

**2018 Book Discussion Sessions
BookFest @ Bank Street 2018**

Out of courtesy to your group leader and the other session participants you are kindly requested to read all of the work listed for your session prior to attending BookFest

(1) Fantastic Literary Voyages: Exploring Contemporary International Children's Books/Room 401

Travel the world to find out what makes the titles on USBBY's annual Outstanding International Books list so - outstanding.

Group Leader: Bindy Fleischman - Massachusetts State Ambassador for the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) and Chair of the 2019 Outstanding International Children's Books List committee

The Journey written and illustrated by Francesca Sanna (from Italy)
Yours Sincerely, Giraffe by Megumi Iwasa and illustrated by Jun Takabatake (from Japan)
Walk With Me by Jairo Buitrago and illustrated by Rafael Yockteng (from Mexico)
Peter in Peril written and illustrated by Helen Bate (from UK/Hungary)
A Hundred Hours of Night by Anna Wolz (from the Netherlands)
You Can't Be Too Careful written and illustrated by Roger Mello (from Brazil)
Molly and Mae by Danny Parker and illustrated by Freya Blackwood (Australia)

2) Graphic Novels for Everyone!/Room 402

The field of graphic novels for young people grows larger every year. Explore & discuss the latest crop of graphic novels that your young readers will devour.

Group Leader: Christopher Lassen - Youth Material Selector - Brooklyn Public Library & The New York Public Library.

Discussion Titles:

The Cardboard Kingdom - Chad Sell
The Dragon Slayer: Folktales from Latin America - Jaime Hernandez
Illegal - Eoin Colfer, Andrew Donkin (writers); Giovanni Rigano (illustrator)
Mr. Wolf's Class - Aron Nels Steinke
Science Comics: Rockets - Anne Drozd & Jerzy Drozd
Photographic: The Life of Graciela Iturbide - Zeke Peña

3.) **Heroic Activists/Room 403**

Let's sustain ourselves in this challenging time by exploring the work of some passionate children's book creators who are breaking the mold with original writing, vibrant art, and out-of-the-box design when telling stories of courageous boundary breaking, resistance, and activism.

Group Leader: Monica Edinger - educator, reviewer, writer.

Discussion Titles:

A is for Activist by Innosanto Nagara

Granddad Mandela by Zazi Ziwelene & Zindzi Mandela, illustrated by Sean Qualls

Her Right Foot by Dave Eggers, Illustrated by Shawn Harris

Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History by Vashti Harrison

Mama Africa! How Miriam Makeba Spread Hope with Her Song by Kathryn Erskine, illustrated by Charly Palmer

Undocumented: A Worker's Fight by Duncan Tonatiuh

We Rise, We Resist, We Raise Our Voices edited by Wade Hudson and Cheryl Willis Hudson

4. **Novels should be wordy!...Right??/Room 404**

Explore and discuss how powerful and evocative novels in verse can be as they express so much while using very few words.

Group leader: Christine Scheper, Queens Library Children's Materials Specialist

Discussion titles:

The Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo

Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds

Bull by David Elliot

Vanilla by Billy Merrell

The Opposite of Innocent by Sonya Sones

5. **Newbery Contenders: who should win?/Room 405**

"Sometimes, you read a book and it fills you with this weird evangelical zeal, and you become convinced that the shattered world will never be put back together unless and until all living humans read the book."

– **John Green, *The Fault in Our Stars***

What makes a book good? What books are award-worthy? We will look at some Newbery contenders and discuss how they stand up to Green's criterion and our own criteria.

Group Leader: Niki Singh, Humanities teacher at the Bank Street School for Children.

Merci Suárez Changes Gears by Meg Medina

Mary's Monster: Love, Madness, and how Mary Shelly Created Frankenstein by Lita Judge

You Go First by Erin Entrada Kelly

Betty before X by Ilyasah Shabazz

6. Fractured Fairytales and Feisty Females/Room 406

Bethan Woollvin explores the creation of her contemporary fairytales and the strong female characters within them. Bethan will be talking about what inspires her to write, how she creates her artwork, and the importance of bold, resourceful female characters in children's books.

Group Leader: Bethan Woollvin, U.K. based children's book author and illustrator, published in the U.S by Peachtree Publishers

Discussion Titles:

Little Red Bethan Woollvin

Rapunzel Bethan Woollvin

Hansel and Gretel Bethan Woollvin

7. Beginning Readers: New Reads for New Readers/Room 407

Take a close look at new titles created to support, encourage, and delight those who are starting to read on their own.

Group Leader: Julie Roach, Manager of Youth Services, Cambridge Public Library, Cambridge (MA)

- *Pass the Ball, Mo!* by David Adler
- *The Truth About Bears: Seriously Funny Facts About Your Favorite Animals* by Maxwell Eaton, III
- *Dance, Dance, Dance!* by Ethan Long
- *Snails Are Just My Speed!* by Kevin McCloskey
- *The Itchy Book!* (Elephant & Piggie Like Reading!) by Leuyen Pham
- *Baby Monkey, Private Eye* by Brian Selznick
- *My Toothbrush Is Missing* by Jan Thomas

8. Mock Caldecott Discussion Group/Room 408

Join us if you enjoy discussing children's book illustration. Not sure how to discuss children's book art? All the more reason to join the group.

Group leader: Rita Auerbach - Member of the 1990 Caldecott Committee and Chair of the 2010 Caldecott Committee (The Lion and the Mouse). Chair of the 2018 Children's Literature Legacy Award (Jacqueline Woodson).

Discussion Titles:

Baby Monkey, Private Eye. Illus. By Brian Selznick.

The Day You Begin. Illus. by Rafael López.

Dreamers. Illus. By Yuyi Morales.

Ocean Meets Sky. Illus. By The Fan Brothers.

Rabbit Moon. Illus. By Jean Kim.

Saffron Ice Cream. Illus. By Rashin Kheiriyeh.

9. Opening Doors to Science Through Picture Books/Library Quiet Room, 505 (5th Floor, at the back of the library)

Discuss a range of picture books with science content and how to get them in the hands of children.

Group Leader: Morika Tsujimura -- Math and Science Teacher at Grace Church School, formerly at Bank Street School for Children; Bank Street Children's Book Committee member

Pink Is for Blobfish by Jess Keating, illustrated by David DeGrand

Journey by Emma Bland Smith, illustrated by Robin James

Mesmerized by Mara Rockliff, illustrated by Iacopo Bruno

Follow the Moon Home by Philippe Cousteau and Deborah Hopkinson, illustrated by Meilo So

Winter Bees by Joyce Sidman, illustrated by Rick Allen

Whoosh! by Chris Barton, illustrated by Don Tate

Solving the Puzzle Under the Sea by Robert Burleigh, illustrated by Raúl Colón

10. Clever Capers/Room 410

Limber up the brain with these engrossing novels that combine interactive puzzles, ciphers, codes, and more.

Group leader: Caroline Ward, youth services Librarian, The Ferguson Library, Stamford, Stamford Ct

The Book Scavenger by Jennifer Chambliss Bergman

The Greenglass House by Kate Milford

The Puzzling World of Wilson Breen by Eric Berlin

The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin

11. Great Spanish Language Picture Books (In English)Room 701

Exploring Spanish picture books to develop language, concepts, explore culture and more!

By using the language that children and families speak at home we can develop the love for reading through these wonderful picture books!

Group Leader: Carmen Colón, Bank Street College Faculty

Discussion titles:

Alma y cómo obtuvo su nombre por Juana Martinez-Neal

Pastel para enemigos por Derek Munson, Juventud, Tara Calahan King

Separados no somos iguales por Duncan Tonatuih

Lola por Junot Díaz

Miguel y su valiente caballero por Margarita Engle

Quizás algo hermoso (Maybe Something Beautiful Spanish edition): Cómo el arte transformó un barrio por F. Isabel Campoy

12. Genre-Bending YA: Young Adult authors have always been known for their inventiveness and willingness to write outside the box, but these women take it to new heights by not only turning traditional genres on their heads, but using them to cleverly and subtly explore issues of class and race. **Room 702**

Group Leader: Jennifer Hubert Swan, Little Red/Elizabeth Irwin

Discussion titles:

The Belles by Dhonielle Clayton

Berserker by Emmy Laybourne

Dread Nation by Justina Ireland

Neverworld Wake by Marisha Pessl