permanent display. In addition, a number of bronze medallions are cast and are available for purchase during the festival.

Past Recipients of the Medallion

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1969 Lois Lenski | 1984 Peter Spier |
| 1970 Ernest H. Shepard | 1985 Arnold Lobel |
| 1971 Roger Duvoisin | 1986 Jean Craighead George |
| 1972 Marcia Brown | 1987 Paula Fox |
| 1973 Lynd Ward | 1988 Jean Fritz |
| 1974 Taro Yashima | 1989 Lee Bennett Hopkins |
| 1975 Barbara Cooney | 1990 Charlotte Zolotow |
| 1976 Scott O'Dell | 1991 Richard Peck |
| 1977 Adrienne Adams | 1992 James Marshall |
| 1978 Madeleine L'Engle | 1993 Quentin Blake |
| 1979 Leonard Everett Fisher | 1994 Ashley Bryan |
| 1980 Ezra Jack Keats | 1995 Tomie de Paola |
| 1981 Maurice Sendak | 1996 Patricia MacLachlan |
| 1982 Beverly Cleary | 1997 Eric Carle |
| 1983 Katherine Paterson | |

The University of Southern Mississippi Medallion for distinguished contributions to children's literature is made possible by the generous support of the Ralph and Carrol Wicker Foundation.



Elaine Konigsburg

We are pleased to honor Elaine Konigsburg as the thirtieth recipient of The University of Southern Mississippi Medallion. The Medallion is given annually to honor the body of work created by an author or illustrator of children's and young adult literature — and there is no doubt that Elaine Konigsburg's contributions to this literature are indeed outstanding.

Author of seventeen books for young people, Ms. Konigsburg is perhaps most famous for *From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*, which won the 1968 Newbery Medal. *Jennifer, Hecate, Macbeth, William McKinley, and Me, Elizabeth* was designated as a Newbery Honor book in the same year — a feat not accomplished before or since. Even more astounding is the fact that these were the first two books she had ever written! They were published within months of each other, and the rest is literary history — a history that was recently enriched by a second Newbery Medal in 1997 for *A View from Saturday*.

In addition to being a critically acclaimed author, Konigsburg possesses artistic talent that allows her to illustrate her own books. Her novels are illustrated with sparse pen-and-ink drawings, and readers are cautioned to examine her illustrations closely, as they often reveal additional dimensions of the stories. Two recently published picture books, *Samuel Todd's Book of Great Colors* and *Samuel Todd's Book of Great Inventions*, allow her to express herself in full-color, double-page splendor.

Konigsburg was born in New York City in 1930 and grew up in a small town in Pennsylvania. She attended the Carnegie Institute of Technology (now Carnegie-Mellon University) and graduated with honors, receiving a B.S. in chemistry. She then went on for graduate study at the University of Pittsburgh. Shortly after receiving her bachelor's degree, she married David Konigsburg, a psychologist. They then moved to Jacksonville, Florida, where Konigsburg took a position as a teacher of chemistry at Batram, a private all-girls school. Although her teaching career was cut short to raise her three children, Paul, Laurie, and Ross, her daily interaction with these girls provided Konigsburg with a remarkable insight into their personalities. This knowledge was later used to create characters in the books she would soon write.

Konigsburg's writing career began when her youngest child entered school. She set aside time each morning to write and often shared the stories with her children when they came home for lunch. Her original intention was to write stories about the lives of middle-class children and the basic problems they face — Who am I? What makes me the same as everyone else? What makes me different? In *Dictionary of Literary Biography*, Perry Nodelman observes, "Her writing is a witty distillation of complex experience, and she always tells her stories from an interesting point of view Her stories have grown out of the material closest at hand, the events of her own life."

In addition to the two Newbery Medals, a number of Konigsburg's books have been chosen as ALA Notable Children's Books and ALA Best Books for Young Adults. Several of her works have been adapted to film. *From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* was released in 1973 as a motion picture, starring Ingrid Bergman; *Jennifer and Me*, based on *Jennifer, Hecate, Macbeth, William McKinley, and Me, Elizabeth*, was a television movie on NBC in 1973; and *Father's Arcane Daughter* was adapted as *Caroline?* by the Hallmark Hall of Fame in 1990.

Even though Konigsburg's books are critically acclaimed, it is the praise of her readers that is the greatest compliment. "There is no greater compliment than having your work cherished by ... someone who has read a lot and chooses your book out of a vast experience of reading." It is equally rewarding to hear a young man say, "I never liked reading until I read you." It is these readers who cherish the books that Elaine Konigsburg has shared with them and look to the future for new reading experiences that only the most gifted of writers can provide.

Children's Book Festival Speakers, 1968-1998

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Davida Adedjouma | Barbara Freeman | Milton Meltzer |
| Jon Agee | Jean Fritz | Eve Merriam |
| Brian Alderson | Chuck Gale | Barry Moser |
| Valerie Alderson | Patricia Lee Gauch | Walter Dean Myers |
| Aliki | Jean Craighead George | Elizabeth Nichols |
| Lee Ames | Charles Ghigna | Scott O'Dell |
| Berthe Amoss | Faye Gibbons | Iona Opie |
| Nancy Anderson | Bette Greene | Peggy Parish |
| Jose Aruego | David S. Halacy | Katherine Paterson |
| Thomas J. Aylesworth | Gail Haley | Kate Pearce |
| Molly Bang | Virginia Hamilton | Richard Peck |
| Liz Ann Barber | Tana Hoban | Peggy Pfeffer |
| Pam Barron | Bonnie Holder | Mary Anderson Pickard |
| Caroline Bauer | Lee Bennett Hopkins | Lillian Pope |
| Marion Dane Bauer | Robert Hubbard | Martin Pope |
| Kay Bishop | Sylvia Hubbard | Jack Prelutsky |
| Elizabeth Bowne | Irene Hunt | Robert Quackenbush |
| Judy Broadus Bullock | Trina Schart Hyman | James Rice |
| Bruce Brooks | Anne Izard | Bruce Roberts |
| Ashley Bryan | William Joyce | Jan Scott |
| Barbara Bryant | Jean Karl | Esphyr Slobodkina |
| Dorothy Butler | Steven Kellogg | Frances Lander Spain |
| Eric Carle | Margaret Mary Kimmel | Peter Spier |
| Carroll Case | Debra King | Jay Stailey |
| Betty Cavanna | Elaine Konigsburg | Eric Suben |
| Tony Chen | Joseph Krumgold | Zena Sutherland |
| Gregory Christie | Karla Kuskin | Alan Tiegreen |
| Carroll Coley | Barbara LeCroy | Tim Tingle |
| Pam Conrad | Madeleine L'Engle | Jeanne Titherington |
| Scott Cook | Robert Lipsyte | Chris Vinsonhaler |
| Barbara Cooney | Arnold Lobel | Irving Werstein |
| Floyd Cooper | Anne Lundin | Maureen White |
| Barbara Corcoran | Patricia MacLachlan | Garth Williams |
| Donald Crews | Antonia Markiet | Kathryn Tucker Windham |
| Tomie de Paola | James Marshall | Taro Yashima |
| Carol Doll | Jill May | Jane Yolen |
| Mary K. Eakin | Ann McConnell | Herbert S. Zim |
| Richard Egielski | Emily Arnold McCully | Paul Zindel |
| Ed Emberley | Barney McKee | Charlotte Zolotow |
| Carol Evans | Bruce McMillan | |
| Tom Feelings | Mary McNeer | |

Ezra Jack Keats Lecturers, 1985-1998

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Brian Alderson | Betsy Hearne | Anita Silvey |
| Dorothy Butler | Selma Lanes | Roger Sutton |
| Ellin Greene | Anne Lundin | Anne Thwaite |
| Nancy Hands | Leonard S. Marcus | |
| Michael Patrick Hearn | Anita Moss | |

Thirty-First Annual Children's Book Festival Program

Wednesday, March 18, 1998

3:00 - 7:00 Early Registration
University Union, Lobby
Book Sales
Cook Library, First Floor Lobby

7:00 - 9:00 Storytelling
University Union, Rooms A, B, and C
Buffet
Featured Storyteller: Faye Gibbons
Convener: Coleen Salley

Thursday, March 19, 1998

7:30 - 12:00 Registration
Bennett Auditorium Lobby

7:30 - 4:00 Book, Medallion, and de Grummond Notecard Series Sale
Cook Library, First Floor Lobby

9:15 - 10:15 First General Session
Bennett Auditorium
Presiding: Dr. Onva K. Boshears
Keynote Speaker: Elaine Konigsburg

10:30 - 12:30 Autograph Session
Bennett Auditorium

Workshops

"Discussion of Caldecott and Newbery Winners"
Polymer Science Auditorium
Speakers: Dr. Pam Barron and Dr. Maureen White

"A Nonsense Approach to Storytelling"
University Union, Room H
Speaker: Dr. Carol Doll

"Mother Goose for All Ages"
Chain Technology Auditorium
Speakers: Dr. Kay Bishop and Carol Evans

"Reviewing Children's Books"
McCain Library, Room 200
Speaker: Valerie Alderson

Exhibits

de Grummond Collection
McCain Library, Room 405

Book Review Center

Cook Library, Second Floor
School of Library and Information Science

12:30 - 1:45 Luncheon A
University Commons, Rooms A, B, C
Speakers: Gregory Christie and Davida Adedjouma

Luncheon B

(Honoring Miss Oseola McCarty)
University Commons, Rooms A, B, C
Speaker: Evelyn Coleman

2:00 - 3:00 Second General Session
Bennett Auditorium
Presentation of the Kaigler-Lamont Award
Speaker: Scott Cook

3:00 - 4:00 Autograph Session
Bennett Auditorium

3:00 - 5:00 Exhibits
de Grummond Collection
McCain Library, Room 405

6:45 Reception Honoring Elaine Konigsburg
Petal Civic Center
712 South Main
Petal, Mississippi

7:30 Awards Banquet
Petal Civic Center
Presentation of The University of Southern Mississippi Medallion to Elaine Konigsburg by Dr. Horace Fleming

Friday, March 20, 1998

8:00 - 10:00 Registration
Bennett Auditorium Lobby

8:00 - 12:30 Book, Medallion, and de Grummond Notecard Series Sale
Cook Library, First Floor Lobby

9:00 - 10:00 Third General Session
Bennett Auditorium
Speaker: Faye Gibbons

10:00 - 11:00 Ezra Jack Keats Lecture
Bennett Auditorium
Speaker: Roger Sutton

11:00 - 12:30 Autograph Session
Bennett Auditorium

Workshops

"Discussion of Caldecott and Newbery Winners"
Polymer Science Auditorium
Speakers: Dr. Pam Barron and Dr. Maureen White

"A Nonsense Approach to Storytelling"
University Union, Room H
Speaker: Dr. Carol Doll

"Mother Goose for All Ages"
Chain Technology Auditorium
Speakers: Dr. Kay Bishop and Carol Evans

"Reviewing Children's Books"
McCain Library, Room 200
Speaker: Valerie Alderson

Exhibits

de Grummond Collection
McCain Library, Room 405

Book Review Center

Cook Library, Second Floor
School of Library and Information Science

12:30 - 2:00 Ezra Jack Keats Luncheon
University Commons, Rooms A, B, C
Remarks by Martin and Lillian Pope
Speaker: Scott Cook

Scott Cook

Marionettes, magic tricks, sculptures, paintings, and recordings all combine to make a Scott Cook presentation a memorable event. A native of Jackson, Mississippi, now living in Sandwich, Massachusetts, Scott Cook is an extraordinary picture book artist. According to a *Booklist* reviewer, his impressionistic oil paintings "are suffused with a golden glow. The blurred lines and impressionistic shadings make the art as soft as a kiss, yet filled with energy."

Scott Cook's childhood in Jackson was far from ordinary. He caught glimpses of esteemed author Eudora Welty shopping at the local supermarket and shared the stage with Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Beth Henley when they both played children in a Jackson Little Theater production of *Summer and Smoke*. During junior high and high school, Cook studied art with the late Jackson artist Marie Hull and convinced his neighbor, Katherine Speed Ettl, to share her expertise in sculpture.

Not convinced that he could make a living with his artistic talents, Cook tried a number of different professions before being hired to teach art at Friends' Central School in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. An art project designed for his middle school students gave Cook a new inspiration. He created three dimensional papier-mache figures of a goose and a frog that he then used as models for oil paintings. It took only a small leap forward to see these characters gracing the pages of a children's book, so Cook sent photographs of his project to Alfred Knopf Publishers in New York. Editor Anne Schwartz was so impressed with his work that she immediately contracted him to illustrate *The Gingerbread Boy* (1987).

This first book was a resounding success, named a "Best Book of the Year" by *School Library Journal* and an "Editor's Choice" by *Booklist*. His next book, *Nettie Jo's Friends* by Patricia McKissack, also was named a best book of the year by a number of journals and magazines. In addition, one of the paintings was awarded a prestigious Silver Medal by the Society of Illustrators. Paintings from the book were chosen as covers for the spring 1989 Knopf catalogue and the October 1989 *Wilson Library Bulletin*. These two successful titles were soon followed by *A Christmas Carol* (1990), *Mother Goose* (1994), *A Net to Catch Time* by Sara Harrell Banks (1996), and, most recently, *With a Whoop and a Holler* by Nancy Van Laan (1998). Advance praise for this compilation of Southern folklore comes from Eudora Welty, who calls it "delightful — full of energy, wit, and life. I love the sense of commotion in the illustrations, and the music of the language, and I imagine it will be enjoyed by adults every bit as much as children."

Evelyn Coleman

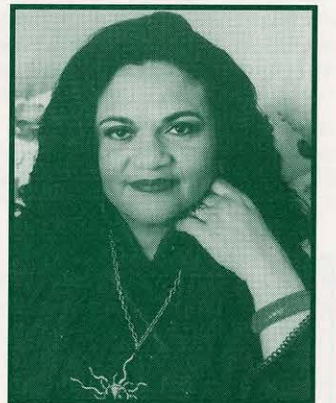
After retiring from the mental health field as a psychotherapist, Evelyn Coleman planned to attend the Naropa Institute but had a car accident en route. During her convalescence, she began writing and won a writing fellowship worth \$5,000. At that point she decided to fulfill a lifelong dream to become a writer. At first she wrote adult materials, until she felt comfortable tackling children's books. She invested all of her vacation time and savings into attending weeklong writing schools, and it paid off. Coleman has since published adult nonfiction and short stories in major magazines and newspapers and has presented workshops and lectures for Rice University and the Society of Children's Writers and Illustrators, among other organizations.

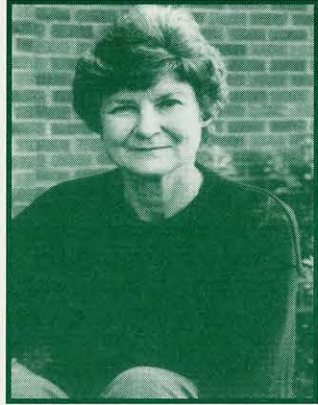
Evelyn Coleman had been writing for years when she suddenly sold six books in 18 months to Macmillan/Simon & Schuster, Orchard, and Albert Whitman and Company. Her first book, *The Foot Warmer and the Crow* (Macmillan, 1994), is the story of Hezekiah, a slave who, with the help of a friendly crow, outwits his master. *The Glass Bottle Tree* (Orchard, 1995) had been called a tender story of strength, faith, and commitment. An incident from Coleman's childhood was the inspiration for *White Socks Only* (Whitman, 1996). Until she was jerked from a water fountain labeled "whites only," Coleman had always thought the term "white" referred to the color of a person's clothes. Other children's books include *Cymbals* (Macmillan, 1995) and *To Be a Drum* (Albert Whitman, 1998), her most recent children's book, which tells the story of the "drum," the pulse that has moved through the African people through time and place.

In addition to becoming known as an author of children's folk tales, Coleman will see another dream of hers come to life this month with the release of an adult suspense novel, *What a Woman's Gotta Do* (Simon & Schuster). The publisher calls the book a "stunning, gut-wrenching debut thriller," and it is garnering high praise from reviewers.

One reason for Coleman's success as a writer could be her wealth of experience. She has worked as a journalist, hosiery mill worker, makeup artist, psychotherapist, hypnotherapist, and a stress-management trainer. Another reason may be hard work. While holding down a full-time job, she managed to write eight hours a day on weekdays and all day and half the nights on weekends. Now that she is writing full-time, she puts in twelve-to sixteen-hour days, weekends included.

Coleman, who lives in Atlanta, Georgia, encourages children and adults to go for their dreams. "Never give up," she advises. If you are scared, she adds that it's perfectly all right to be scared and do it anyway.





Faye Gibbons

Faye Gibbons was born in Carter's Quarter, deep in the Georgia mountains, in 1938, and spent her childhood in mill towns and rural areas of Dalton, Savannah, and Atlanta. Because of economic hardships, her family's lifestyle did not include running water, electricity, indoor plumbing, automobiles, or even television. Although she felt deprived and ashamed of this situation while growing up, as an author she later came to value the experiences gained through hardship.

Gibbons attended Oglethorpe University and Emory University and received her bachelor's degree from Berry College in 1961. She then went on to graduate study at Auburn University in 1965. She taught elementary and high school classes at several different schools in Georgia and Alabama during the 1960s.

Gibbons did not attend school until she was nine years old and it was then that she discovered, through reading, a whole new world of stories. She read to her four younger brothers and sisters and even made up her own stories to entertain them. These stories were

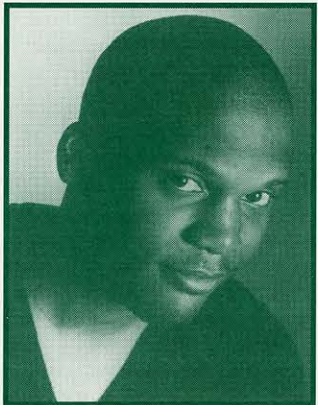
not written down but served to express her dreams of getting an education and leaving the Georgia mountains far behind. Her professional writing career did not begin until much later, after college, teaching, marriage, and motherhood.

Her first story, *Some Glad Morning* (1982), was rooted deeply in the Georgia mountains and depicted the eccentric, colorful country people she had grown up with. After writing the book, Gibbons was able to acknowledge that she was part of those people and, more importantly, that she felt good about it. Favorable reviews in the *New York Times*, the *Horn Book*, and *Booklist* gave Gibbons the confidence to begin *Mighty Close to Heaven*. The idea for this story came from a trip she made in the 1940s when she and her parents, unemployed and unable to purchase bus tickets, traveled by foot through the Georgia mountains to visit her grandparents. The titles for her first two books come from gospel songs because of the large part that religion has played in her life.

When asked about how her stories begin, Gibbons comments, "My stories start with a picture — or several pictures — in my mind. There is generally a main character, but I don't know much about him or her until I begin writing. What I am usually very sure of is the setting. It's almost always rural. I'm a country woman, and I feel more at home surrounded by trees and fields — and so do my characters. My stories frequently involve families, because family is so important to me."

Other works include *King Shoes and Clown Pockets* (1989), *Night in the Barn* (1995), *Mountain Wedding* (1996), and *Hook Moon Night: Spooky Tales from the Georgia Mountains* (1997). Her work has been recognized by the American Library Association, *USA Today*, and the Dixie Council of Authors and Journalists. In addition, her books have often been nominated for the Alabama Children's Book Award and the Georgia Children's Book Award.

Many of Faye Gibbons' dreams have come true. During school visits she tells the students to go for their dreams, whether those dreams are to write, paint, make movies, or fly jets. She has found through her own personal experience that people can do the wonderful things they want to — if they're willing to work for their dreams.



Gregory Christie

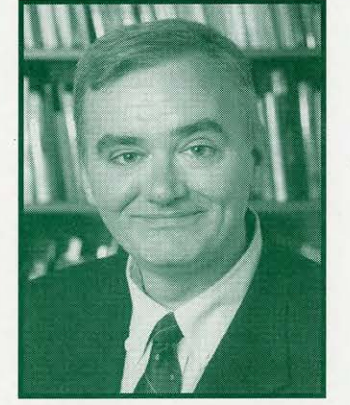
Gregory Christie's career as an illustrator of children's books received an immediate and resounding response from the children's book community. His first book, *The Palm of My Heart* (Lee & Low 1996), was named the 1997 recipient of the Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor Award. Christie knew from an early age that he wanted to be an artist. As a five-year-old, he copied favorite characters from comic books. Even then, the process of creating art gave him a sense of joy. He received his fine arts degree from the School of Visual Arts in New York City.

When he creates a new book, the first piece that he paints is very important and acts as a foundation upon which he builds the whole book. It sets the tone of the work and becomes his "messenger." In *The Palm of My Heart*, the drawing for "Black Hands" is the messenger, setting the lyrical, spirited tone of the book.

Born in Plainfield, New Jersey, in 1971, this 25-year-old artist now lives and works in the historic Fort Greene section of Brooklyn. His second book, *Richard Wright and the Library Card* by William Miller, was published by Lee & Low in 1997. This picture book tells of an incident in Richard Wright's childhood when he was denied access to the public library because of his race. The "messenger" in this book is a painting of the 17-year-old Wright sitting alone in his room, thinking. Christie says, "I like it because most creative people spend time alone, pensive, in their work. It's a key element of the creative process. I spend a lot of time doing that."

In addition to the illustrations in his two picture books for children, Christie's artwork has appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Village Voice*, and on the covers of numerous music CDs.

Roger Sutton Ezra Jack Keats Lecturer



The School of Library and Information Science at The University of Southern Mississippi and the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation are pleased to welcome Roger Sutton as the thirteenth Ezra Jack Keats Lecturer.

Roger Sutton became the editor in chief of *The Horn Book, Inc.* in 1996. As editor of *The Horn Book Magazine*, considered one of the authoritative journals on children's literature and reading, he has added coverage of the paperback field and non-print media, and has expanded coverage of international children's literature. In addition, Mr. Sutton serves as editor of *The Horn Book Guide to Children's and Young Adult Books*, which contains almost 2,000 reviews of hardcover trade books for young people in each issue.

Previously editor of the *Bulletin* of the Center for Children's Books at the University of Illinois at Urbana, Mr. Sutton has published reviews of children's books and articles in national periodicals and professional journals, including the *New York Times Book Review* and *School Library Journal*.

Mr. Sutton, an active member of the American Library Association, is on the 1999 Newbery Committee. He has acted as judge for several distinguished awards and has served on numerous boards. A former consultant for the Children's Literature Center at the Library of Congress, he has taught children's literature at Simmons College, Columbia University, and the University of Chicago.

Mr. Sutton's books include *Hearing Us Out: Voices from the Gay and Lesbian Community* (Little) and an ALA Best Books for Young Adults, reissued fall 1997. He has coedited *Evaluating Children's Books: A Critical Look* and *The Best in Children's Books 1985-1990: The University of Chicago Guide to Children's Literature*. The title of his Ezra Jack Keats Lecture is "Problematic Ideologies" and *Other Adventures in Children's Book Reviewing*.

Davida Adedjouma

Writer, actor, teacher, and editor, Davida Adedjouma was already the recipient of numerous literary awards and grants, including a Bush Foundation Individual Artist Fellowship and a Jerome Foundation Travel-and-Study Fellowship when *The Palm of My Heart*, her first book for children, received the 1997 Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor Award and the *Parenting Magazine* Reading Magic Award. The collection of poems by African American children celebrates the beauty of their lives and their culture. Adedjouma met each poet through a series of writing workshops with children in Minneapolis/St. Paul from the Inner City Youth League and the African American Academy for Accelerated Learning. "Children's voices in this country are seldom heard," she states. "We adults 'speak for' them, 'to' them, and 'about' them. I wanted to offer a vehicle for children to express who they are, in their own words."

The *Quarterly Black Review* says, "A celebration of blackness and the genius of our collective spirit, the anthology gives a dazzling glimpse of what it really means to be young, gifted, and black." *Publishers Weekly* calls the poems "fierce and joyful."

Adedjouma's publications include *Last Summer*, a collection of short stories, and most recently, *In Daddy's Arms I Am Tall*, an intergenerational collection of poetry by African American writers celebrating fatherhood. A native of Chicago, Adedjouma currently resides in New York City.

Workshop Presenters

- Dr. Pam Barron, Associate Professor, Library Science, Florida State University
- Dr. Maureen White, Associate Professor, Library Science, University of Houston
- Dr. Kay Bishop, Assistant Professor, University of Kentucky
- Dr. Carol Doll, Assistant Professor, University of Washington
- Valerie Alderson, Richmond, Yorkshire, England

Distinguished Guests

- Brian Alderson, Children's Book Editor, the *Times* (London)
- Oseola McCarty, USM's beloved benefactor, Hattiesburg, Mississippi
- Barbara Bryant, Executive Vice President, Phoenix Learning Group, St. Louis and New York

Elaine Konigsburg Bibliography

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Children's Book Review Center

Over 1,000 recently published books for children and young adults are available for examination and review at The University of Southern Mississippi Children's Book Review Center. Students in education and library science classes, faculty members, and participants in the Children's Book Festival are invited to visit the center, which is sponsored by the School of Library and Information Science. The Review Center is open at selected times during the Children's Book Festival.

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The de Grummond Children's Literature Collection

The de Grummond Children's Literature Collection is one of North America's leading research centers in the field of children's literature. Although the collection has many strengths, the main focus is on American and British children's literature, historical as well as contemporary.

The collection holds original materials and published works in its facility on the fourth floor of the McCain Library and Archives on the Hattiesburg campus of The University of Southern Mississippi.

The collection is named for Dr. Lena Y. de Grummond, author of several children's books, who founded the collection in 1966. She assembled materials that were sent by contributors from around the world. Over 1,200 people have generously donated their books and original materials to the collection. In addition, holdings include 55,000 published books.

A major acquisition is that of the Ezra Jack Keats collection. The original artwork, typescripts, dummies, and preliminary sketches for 36 books by the Caldecott award-winning author/illustrator complement the archives of his personal and professional papers already housed in the de Grummond Collection.

For more information, please contact

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Special Thanks

*The USM Children's Book Festival expresses appreciation to the following
for their help in making this
1998 Children's Book Festival an exciting and rewarding event:*

Dr. Horace Fleming, President, The University of Southern Mississippi

Dr. Aubrey K. Lucas, President Emeritus, The University of Southern Mississippi

Dr. Martin Pope and Dr. Lillian Pope and the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, New York, New York

Dr. Carrol Wicker and the Ralph and Carrol Wicker Foundation, Hattiesburg Mississippi

Miss Fay Kaigler, Gloster, Mississippi, and Mrs. Ruth Lamont, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Mrs. Dee Jones, Curator, de Grummond Children's Literature Collection

Coleen Salley, Professor Emerita, University of New Orleans, Storytelling Convener

Members of the Medallion Selection Committee

Students from the School of Library and Information Science, for assisting
our guest speakers and for providing refreshments

University employees who assisted with the book sales and the entire staff
of the Department of Continuing Education, Noncredit Programming

The city of Petal for the use of the Petal Civic Center and
the Petal Public Library

Surely it would be less arrogant, and truer to the evidence, to say that the peculiarity of child readers is that they are not peculiar. It is we who are peculiar. Fashions in literary taste come and go among the adults, and every period has its own shibboleths. These, when good, do not improve the taste of children, and, when bad, do not corrupt it; for the children read only to enjoy. Of course their vocabulary and general ignorance make some books unintelligible to them. But apart from that, juvenile taste is simply human taste, going on from age to age, silly with a universal silliness or wise with a universal wisdom, regardless of modes, movements, and literary revolutions.

C. S. Lewis
On Juvenile Taste

The University of Southern Mississippi
Children's Book Festival

Director

Dr. Oona Bookman, Distinguished Society Professor
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Program Director

Dr. Pam Brown, Assistant Professor Library Science, Florida State University

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State Department of Education, Department of Community Education
Surely it would be less arrogant and truer to the

evidence to say that the majority of child readers is that
generally regarded as the "average" child reader, and that

they are not peculiar. It is we who are peculiar. Perhaps

in literary taste come and go among the adults, and every

period has its own alibi. These, when good, do not

improve the taste of children, and when bad, do not

correct it for the adult. Children enjoy, of course

their own books and general interest in some books

is simply that it is a part of their life, and they are

quite likely to be the best of their kind. It is not

any more than the fact that a child is a child, and

is simply that it is a part of their life, and they are

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The Children's Book Festival congratulates President Horace Fleming
on the occasion of his inauguration, April 14, 1998,
as seventh President of The University of Southern Mississippi
and expresses grateful appreciation to Aubrey K. Lucas,
sixth President, from July 1, 1975 to December 31, 1996.

The City of Hattiesburg, Mississippi
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