

## PICTURE BOOK FORUM

12-13 Dec 2008

Grand Plaza Park Hotel City Hall, 10 Coleman St.

The “First-Time Writers & Illustrators Publishing Initiative” is an initiative from the Media Development Authority (MDA) and the National Book Development Council of Singapore (NBDCS) to nurture talents in the publishing industry.

All participants of the Initiative will have to attend this compulsory 2-day Picture Book Forum to hear from professionals in the children's book industry. The objective of this forum is to help these first-time writers and illustrators get started and provide them with invaluable tips and guidance on writing and illustrating for children. The forum will also be a great networking opportunity for those just starting to enter the rewarding and fascinating world of children's book writing and illustrating.

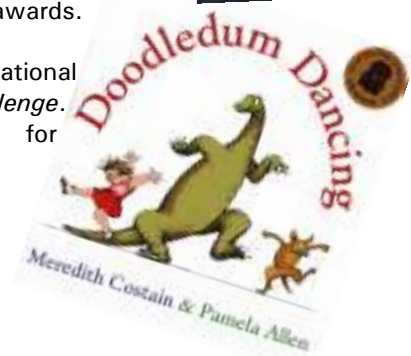
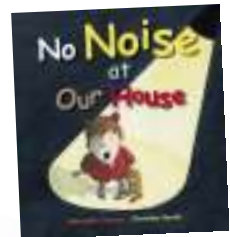
## SPEAKERS

### Meredith Costain



**Meredith Costain** is a versatile writer whose work ranges from picture books through to popular fiction and non-fiction for older readers. Her books include *No Noise at Our House*, *Rosie and the Bunyip* and *Musical Harriet*, which was adapted for television by the Australian Broadcasting Commission. *Doodledum Dancing*, illustrated by Pamela Allen, was an Honour Book in the Early Childhood section of the 2007 Children's Book Council of Australia awards.

Meredith is also the literary editor of national children's magazines *Comet*, *Explore* and *Challenge*. She regularly presents writing workshops for children and adults in libraries, writing centres and schools.



### Leigh Hobbs

**Leigh Hobbs** is an artist and author who works across a wide range

of art mediums. He is a respected painter, sculptor and cartoonist and for 25 years he was a secondary school art teacher. Leigh's paintings, drawings, sculptures and ceramics are in many National Museums, Libraries, Art Galleries and private collections in Australia.

Leigh is perhaps best known in Australia, Britain and the USA though for the 14 children's books he has written and illustrated featuring his characters *Old Tom*, *Horrible Harriet*, *Fiona The Pig*, *The FREAKS in 4F* and *Mr Chicken*. A highly popular animated French / Australian Television series was made about *OLD TOM* and broadcast in Australia and Europe.



## PROGRAMME

Day 1 | 12 Dec 08 (Fri) | 8.30am – 5.30pm

@ Ballroom I, Level 2, Grand Plaza Park Hotel City Hall

**8.30am – 9.00am**      **Registration**

**9.00am – 10.30am**      **The Range & Scope of Picture Books by Meredith Costain**

- What a picture book is and what it isn't
- Categories of picture books
- Themes in picture books
- How to get Ideas
- Short writing exercise

**10.30am – 11.00am**      **Morning Tea Break**

**11.00am – 12.30pm**      **Developing Your Ideas by Meredith Costain**

- Be playful with language
- To rhyme or not to rhyme?
- Point of view – 1<sup>st</sup> person or 3<sup>rd</sup> person?
- Time frame & Setting
- Structure: beginning, middle & satisfying conclusion
- Creating a likeable main character
- Short writing exercise

**12.30pm – 2.00pm**      **Lunch**

**2.00pm – 3.30pm**      **Illustrating Children's Books by Leigh Hobbs**

- The art techniques
- Getting characters to look consistent
- Drawing from different angles
- Making sense of expressions
- Drawing readers with your characters
- Short drawing exercise

**3.30pm – 4.00pm**      **Afternoon Tea Break**

**4.00pm – 5.30pm**      **Be THE Illustrator by Leigh Hobbs**

- Create your own unique character
- Develop your own style
- The importance of having a distinctive style

## PROGRAMME

Day 2 | 13 Dec 08 (Sat) | 8.30am – 5.30pm

@ Coleman Room, Level 1, Grand Plaza Park Hotel City Hall

**8.30am – 9.00am**      **Registration**

**9.00am – 10.30am**      **Putting Words & Pictures Together by Meredith Costain  
(as the writer)**

- Paging & storyboarding
- Allowing variation in action and settings for the illustrator
- Short writing exercise
- Providing illustration briefs

**10.30am – 11.00am**      **Morning Tea Break**

**11.00am – 12.30pm**      **Putting Words & Pictures Together (cont)**

- Working with an editor
- Collaborative picture books

**Marketing a Writer by Meredith Costain**

- The importance of networking
- Submitting manuscripts to publishing houses
- Keeping records
- Professional organisations and useful resources
- Self-promotion
- Alternative income streams

**12.30pm – 2.00pm**      **Lunch**

**2.00pm – 3.30pm**      **Combining Writing with Pictures by Leigh Hobbs  
(as the illustrator)**

- The story and the plot
- Combining words with the illustrations
- Getting more out of words
- Developing your characters using words and pictures

**3.30pm – 4.00pm**      **Afternoon Tea Break**

**4.00pm – 5.00pm**      **Marketing an Illustrator by Leigh Hobbs**

- Knowing your audience
- Working with an editor & a publisher
- Presenting your work for publication
- Self-promotion

**5.00pm – 5.30pm**      **Questions and Answers**

With Meredith & Leigh

# Registration



## DATE and TIME

12 & 13 December 2008 (Friday & Saturday)  
8.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

## VENUE

Ballroom 1, Level 2, Grand Plaza Park Hotel City Hall, 10 Coleman St.

## COURSE FEE (please tick where appropriate)

- One day at S\$55nett per person     12 Dec 08     13 Dec 08  
 Two days at S\$85nett per person

Payment is to be made in Singapore Dollars, by cheque or bank draft, payable to "NBDCS".  
Fees paid are non-refundable but transferable. Requests for substitution must be made latest by 5 Dec 08.

## MAILING ADDRESS

National Book Development Council of Singapore  
50 Geylang East Avenue 1, Singapore 389777  
W: <http://www.bookcouncil.sg>    E: [info@bookcouncil.sg](mailto:info@bookcouncil.sg)  
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## First-Time Writers & Illustrators Publishing Initiative 2009 Picture Book Forum 12-13 Dec 08

**Particulars of Applicant** (Fax your application to us at 6742 9466 or email at [info@bookcouncil.sg](mailto:info@bookcouncil.sg))

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Designation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (for invoicing): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Contact person (for invoicing if not the same as above): \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Note:

We will send you a confirmation via email upon receipt of your registration. If you do not receive any confirmation within 7 working days, please check if you have successfully submitted your registration to ensure your seat/participation in the workshop.

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An official event of the:

Organised by:



### About the First -Time Writers & Illustrators Publishing Initiative (FTWIPI)

The First -Time Writers & Illustrators Publishing Initiative is an Initiative by the Media Development Authority (MDA) and the National Book Development Council of Singapore (NBDCS) to nurture talents in the publishing industry. The Initiative is targeted at assisting the publication of new works by unpublished local writers and/or illustrators.

### Disclaimer:

All information is correct at the time of dissemination. The organisers reserve the right to change speakers, session times, date and price and other details as necessary. At all times, participants are responsible for their own conduct, actions and consequences.