

**Charlotte S. Huck Children’s Literature Festival**  
**Schedule (subject to alteration)**  
**University of Redlands, Orton Center**  
**March 6 & 7, 2026**



Charlotte S. Huck  
 Children's Literature Festival

FRIDAY	TITLE	SPEAKER
All Day	Book Market Open	
8:00-8:45	Registration	
	<b>PLENARY SESSION</b>	
8:50-9:00	Welcome and Introductions	
9:00-10:00	Friday Opening Speaker The Delicacy of Dreams and the Power of Poetry	<b>Nikki Grimes</b>
10:15-11:15	<b>BREAKOUT SESSIONS</b>	
1	Stanners’ Students Meet Jason Chin	<b>Jason Chin</b> and Jeff Stanners with students
2	Do We Really Need Diverse Books?	<b>Lisa Yee</b>
3	How I Got My Agent: One Person’s Journey	Kimberly A. Gordon Biddle
4	Walking Toward Literacy: Partnering Schools and Public Libraries through Field Trips	Kelly Andreen
5	Keep a Poem in Your Pocket	Jonda McNair
6	My Father’s Dragon	Lisa Von Drasek
11:30-12:30	<b>BREAKOUT SESSIONS</b>	
7	Illustrating a Narrative Story vs. a Lyrical Story	<b>Loren Long</b>
8	Stories That Stick: Using Children’s Books to Reach Students with Learning Differences	Amanda Lepore
9	Tears of Joy	Nini Le
10	Poetry for the Very Young	Lee Wardlaw
11	A Dozen of the Best Jewish Picture Books Published in the Last Two Years	Lisa Silverman
12	Decolonizing Your Bookshelves	Angela Shante

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	<b>PLENARY SESSION</b>	
12:45-1:30	LUNCH: Huck Award	
1:30-2:30	Luncheon Speaker: Look, Wonder, Tell: Picture Books About Art and Science	<b>Jason Chin</b>
2:45-3:45	<b>BREAKOUT SESSIONS</b>	
13	Stronger Than: The Importance of Intersectionality in Children's Literature	<b>Nikki Grimes</b> Stacy Wells
14	Do We Really Need Diverse Books?	<b>Lisa Yee</b>
15	Empowering Children to Lead Through Literary Immersion.	Jahnan Barak
16	Climate Optimism in Picture Books: Inspiring the Next Generation to be Active Members of the Community	Josh Oaktree Sandra Martinez Roe Adalgisa Nico
17	Soup to Nuts: How to Host an Author at Your School	Elisabeth Antos
18	Past, Present, and Future of Rhyme in Children’s books	Nora Ericson
4:00-5:30	Book Signing Substantial hors d’oeuvre	
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>SPEAKER</b>
8:00-8:45	Registration & Book Signing	
All Day	Book Market Open	
	<b>PLENARY SESSION</b>	
8:50-9:00	Welcome Introductions	

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9:00-10:00	Saturday Opening Speaker: Where Does a Story Start?	<b>Lisa Yee</b>
10:15-11:15	<b>BREAKOUT SESSIONS</b>	
19	Illustrating a Narrative Story vs. a Lyrical Story	<b>Loren Long</b>
20	A Poem is a Story Inside-out: The Secret of Novels in Verse	<b>Nikki Grimes</b> and Kristine O’Connell George
21	Celebrating Global Connections: International Picture Books for Everyone	Nancy Brashear, Nilsa Thosros, Ivy Yee-Sakamoto
22	Books and Empowering Strategies Beginning Readers Will Love	Rozanne Williams
23	Books for Young Naturalists	Colleen Paeff
11:30-12:30	<b>BREAKOUT SESSIONS</b>	
24	Let’s Get Creative	<b>Jason Chin</b>
25	The Kerlan Collection of Children’s Literature: Digital Resources Available for Everyone	Lisa Von Drasek
26	Effective Interventions for Reluctant Writers	Betsy Newmeyer
27	From Idea to Reality: Plan Your Path to Independently Publishing Your Story	Josh Oaktree Sandra Martinez Roe Adalgisa Nico
28	Silent Reading Club: 2025 Children’s Literature by Southern California Creators	Annalisa Engh
	<b>PLENARY SESSION</b>	
12:45-1:45	Lunch and Raffle	
1:45-2:45	Closing Speaker: Life Making Art, Telling Stories, and Riding the Yellow Bus	<b>Loren Long</b>

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