

## SCBWI-MI's Fall 2010 Conference

# *Fantasy to Reality: From Your Dreams to the Printed Page*

### **Quick Links**

[Register Now](#)

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[Yarrow Golf Resort](#)

### **Postmark Deadlines**

#### ***Fri., August 6:***

Patrick Collins Illustration  
Workshop registration

#### ***Fri., August 27:***

- \*Sketches to Patrick  
Collins for Workshop
- \*Manuscript Critiques
- \*First Pages
- \*Portfolio Critiques
- \*Mentorship Contest
- \*Scholarship  
Application

#### ***Wed., September 8:***

Early bird registration

#### ***Fri., September 10:***

Patrick Collins replies to  
workshop participants

#### ***Mon., September 20:***

Regular registration

### ***Friday, October 8 to Sunday, October 10***

Check in from 3-6 p.m. Friday  
Yarrow Golf and Conference Center  
10499 N. 48th Street  
Augusta, MI 49012

This Fall's conference will once again be held at the beautiful Yarrow Golf and Conference Center in Augusta, MI. Click on the link to the left to view their website or for directions.

To register, click on the [Register Now](#) link in the **Quick Links** box (to the left), print the registration form, and follow the mailing instructions.

For more information about the conference, please read this entire brochure--it's sure to answer most of your questions! If not, you can contact conference co-chairs Randy Bulla (click [here](#)) or Leslie Helakoski (click [here](#)).

*Space is limited, so register early. We hope to see you there!*

## **Refund Policy Please Read Carefully**

Refunds are not available after the regular postmark deadline. Before the deadline, a refund request may be sent to Monica Harris by clicking [here](#).

Please allow the Advisory Committee up to two weeks to respond.

## **Picture Book Mentorship Contest**

This year's mentorship contest features a grand prize of a one-year mentorship with Crystal Bowman, author of over 65 picture books, including the *BOZ and Friends* series, the *Jake* series, and the *Otter and Owl* series. To learn more about Crystal, visit her website at [www.crystalbowman.com](http://www.crystalbowman.com)

For more information contact Ryan Hipp by clicking [here](#). For eligibility requirements, or to fill out the application, click [here](#).

## **Presenters**

### **Crystal Bowman**

Crystal Bowman is an author, lyricist, poet, freelance editor, and former preschool teacher. She has written over 65 books for children, including five best-selling picture books in both secular and religious markets. She has also written teacher resource materials that received the Teachers' Choice Award, and her picture book *The House in the Middle of Town* was given to over 1000 volunteers who worked on a home for *Extreme Makeover Home Edition*. She has been published by Zondervan, Tyndale, Cook, Eerdmans, Standard, Baker, Focus on the Family, and has a picture book coming out with Boyd's Mills Press. Visit her website at [www.crystalbowman.com](http://www.crystalbowman.com).

### **Susan Chang**

Susan Chang is a senior editor at Tor books, where she acquires and edits for the Starscape middle grade and Tor Teen Young Adult imprints of Macmillan. She began her publishing career at HarperCollins Children's Books, where she worked for nine years before moving on to shorter stints at Hyperion Books for Children and Parachute Publishing, a book packager. Susan joined Tor in 2004. To learn more about Tor, visit their website at

<http://us.macmillan.com/Tor.aspx>.

**Cinda Chima** *New York Times* bestselling author Cinda Williams Chima began writing romance novels in middle school. Her *Heir Chronicles* young adult fantasy series includes *The Warrior Heir* (2006), *The Wizard Heir* (2007), and *The Dragon Heir* (2008), with two more coming, all from Hyperion. Chima's YA high fantasy *Seven Realms* series launched with *The Demon King* (2009), followed by *The Exiled Queen* (September, 2010). Visit her website at [www.cindachima.com](http://www.cindachima.com).

## **Carol Fenner Scholarship**

Scholarship opportunities are available to SCBWI members for the Fall 2010 conference.

Scholarships are not based on financial need, but AdCom kindly reminds applicants to remember those members who would not otherwise be able to attend without financial assistance.

Postmark deadline is **Friday, August 27**. Winners of the scholarship will be notified by September 3, 2010, but will not be announced publicly.

For more information about the scholarship, contact Monica Harris by clicking [here](#). For eligibility requirements, or to fill out the application, click [here](#).

## **Amy Lennex**

Amy began her career with Sleeping Bear Press eleven years ago as a production coordinator. Nine years ago, she moved into an editorial position and has had the opportunity to make dreams come true for several first-time authors and illustrators. In addition to her editorial duties, Amy also writes two e-newsletters: one for educators, and one for Sleeping Bear Press authors and illustrators. You can find their website at [www.sleepingbearpress.com](http://www.sleepingbearpress.com).

## **Darcy Pattison**

The author of both picture books and novels, Darcy is the recipient of the 2007 Arkansas Governor's Arts Awards' Individual Artist Award for her work in children's literature. Her books include *19 Girls and Me* (Philomel), *Searching for Oliver K. Woodman* (Harcourt), and *The Journey of Oliver K. Woodman* (Harcourt). Her books have been recognized by starred reviews in Kirkus and BCCB, *Nick Jr. Family* magazine Best Books of the Year 2003, and various state award reading lists. As a writing teacher, Darcy is in demand nationwide to teach her Novel Revision Retreat, in which she uses her book *Novel Metamorphosis: Uncommon Ways to Revise* (Mims House). Her website is [www.darcypattison.com](http://www.darcypattison.com).

## **Elizabeth Raum**

Betty spends her days researching such fascinating topics as tornadoes, toilets, and television--all recent nonfiction projects. She's written dozens of nonfiction books for kids in grades 1-8. *The Story Behind Toilets*, published in 2009, received a starred review in *Booklist* and created quite a buzz among 3rd grade boys forced to write book reports. Some of her recent titles include *Cedric and the Dragon* (Alma Little, 2010), *The Dreadful Smelly Colonies: The Disgusting Details About Life in Colonial America* (Capstone, 2010), *The Story Behind Toilets* (Heinemann, 2009), and *World War II: An Interactive History Adventure* (Capstone, 2009). Betty's website is [www.elizabethraum.net](http://www.elizabethraum.net).

## ***Magic Lessons: A Pre-Conference Session***

Join SCBWI-MI presenters for a magical pre-conference opportunity. Discover more about the industry: submission basics, queries, and acquiring an agent. Let our conference wizards show you how to get the most from your membership and from this conference. Meet writers, illustrators, and other newbies. Everyone is welcome! A magical time on Friday, from 4:30-6:00 pm. Be sure to check the "Magic Lessons" box on the registration form.

For more information, contact Gail Flynn by clicking [here](#).

## ***Portfolio Display***

Calling all illustrators! Bring your portfolio and business cards to share with the group. Conference attendees are encouraged to take a look and write down anonymous constructive comments. Contact Randy Bulla by clicking [here](#) if you have questions.

## **Patrick Collins**

Creative director of Henry Holt Books for Young Readers, Patrick art directs and designs picture books, young adult novels, and middle grade fiction. Some recent picture books he has worked on include: *Baby Bear, Baby Bear, What Do You See?* by Bill Martin, Jr.; *Life in the Boreal Forest* by Brenda Z. Guiberson; and *Rosa* by Nikki Giovanni, which won a 2006 Caldecott Honor Medal. Recent novel projects include *Young Fu of the Upper Yangtze* by Elizabeth Foreman Lewis; *Part of Me* by Kimberly Willis Holt; and *The Poet Slave of Cuba* by Margarita Engle. Patrick studied art at Northeastern University in Boston. You can learn more about Henry Holt Books for Young Readers on their website at

<http://us.macmillan.com/holtyoungreaders.aspx>.

## ***Paid Critiques***

### **NEW PROCESS THIS YEAR!!**

#### **Manuscript and Portfolio Critiques**

This year, for the first time, there will be no lottery. All conference attendees who sign up for manuscript or portfolio critiques are guaranteed to receive a 15-minute consultation with an editor, agent, or published author or illustrator. Critiques may be given by our speakers, or they may be given by experienced, published authors and illustrators who are members of SCBWI, at the discretion of the critique coordinator and/or the conference co-chairs. The fee is \$40 for SCBWI members, \$50 for nonmembers.

**NOTE:** Some critiques will take place on Friday between 4:30-6:00 pm. If you are unable to make one of these time slots, please mark the appropriate box on the registration form (click [here](#)).

***Postmark deadline for critiques is Friday, August 27.***

## ***Magic Wand Contest!***

You say you are attending the Fantasy to Reality Fall Conference and want to be part of the magic? Well then, you're going to need a Magic Wand! Don't have one? Create one!

That's right. Creation is the essence of turning fantasy to reality. So get a head start on the conference by making your own wand. No rules-- magic never uses rules! Whatever you think a magic wand looks like, feels like, and acts like is your inspiration. And your skill with fantasy-to-reality creation might just win you a magic prize on Friday at the contest.

And for the truly daring, why not wear a magic costume to go with that wand?

## ***Peer Critiques***

You can participate in small group critiques in the genre of your choice. Bring 6 copies of your MS (no more than 6 pages, typed and double spaced). Click [here](#) to contact Michelle Bradford for more information.

For **manuscript critiques**, please choose only one genre, and include the following:

- The appropriate registration form (click [here](#)).
- A separate check for \$40 for SCBWI members, \$50 for nonmembers payable to "SCBWI-MI."
- Choose one of the following genres (submit using 12-point font and one-inch margins):
  - Picture book: copies of complete manuscript.
  - Middle grade or young adult novel: copies of one complete chapter (10 pages max) and a 2-3 page summary of the entire manuscript (not included in the 10 pages max).
  - Magazine, short story, or nonfiction: copies of complete manuscript

For **portfolio critiques**, please include the following:

- The appropriate registration form (click [here](#)).
- A separate check for \$40 for SCBWI members, \$50 for non-members payable to "SCBWI-MI."
- Do *not* send your portfolio in the mail. Please bring your entire portfolio with you to the conference.

For more information about the critiques, please contact Vicky Lorencen by calling (517) 784-5028 or by clicking [here](#).

## ***First Pages***

Our speakers will once again provide impromptu feedback on anonymous manuscript "first pages" and single illustration pieces. There is no fee, but spaces are limited. Click [here](#) to print the registration form.

**NOTE:** You may enter both the Manuscript or Portfolio critique and the First Pages lottery. However, priority for First Pages will be given to those who are not receiving a paid critique.

## **Book & Merchandise Sales**

We will once again be partnering with Pooh's Corner from Grand Rapids to offer a number of books from our speakers.

As a service to our members, we also provide the option for PAL-status members to sell their PAL-status books.\* If you would like to participate, click [here](#) to contact Ryan Hipp.

We will also have SCBWI Michigan logo merchandise available, including travel mugs, folios, t-shirts, and more.

If you would like to purchase something, please bring cash or check. SCBWI is unable to take credit cards at this time.

**\*Please Note:** This is a new requirement from SCBWI. For information about PAL listings, please visit [www.scbwi.org](http://www.scbwi.org).

## **Postmark deadline for First Pages is Friday, August 27<sup>th</sup>.**

**Authors**--To participate, send the first page of your manuscript in the following format: Use font size 12 and one-inch margins.

- On the first line, type the MS title, genre, and intended audience.
- On the second line, begin the MS, double spacing until the end of the page. (It's okay if you end in mid-sentence.)
- On the back, IN PENCIL, write your name, phone number, and email address.

**Illustrators**--To participate, send 7 copies of an illustrated narrative piece (no portraits or character sketches). On the back, IN PENCIL, write your name, phone number, and email address.

## **Breakout Sessions**

### **Limited Attendance Breakouts**

This year, we have three breakout sessions that have limited participant numbers and will be filled on a first-come-first-served basis, so please register early. Below is a short description of each breakout.

Click [here](#) to register for any of the sessions. If you register in time to be included in a workshop, you will be notified by email so you can do your homework before you arrive to the conference.

**NOTE:** Some sessions are offered at the same time. You may register for all sessions, but can only win a slot in one. If you choose to register for more than one, please indicate your preference by marking a 1, 2, or 3 next to the speaker's name.

**Postmark deadline for Patrick's Breakout is Friday, August 6. Postmark deadline for other Breakouts is Friday, August 27.**

- **Susan Chang--The Magic of Plot: Sustaining Tension from Inciting Incident to Story Climax (20 participants)** Participants will send in a 3-5 page plot outline for their work in progress in advance of the conference. Susan will choose 4-5 outlines to discuss in detail during the workshop, highlighting what makes a plot work, how to maintain tension, and ways to improve the plot.

## ***Silent Auction***

As always, we are accepting donations for the silent auction. Proceeds benefit the SCBWI Scholarship Fund. What do we need? Anything at all! Gently used books on writing craft, original artwork, or "writerly" items are always popular. You can also donate your own hand-crafted items, such as jewelry, knitting, ceramics, garden art, etc. You are only limited by your imagination. Bring your donation with you to the conference and drop it off in the silent auction area on Friday evening. Contact Neal Levin [here](#) for more information.

## ***Hotel Reservations***

This year, Yarrow will be handling all room reservations. They have a limited number of on-site rooms available, all on a first-come-first-served basis, so be sure to register early. The cost (\$74 plus tax per person for the weekend, based on double occupancy) is not included in the conference registration fee.

- **Patrick Collins--Enchanting the Reader: Transforming Words into Illustrations (20 participants)** Participants will illustrate a scene or spread from one of four manuscripts (available at [www.kidsbooklink.org](http://www.kidsbooklink.org) by Monday, July 26) and send it to Patrick. He will review the art, send back revision suggestions, and ask the artists to bring the finished pieces to the breakout, where all the illustrations will be discussed. If you are not one of the registered participants, you are still welcome to sit in on the session as Patrick discusses the art "homework."

**NOTE:** Do NOT send artwork with your registration. You will be notified via email where and when to send art.

- **Darcy Pattison--The Mythic Hero's Journey: How to Enhance Character and Plot in Any Genre (2 sessions, 25 participants each)** Use the quintessential hero's journey to track your character's emotional arc and structure your plot to create the greatest impact. Bring the plot synopsis or outline of your novel for this hands-on session.

## **Unlimited Attendance Breakouts**

Below is a short description of the breakout sessions that are open to all and do not require pre-registration.

- **Crystal Bowen--Picture Book Magic: Casting a Spell with Theme, Plot, and Characters** For this workshop, please read the following books three times each. Write down what elements make them strong:
  - *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak
  - *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* by Judith Viorst
  - *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle

Beginning August 1, visit [www.kidsbooklink.org](http://www.kidsbooklink.org) for a list of alternative hotels. Click on the "Events" page, and then click on "SCBWI-MI Fall Conference" for the list.

Some things to keep in mind:

- No single occupancy rooms are available at Yarrow. If you need a single room for **any** reason, contact one of the hotels listed on [www.kidsbooklink.org](http://www.kidsbooklink.org)
- Yarrow is a small facility and the "overflow" facility from last year is no longer available. Once Yarrow is full, contact one of the hotels listed on [www.kidsbooklink.org](http://www.kidsbooklink.org)
- We cannot accommodate rooms with a spouse, unless the spouse is also a registered conference attendee. To share a room with a spouse, please contact one of the hotels listed on [www.kidsbooklink.org](http://www.kidsbooklink.org).
- If you do not specify a roommate, Yarrow will assign one (of the same sex) to you.

- **Amy Lennex--What's your Hook? From Animals and Anniversaries to the White House and Zeus** Publishers and editors at Sleeping Bear Press love to find the "hook" in manuscripts under consideration. Learn the advantages to knowing your own hook when you pitch your work.
- **Elizabeth Raum--Keeping It Real: How to Make Nonfiction as Exciting as Fantasy** This workshop will explore ways to craft a nonfiction book from research to finished product. Learn how to find the markets and how to market yourself when you do. Then explore ways to put a creative spin on nonfiction and still keep it real.

### ***Tentative Schedule (subject to changes)***

#### **Friday, October 8**

3:00-6:00 Registration and Room Check In  
4:30-6:00 Magic Lessons Session  
6:00-7:15 Dinner  
7:15-7:30 Announcements/Speaker Intros  
7:30-8:30 Cinda Chima--TBA  
8:30-8:45 Break  
8:45-9:15 Wand Contest/Books & Merch.  
9:15 Social Time

#### **Saturday, October 9**

7:15-8:00 Journaling or Morning Walk  
8:00-9:00 Breakfast  
9:00-10:00 Susan Chang--TBA  
10-10:30 Books & Merchandise  
10:30-12:00 Breakout Session I

- Patrick Collins--Part I
- Amy Lennex
- Crystal Bowman
- Darcy Pattison--Group A

12:00-1:00 Lunch  
1:00-2:15 First Pages  
2:30-3:30 Amy Lennex--The Little Publisher That Could  
3:30-6:00 Creative Free Time  
6:00-7:15 Dinner  
7:15-8:15 Patrick Collins--The Reality of the Fantasy World  
8:15-9:00 Books & Merch./Book Signing  
9:00 Social Time

- We cannot accommodate rooms with a spouse, unless the spouse is also a registered conference attendee. To share a room with a spouse, please contact one of the hotels listed on **[www.kidsbooklink.org](http://www.kidsbooklink.org)**.
- If you do not specify a roommate, Yarrow will assign one (of the same sex) to you.

### **Sunday, October 10**

7:15-8:30 Journaling or Peer Critiques

8:30-9:30 Breakfast

9:30-11:00 Breakout Session II

- Susan Chang
- Darcy Pattison--Group B
- Patrick Collins--Part II
- Betty Raum

11:15-12:15 Cinda Chima--Ensnaring the Wary:  
Ways to Entice the Reader to Enter Your World

12:15-1:15 Lunch

1:15-1:45 Books & Merch./Book Signings

1:45-2:45 Darcy Pattison--Notice My Book!: Using  
Social Media, Book Trailers, and More

2:45-3:15 Mentorship Contest Results

3:15-3:30 Closing and Door Prizes

### ***Free!***

Bring this coupon to the Book and Merchandise Sales area for a free SCBWI-MI logo static cling window sticker.\* Check out the other Michigan chapter merchandise such as travel mugs, folios, and more. We're also offering clearance pricing on some of our traditional items such as t-shirts and more.

\*Offer Expires: October 10, 2010. One free sticker per coupon, one coupon per person. Quantities limited. No rain checks.