

The University of Southern Mississippi
The Aquila Digital Community

Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival
Programs

School of Library and Information Science

2001

Children's Book Festival

Karen Rowell

University of Southern Mississippi, karen.rowell@usm.edu

Onva K. Boshears Jr.

University of Southern Mississippi

University of Southern Mississippi

Follow this and additional works at: <https://aquila.usm.edu/kaiglergallery>



Part of the [Archival Science Commons](#), [Cataloging and Metadata Commons](#), [Collection Development and Management Commons](#), [Early Childhood Education Commons](#), [Elementary Education Commons](#), [Information Literacy Commons](#), and the [Language and Literacy Education Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Rowell, Karen; Boshears, Onva K. Jr.; and University of Southern Mississippi, "Children's Book Festival" (2001). *Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival Programs*. 7.
<https://aquila.usm.edu/kaiglergallery/7>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the School of Library and Information Science at The Aquila Digital Community. It has been accepted for inclusion in Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival Programs by an authorized administrator of The Aquila Digital Community. For more information, please contact aquilastaff@usm.edu.

*The
Thirty-Fourth
Annual*



Children's Book Festival

de Grummond Children's Literature Collection and the
School of Library and Information Science

The University of Southern Mississippi

March 21-23, 2001

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 de Grummond Children's Literature 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 to 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 the 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 of his books. 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, 2001, marks the fourth presentation of the Kaigler-Lamont Award for distinguished service to children to a librarian or teacher. Miss Fay Kaigler has generously 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 hundreds of 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 Medallion

Awarding The University of Southern Mississippi Medallion is the highlight of the Children's Book Festival. This year's recipient is Virginia Hamilton. 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	1985 Arnold Lobel
1970 Ernest H. Shepard	1986 Jean Craighead George
1971 Roger Duvoisin	1987 Paula Fox
1972 Marcia Brown	1988 Jean Fritz
1973 Lynd Ward	1989 Lee Bennett Hopkins
1974 Taro Yashima	1990 Charlotte Zolotow
1975 Barbara Cooney	1991 Richard Peck
1976 Scott O'Dell	1992 James Marshall
1977 Adrienne Adams	1993 Quentin Blake
1978 Madeleine L'Engle	1994 Ashley Bryan
1979 Leonard Everett Fisher	1995 Tomie de Paola
1980 Ezra Jack Keats	1996 Patricia MacLachlan
1981 Maurice Sendak	1997 Eric Carle
1982 Beverly Cleary	1998 Elaine Konigsburg
1983 Katherine Paterson	1999 Russell Freedman
1984 Peter Spier	2000 David Macaulay

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.

Children's Book Festival Speakers, 1968-2001

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

Thirty-Fourth Annual Children's Book Festival Program

Wednesday, March 21

- 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. **Pre-festival Seminar**
"The Illustrator as Storyteller"
Speaker: Chuck Gale
Cook Library, Room 123
- 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. **Early Registration**
R.C. Cook Union, Lobby
Medallion, Note Card, and Keats Statue Sales
R.C. Cook Union, Lobby
Book Sales
Cook Library, Second Floor Mezzanine
- 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. **The Fay Kaigler Storytelling Celebration***
University Union, Rooms A, B, C
Convener: Coleen Salley
Buffet Supper
Featured Storyteller: Evester Roper

Thursday, March 22

- 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Registration**
Mannoni Performing Arts Center
Book Sales
Cook Library, Second Floor Mezzanine
Medallion, Note Card, and Keats Statue Sales
Mannoni Performing Arts Center
- 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. **Exhibits**
de Grummond Collection
McCain Library, Room 405
- Book Review Center**
Cook Library, Second Floor
School of Library and Information Science
- 9:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. **First General Session**
Mannoni Performing Arts Center
Keynote Speaker: Virginia Hamilton
- 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. **Autograph Sessions**
Mannoni Performing Arts Center
- 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions**
"Discussion of Caldecott and Newbery Winners"
University Union, Room H
Speakers: Maureen White & Pam Barron
- "Fifty+ Outstanding Websites for Children, Educators, and Librarians"
Cook Library, Room 123
Speaker: Carolyn Brodie
- "Gallery Talk"
de Grummond Collection, McCain Library, Room 405
Speaker: Dee Jones, Curator
- "Coretta Scott King and Pura Belpre Award Winners"
Cook Library, School of Library and Information Science, Room 204
Speakers: Kay Bishop and Henrietta Smith
- "Storytelling: Bringing Literature to Life"
University Union, Room G
Speaker: Evester Roper
- "The Illustrator as Visual Interpreter"
Cook Library, School of Library and Information Science, Room 208
Speaker: Chuck Gale

- 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. **Luncheon A**
University Commons, Rooms A, B, C
Speaker: Jamie Adoff Levi
- Luncheon B**
University Union, Rooms A, B, C
Speaker: Denise Fleming

Thursday, March 22 (continued)

- 2:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. **Second General Session**
Mannoni Performing Arts Center
Speaker: Vera Williams
- 3:15 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Autograph Session**
Mannoni Performing Arts Center
- 6:45 p.m. **Reception Honoring Virginia Hamilton**
Jackie Dole Sherrill Community Center
220 West Front Street
Hattiesburg, Mississippi
- 7:30 p.m. **Awards Banquet**
Jackie Dole Sherrill Community Center
Presentation of The University of Southern Mississippi Medallion to Virginia Hamilton by Dr. Horace Fleming, President
Presentation of the Fay Kaigler-Ruth Lamont Award by Dr. Onva Boshears

Friday, March 23

- 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. **Registration**
Mannoni Performing Arts Center
- 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. **Book Sales**
Cook Library, Second Floor Mezzanine
Medallion, Note Card, and Keats Statue Sales
Mannoni Performing Arts Center
- 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. **Exhibits**
de Grummond Collection
McCain Library, Room 405
- Book Review Center**
Cook Library, Second Floor
School of Library and Information Science
- 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. **Third General Session**
Mannoni Performing Arts Center
Speaker: Denise Fleming
- 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. **Ezra Jack Keats Lecture**
Mannoni Performing Arts Center
Speaker: Patsy Perritt
- 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. **Autograph Session**
Mannoni Performing Arts Center
- 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions**
"The Newbery, Caldecott and More"
Cook Library, Room 123
Speakers: Carolyn Brodie and Maureen White
- "Gallery Talk"
de Grummond Collection, McCain Library, Room 405
Speaker: Dee Jones, Curator
- "The 2001 Notable Videos for Children"
University Union, Room H
Speaker: Pam Barron
- "Coretta Scott King and Pura Belpre Award Winners"
Cook Library, School of Library and Information Science, Room 204
Speaker: Kay Bishop and Henrietta Smith
- "Berthe Amoss & Eric Suben's Picture Book Workbook & Workshop"
University Union, Hall of Honors
Speaker: Berthe Amoss
- 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. **Ezra Jack Keats Luncheon**
University Commons, Rooms A, B, C
Speaker: Vera Williams
Remarks: Martin and Lillie Pope, Deborah Pope, The Ezra Jack Keats Award

* The Fay Kaigler Storytelling Celebration is financially assisted by the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Mississippi Humanities Council. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the Mississippi Humanities Council or the National Endowment for the Humanities.



Denise Fleming

Denise Fleming's art was first published when she was only 11 or 12 years old. From the third through the ninth grade, this emerging artist took classes at the Toledo Museum of Art. Several of her paintings were included in an international exchange program, and a painting of morning glories was chosen for the cover of a teachers' magazine. Fleming was born in Toledo, Ohio, and grew up in a comfortable middle-class family. She and her sister divided their time between making things in their father's workshop and putting on neighborhood theatrical productions. While in high school, Fleming assembled a portfolio that she entered in an art competition. Her work favorably impressed the judges, and she received scholarship money to attend the Kendall College of Art and Design, graduating in 1970. She married fellow artist David Powers in 1971, and their daughter, Indigo, was born in 1979.

In the early 1980s, after a decade of freelance work, Fleming met author/illustrator Wendy Watson, who encouraged her to try children's books. Portfolio in hand, she made the rounds of New York City publishing houses. Her talent was recognized, and she began to illustrate books written by other authors. She also illustrated series books of licensed characters like the Care Bears, but realized that this was not what she really wanted to do.

Her life changed when she and her sister enrolled in a papermaking class – "just for fun." Her interest was piqued and she took a more advanced course, "Handmade Paper for the Painter," at the Arrowmont craft school in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. It was here that she learned about pulp, pigment, and chemicals and developed the innovative technique used in her books since 1991. Fleming took a new and improved portfolio back to New York. Henry Holt editor Laura Godwin was quite enthusiastic, and a contract was signed on the spot.

In the Tall, Tall Grass (1991) was the first picture book that utilized this newly acquired technique of pulp painting. In a promotional brochure released by Holt, Fleming describes the technique as follows: "Cotton rag fiber is the basic material. It is beaten to a fine pulp and suspended in water. Chemicals and pigments are then added. The pulp is my paint; cups and squeeze bottles serve as brushes; hand-cut stencils are my under-drawings. To begin, a large screen is dipped into a vat of pulp suspended in water. The water drains off through an underlying screen and damp pulp is left on the surface of the screen – this serves as a base sheet to which I add shape and color using stencils, cups, and squeeze bottles. The pulp is layered and slowly built up. Some sheets are three-quarters of an inch thick before pressing and drying."

In the Tall, Tall Grass met with critical acclaim, receiving recognition from the American Library Association, the National Council of Teachers of English, the International Reading Association, and the *Boston Globe-Horn Book*. It was included on numerous best book lists in journals and magazines like *School Library Journal*, *Booklist*, and *Redbook*. Two titles, *Count!* and *Lunch* were published in 1992. *In the Small, Small Pond* came one year later and was named a 1994 Caldecott Honor book. Nearly every year has brought a new book, and Fleming's innovative technique is now widely recognized by picture book enthusiasts the world over. Her newest entry, *The Everything Book*, is just that. A veritable encyclopedia of all things toddler, it shows colors and shapes, numbers and letters, everyday objects, and parts of the body. A special touch is the ladybugs that can be found on nearly every page. Fleming's newest book, *Pumpkin Eye*, will be released in September 2001.

Vera B. Williams

Author/illustrator Vera B. Williams came to the world of children's books when she was forty-eight years old. In the preceding years she had many adventures that would later influence her literary work – parenthood, organizing a cooperative community and experimental school, arrests in anti-nuclear demonstrations, and jobs as cook, baker, and teacher.



Born in California in 1927, Williams discovered her artistic talents when she was just seven years old. She would often go to the Bronx House, a neighborhood center in New York City, where she acted, danced, painted, wrote for the newspaper, and played baseball. When she was eight years old, one of her paintings, called "Yentas," was exhibited at a WPA show at the Museum of Modern Art. Williams graduated from New York's High School of Music and Art, where she wrote and illustrated her first children's book. Later, she attended the now-famous Black Mountain College in North Carolina, graduating in 1949 with a degree in graphic arts.

Her entry into the world of children's books came when her friend Remy Charlip showed her ideas, sketches, and a dummy for a book he didn't have time to illustrate himself. Williams was interested in the project, and in 1975, *Hooray for Me!* was published with her illustrations. Within several years, Williams was writing and illustrating her own books.

She is perhaps best known for her stories about Rosa, a fictional Hispanic child from a close-knit, working-class family. The first of three books featuring Rosa and her family was *A Chair for My Mother* (1981), named as a Caldecott Honor book. Inspiration for this story came from Williams' own childhood memories of the economic sacrifices experienced by her family when her mother struggled to purchase a chair on the installment plan. Williams commented, "I had the wonderful feeling that I now had the power, as a writer and an illustrator, to change the past into something happier than it really was, and to offer it as a gift to my mother's memory." Rosa's story is continued in *Something Special for Me* (1983) and *Music, Music for Everyone* (1984).

A second Caldecott Honor was bestowed on "*More More More*," *Said the Baby: Three Love Stories* (1990), a simple book showing African-, Asian- and Anglo-American toddlers with their loving mothers, fathers, and grandmothers. *Scooter*, Williams' first children's novel, tells the story of a little girl's struggle to adjust to her parents' divorce and living in a new place. Reviewers found the text "disarming in its apparent simplicity," and "upbeat, innovative, delightfully engaging, and beautifully crafted"

Williams' work contains a wealth of strong female characters who live in a multicultural world. Stories are important to her and must reflect her personal interest in the causes of non-violence, children, women, and the environment. Only the most important stories get told since, according to Williams, "It takes about a year for me to bring a book from its first shadowy glimmerings to a completed work in which each element is rooted in the tale to be told: type (sometimes hand lettering), paper, format, even the flaps and back cover. Naturally, I desire to embark only on projects with 'serious consequences.' But 'serious' most certainly includes the colorful, playful, and humorous."



Arnold Adoff

Born in the East Bronx, New York City, in 1935, Arnold Adoff was raised in a close-knit, liberal immigrant family that valued their Jewish heritage while striving for assimilation. He was an avid reader, borrowing as many books as possible from the local public library.

He began to write poetry while still in his teens and continued through college. After receiving a bachelor's degree in 1956 from City College of New York, he pursued graduate studies at Columbia University. In 1958, Adoff met Virginia Hamilton, who had come to New York City several years earlier to pursue her writing career. They were married in 1960 and became "a two Olivetti family."

Adoff worked as a social studies teacher at a yeshiva in Brooklyn, and for twelve years he taught in public schools in Harlem. He soon realized that the required

textbooks were devoid of the ethnic literature that he wanted to share with his students. He searched bookstores and libraries for suitable materials and began to collect the poetry of well-known African Americans like Langston Hughes, Gwendolyn Brooks, and Richard Wright. This compilation would become his first book, *I Am the Darker Brother: An Anthology of Modern Poems by Negro Americans*, published in 1968.

A short time later, Adoff and his family moved to Yellow Springs, Ohio, where they built a home on the farmland that had been in his wife's family for generations. Other well-received poetry anthologies followed – *Black Out Loud: An Anthology of Modern Poems by Black Americans* (1970), *It Is the Poem Singing in Your Eyes: An Anthology of New Young Poets* (1971), *The Poetry of Black America: An Anthology of the 20th Century* (1973), and *Celebrations: A New Anthology of Black American Poetry* (1978).

Adoff has also published books of his own poetry, the first being *MA nDA LA* in 1971. It is an illustrated story poem that relates the cycle of African family life in a small village, using only words containing the sound "ah." *Black is Brown is Tan* – modeled after his own family – was one of the first books to depict an interracial family. Adoff's poetry is fluid and musical, and he experiments with structure, nonsense sounds, punctuation, capitalization, and the layout of the poem on the page. Recent examples of this creative process include *Street Music* (1995), with poems that explore the sights and sounds of life in a big city; *Touch the Poem* (2000), which is a compilation of poems about the sense of touch; and *The Basket Counts* (2000), where illustrations and poetic text describe the movement and feel of the game of basketball.

His most recent book, *Daring Dog and Captain Cat*, is a work of fiction. Although they are normal and obedient pets during the day, at night Irving Dog and Ermine Cat rise and shake and roam as Daring Dog and Captain Cat – twirling capes, flashing swords, and chasing crooks.

Adoff doesn't consider himself "to be an expert on black life or culture or even black poetry." He says, "I am a continuing student ... I think of myself as a pusher – a disseminator of black materials. I seek out opportunities to tell ... about the work of black poets, writers, educators and historians. I want my anthologies of black American writing to make black kids strong in their knowledge of themselves and their great literary heritage. I also want these black books of mine to give knowledge to white kids so that mutual respect and understanding will come from mutual learning."



Patsy Perritt

Dr. Perritt, currently a professor of library and information science, has been a member of the faculty at Louisiana State University since 1974. Perritt began her academic training at Louisiana Tech University, where she earned a B.S. and a M.A. in education. After several years of teaching in the East Baton Rouge Parish school system, she attended Louisiana State University, where she earned a master of science in library science and a doctor of philosophy in education.

A popular speaker, Dr. Perritt has made several hundred presentations to professional organizations, including the International Reading Association, the American Library Association, the Louisiana Association for Children Under Six, the North Carolina Association of School Librarians, the American Association of School Librarians, the Catholic Library Association, and the South Carolina Association of School Librarians. Over the years she has made a number of presentations at The University of Southern Mississippi's Children's Book Festival, and in February 2000, she delivered the 2nd Annual de Grummond Collection Lecture.

Her publication list is as impressive as her speaking engagements with articles in *School Library Journal*, *Library and Information Services Today*, *ALA Yearbook of Library and Information Services*, *Journal of Youth Services in Libraries*, and *Top of the News*. Her book, *Selected Videos and Films for Young Adults 1975-1985* was published in 1986 by the American Library Association. She has also contributed chapters to several books about the pic-

ture book and young adult services. Perritt also serves as a referee for the *Journal of Youth Services in Libraries*, the *Journal of the American Society for Information Science*, and the *School Library Media Quarterly*.

Her major areas of research interest are reflected in her lectures, writing, and teaching and include literature and services for children and young adults, children's book illustration, sexual health resources for teenagers and children, intellectual freedom, Louisiana publications for children, and school library collections and programs.

Dr. Perritt is quite active in national, state, and local professional organizations – she served as chairperson for the YALSA President's Program in San Francisco in 1992, was a member of the editorial board of the *Journal of Youth Services in Libraries*, and served as the chair or a member of numerous committees and task forces. Her outstanding abilities have been recognized by professional organizations and associations. She was named Young Career Woman of Louisiana in 1969, was awarded the Louisiana Library Association/NMRT Mid-Career Award in 1986, the VOYA/Frances Henne Research Award from the American Library Association in 1987, was named the Researcher of Distinction by Phi Delta Kappa in 1989, and was awarded the SIRS Intellectual Freedom Award of the Louisiana Library Association in 1994. Dr. Perritt has received a number of grants from the U.S. Department of Education and the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities.

She has served as the Director of LSU's Author/Illustrator Program Series since 1978, coordinates the Richard W. Peck Fellowship Fund, conducts study tours to England, and serves on The University of Southern Mississippi Children's Book Festival Medallion Selection Committee.

We are pleased to have Dr. Perritt return to the campus as our 2001 Ezra Jack Keats Lecturer.



Evester Roper

Internationally acclaimed storyteller Evester Roper has been delighting children and adults with her stories since 1989. Her audiences are treated to fables and folklore from around the world, told in Roper's acclaimed high-energy performance style. Her goal is to promote ethnic awareness through literature, telling stories with foundations in various cultures, including African American, African, Native American, and Russian. Her stories incorporate colloquialisms that are a part of the cultures' speech and traditions with themes that emphasize the difference between right and wrong and good and evil, advocating togetherness rather than separatism.

Born Evester Johnson in Palestine, Arkansas, this remarkable performer comes from a family of nine children. Her mother, recognizing the importance of storytelling, frequently used tales with an African-American theme to teach morals and values and to help her children remember important facts. Roper holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Mid-America Nazarene University, a master's degree in library and information science from Emporia State University, and is currently a doctoral candidate at The Graduate School of America.

Her skill as a storyteller has led to performances at libraries, schools, businesses, storytelling festivals, and workshops. She travels throughout the world for the Department of Defense, telling stories at their Dependent Students Schools. A highlight of her career came in February 1997 when she performed for First Lady Hillary Clinton.

Roper is the mother of four children and currently resides in Olathe, Kansas. She belongs to the National Association of Black Storytellers, the National Association of Storytellers, and several library organizations. She serves on the advisory board of the Kansas City, Missouri, School District for Special Populations and is a board member of the Lotus Theater. In addition to her storytelling performances, she is an adjunct professor at Emporia State University in Kansas.

Virginia Hamilton Bibliography

- The All Jahdu Storybook* by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Barry Moser. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1991.
- Anthony Burns: The Defeat and Triumph of a Fugitive Slave* by Virginia Hamilton. Knopf, 1988.
- Arilla Sun Down* by Virginia Hamilton. Greenwillow, 1976.
- The Bells of Christmas* by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Lambert Davis. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1989.
- Bluish: A Novel* by Virginia Hamilton. Blue Sky Press, 1999.
- Cousins* by Virginia Hamilton. Philomel, 1990.
- The Dark Way: Stories from the Spirit World* by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Lambert Davis. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1990.
- Drylongso* by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Jerry Pinkney. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1992.
- Dustland* by Virginia Hamilton. Greenwillow, 1980.
- The Gathering* by Virginia Hamilton. Greenwillow, 1981.
- The Girl Who Spun Gold* by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon. Blue Sky Press, 2000.
- Her Stories: African American Folktales, Fairy Tales, and True Tales* told by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon. Blue Sky Press, 1995.
- The House of Dies Drear* by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Eros Keith. Macmillan, 1968.
- Illusion and Reality* by Virginia Hamilton. Lecture presented at the Library of Congress on November 17, 1975.
- In the Beginning: Creation Stories from Around the World* told by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Barry Moser. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1988.
- Jaguarundi* by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Floyd Cooper. Blue Sky Press, 1995.
- Jahdu* by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Jerry Pinkney. Greenwillow, 1980.
- Junius over Far* by Virginia Hamilton. Harper & Row, 1985.
- Justice and her Brothers* by Virginia Hamilton. Greenwillow, 1978.
- A Little Love* by Virginia Hamilton. Philomel, 1984.
- Looking for America* by Virginia Hamilton. A speech delivered October 23, 1993 in Madison Wisconsin at the 30th anniversary of the Cooperative Center for Children's Books.
- M.C. Higgins the Great* by Virginia Hamilton. Macmillan, 1974.
- The Magical Adventures of Pretty Pearl* by Virginia Hamilton. Harper & Row, 1983.
- Many Thousand Gone: African Americans from Slavery to Freedom* by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon. Knopf, 1992.
- The Mystery of Drear House: The Conclusion of the Dies Drear Chronicle* by Virginia Hamilton. Greenwillow, 1987.
- Paul Robeson: The Life and Times of a Free Black Man* by Virginia Hamilton. Harper & Row, 1974.
- The People Could Fly: American Black Folktales* told by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon. Knopf, 1985.
- Plain City* by Virginia Hamilton. Scholastic, 1993.
- The Planet of Junior Brown* by Virginia Hamilton. Macmillan, 1971.
- A Ring of Tricksters: Animal Tales from America, the West Indies and Africa* by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Barry Moser. Blue Sky Press, 1997.
- Second Cousins* by Virginia Hamilton. Blue Sky Press, 1998.
- Sweet Whispers, Brother Rush* by Virginia Hamilton. Philomel, 1982.
- Tales from the Spirit World* by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Lambert Davis. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1990.
-

Time-ago Tales of Jahdu by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Nonny Hogrogian. Macmillan, 1969.

Time-ago Lost: More Tales of Jahdu by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Ray Prather. Macmillan, 1973.

W.E.B. Du Bois: A Biography by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated with photographs. Crowell, 1972.

Wee Winnie Witch's Skinny: An Original Scare Tale for Halloween by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Barry Moser. Blue Sky Press, 2001.

When Birds Could Talk and Bats Could Sing: The Adventures of Bruh Sparrow, Sis Wren, and their Friends told by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Barry Moser. Blue Sky Press, 1996.

A White Romance by Virginia Hamilton. Philomel, 1987.

Willie Bea and the Time the Martians Landed by Virginia Hamilton. Greenwillow, 1983.

The Writings of W.E.B. Du Bois edited by Virginia Hamilton. Crowell, 1975.

Zeely by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Symeon Shimin. Macmillan, 1967.

Workshop Presenters

Ms. Berthe Amoss, Author, Illustrator and Instructor of Children's Literature, New Orleans, Louisiana

Dr. Pam Barron, Professor, Library Science, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Dr. Kay Bishop, Associate Professor, Library Science, University of South Florida

Dr. Carolyn Brodie, Associate Professor, Library Science, Kent State University

Mr. Chuck Galey, Illustrator, Jackson, Mississippi

Dee Jones, Curator, de Grummond Children's Literature Collection, The University of Southern Mississippi

Dr. Henrietta Smith, Adjunct Professor, University of South Florida

Dr. Maureen White, Associate Professor, Library Science, University of Houston, Clear Lake

Members of the Medallion Selection Committee

Chair, Dr. Onva Boshears, Professor Emeritus, The University of Southern Mississippi

Mr. Brian Alderson, Scholar, critic and former editor for children's books, *The Times* (London)

Dr. Pam Barron, Professor, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Dr. Kay Bishop, Associate Professor, University of South Florida

Dr. Carolyn Brodie, Associate Professor, Kent State University

Dr. Elizabeth Haynes, Assistant Professor, The University of Southern Mississippi

Dee Jones, Curator, de Grummond Children's Literature Collection, The University of Southern Mississippi

Dr. Margaret Kimmel, Professor, University of Pittsburgh

Dr. Patsy Perritt, Professor, Louisiana State University

Dr. Phyllis Van Orden, Professor Emerita, University of Washington

Dr. Maureen White, Associate Professor, University of Houston, Clear Lake

Children's Book Review Center

Over 1,500 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.

Participating Publishers

Aladdin	Greenwillow	Morrow
Arcade	Harcourt Brace Jovanovich	Mulberry
Atheneum	Harper Keypoint	North-South
Bradbury Press	Harper Trophy	Peaceable Kingdom
Carolrhoda	HarperCollins	Pelican Publishing
Clarion Books	Henry Holt	Picture Book Studio
Collier	Joy Street/Little, Brown	Puffin
Crestwood House	Knopf	Putnam & Grosset Group
Crowell	Knopf/Bullseye	Random House
Crowell/Abelard-Schuman	Knopf/Dragonfly	Scholastic
Crown	Lerner Publication	Scribners
Dell/Laurel-Leaf Books	Lippincott	Seaver Books/Henry Holt
Dial Books	Little, Brown	Sierra Club
EZ Nature	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard	Simon and Schuster
Farrar, Straus & Giroux	Macmillan	Sports Illustrated for Kids
Four Winds	McElderry	Viking Kestrel
Frederick Warne		

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 70,000 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

Dee Jones, Curator
de Grummond Children's Literature Collection
McCain Library and Archives
Box 5148
The University of Southern Mississippi
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-5148
(601) 266-4349

The University of Southern Mississippi Children's Book Festival

Director

Dr. Onva Boshears, Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus
School of Library and Information Science, The University of Southern Mississippi

Assistant Director

Mary Hamilton, Assistant Professor, USM Libraries

Festival Arrangements

Meta Blanshard, Senior Coordinator, Department of Continuing Education
The University of Southern Mississippi

Book Sales

John Dorroh, President, Southwest Book Company, Stafford, Texas

Kaigler-Lamont Award Selection Committee Chair

Charjean Graves, Hattiesburg, Mississippi



Special Thanks

The USM Children's Book Festival expresses appreciation to the following for their help in making this 2001 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. Anselm Griffin, Provost, The University of Southern Mississippi

Dr. James Hollandsworth, Associate Provost, The University of Southern Mississippi

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

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

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

Dr. James Martin, Dean of Libraries, The University of Southern Mississippi

Kay Wall, Director of Public Services, USM Libraries

Dee Jones, Curator, de Grummond Children's Literature Collection
McCain Library, The University of Southern Mississippi

Dr. Tom Walker, Director, School of Library and Information Science
The University of Southern Mississippi

Dr. Rosemary Chance, Assistant Professor, Library Science, The University of Southern Mississippi

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

Members of the Medallion Selection Committee

Members of the Kaigler-Lamont Award Selection Committee

Members of the Library Science Faculty

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 Mississippi Humanities Council and The National Endowment for the Humanities

The Fay Kaigler-Ruth Lamont Award

The first presentation of the Kaigler-Lamont Award was made in 1998. The generous financial support of Fay Kaigler of Gloster, Mississippi, has made the award possible. Miss Kaigler is well known for her love of children and devoted herself for many years as an elementary school teacher to enhancing books and reading in the lives of children. Her students were soon hooked on books. In retirement, she continues to promote books and reading in her local public library. Her dear friend, Ruth Lamont, who for many years was a successful school librarian in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, shares her passion for making books integral to children's lives.

The Kaigler-Lamont Award recognizes distinguished accomplishments in promoting children's reading by librarians and teachers in Mississippi schools and by children's librarians in the public libraries of Mississippi. In 1998, the first award was presented to Mattie Rials, children's librarian, Pike-Amite-Walthall Public Library System, McComb, Mississippi. In 1999, the award was given to two outstanding school librarians: Lawana Cummings, Saint Martin East Elementary School, Ocean Springs, Mississippi, and Charjean Graves, William Jones Elementary School, Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Last year's recipient was Sybil Hanna for 40 years of service as the children's librarian at the Jackson Hinds County Public Library, Jackson, Mississippi. This year's recipient is Sherry Donald, librarian at Oxford Elementary School, Oxford Mississippi.

In recognition of Miss Kaigler's additional financial support for the Children's Book Festival, the storytelling program on Wednesday evening has been named in her honor. It is now the "Fay Kaigler Storytelling Celebration."

Thanks to Dr. Boshears

Dr. Onva Boshears has had a profound and positive influence on the development of the Children's Book Festival. As University Librarian and Dean of Library Science for over a decade, he provided resources and encouragement. In recent years he has served as director of the Festival, ensuring that it remains one of the most delightful, useful, and scholarly events on this campus. We are deeply grateful to Dr. Boshears for 25 years of significant and strong support of the Children's Book Festival .

Dr. Aubrey K. Lucas, President Emeritus



This printed program has been made possible
through the generous support of
the Ralph and Carrol Wicker Foundation.

The 35th Annual Children's Book Festival will be held on April 4-5, 2002,
under the Leadership of Dr. Rosemary Chance, a member of the faculty,
School of Library and Information Science, The University of Southern Mississippi.
