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USM Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival, April 2018

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Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival, April 11-13, 2018

By Karen Rowell

Southern Miss Medallion Award Winner Dav Pilkey

The USM School of Library and Information Science is pleased to announce the 51st annual Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival, to be held April 11-13, 2018, at the Southern Miss Thad Cochran Center. The highlight of the festival is the presentation of the Southern Miss Medallion awarded to an author or illustrator for his or her body of work. The 2018 Southern Miss Medallion winner is Dav Pilkey.

<http://scholastic.com>

Dav Pilkey has written and illustrated numerous popular, award-winning books for children, including the *Captain Underpants*, *Dog Man*, and the *Dumb Bunnies* series; *Dog Breath*, winner of the California Young Reader Medal; and *The Paperboy*, a Caldecott Honor Book. He lives with his wife in the Pacific Northwest.

In 1996, Dav moved to Seattle, Washington. He then took a ferry from Seattle to Bainbridge Island, Washington, where he has lived since 1999. He divides his time between Bainbridge Island and Minami Izu, Japan.

Other outstanding authors and illustrators scheduled to appear include:

Colleen Salley 2018 Storytelling Award Recipient

Wanda Johnson is a professional storyteller, teaching artist, and inspirational speaker. Wanda began her professional career in Prichard, Alabama, absorbing the colorful history and rituals of a Southern town. As a storyteller, she challenges her audience to take pride in the lessons, rituals, and experiences of life. She encourages young and old to appreciate their personal stories as lasting wealth that should be passed on and preserved. As a teaching artist, Mrs. Johnson uses her craft to teach others how to use stories and to inspire them to tell their own stories. The personality, humor, and charm of this sought-after inspirational speaker touch hearts, inspire dreams and stimulate the imagination.

T. A. Barron, 2018 de Grummond Children's

Literature Lecturer, grew up in Colorado ranch country and traveled widely as a Rhodes Scholar. He is the winner of the 2011 Southern Miss Medallion, the Nautilus Award Grand Prize, and many other awards. He is the author of more than 30 highly acclaimed books, many of which are international bestsellers, including the *Merlin Saga* (being developed into a feature film by Disney), *The Great Tree of Avalon* (a New York Times bestselling series), *The Ancient One* (the tale of a brave girl and a magical tree), and *The Hero's Trail* (nonfiction stories of courageous kids).

In 2000, Barron founded a national award to honor outstanding young people who help their communities or the environment: the Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes, which honors 25 highly diverse, public-spirited kids each year. When not writing or speaking, T. A. Barron serves on many boards including Princeton University, where he helped create the Princeton Environmental Institute, and The Wilderness Society, which recently honored him with its highest award for conservation work.

Holly Black is the author of bestselling contemporary fantasy books for kids and teens. Some of her titles include *The Spiderwick Chronicles* (with Tony DiTerlizzi), *The Modern Faerie Tale* series, the *Curse Workers* series, *Doll Bones*, *The Coldest Girl in Coldtown*, the *Magisterium* series (with Cassandra Clare) and *The Darkest Part of the Forest*. Holly has also been a frequent contributor to anthologies and has co-edited three of them: *Geektastic* (with Cecil Castellucci, 2009), *Zombies vs. Unicorns* (with Justine Larbalestier, 2010), and *Welcome to Bordertown* (with Ellen Kushner, 2011). She has been a finalist for an Eisner Award, and the recipient of the Andre Norton Award, the Mythopoeic Award and a Newbery Honor. She currently lives in New England with her husband and son in a house with a secret door.

Ezra Jack Keats Lecturer Charlotte Jones Voiklis manages her late grandmother Madeleine L'Engle's literary business. She lived with her grandmother during college and graduate school, co-hosting dinner parties, helping answer readers' letters, and earning a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature. Together with her sister, Léna Roy, she has written a middle-grade biography of Madeleine L'Engle. Charlotte has worked in academia, nonprofit communications and fundraising, and philanthropy. She lives in New York City with her husband and two children.

Renée Watson writes for children and teens. Her books include young adult novels, *Piecing Me Together* and *This Side of Home*, which was nominated for the Best Fiction for Young Adults by the American Library Association. Her picture book, *Harlem's Little Blackbird: The Story of Florence Mills* (Random House, 2012), received several honors including an NAACP Image Award nomination in children's literature. Her novel, *What Momma Left Me*, (Bloomsbury, 2010), debuted as the New Voice for 2010 in middle-grade fiction. Her one-woman show, *Roses are Red Women are Blue*, debuted at the Lincoln Center at a showcase for emerging artists.

A New York Times best-selling author, **Carole Boston Weatherford** is one of the leading poets writing for young people today. She believes that poetry makes music with words. And she mines the past for family stories, fading traditions, and forgotten struggles. Her work spans poetry, nonfiction, biography and historical fiction. Her latest releases are *Freedom in Congo Square* and *You Can Fly: The Tuskegee Airmen*. She has two adult children and lives in North Carolina, where she is a Professor of English at Fayetteville State University.

Salina Yoon was born Yoon, Ah in the rural town of Busan, Korea in 1972. She moved to the U.S. in 1976 and was given her new name, Salina. She is now an author, illustrator, and format designer of nearly two hundred books. She specializes in formats that are unique and creative. She currently works at her home studio and lives in San Diego, California with her husband and two sons.

The Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival is Proud to Host the Ezra Jack Keats Book Awards

Since 1985, the Ezra Jack Keats Book Awards have been given to an outstanding new writer and new illustrator of picture books for children who share Ezra's values: the universal qualities of childhood and multicultural nature of our world.

Now in partnership with the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection, the Ezra Jack Keats Book Awards continue to encourage the next generation of talent who are committed to celebrating diversity through their writing and art.

For more information, including the tentative schedule and registration information, please visit <http://www.usm.edu/children-book-festival> or call 601.266.4228.

THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

School of Library and Information Science presents the
51st Annual Fay B. Kaigler

CHILDREN'S BOOK Festival!

APRIL 11-13, 2018

Come celebrate over 50 years of
promoting excellence in children's literature with
SOUTHERN MISS MEDALLION WINNER

DAV PILKEY

FEATURING

THE EZRA JACK KEATS BOOK AWARD CEREMONY

The Magnolia Award winners will also be announced at the festival.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR CBF 2018

This is a tentative schedule of major speakers and events. A detailed schedule of workshops and presentations will be available in January at usm.edu/childrens-book-festival. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be available for Mississippi educators. Exact credits for each session will be available with the complete schedule in January.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

9-11:15 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions
11:30 a.m.	Welcome Session
Noon-1:30 p.m.	Coleen Salley Storytelling Celebration, Luncheon with Wanda Johnson <i>Complimentary boxed lunch included in festival registration</i>
1:45-2:45 p.m.	de Grummond Lecture with T.A. Barron <i>Magnolia Awards announced at this session</i>
3-4 p.m.	Keats Lecture with Charlotte J. Voiklis
4:15-5:30 p.m.	Autographing (Barnes & Noble)

THURSDAY, APRIL 12

9-10 a.m.	General Session with Salina Yoon
10:15-11:15 a.m.	Medallion Session with Dav Pilkey <i>Kaigler-Lamont Award announced at this session</i>
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.	Ezra Jack Keats Awards Luncheon (\$20)
1-1:45 p.m.	Second Chance Concurrent Sessions
2-3:30 p.m.	Autographing (Barnes & Noble)
3:45-4:45 p.m.	General Session with Renee Watson
7 p.m.	Celebration of the Ezra Jack Keats Awards

FRIDAY, APRIL 13

9-10 a.m.	General Session with Carole Boston Weatherford
10:15-11:30 a.m.	Autographing (Barnes & Noble)
Noon-1:30 p.m.	Luncheon with Holly Black (\$20)
1:45-4 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions