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Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival
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School of Library and Information Science

2002

Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival

Karen Rowell

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

Rosemary Chance

University of Southern Mississippi

University of Southern Mississippi

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*The
Thirty-Fifth
Annual*



**Fay B. Kaigler
Children's Book Festival**

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

The University of Southern Mississippi

April 3-5, 2002

Children's Book Festival renamed in honor of Fay B. Kaigler

The Children's Book Festival at The University of Southern Mississippi was renamed on December 5, 2001, in honor of retired elementary school teacher Fay B. Kaigler, a native Mississippian, who recently contributed a planned gift to the festival in excess of \$1.1 million.

Fay Kaigler, a longtime supporter of the festival and the University, taught in the public schools of California and Mississippi for 33 years, instilling the importance of reading in her students.

Kaigler first attended the festival at the invitation of her friend Ruth Lamont, a children's librarian from Baton Rouge. Over the years the two traveled to Hattiesburg each spring to participate in the festival.

Although she is a graduate of Louisiana State University, Kaigler's love of reading and children drew her to Southern Miss through the Children's Book Festival. Her gift to the University will continue the festival's tradition of encouraging writers to strive for excellence in children's literature and of providing information to teachers and librarians.

The Fay B. Kaigler-Ruth Lamont Award

The first presentation of the Kaigler-Lamont Award was made in 1998. The generous financial support of Fay Kaigler of McComb, 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.

Recipients of the Kaigler-Lamont Award:

- 1998 - Mattie Rials, children's librarian, Pike-Amite-Walthall Public Library System, McComb
- 1999 - Lawana Cummings, library media specialist, Saint Martin East Elementary School, Ocean Springs, and Charjean Graves, library media specialist, William Jones Elementary School, Hattiesburg
- 2000 - Sybil Hanna, children's librarian, Jackson Hinds County Public Library, Jackson
- 2001 - Sherry Donald, library media specialist, Oxford Elementary School, Oxford
- 2002 - Linda E. Sikes, library media specialist, Beechwood Elementary School, Vicksburg

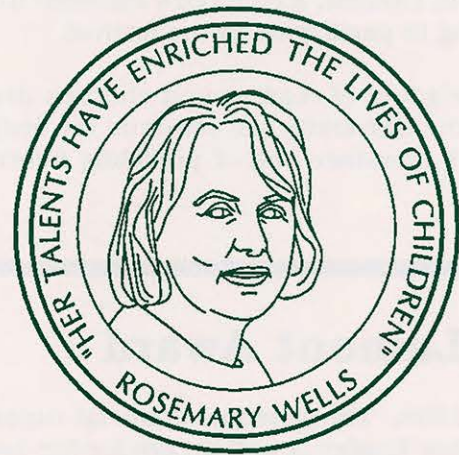
Linda E. Sikes, a library media specialist at the Beechwood Elementary School, is cited for her long career helping children learn to read. She has been working with children and books since she began teaching in 1967.

Members of the Kaigler-Lamont Award Selection Committee:

- 2002 Chair, William McMullen, librarian, Northeast Regional Libraries, Corinth, Mississippi
 - Dr. Elizabeth Haynes, assistant professor, The University of Southern Mississippi
 - Debra Marolt, teacher, West Corinth Elementary, Corinth, Mississippi
 - Ellen Ruffin, library media specialist, Rowan High School, Hattiesburg, Mississippi
-

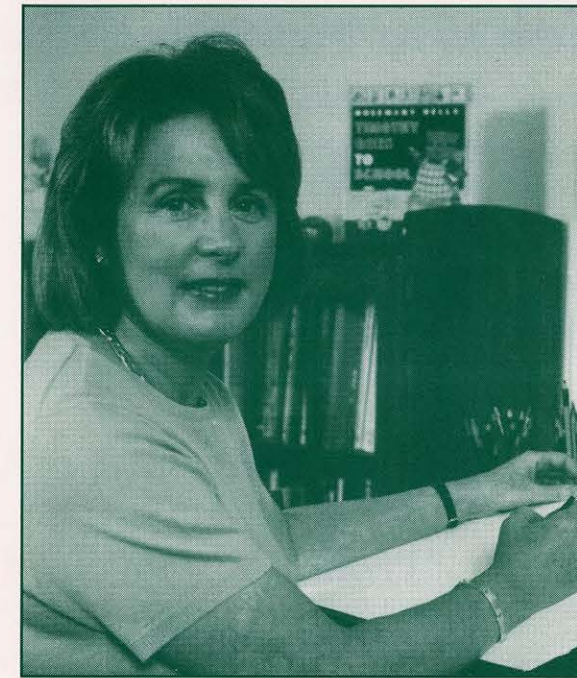
The University of Southern Mississippi Medallion

Awarding The University of Southern Mississippi Medallion is the highlight of the Children's Book Festival. This year's recipient is Rosemary Wells. 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	1986 Jean Craighead George
1970 Ernest H. Shepard	1987 Paula Fox
1971 Roger Duvoisin	1988 Jean Fritz
1972 Marcia Brown	1989 Lee Bennett Hopkins
1973 Lynd Ward	1990 Charlotte Zolotow
1974 Taro Yashima	1991 Richard Peck
1975 Barbara Cooney	1992 James Marshall
1976 Scott O'Dell	1993 Quentin Blake
1977 Adrienne Adams	1994 Ashley Bryan
1978 Madeleine L'Engle	1995 Tomie de Paula
1979 Leonard Everett Fisher	1996 Patricia MacLachlan
1980 Ezra Jack Keats	1997 Eric Carle
1981 Maurice Sendak	1998 Elaine Konigsburg
1982 Beverly Cleary	1999 Russell Freedman
1983 Katherine Paterson	2000 David Macaulay
1984 Peter Spier	2001 Virginia Hamilton
1985 Arnold Lobel	



Rosemary Wells

A highlight of the 35th annual Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival will be the awarding of The University of Southern Mississippi Medallion to Rosemary Wells. The Medallion is given annually to honor the body of work created by an author or illustrator of children's and young adult literature. There is no doubt that Rosemary Wells' contribution to this literature is indeed outstanding. She is perhaps best known for her endearing animal characters McDuff, Max, Ruby, Timothy, Benjamin, Yoko, and Noisy Nora.

Born January 29, 1943, in New York City, Rosemary Wells grew up on the Jersey shore, spending much of her childhood enjoying the outdoors with her dogs. She began to draw at the age of 2 and received constant encouragement from her parents and grandmother. Knowing that she was destined to have a career in art, she studied at the Museum School in Boston, Massachusetts in the early 1960s. After her 1963 marriage to Tom Wells, she began a career in publishing, first as an editor with Allyn and Bacon, and later as a book designer with Macmillan. It was while working at Macmillan that she created a picture book dummy based on the words of a Gilbert and Sullivan song. Legendary editor Susan Hirschman accepted it immediately, with the words "You are now a Macmillan author." The resulting book, *A Song to Sing, O!* was published in 1968.

Since that time, Rosemary Wells has created an amazing variety of books ranging from picture books, to board books, to thrillers written for a teenage audience. Her skills are unlimited. At times, she creates both the text and the illustrations, as evidenced by her picture books featuring remarkably human animal characters such as *Max's Dragon Shirt* and the "Voyage to the Bunny Planet" series. At other times, she provides the text that is interpreted by the illustrations of other artists such as Susan Jeffers for the "McDuff" series, David McPhail, Peter McCarty, and Dan Andreasen. Yet at other times, she provides the illustrations for text written by authors Paula Fox, Robert Service, Marjorie Weinman Sharmat, and Lore Segal. A recent endeavor involves the creation of collector's editions of classic titles like *Stuart Little* and *Charlotte's Web*, where Wells has colorized the original black and white illustrations created by Garth Williams.

Wells' award-winning career has spanned more than three decades and produced more than 70 books. People often ask why most of her books use animals rather than children as characters. To this she replies, "There are many reasons. First, I draw animals more easily and amusingly than I do children. Animals are broader in range – age, time, and place – than children. They also can do things in pictures that children cannot. They can be slapstick and still real, rough and still funny, maudlin and still touching."

Her work is appreciated by literary critics and young readers alike. The joy she derives from the creative process is evident in her work and she continues to find delight in every aspect of this job that "has hard parts, but no bad or boring parts, and that is more than can be said for any other line of work I know."

The University of Southern Mississippi is proud to add the name of Rosemary Wells to the list of distinguished authors and illustrators who are Medallion recipients.

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 Galey	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 Krungold	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 Egielski	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	

35th Annual Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival Program

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

- 3:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Early Registration**
Bennett Auditorium
- 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Book Sales**
Cook Library, 2nd Floor, Mezzanine
- 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Concurrent Workshops**
Workshop A - "Tough Books for Tough Times: YA with a Cutting Edge"
Cook Library, 2nd Floor, Room 204
Presenter: Teri Lesesne **OR**
"Teen Literature: Focusing on the New Michael L. Printz Award"
Cook Library, 2nd Floor, Room 208
Presenter: Bob Seney
- Workshop B** - "Adding Pizazz to Children's Story Sessions"
Cook Library, 1st Floor, Room 123 (at the back of the Information Services Department)
Presenter: Dorothy McMahon
- 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. The Fay Kaigler Storytelling Celebration**
"Storyteller in Concert"
Bennett Auditorium
Storyteller: Evester Roper

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

- 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Registration**
Bennett Auditorium
- 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Book Sales**
Cook Library, 2nd Floor Mezzanine
- Book Review Center
School of Library and Information Science
Cook Library 2nd Floor
- 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Medallion Session**
Bennett Auditorium
Presentation of USM Medallion
"Writing for the Lifetime Reader"
Speaker: Rosemary Wells
- 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Refreshment Break**
On the Lawn, Bennett Auditorium
- 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Regional Panel of Authors and Illustrators**
Bennett Auditorium
Speakers: Patricia Austin, Chuck Galey, Laurie Parker, Whitney Stewart
- 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Luncheon A**
Commons, Rooms A,B,C
"Turning Real Life into Fiction"
Speaker: Chris Crutcher

Luncheon B

University Union, Rooms A,B,C
"The Poems and Pranks of Father Goose"
Speaker: Charles Ghigna

2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Gallery Talk
de Grummond Collection
McCain Library, Room 405
Speaker: Dee Jones, Curator

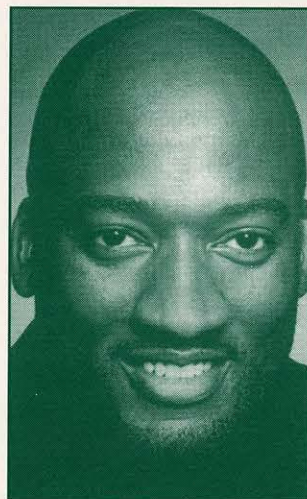
2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Autograph Session
Cook Library, 2nd Floor

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Jackie Dole Sherrill Community Center
220 West Front Street, Hattiesburg

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

EZRA JACK KEATS DAY

- 7:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Registration**
Bennett Auditorium
- 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Book Sales**
Cook Library, 2nd Floor Mezzanine
- 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Ezra Jack Keats Lecture**
Bennett Auditorium
"The Back Story: Before the Words Get on the Page"
Speaker: Barbara Elleman
- 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Refreshment Break**
On the Lawn, Bennett Auditorium
- 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Gallery Talk**
de Grummond Collection
McCain Library, Room 405
Speaker: Dee Jones, Curator
- 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Autograph Session**
Cook Library, 2nd Floor
- 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Ezra Jack Keats Luncheon**
University Commons, Rooms ABC
"The World Is Waiting to Be Blessed by You"
Speaker: Bryan Collier
Remarks: Deborah Pope for the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation
- 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Concurrent Workshops**
Workshop C - "The Stories Behind the Poems - For Readers & Writers"
Presenter: Charles Ghigna
Cook Library, 2nd Floor, Room 204
- Workshop D** - "2002 ALSC Notable Children's Books"
Cook Library, 1st Floor, Room 123 (at the back of the Information Services Department)
Presenter: Carolyn Brodie
- Workshop E** - "Completing the Picture: Diversity in Books for Teen Readers"
Cook Library, 2nd Floor, Room 208



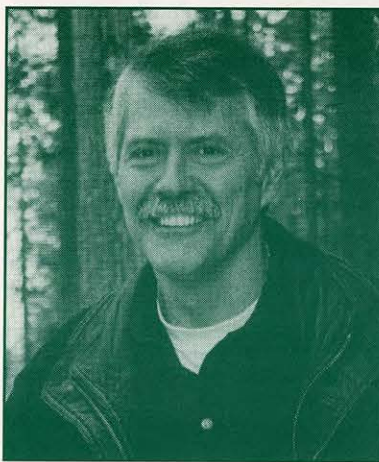
Bryan Collier

Becoming a children's book illustrator was a natural progression for Bryan Collier's career, given his empathy for young people. He admits that the 5-year-old child inside [him] "has never changed, never gone away." The youngest of six children, Collier grew up in Pocomoke, Maryland, on the lower eastern shore of the Chesapeake Bay. Encouraged both at home and school, Collier's interest in art began early and as a teenager he loved to paint the world he knew best: the bay and marshland, the animals and birds. In 1985 his art was exhibited in the nation's Capitol, recognition for winning first prize in a congressional competition. That same year he participated in Pratt Institute's National Talent Search Competition and was awarded a scholarship to study art in New York.

After graduating with a bachelor's degree in Fine Art in 1989, Collier was offered the job of assistant director for Harlem Hospital Center's Horizon Art Studio, a program that provides opportunities for traumatized youth to explore art as part of their healing process. In 1991 he became art director for the Hospital Center's Unity through Murals Programs, a job he held until 2001. The murals, which have been featured in the 1992 film "Above the Rim," and a 1992 episode of "Sesame Street" with Robert Townsend as "Speedy Van Go," were created by Collier with New York City's public school children. He still works with the program as a volunteer. "It gives the community, the schools, the kids, and parents the opportunity to come together for a very positive, uplifting cause," Collier has said of the program he directed for 12 years, "The building and rebuilding of self-esteem, teaching the appreciation of art, and keeping the kids off the streets and away from negative influences is very rewarding."

Collier's natural rapport with children is also evident when he speaks to classes. He likes to get them involved by asking each student to share a story about themselves. "Creativity is about making decisions," he has said. "Once the kids really get that, they begin making connections. They go from saying, 'That's not about me' to 'Hey. Look at me. This is who I am.'"

These days Collier divides his time between visiting schools, working on his studio art, and illustrating children's books. His first solo book, *Uptown* (Henry Holt, 2000) won him the 2001 Coretta Scott King Award for illustration and the 2001 Ezra Jack Keats Award for New Illustrator. *Martin's Big Words: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.* by Doreen Rappaport (Hyperion/Jump at the Sun, 2001) was chosen as a 2002 Caldecott Honor Book and as a 2002 Coretta Scott King Honor Book for illustration. Collier's latest collaboration is for Willie Perdomo's *Visiting Langston*, published by Henry Holt in 2002.



Chris Crutcher

Chris Crutcher once admitted that he began writing fiction in high school when he "opted to invent titles for reports, as well as the stories to go with them, choosing authors from names in the Boise, Idaho, telephone book." A psychology and sociology major at Eastern Washington State College, Crutcher also excelled as a competitive swimmer. After graduation, he became a teacher and eventually the director of an alternative school in Oakland, California. Seeking a creative outlet, in the 70s he joined a writing workshop. It wasn't until he left the Bay area to become a child and family therapist in Spokane, Washington, that his writing career began in earnest with the completion of his first novel, *Running Loose* (1983).

Born and raised in Cascade, Idaho, Crutcher, a self-described "non-student," has written that his inspiration to write about the truth as he sees it comes from

Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, the only book he ever read cover to cover while in high school. "Stories like Harper Lee's were the only kind I had any desire to tell: stories about real life as I see it, about my sense of justice and injustice." His sense of justice and the passion to write about it in stories for young people earned him the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Intellectual Freedom Award in 1999.

Speaking of Chris Coughlin, a developmentally disabled boy and one of the main characters in his latest novel *Whale Talk* (2001), Crutcher told interviewer Kelly Halls of *Publisher's Weekly*, "Each of us has a range of what's normal, and the distances 'up' and 'down' from there represent our range of joy and despair." The direction a person's life takes depends on "...whether or not they can find a way to fly..."

Flying for Chris Crutcher has meant pushing his body physically as a distance runner and swimmer, working tirelessly as an advocate for children, and writing the truth as he sees it regardless of the threat of censorship. Not afraid to address a myriad of issues facing today's youth, Crutcher's novels have tackled problems of racism (*Running Loose*, 1983); sexual molestation, teen pregnancy and suicide (*Chinese Handcuffs*, 1989); homosexuality (*Athletic Shorts*, 1991); child abuse and abortion (*Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes*, 1993); and most recently, bullying in *Whale Talk*.

Each of Crutcher's novels have been chosen by the American Library Association as a Best Book for Young Adults; *Stotan* (1986) and *Athletic Shorts* were chosen for ALA's Best of the Best Award featuring the best books of the past 25 years. Additionally, *Ironman* (1995), a novel about a young man training for the Triathlon, was chosen as a School Library Journal Best Book, a Parents' Choice Honor Book, and a Hornbook Fanfare Honor List book. Honoring his lifetime contribution in writing for teens, Crutcher won the 2000 Margaret A. Edwards Award given by the Young Adult Library Services Association of the American Library Association.

But perhaps his richest reward comes from the young people he reaches. Once following a writing workshop, Crutcher was approached by a girl who told him, "I just wanted you to know that when I read *Chinese Handcuffs* I thought you knew me..." Reading about Jennifer's abuse gave her the courage to talk to someone and get help for her situation. This is the true nature of courage, according to Crutcher, and writing about it is what gives him his passion. "If I don't feel passionate, I can't write. I have to have that kind of heat to tell a story."



Barbara Elleman

Barbara Elleman was born and raised in central Wisconsin, her mother a teacher and her father an automobile salesman. She received her bachelor's degree in education from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh and a master's degree in library science from the University of Denver. Throughout her stellar career she has worked as a school librarian at all levels, from elementary through high school, and has taught at universities in Wisconsin, Illinois, and Colorado.

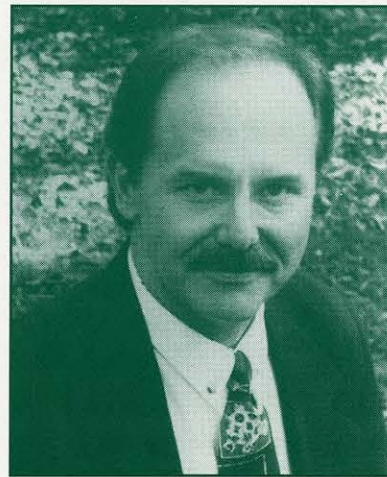
Elleman was employed by the American Library Association and joined the staff of *Booklist* as a reviewer in 1975. From 1980 to 1990 she served as editor of the journal's children's section. Through discussions with school librarians, she realized that the current book reviews provided in *Booklist* did not fully meet their curriculum needs. In addition to reviews of new books, librarians and teachers wanted guidance on integrating books into the classroom curriculum. To fulfill this need, *Book Links* was founded in July 1990. Elleman conceived the original idea and guided the mag-

azine through the first six years. *Book Links*, which offers bibliographies, essays, retrospective reviews, and other features to help connect children with books, received an enthusiastic response from librarians and teachers.

After leaving the helm of *Book Links* in 1996, Elleman was named Distinguished Scholar of Children's

Literature at Marquette University, where she teaches children's literature and established a children's book collection for the university's school of education. Her contributions to children's literature have been recognized by the Children's Literature Foundation in New England with their Hope Dean Award.

Current writing projects include *Tomie de Paola: His Art & His Stories* (1999), *Holiday House: The First Sixty-Five Years* (2000), and *Virginia Lee Burton: A Life in Art* to be released later in 2002.



Charles Ghigna

Those of you who attended our 1997 book festival will have an opportunity to once again experience the humorous poetry and stories of Charles Ghigna, also known as "Father Goose." Ghigna is a poet, children's author, and nationally syndicated feature writer who helps promote the love of children's literature by speaking at schools, colleges, conferences, and libraries, delighting audiences with his program "The Poems & Pranks of Father Goose."

Ghigna, who has written more than 30 books of poetry for children and adults, receives inspiration from many sources: family, friends, childhood memories, and even the family pets, who inspired the poems in *Good Cats/Bad Cats* and its companion, *Good Dogs/Bad Dogs*. *Riddle Rhymes* was created when Ghigna's son, Chip, asked his father to create some riddles for him and his friends. Chip was also the inspiration for poems in *Tickle Day*: "Tomorrow's My

Birthday" was written the day before his fourth birthday and "Snooze Cruise" was written while Chip was taking a long overdue nap.

In addition to books published by Walt Disney's Hyperion Books for Children, Charlesbridge, Running Press, and Random House, Ghigna's poems have also appeared in a number of children's magazines including *Highlights for Children*, *Cricket*, *Humpty Dumpty*, *Ladybug*, *Turtle*, *Ranger Rick*, *Jack and Jill*, and *Children's Playmate*.

Ghigna attended Florida Atlantic University, where he earned a B.A. in 1968 and a M.A. in 1969. After college, he taught English at the high school level for six years and has served as a creative writing instructor, a correspondent and feature writer, and a poet-in-residence at the Alabama School of Fine Arts.

His numerous honors and awards include a Pulitzer Prize nomination, invitations to perform his work at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and the Library of Congress, the Helen Keller Literary Award, fellowship grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Mary Roberts Rinehart Foundation, and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. His poems have earned the First Place Award in the International Sakura Haiku Writing Competition, and the Writer's Digest National Poetry Writing Competition. His award-winning books and poems have been featured on "Good Morning America" and "The Rosie O'Donnell Show," selected by the Book-of-the-Month Club, featured in the Scholastic Book Club, and received awards from Parents' Choice, SEBA, and the Alabama Library Association.

Children often inquire what his life as an author is like and Ghigna replies, "It's like owning your own magic carpet. Every day I get up and get on it. I never know where it's going to take me, so I just hang on for dear life and enjoy it!" We invite you to join Charles Ghigna on his magic carpet for a very special ride.



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 its 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.

The Ezra Jack Keats Lecture

Ezra Jack Keats (1916-1983) is internationally recognized as one of the most influential creators of picture books in the twentieth century. He was author and illustrator of more than twenty books and provided the illustrations for an additional sixty-three titles in a distinguished career that spanned four decades. The Caldecott-winning title *The Snowy Day* (Viking, 1962) was revolutionary in sympathetically dealing with the experiences of a black child. A multiracial and urban world was beautifully reflected in many of his other books. Although comfortable and adept with many mediums, Keats is justly remembered as a true master of collage. His technique of using such favorite characters as Peter, Louie, and Willie in a series of stories is just one reason why the stories of Ezra Jack Keats continue to be loved by children of all ages.

The University is very proud that Ezra Jack Keats was the twelfth recipient of its medallion awarded for outstanding contributions to children's literature. In 1985, the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation established the Ezra Jack Keats Lectureship. Lectures have been given by the following individuals.

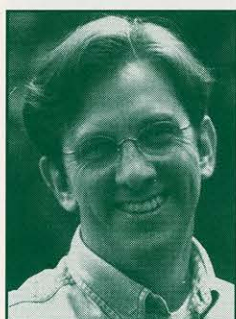
1985 Brian Alderson	1992 Ann Thwaite	1998 Roger Sutton
1987 Betsy Hearne	1993 Anita Moss	1999 Susan Hirschman
1988 Nancy Hands	1994 Anita Silvey	2000 Richard Peck
1989 Ellin Greene	1995 Selma Lanes	2001 Patsy Perritt
1990 Michael Patrick Hearn	1996 Leonard Marcus	2002 Barbara Elleman
1991 Dorothy Butler	1997 Ann Lundin	

REGIONAL PANEL



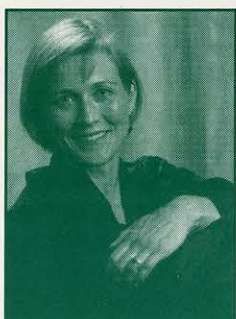
Laurie Parker

Laurie Parker has achieved enthusiastic acclaim for her rhyming narratives and distinctive collage illustrations. In 1985, Parker received a bachelor's degree in education from Mississippi State University, where she also studied engineering. Parker is the creator of six books for children, including her popular Alphabet books: *Mississippi Alphabet*, *Louisiana Alphabet*, and *Texas Alphabet*. Other titles include *Everywhere in Mississippi*, *All Over Alabama*, and her newest, *The Turtle Saver*. In addition to writing, Laurie is a self-employed artist, crafting a unique line of jewelry she sells at galleries and shows. Parker resides in her hometown of Starkville, Mississippi, with her cat, Dante.



Chuck Galey

Graphic artist Chuck Galey was born in Greenwood, Mississippi, and attended Mississippi College and Mississippi State University, where he graduated with honors in graphic design. Galey opened his own illustration studio in 1985 and since that time has illustrated over 30 books for educational publishers around the country. Galey's first trade book, *Jazz Cats*, was published by Pelican Publishers in 2001 and he has two other books under contract. He frequently conducts a seminar, "The Illustrator as Storyteller," in which he demonstrates the development of an illustration from start to finish while concentrating on aspects of book design. Galey lives in Jackson with his wife, Forrest, their son, Sean, and one cat. You can learn more about Galey and his work at www.chuckgaley.com.



Whitney Stewart

New Orleans writer Whitney Stewart has traveled the world over researching her books. She is best known for biographies for children of world leaders such as the Dalai Llama, Deng Xiaoping, Sir Edmund Hillary, and Aung San Suu Kyi. Stewart's most recent publications are both middle-grade novels published by Four Corners Publishing in New York. *Jammin' on the Avenue: Going to New Orleans* is about a 13-year-old guitar player who comes from Massachusetts to New Orleans to play in a guitar contest. *Blues Across the Bay* is about the same boy, Eric Wieman, who travels to San Francisco to attend summer music camp. The de Grummond Collection is fortunate to house manuscripts and related materials created by Stewart, who lives in New Orleans with her husband and son, both passionate guitarists. More information can be found at www.whitneystewart.com.



Patricia Austin

Born in New Jersey, Patricia Austin's family moved to New Orleans when she was 11 years old. She received her B.A. from Agnes Scott College, her M.A.T. from the University of New Hampshire, and a Ph.D. from the University of New Orleans, where she is an associate professor of children's literature. Austin's first book for children, *The Cat Who Loved Mozart*, was inspired by her real-life cat, Dusty. Austin has also written numerous articles that have appeared in educational journals. In addition to teaching and writing, she enjoys gardening and playing the piano. Austin lives in New Orleans with her four cats.

Rosemary Wells Bibliography

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Workshop Presenters

Dr. Carolyn Brodie, associate professor, Library Science, Kent State University, Ohio

Charles Ghigna, poet and children's author, Homewood, Alabama

Dr. Teri Lesesne, associate professor, Department of Library Science, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas

Dorothy McMahon, consultant for Children's Literature Experiences, Houston, Texas

Dr. Bob Seney, associate professor, Gifted Studies, Mississippi University for Women

Deborah Taylor, youth services librarian, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Maryland

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More than 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.

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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. More than 1,200 people have generously donated 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

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