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Children's Literature Research Collections



2013 KERLAN AWARD KATE DICAMILLO

Saturday, June 8, 2013
Room 25 of Mondale Hall
10:00 AM Lecture, Noon Luncheon.



“I think of myself as an enormously lucky person,” says Kate DiCamillo. “I get to tell stories for a living.”

The University of Minnesota Libraries presents children's literature author Kate DiCamillo with the 2013 Kerlan Award in Room 25 of Mondale Hall on Saturday June 8th.

Kate DiCamillo is the author of *The Magician's Elephant*, a New York Times bestseller; *The Tale of Despereaux*, awarded the Newbery Medal; *Because of Winn-Dixie*, a Newbery Honor book; and six books starring Mercy Watson, including the Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Book *Mercy Watson Goes for a Ride*. She shares writing credit on her Geisel winning easy reader series *Bink and Gollie* with Allison McGhee. A resident of Minneapolis, DiCamillo was born in Philadelphia and raised in Florida.

The Kerlan Award is presented annually “in recognition of singular attainments in the creation of children's literature and in appreciation for generous donation of unique resources to the Kerlan Collection for the study of children's literature.”

Ms. DiCamillo discovered her love of children's books while working at The Bookman, a book distributor warehouse. She says of her first published novel, “I wrote *Because of Winn-Dixie* because I was homesick for Florida (I live in Minneapolis) and because I wanted a dog and couldn't have one (I lived in an apartment building that didn't permit them). It allowed me to go home and to spend time with a dog of the highest order. As for the other characters, I never know where they come from; I just feel happy and lucky when they choose me to tell their stories. India Opal Buloni seems so real to me, I don't think I could have made her up. Rather, I feel like I discovered her.”

All of Ms. DiCamillo's body of work has been donated to the Kerlan Collection, from the first to the most recent anticipated yet-to-be published *Flora and Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventures* (Candlewick, Fall 2013). The novel stars a cynical, comic-loving girl and a squirrel who comes back to life with “powers of strength, flight, and misspelled poetry.”

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FROM THE KERLAN FRIENDS PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

I want to thank you for your continued support throughout this past year of transition. We have had a wonderful year as we welcomed new CLRC curator Lisa Von Drasek. Many of you met Lisa at the Sept. 18 celebration for the 100th birthday of Dr. Kerlan. Throughout the year Lisa has created many special events including a joint Kerlan Friends/SCBWI event on Feb. 21 with Paul Zelinsky that packed Anderson 120. She is also working on many new projects that you will be excited to learn about. This coming September we will hold our annual meeting with a special storytelling presentation and a new format that will allow all of you to join special project groups to participate in activities that might interest you. Below you will find important information from our Kerlan Awards Chair Jean Stevenson.



Maythee Kantar

—Maythee Kantar,
Kerlan Friends President

2012-2013 KERLAN FRIENDS

BOARD MEMBERS

Nancy Caffoe	Brian Nerney
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Maythee Kantar	Julie Schumacher
Lesa Kennedy	Jean Stevenson
Verla Klassen	

The Children's Literature Research Collection's Kerlan Collection is an internationally recognized center of research in the field of children's literature. The Collection contains original materials, including manuscripts, artwork, galleys, and color proofs for more than 18,000 children's books. These materials represent eight decades of American children's books and selected titles published in other countries. The Kerlan Collection also includes more than 110,000 children's books.

This Spring/Summer 2013 Newsletter is co-sponsored by the Kerlan Friends and the CLRC.

Content: Meredith J. Gillies, Abbey Thompson, Lisa Von Drasek
Production Editor: Meredith J. Gillies

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It was an honor to have served as the chair of the Kerlan Award Committee. The members of the committee take our charge of placing this honor not only on a distinguished creator of children's books but on one that has shown continuous support of the Kerlan Collection. The entire committee experienced great joy when we came to our winner. Kate DiCamillo is a transplant who has firmly rooted in our Minnesota soil. It is sometimes easy to overlook greatness in our own backyard. How fortunate the Kerlan Collection is to have her as a neighbor and friend.

—Jean Stevenson,
Kerlan Friends President-Elect

LETTER FROM THE CURATOR



Dear Kerlan Friends,

How lovely it is to have a moment to say hello and thank you. Thank you for all your support. Thank you for your enthusiasm about my favorite topic of conversation, children's books. Thank you for welcoming me into this community of children's literature enthusiasts.

Our tireless department assistant, Meredith Gilles has been working hard getting me up to speed on our work flow and systems. Although I am thrilled to take on the challenges of the Children's Literature Research Collections, another moment may not pass before I express my gratitude to Karen Nelson Hoyle, whose life's work is evident in the strong relationships with donors and their families.

If anyone would like to know what my first look at the Archives and Special Collections offices was like, you need only to go to this video of Kate DiCamillo from Minnesota Originals, <http://www.mnoriginal.org/episode/mn-original-show-206/kate-dicamillo/>.

Best,
Lisa Von Drasek
Curator, Children's Literature Research Collections

NEW IN THE COLLECTION

It's been a busy year at the CLRC, with the arrival of lots of original manuscripts, artwork, correspondence, and other production materials to the library.



Mikolaycak's *Musicians of Bremen*, donated by Nick Bruel.

Nick Bruel, known for his work with *Bad Kitty*, sent us original Charles Mikolaycak work from *Musicians of Bremen*. *Musicians of Bremen* was one of Mikolaycak's first works, and the only title not previously represented in the Kerlan Collection.

We received multiple boxes of books, photographs, correspondence, research papers, awards, and original materials for titles from Jean Craighead George.

Paul O. Zelinsky donated one of the most unusual items we've received this year: A pair of jeans that he self-embroidered, with Runaway Ralph on the pocket.



Runaway Ralph, as sewn on to a pair of jeans by Paul O. Zelinsky.

Jennifer Holm, known for her work with the indomitable *Babymouse*, sent materials for *Eighth Grade is Making Me Sick* and *The Trouble with May Amelia*.



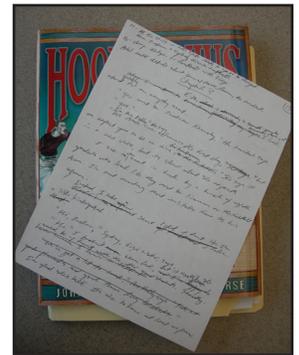
Pinkney: *Duke Ellington: The Piano Prince and His Orchestra*.

Andrea Davis Pinkney & Brian Pinkey sent production materials for eight different titles, including *Duke Ellington: The Piano Prince and His Orchestra*.

Will and Jean Hobbs donated over twenty-titles worth of original materials, spanning the alphabet from *Beardance* to *Wild Man Island*.

Toni Buzzeo made our staff laugh as we went through the donations for *Our Librarian Won't Tell Us Anything* and *The Library Doors*, among other titles.

John Coy's donation for *Hoop Dreams* isn't just popular with CLRC researchers - it has been used in conjunction with the YMCA Archives for a joint "How to do History Day" class with elementary-age students, giving them the skills to brainstorm topics and do research for their projects. Bonus: John did HIS research for the book at the YMCA Archives, making a nice production materials circle!



Hoop Dreams, manuscript page & book, by John Coy.

Other donors for this year include Marie Myung-Ok Lee, Patricia Reilly Giff, Phyllis Reynolds Naylor, Karen Cushman, Heather Vogel Frederick, Lois Lowry, John Warren Stewig, Elizabeth Hall, Toni Buzzeo, Kate DiCamillo, Jane Yolen, Eleanor Clymer, Tom Lichtenheld, Steven Krull, Carolyn Marsden, Harriette Robinet, Gary Schmidt, Kathleen Karr, Gail Carson Levine, Sharon Creech, Ted & Betsy Lewin, Sarah Weeks, and many others.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS



This is not my hat, by John Klassen.

This year's Caldecott Medal winner is Jon Klassen, author of the wildly popular *I Want My Hat Back*. This volume can be considered a follow-up only in that it also involves the theft of a hat, as none of the characters from *I Want My Hat Back* have been reprised. The tables are turned this time, however, as Klassen's frugal narrative and muted underwater color palate follow a fishy hat-thief rather than the crime's victim. For ages 4 and up.

The Kerlan collection also acquired copies of all 2013 Caldecott Honor books: *Creepy Carrots!*, illustrated by Peter Brown, written by Aaron Reynolds; *Extra Yarn*, illustrated by Jon Klassen, written by Mac Barnett; *Green*, illustrated and written by Laura Vaccaro Seeger; *One Cool Friend*, illustrated by David Small, written by Toni Buzzeo; and *Sleep Like a Tiger*, illustrated by Pamela Zagarenski, written by Mary Logue.



My Family for the War, by Anne C. Voorhoeve, translated by Tammi Reichel, Batchelder Award Winner.

First published in Germany, this story follows 11-year-old Franziska, a Protestant girl with Jewish roots who is forced to leave her parents and flee Nazi Germany on one of the secret trains known as a Kindertransports. Eventually settling with an Orthodox family in London, she finds new meaning and joy in the Jewish traditions her family had shunned and hid at all costs yet continues to be torn between two families, two worlds. For ages 10 and up.

The Kerlan collection also acquired copies of all 2013 Batchelder Honor books: *A Game for Swallows: To Die, To Leave, To Return*, written and illustrated by Zeina Abirached, and translated by Edward Gauvin; and *Son of a Gun*, written by Anne de Graaf, and translated by the author.



Martín de Porres: The Rose in the Desert, illustrated by David Diaz, written by Gary D. Schmidt, Winner 2013 Pura Belpré Medal.

This vibrantly illustrated biography tells the story of the first saint of African heritage in the Americas. Though canonized in 1962, Porres himself hails from the 16th century. As a mixed-race illegitimate child of a Spanish nobleman and a slave, Martín would not have been allowed into the priesthood. Instead he was apprenticed to a local healer, later joining the monastery as a servant. As word of his healing talents spread the church began to take notice, eventually allowing him full entrance to their order. The Belpré committee chair noted that they were "impressed with Diaz's ability to capture and expand Schmidt's text, while including references to traditional South American artisan crafts, word carvings and textiles." The author of this volume, Gary D. Schmidt, has multiple holdings in the Kerlan manuscript collection for his books *The Saturday Deliveries* and *What Came From the Stars*. For ages 7 and up.

The Kerlan collection also acquired copies of all 2013 Batchelder Award and Honor books: *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe* (Author Medal winner), by Benjamin Alire Sáenz; and *The Revolution of Evelyn Serrano* (Author Honor book), by Sonia Manzano.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS [CONT.]

Up, Tall and High!, written and illustrated by Ethan Long, 2013 (Theodor Seuss) Geisel Award.



Follow this funny flock of avian friends as they explore a world bigger, taller, and higher than they originally imagined in this Geisel Award winning picture book. Really three stories in one, this volume playfully illustrates the concepts of tall/small, high/low and up/down using bright, cheerful colors, bold black outlines, a cartoonish cast of silly characters, and surprise fold-outs for delightful plot twists. For ages 4 and up.

The Kerlan collection acquired copies of all 2013 Geisel Honor books: *Let's Go for a Drive!*, written and illustrated by Mo Willems; *Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons* written by Eric Litwin, created and illustrated by James Dean; and *Rabbit & Robot: The Sleepover*, written and illustrated by Cece Bell.

The One and Only Ivan, by Katherine Applegate, 2013 Newbery Medal.

The One and Only Ivan is a silverback gorilla, living in a world of concrete, metal and glass at the Big Top Mall and Video Arcade, “conveniently located off I-95.” In haunting first-person prose, Applegate surprisingly lets Ivan tell his own story. After 27 years of captivity in a shopping mall, it is the arrival of a baby elephant named Ruby which makes him pause. The realization that she shouldn't have to live out her life in this same prison inspires a daring plan which could ultimately lead them all to a better life. This bittersweet story of friendship and hope is, in fact, inspired by the real story of a gorilla now living at Zoo Atlanta. For ages 8 and up.



The Kerlan collection acquired copies of all 2013 Newbery Honor books: *Splendors and Glooms* by Laura Amy Schlitz; *Bomb: The Race to Build—and Steal—the World's Most Dangerous Weapon* by Steve Sheinkin; and *Three Times Lucky* by Sheila Turnage.

I, Too, Am America, illustrated by Bryan Collier, 2013 Coretta Scott King Award

Langston Hughes's iconic poem gets a new face in this beautiful volume by Bryan Collier, a previous winner of multiple Coretta Scott King and Caldecott Honor awards. In this inspirational new work, Collier chose to highlight the efforts of Hughes and other African American Pullman train porters in the early 20th century through his characteristic mixture of paint and collage. These dynamic illustrations, heavily peppered with American flag motifs, bring a new interpretation to a classic poem of class struggle and hope. For ages 4 and up.

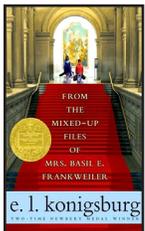


The Kerlan collection acquired copies of all 2013 Coretta Scott King Award and Honor books: *Hand in Hand: Ten Black Men Who Changed America* (Author Award winner), written by Andrea Davis Pinkney and illustrated by Brian Pinkney; *Ellen's Broom* (Illustrator Honor book), illustrated by Daniel Minter, written by Kelly Starling Lyons; *H.O.R.S.E.* (Illustrator Honor book), illustrated and written by Christopher Myers; *I Have a Dream: Martin Luther King, Jr.* (Illustrator Honor book), illustrated by Kadir Nelson, written by Martin Luther King, Jr.; *Each Kindness* (Author Honor book), by Jacqueline Woodson, illustrated by E. B. Lewis; and *No Crystal Stair: A Documentary Novel of the Life and Work of Lewis Michaux, Harlem Bookseller* (Author Honor book), by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie.

-- written by Abbey Thompson

IN MEMORIAM

This year we have lost many friends of children's & young adult literature. These are just a few of the people who have made an impact on our hearts:



E.L. Konigsburg, 1930–2013 | 04/20/2013

During dinner with one of my oldest friends, I asked if she'd heard that E.L. Konigsburg had died, she said, "Oh no! You don't know what she meant to me."

...And I didn't. I only know what she meant to me... "Remembering E.L. Konigsburg," by Lisa Von Drasek. Read the rest at <http://www.earlyword.com/2013/04/22/remembering-e-l-konigsburg/>

Fredrick L. McKissack, 1939–2013

Fredrick L. McKissack, who with his wife and partner Patricia created more than 100 books illuminating aspects of the African-American experience, died of heart failure on April 28, 2013.

One cannot imagine the world of children's literature without the work of Frederick McKissack. In these times when educators are focused on reading in content areas to the exclusion of fiction in classroom, McKissack's titles inspire further inquiries by their breadth, depth, and accuracy. With his collaborator and wife Patricia McKissack, readers have received an education in American history, from his 1987 Frederick Douglas: the Black Lion to the 1992, Sojourner Truth: Ain't I a Woman. As librarians we often speak of the serendipity of interest, the stumbling across a book then being captured by the story. I am certain that I had no prior knowledge or interest in a history of African-American whalers between 1730 and 1880 yet the McKissacks were able to weave the threads of abolition, seafaring, economics and sociology into a riveting history. As I am grieving thus loss to our community, I am grateful that today's writers have had this mentor to guide their way.

Bernard Waber: American children's author most famous for the books *The House on East 88th Street* (1962), *Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile* (1965) and the subsequent books in the Lyle series, Waber passed away on May 16, 2013, from kidney failure.

Jan Berenstain: Jan Berenstain and her husband, Stan (who died in 2005), packed a lifetime of practical lessons into their books about a family of treehouse-dwelling bears. Omnipresent in libraries and children's bedrooms alike, the Berenstain Bears series was born in 1962 with *The Big Honey Hunt*, published by Beginner Books under the guidance of Theodor Geisel (Dr. Seuss).

Remy Charlip: Remy Charlip, a dancer, choreographer and founding member of the Merce Cunningham Dance Company who dazzled avant-garde audiences for decades before finding an even larger audience writing and illustrating children's books such as *Dress Up and Let's Have a Party* and *Fortunately*, died at the age of 83.

Leo Dillon: Children's book illustrator Dillon, a Trinidad native, collaborated with his wife, Diane Dillon, on more than 40 books, including *Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears* (1975) and *Ashanti to Zulu: African Traditions* (1976), which won back-to-back Caldecott medals. Dillon died on May 26 at age 79.



Jean Craighead George: A Jack London disciple of a sort, George wrote powerful novels about young people coming of age against the backdrop of wilderness. While researching the animals at the Naval Arctic Research Laboratory in Alaska, George was inspired to write her Newbery-winning novel *Julie of the Wolves* (1972). George's *My Side of the Mountain* (1959), about a boy who adapts to life in the woods, was also a Newbery Honor book. She died on May 15 at age 92.

-- Lisa Von Drasek

UPCOMING EVENTS

34th Annual Children's Literature Workshop

June 17-18, 2013

St Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN

This year's event features presenters Avi, Laura Purdie Salas, and Julie Riemer, as well as concurrent sessions featuring Debra Fraiser, Sheila O'Connor, Vicki Palmquist, Laurie Conzemius, and Dennis Warner, at St. Cloud State University's Atwood Center. Please visit <http://web.stcloudstate.edu/clw/> for registration and additional information.

The 54th Annual RBMS Preconference: O Rare! Performance in Special Collections

June 23 – 26, 2013

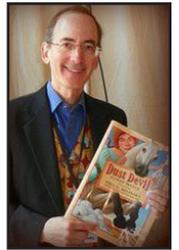
Minneapolis, MN

Focusing on collections about and around the performing arts and the role of performance in special collections libraries and archives, from teaching to exhibitions. The RBMS Preconference also offers an antiquarian book fair, a book arts fair, tours, a performance of the Rose Ensemble, reception at the Mill City Museum, and many other events around Minneapolis. <http://www.preconference.rbms.info/>

PAUL O. ZELINSKY

For the inaugural event with our new curator, we were pleased to produce a special event co-sponsored by the MN Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI): "Paul O. Zelinsky: Reflecting on Children's Book Art"

Paul spoke to the public and SCBWI members about his recent experience as a judge of the Ezra Jack Keats Book Award, what he was looking for in the work, and reflecting on his own career.



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NEW! COOL! OUT OF THIS WORLD!

Wondering what's going on at the CLRC? You can always find out about our upcoming events by visiting us online at our NEW website - <https://www.lib.umn.edu/clrc> - and we're also available on various social media platforms. Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Tumblr, there's something different for each of your favorite websites.

CLRC RELATED NEWS

Interns!

This semester, the CLRC was honored to welcome Maisey Williams and Will Poltergiest from the College of Visual Arts as our internship assistants. Maisey was cataloging the Borger Comic Book Collection, while Will performed preservation upkeep on the Kerlan Collection's Tomie De Paola papers.

Preservation, Conservation, and You

The CLRC staff is pulling out their aprons and rolling up their sleeves, as they work with Andersen Library's Central Processing team to reorganize and place in new boxes every single author and illustrator in the Kerlan Collection. Please bear with us during this extensive project to maintain the excellent condition of our materials, and make the archives easier for all our patrons to use.

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