

# Children's Books Ireland INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2022

## Saturday 24

9.30	<b>Registration</b>
10.15	<b>Opening Remarks</b> from Children's Books Ireland CEO, Elaina Ryan
10.20	<b>Alex Wheatle</b> Award-winning children's and young adult author Alex Wheatle joins us to explore the idea of home in his work, from teenagers escaping the horrors of life in care to the community of the council estate to the displacement of enslaved people.
11.15	<b>Nikita Gill</b> 'Poet of Millennials' Nikita Gill joins us to talk about radical honesty in her feminist writing for teens and young people.
12.10	<b>Children's Books Ireland catch-up with CEO Elaina Ryan</b>
12.25	<b>Lunch</b>
1.45	<b>Research Project – Impacts of Covid-19 on children's and young adult literature creative, cultural, and reading communities in Scotland and Ireland</b> Join our panel including author Maisie Chan, arts practitioners Dr Jane O'Hanlon of Poetry Ireland, Dr Colm Ó Cuanacháin of Fighting Words and Chris Newton of Scottish Book Trust to learn more about the findings of this transnational project. <i>Chaired by Dr Patricia Kennon (Maynooth University) and Dr Melanie Ramdarshan Bold (University of Glasgow).</i>
2.30	<b>Katya Balen</b> Double Carnegie winner Katya Balen scooped up the Yoto Carnegie Medal and the Shadower's Choice Award this year. She is joined by KPMG Children's Books Ireland Book of the Year Award winner 2020 Máire Zepf in a conversation about representation, empathy and the space nature provides for solace and reflection.
3.20	<b>Tea and coffee break</b> Celebrate Adam B's <i>Adam Wins the Internet</i> with thanks to Bloomsbury Children's Books.
3.50	<b>Steve McCarthy and Paddy Donnelly</b> Join Steve McCarthy, whose work illustrates this year's conference identity; in conversation with fellow illustrator and picturebook creator Paddy Donnelly.
4.40	<b>Closing remarks and presentation of the Annual Children's Books Ireland Award</b>
5.00	<b>Drinks reception</b> Celebrate Catherine Doyle's <i>The Lost Girl King</i> with thanks to Bloomsbury Children's Books.

## Sunday 25

9.30	<b>Registration and Tea and coffee break</b> Celebrate 15 years of Derek Landy's Skulduggery Pleasant with thanks to HarperCollins Children's Books.
10.15	<b>Opening Remarks</b> from Children's Books Ireland CEO, Elaina Ryan
10.20	<b>Carson Ellis</b> Caldecott Honouree Carson Ellis understands the importance of picturebooks as a child's 'first exposure to digital art and prose'. She joins us to talk about this responsibility on the part of the author and illustrator.
11.15	<b>Project Focus – Authors of colour in the classroom, Scotland</b> This roundtable discussion includes authors Maisie Chan and Nadine Aisha Jassat in conversation with arts practitioners Alan Lynch and Katherine Wilkinson of Scottish Book Trust, reflecting upon a live literature project to get authors of colour into Scottish schools. <i>Chaired by Dr Melanie Ramdarshan Bold (University of Glasgow).</i>
12.10	<b>Children's Books Ireland catch-up with CEO Elaina Ryan</b>
12.25	<b>Lunch</b>
1.45	<b>Hannah Lee</b> Author Hannah Lee grew up yearning to read stories that featured children like her. When she couldn't find them, she decided to create them herself. Join Hannah to hear more about creating a safe space and sense of home in literature for children by representing every child.
2.30	<b>Laureates in conversation</b> Newly appointed Waterstones Children's Laureate Joseph Coelho returns to the conference stage to join Laureate na nÓg Áine Ní Ghlinn. Join them in conversation with author Patricia Forde to learn more about their missions to engage young readers and enrich their lives.
3.20	<b>Tea and coffee break</b> Celebrate Eoin Colfer and Chris Judge's <i>Cloud Babies</i> with thanks to Walker Books.
3.50	<b>Eoin Colfer and Chris Judge</b> Join author Eoin Colfer and illustrator Chris Judge in conversation with Dr Marian Keyes about the highs and lows of partnering on a new creative project.
4.40	<b>Closing remarks</b>
5.00	<b>END</b>

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