



Writing for Children Conference

Saturday, September 11th

10:00 AM (Sessions repeat at 11:00 AM)

Making It Real --Phyllis J. Perry (Pandas' Earthquake Escape, Colorado Fun, It Happened in Rocky Mountain National Park).

Explore the art and craft of writing nonfiction for children and adults through examples taken from Perry's 73 published books of fiction, nonfiction and poetry.

Finding Your Inner Paleontologist: K.A. Nuzum (Leanin' Dog and A Small White Scar)

Excavating your entire story — learn *what* tools to use to discover *why* your characters do the things they do and *what* the conflict in your story is.

The Art and Heart of the Picture Book - Kathleen Pelley (Inventor McGregor, The Giant King and her new book, Magnus Maximus, A Marvelous Measurer)

"Craft enables art." Ursula Le Guin. In this workshop we will examine ways to hone our craft and open our hearts. We will explore the ten essential ingredients of great picture books as well as the ten most common weaknesses of picture book manuscripts. Participants can bring along a picture book manuscript in progress to share (if time permits). We will end with a Q and A session.

Spring Clean your writing - Elaine Pease (I'll Never Leave and Even Sharks Need Friends Coming in October, Ghost Over Boulder Creek, a middle grade history/mystery coming in October.) She will have an advance reader copy to share, if you'd like to take a peek.

Open minds and doors with your first page. You probably already know that if your first page is a dud no one, readers or editors, will want to read further. Please bring a first page of your picture book or chapter book and we'll help it along. Or, just come and listen!

Good to Great – Manuscript Makeovers – Claudia Mills

Claudia Mills, author of 43 published books for children, will use examples of her own revision process to show how she takes each book through multiple drafts, sharing strategies for how you can take YOUR book from good to great.

How to begin that darned book, plus a glimpse into the publishing industry - Florian Stone Wells – (Sword and Shield of the Realm) The story is brewing inside the creative pot and it seems ready to burst, but each time you try to turn it into words, a dull haze descends over your mind ... There are simple techniques to defeat these impasses. We will be trying some.