

The School of Library, Archival and Information Studies,
the Departments of English and Language and Literacy Education,
the Creative Writing Program, and the Vancouver Children's Literature Roundtable

present

the 2014 Graduate Student Research Conference
in Children's Literature



"i Will Be Myself":

Identity in Children's Literature,
Media and Culture

Saturday, May 3rd, 2014

Irving K. Barber Learning Center
The University of British Columbia,
Vancouver Campus

From 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Keynote speaker:

Dr. Phillip Serrato

San Diego State University,
National Center for the
Study of Children's Literature

“i Will Be Myself”

Identity in Children’s and Young Adult Literature, Media and Culture

“i Will Be Myself” is a one-day conference showcasing graduate student research that explores, questions, and analyzes the issues surrounding identity in various elements of children’s and young adult literature. Today graduate students present academic research and creative writing pieces that contribute to the existing body of literature and research in the area of children’s and young adult literature studies, which includes novels, films, apps, picturebooks, and more. Much of this work draws upon themes of identity, which can include liminality, hybridity, Otherness or Othering, gender, and transformation.

About the Biennial Conference in Children's Literature:

The Master's of Arts in Children's Literature Students, working with graduate students in other departments at the University of British Columbia, have planned, organized, and presented at four peer-reviewed, multidisciplinary, Graduate Student Research Conferences on Children’s Literature. Presenters include graduate students across academic disciplines and creative writing from other institutions across Canada and the world. Plenary speakers have included internationally recognized academics in the field of children’s literature and authors such as Aidan Chambers, Aliza Dresang, Philip Nel, and Maria Tatar. We are pleased to welcome Phillip Serrato today at the fifth biennial UBC Conference in Children’s Literature.

Master of Ceremonies: Dr. Margot Filipenko



Biography:

Dr. Margot Filipenko has made significant and creative contributions to the Faculty of Education's Teacher Education Program. She is best known for her work in the Problem-Based Learning (PBL) elementary cohort. She has assisted in the successful institution of the ePortfolio across the program. More recently, she revised the EDUC 316 (Communications in Teaching) course to better reflect the needs of elementary educators particularly in the area of linguistic complexity. Her research investigates students' entry knowledge about language which will inform planning to overcome some major identified

difficulties. In the Department of Languages and Literacy Education she has led course development, creating web-based resources to support collaborative learning. She is also involved in the Master of Arts in Children's Literature program, supervising thesis and mentoring graduate students as they complete their studies in a variety of topics. Her leadership turns into mentoring as instructor and teacher candidates attempt to emulate her inspirational teaching style, and master's students hone their critical theory and writing skills.

A Letter from the Conference Co-Chairs:

Adventures are funny things. On some level, everyone has dreamed at least once about going on an adventure. Perhaps it's an adventure through a mystical fantasy land, or across the final frontier of space. Perhaps it's an adventure backpacking across a continent, or sailing between continents. Perhaps it's an adventure in love, or a new career path. Or maybe it's an adventure between the pages of a good book. There are many kinds of adventures, and despite the fact that they have both ups and downs, everyone loves an adventure.

When the three of us decided to become the co-chairs of this conference, we signed up for the adventure of our lives. Like Tolkien's Bilbo Baggins' adventure, facing goblins, spiders, and even a dragon to win a bountiful treasure and become a bonafide hero, we too had our hurdles and rewards. And while we never had to fight for our lives on the hero's journey to become rich as thieves, there were tears and there was laughter and ultimately there have been many treasures gained.

Bilbo's identity changes on his adventure, as do the identities of many characters in works of children's literature, media and culture. Not all become classic heroes, some become rebels, others become wizards, while still some change nationalities or negotiate their self-image and acceptance. Children's literature is full of different identities, represented and performed in a variety of ways.

As you join us on our adventure, we hope you will be like Bilbo and take as much as you can from this treasure trove. The presenters today have been peer-reviewed and approved, and you will have many forks in the road to choose from in order to learn new things on this adventure. Keep an open mind, engage as much as you can, and maybe you'll learn something about your identity along the way too.

Nafiza Azad
Stephanie Dror
Christopher Owen
Conference Co-Chairs

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Phillip Serrato



Biography:

Dr. Phillip Serrato is Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literature at San Diego State University. His teaching and research interests revolve around matters of identity, sexuality, and gender (especially masculinity) in both children's and adolescent literature as well as Chicano/a literature, film, and performance. Recent publications include "Postmodern Guacamole: Lifting the Lid on El Tigre: The Adventures of Manny Rivera," "What Are Young People to Think?: The Subject of Immigration and the Immigrant Subject in Francisco Jiménez's *The Circuit*"; "Conflicting Inclinations: Luis J. Rodríguez's Picture Books for Children"; and "From 'Booger Breath' to 'The Guy': Juni Cortez Grows Up in Robert Rodríguez's *Spy Kids* Trilogy." Presently he is at work on two books, one an examination of masculinity in Chicano/a literature, film, and performance from the nineteenth century to the present day, and the other a critical survey of the emergence, history, and development of Chicano/a children's literature.

Publications:

"From 'Booger Breath' to 'The Guy': Juni Cortez Grows Up in Robert Rodríguez's *Spy Kids* Trilogy." *Mediated Boyhoods: Boys, Teens, and Young Men in Popular Media and Culture*. Ed. Annette Wannamaker. New York: Peter Lang, 2011.

"What Are Young People to Think?: The Subject of Immigration and the Immigrant Subject in Francisco Jiménez's *The Circuit*." *The Oxford Handbook of Children's Literature*. Ed. Julia Mickenberg and Lynne Vallone. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011.

"Transforming Boys, Transforming Masculinity, Transforming Culture: Masculinity Anew in Latino and Latina Children's Literature." *Invisible No More: Understanding the Disenfranchisement of Latino Men and Boys*. Ed. Pedro Noguera, Aída Hurtado, and Edward Fergus. New York: Routledge, 2011.

"Promise and Peril: The Gendered Implications of Pat Mora's *Pablo's Tree* and Ana Castillo's *My Daughter, My Son, the Eagle, the Dove*." *Children's Literature*. 38 (2010). 133-152.

"They Are?!": Latino Identity vis-à-vis Dragon Tales." *Cultural Studies/Critical Methodologies* 9.2 (2009). 149-165.

"Conflicting Inclinations: Luis J. Rodríguez's Picture Books for Children." *Ethnic Traditions in American Children's Literature*. Ed. Yvonne Atkinson and Michele Pagni-Stewart. New York: Palgrave-Macmillan, 2009. 191-204.

"Not Quite Heroes: Race, Masculinity, and Latino Professional Wrestlers." *Steel Chair to the Head: The Pleasure and Pain of Professional Wrestling*. Ed. Nicholas Sammond. Duke University Press, 2005. 232-259.

Program

Registration

8:00 A.M.

Room: 185 and Lobby

Welcome and Opening Remarks

9:00 A.M.

Room: 182

Master of Ceremonies: Dr. Margot Filipenko

Morning Session

9:30 - 10:45 A.M.

Program note: Bold-faced titles indicate creative presentations.

Surviving Adolescence: Bodies, Bullies and Falling in Love

Room 156

Facilitator: Dr. Kathie Shoemaker

Francine
Cunningham

Teenage Asylums

Laura Hamilton

Thirteen Reasons Why: Turning Students into Transformative Agents

Rachel Balko

To be Young, Gifted, and Fat

Yashawi
Kesanakurthy

“She Never Looked Nice”: On Representations of Body and Self in Rainbow Rowell’s *Eleanor & Park* and John Green’s *The Fault in our Stars*

Youth, Media and the Digital Age

Room 157

Facilitator: Dr. Eric Meyers

Aline Frederico

Playfulness in Codex and App Picturebooks: The Case of *What Does My Teddy Bear Do All Day?*

Coral Rost

An Examination of Fanfiction and the Application of Framing by the Author

Hallie Kaiser

Digital Children’s Literature: Mimesis or Radical Change?

Rebekah Adams

Designing an Engineering Game to Support Girls’ Interest in Engineering and Technology: The Rationale and Procedure Behind the Prototype of *Engineer It*

Bridging Worlds: Hybrid Identities

Room 158

Facilitator: Dr. Margot Filipenko

Catherine Cua	Jung's Journey of Self-discovery in the Graphic Novel <i>Couleur de peau: miel</i> : From Autofiction to Autobiography
Jane Whittingham	Finding Home - a novel
Laura MacDonald	Formative and Performative: Identity Construction in Anne C. Voorhoeve's <i>My Family for the War</i> and Jackie French's <i>Pennies for Hitler</i>
Patti Edgar	Marbles, Crabs and Sea Glass

Redefining Childhood: Self-reliance, Perseverance and Agency

Room 191

Facilitator: Professor Judi Saltman

Tess Prendergast	Triumphant Children: An Exploration of Sendak's Themes of Childhood Self-Reliance
Amanda Daignault	Childhood and Childness as Harry Comes of Age: Interrogating Power, Authority and Choice in <i>Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince</i> and <i>Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows</i>
Michèle Adams	When I Was Ten

Key Note Address

11:00 - 11:45 A.M.

Room 182

Dr. Phillip Serrato

Now, More Than Ever:
Attending to Identity in Children's Literature in Our
Contemporary Cultural Moment

IBBY Canada Awards Ceremony

11:45 - 12:15 P.M.

Room 182

Elizabeth Mrazik-Cleaver Canadian Picture Book Award

Frances E. Russell Grant for Research on Canadian Children's Literature

Lunch

12:15 - 1:00 P.M.

Room 185 and Lobby

Afternoon Session

1:15 - 2:30 P.M.

Navigating Gender

Room 156

Facilitator: Dr. Gisele Baxter

Elizabeth Hann	Good Girls/Bad Girls/No Girls Allowed: Madonna Whore Performativity in <i>Peter Pan</i>
Janet Eastwood	Negotiating Maleness: Matt Cruse and Models of Captaincy in Kenneth Oppel's Airborn Trilogy
Matthew Murray	"Cross Play" and Youth Gender Identity in Video Games
Niki Marion	A Feminist Deconstruction of Madeleine L'Engle's <i>A Wrinkle in Time</i>

Multimodal Picturebooks: From the Page to the Screen

Room 157

Facilitator: Dr. Eric Meyers

Caleigh McEachern	The Moody Weather of <i>House McCloud</i>
Cynthia Nugent and Saeyong Kim	From Picturebook to Animation: A Korean Adaptation of <i>Les Poings Sur les Îles</i>
Kathryn Shoemaker	Following Max: Visually Constructing a Protagonist in a Picturebook for Young Readers
Sandra Lynn Lynxleg	My Fascination with Thomas King's Storytelling Style and How the First Traffic Light was Invented as a Result of Raven, Coyote, Nanabush, a Meeting, a Population Crisis, and a Cop

Happily Ever After? Fitting In and Falling out

Room 158

Facilitator: Professor Judi Saltman

Constance Shepardson	"When "I" Becomes "We": Identity Through Group Affiliation in Young Adult Fantasy"
Laura Quintana-Crelis	The Problem of Identity in <i>The Trail of Your Blood in the Snow</i> , by Gabriel García Márquez
Russell Hirsch	The Jester's Eye
T. Cass Strong	Mayfire

Family and Belonging: A Writer's Exchange

Room 191

Facilitator: Professor Rhea Tregobov

Allison Mills

The Boys from the Bog

Clara Kiyoko
Kumagai

Sadie

Michelle Barker

In the Good Girl Box, and Other Poems

Final Session

2:45 - 3:45 P.M.

The Nation Imagined and the Imagined Self

Room 156

Facilitator: Dr. Kathie Shoemaker

Karin Eriksson

Children's Picture Books as Representations of Nation: Swedish Exceptionalism

Nadine Lincoln

Grandma, Tell Me the Mermaid Story!

Azin Eshghi

Reading Gender Through Narratives: Constructing Gender Identities Through Children's Stories in Iran

Moving Forward While Looking Back: Geography, Memory and Subjectivity

Room 157

Facilitator: Dr. Margot Filipenko

Bonnie Tulloch

Castaway Colonies: Exploring the Relationship between Island and Postcolonial Identity in *The Corps of the Bare-Boned Plane*

Kathleen
Forrester

Unfreezing the Past: Intergenerational Trauma, Storytelling and Collective Memory in *Kit's Wilderness*

Nafiza Azad

The Road of the Lost

Transgressing Boundaries: Contextualising Notions of Genre and Childhood

Room 158

Facilitator: Dr. Gisele Baxter

Alethia Shih

"Very Much like a Mouse:" Size, Strangeness and Fantasy in E.B. White's *Stuart Little*

Belinda Qian He

Through the Eye of Innocence: Child's Look and Child Looker in Early Silent Film

Calley Gresham

Greg and Chase, and also Snow White

Resistance and Rebellion

Room 191

Facilitator: Dr. Rick Gooding

Christopher Owen

Resistance is Fertile: Female Sexuality as Resistance in Two Young Adult Dystopian Trilogies

Stephanie Dror

Between Utopian Child and Dystopian Adult: The Rebellion of the “Young Adult”

Shauntay Grant

Proof

Closing Remarks

4:00 - 4:30 P.M.

Presentation of *Best Proposal Awards* and door prizes

The Planning Committee

Co-Chairs

Nafiza Azad (MACL)
Stephanie Dror (MACL)
Christopher Owen (MACL)

Program Chairs

Kathleen Forrester (MACL)
Matthew Root (MLIS)

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- ~ The University of British Columbia's
 - English Department
 - Language Literacy and Education Department
 - Creative Writing Program
 - School of Library, Archival and Information Studies
 - Library and Archival Studies Student Association
- ~ Vancouver Children's Literature Roundtable
- ~ Book Warehouse

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- ~ Faculty liaisons:
 - Dr. Eric Meyers
 - Professor Judi Saltman (MACL Program Chair)
- ~ Panel facilitators
 - Dr. Gisele Baxter
 - Dr. Margot Filipenko
 - Dr. Rick Gooding
 - Dr. Eric Meyers
 - Professor Judi Saltman
 - Dr. Kathie Shoemaker
 - Professor Rhea Tregebov
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- ~ Conference volunteers:
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