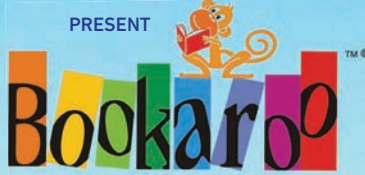


La Petite Fleur Schools

PRESENT



Festival of Children's Literature



To celebrate 30 years of service to the child
First time in Sri Lanka!

Join La Petite Fleur and Bookaroo for a weekend
where books come alive

21 Speakers
5 Countries
50 Sessions



Schedule: May 10, 2024: 9am-2.30pm & May 11, 2024: 10am-3.30pm

Venue: BMICH, Kamatha, Colombo

Ages: 4 to 14

Entry to Bookaroo sessions is free on first-come-first-seated basis
www.eurekakidsclub.com info@bookaroo.in www.lpfschools.com

Bringing children and books together since 2008



bookaroo!fest

Illustration by Anupam Arunachalam



Presenting Sponsor



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Festival Bookstore



A special thank you to all the parents who donated so generously and the children of LPF schools who actively worked on collecting for the festival and its cause of spreading the joy of reading.



Dear friend,

It has been Bookaroo's dream to venture out to newer shores whenever the opportunity presented itself. Even so, there was a dreamlike quality to the conversation when our good friend Adityavikram More first floated the idea of Bookaroo in Sri Lanka, eight years ago. However, time went by and we forgot about it.

Aditya did not. Last year, memories of that unfinished conversation re-surfaced when he called us to know if we would like to bring India's first children's literature festival to the island nation. There was only one answer to that.

Enter Bernadine Anderson, the feisty founder of La Petite Fleur (LPF) Schools, fondly referred to as Aunty Bernie by all those who have passed through the portals of the schools. It was a meeting of minds when team Bookaroo met team LPF. And here we are, celebrating Bookaroo's 16th year and LPF's 32nd.

A treat awaits as you unfold this brochure. Enter the exciting world of books and stories, brought to you by authors, illustrators and storytellers from South Korea, Germany, India and Sri Lanka.

Choose your sessions (all of which are curated and colour-coded by age) and walk right in for a weekend that you will remember. Still need some help? Just talk to any of our young volunteers and they will point you to the right direction.



Obata Suba Dawasak!



Scan the QR code to find out what we do through the year

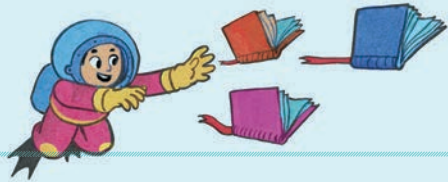


Swati *Venkatesh*
Swati and Venkatesh
Festival Directors

Colour Codes For Ages:



Face-to-Face



Alicia Dongjoo Bang, Seoul, South Korea

A storyteller, educator, and festival director from South Korea, Alicia shares Korean folktales worldwide and in local libraries and bookstores. As president of the Korea International Storytellers' Association she nurtures storytelling globally.



Arefa Tehsin, Rajagiriya

Arefa grew up treading jungles with her naturalist father. She was often found trying to catch a snake or spin a yarn. Ex-Hon. Wildlife Warden, Udaipur, she's the author of 19 books and a columnist.



Ashok Rajagopalan, Chennai, India

Ashok loves to tell stories and draw pictures that make people, especially little people, laugh. He loves reading, talking, laughing and walking in the rain and lives in a green, quiet part of Chennai with his noisy family.



Canato Jimo, Bengaluru, India

Art director Canato, who comes from Nagaland, loves to watch picture books come alive. He moonlights as a musician, loves to guzzle tea and pop bubble wraps, and is a recovering stationery addict.

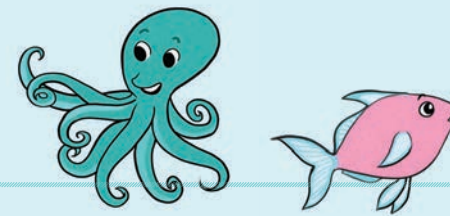


Champa Saha, Bengaluru, India

Champa's role as teacher, special educator and counsellor gives her the opportunity to be in the world that she loves the most – that of stories. She loves stories, children and dogs, not necessarily in that order!



Face-to-Face



Chantal-Fleur Sandjon, Berlin, Germany

Chantal-Fleur is an Afro-German author. She writes her first drafts long-hand and dances a lot at her desk. Her YA novel *The Sun, So Bright and Black* was, among other things, awarded the German Youth Literature Prize.

Deepa Balsavar, Mumbai, India

Deepa loves animals, children, books and printmaking. She is usually found with ink on her hands, or with her nose in a book, her animals curled up beside her. Deepa also writes and illustrates children's books.



Irushi Tennekoon, Rajagiriya

Irushi is a picture book artist and animator based in Colombo. Through her work she explores extraordinary stories about everyday people and places.



Professor J. B. Disanayaka, Colombo

Despite a long list of impressive titles (*Deshamanya*, *Sahitya Ratna*, *Deshanetru*), professor Disanayaka retains a charming personality and a great sense of humour. His retelling of Lankan folktales is a gift to the country's children.



Janaki Galappatti, Colombo

Janaki has enjoyed creating stories as a child, a parent, a scientist, a teacher and a writer. Having worked at early Bookarooms in Delhi, she looks forward to joining Bookaroo in her hometown.



Face-to-Face



Lanka Perera and Udeshika Perera, Colombo
Lanka has been an advisor to primary schools in Sri Lanka for over 40 years. Later, she set up a foundation to promote creative writing by schoolchildren (and adults) and conducts workshops across the country. Udeshika has worked as an advisor to pre-schools for over 30 years. Together with Lanka, she has participated in conducting creative writing workshops for schoolchildren.



Lavanya Karthik, Mumbai, India
Writer, illustrator, daydreamer and nap-taker, Lavanya's books have won a few awards, been translated into many languages and travelled the world. She can be found wandering through the by-lanes of Mumbai, looking for her next story.



Lavanya Prasad, Bengaluru, India
Electrical-engineer-turned-professional-storyteller, Lavanya, believes that she makes better and lasting connections through stories rather than electrical wires. Blending music, movement, folklore and mythology, she continues to enthral people across all ages through her organization, Tale'scope.



Nadishka Aloysius, Colombo
Nadishka is a teacher, stage actor, and award-winning author who is a firm believer that #representationmatters. She writes for children and adults, conducts creative writing workshops and visits schools to celebrate Sri Lankan culture and wildlife.



Face-to-Face



Nina Sabnani, Chennai, India
Nina is an artist and storyteller who uses film, illustration and writing to tell her stories. She is the recipient of the BLBA award for Illustration from Tata Trusts. Currently she lives in Chennai.



Priya Kuriyan, Bengaluru, India
An illustrator, picture book and comics maker, Priya lives and works in the city of Bangalore and in her spare time likes to make caricatures of the city's residents.



Rukshani Weerasooriya Wijemanne, Colombo
With a background in law, Rukshani has always enjoyed words. She loves learning them, saying them, reading them, writing them, playing with them, making them rhyme, and sometimes even making them up!



Savio Mascarenhas, Mumbai, India
Growing up with a galaxy of characters from Tinkle and Amar Chitra Katha, Savio chose to live in this Neverland. The group art director, Amar Chitra Katha, is a TEDx speaker on the use of visuals in learning.



Shehan Karunatilaka, Colombo
The winner of multiple global awards, Shehan writes about forgotten cricketers, war photographers, chatty ghosts, self-driving cars and time travellers. His stories are absurd and mostly true.



Shenuka Corea, Colombo
Shenuka is an illustrator, comic artist, animator and cat enthusiast. She loves telling stories about nature, monsters and the magic. An MFA student at SVAs Visual Narrative Program she is working on a graphic novel.



Katha Gasa



09:00 - 09:30

Arty Treat

Alicia Dongjoo Bang

What if you could taste food - or explore art - through stories? Curious? Wait and see what comes out of Alicia's bag.

All Ages

09:30 - 10:00

Count 1, 2, 3. Sing Do, Re, Mi.

Canato Jimo

Let's start at the very beginning. A clap, a stomp, a wave. Come learn a tune and dance to the beat.

All Ages

10:30 - 11:00

In the Mighty Jungle

Lavanya Prasad

Someone is lost in the jungle and needs help. If you love playing detective and solving puzzles join Lavanya as she weaves a hilarious, thrilling tale full of music and movement.

Age 4-6

11:00 - 11:30

Hold on Tight...

Nadishka Aloysius

...and explore the streets of Colombo with a Little Red Tuk Tuk who discovers that he is not too small to make a difference. (In Sinhala and English)

Age 4-6

12:00 - 12:30

Of Dancing Hands and Curious Questions

Lavanya Karthik

Author Lavanya Karthik takes you on a fun-filled adventure into the world of her books. Meet Cyrus, a boy who kept asking 'Why!' And Adil, with his dancing hands. (In Tamil and English)

Age 6-8

12:30 - 13:00

A Song that Saved a Village

Lavanya Prasad

Rassaiya will go to any length to help his wife Rakkamma learn to sing. Be prepared to ROFL, sing and dance. (In Tamil and English)

Age 6-8

13:30 - 14:00

Fabulous Folktales

Professor J.B. Disanayaka

From kings to monks and peasants, the good professor has a tale tucked away for every occasion. (In Sinhala and English)

Age 8-10

14:00 - 14:30

What on Earth is a Haegum?

Alicia Dongjoo Bang

Imagine a treasure trove of music from a country far, far away. Discover Korea's musical instruments. What's more, you get to learn a few Korean folk songs too!

Age 8-10

Don't forget to buy your favourite books from the festival bookstore, Goodreads, and have them signed at the book signing area.

Studio



09:00 - 10:00

A Thought for the Planet

Savio Mascarenhas

Create your own fantastical beast - cute or scary - using air, water, wind or fire. Do they have a message for the universe?

Age 12-14

10:30 - 11:30

Let the Pictures Speak!

Lavanya Karthik

Join author-illustrator Lavanya Karthik on a zany adventure into the craft of graphic novels. Learn the nuts and bolts of making one, and get started on your own!

Age 12-14

12:00 - 13:00

Nova's Friend

Chantal-Fleur Sandjon

Supported by Goethe Institut Nova has survived so much. Now she gets the chance to start all over again. Will she be able to embrace it? Find out in this poetic reading and performance by Chantal-Fleur Sandjon.

Age 12-14

13:30 - 14:30

Nature's Great Mysteries

Arefa Tehsin

Do tigers drink blood? Does the 'flying snake' fly? Were the 'Elephant Bird' or 'Roc' eggs that Sindbad the sailor saw a myth or reality? Let's get to the bottom of some of the mysteries of nature!

Age 8-10

Auditorium



09:00 - 10:00

Gulgul Anda Gakasam!

Ashok Rajagopalan

Shall we go planet hopping with Gulgul? Want to know how your name will be written in the future? Join in. (In Tamil and English)

Age 8-10

10:30 - 11:30

In Which Box Do I Go?

Janaki Galappatti

Revati is confused. Can you help her figure out where she belongs? And what about you?

Age 8-10

12:00 - 13:00

The Serpent Hunters in Your Backyard

Arefa Tehsin

Who is the venomous 100-legged in your bathroom? Who lives in your kitchen but can survive a nuclear bomb attack? Whose home is it - yours or theirs? Wildlife isn't confined to forests. Check out the backyard with Arefa.

Age 10-12

13:30 - 14:30

The Language of the Body

Champa Saha

Do you think we have to talk to make ourselves understood? Not always. Explore the many exciting possibilities in this theatre workshop! (Limited to 50)

Age 10-12

NO LITTER
ONLY LITERATURE

Crafty Corner

Limited to 50



09:00 - 10:00

Weaving Stories

Nina Sabnani

Create visual stories using scraps of cloth and other odds and ends. Stories you have heard or read and want to give a form.

Age
10-12

10:30 - 11:30

Happy, Sad, Angry, Mad!

Priya Kuriyan

How do you know when a character in a story is Happy, Sad, Angry or just Confused? Come, join a drawing session where you learn useful tips on how to give expressions to your cartoon characters.

Age
6-8

12:00 - 13:00

Freshly Baked

Rukshani Weerasooriya Wijemanne

If you're hungry for fun, come listen to a story and play while creating your own choon paan!

Age
4-6

13:30 - 14:30

Fabric Tales

Nina Sabnani

Create visual stories using scraps of cloth and other odds and ends. Stories you have heard or read and want to give a form.

Age
12-14

Doodle Wall

Limited to 50



09:00 - 10:00

Yum Yum Wall

Priya Kuriyan

Imagine a feast with your favourite foods! Noodles, pasta, kiribath, ambul thiyal or desserts, cakes and icecreams! Let's together draw up a menu of mouth-watering, delectable delights!

Age
8-10

10:30 - 11:30

Crazy Comics

Shenuka Corea

Want to learn how people tell stories in little boxes and word balloons? Join Shenuka as she gives you fun prompts to write text, create images and stitch them together in unexpected ways.

Age
10-12

12:00 - 13:00

Topsy-Turvy

Savio Mascarenhas

Do you see shapes in clouds? Does a crack in the wall look like a face to you? Come, discover how our eyes can play tricks and reveal wonders in the simplest things.

Age
8-10

13:30 - 14:30

What Makes You a Superhero?

Irushi Tennekoon

What makes you awesome? Is it your kindness? Creativity? Love for the planet? Or something else? Let's have your ideas on the wall.

Age
10-12

Don't forget to buy your favourite books from the festival bookstore, Goodreads, and have them signed at the book signing area.



Friday and Saturday

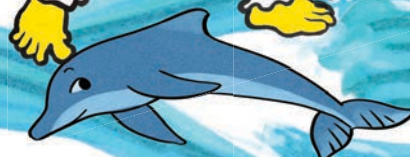
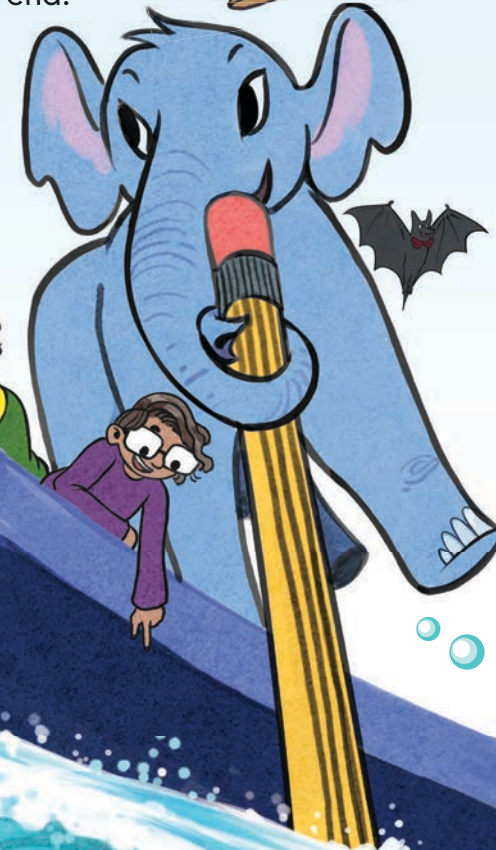
ALL DAY, ALL AGES

ONGOING ACTIVITY

C is for Colombo

Deepa Balsavar

Come and have fun helping to create a special alphabet scroll to celebrate Colombo. B is for Bookaroo. C is for Cricket. H is for Hoppers. T is for Tea. Keep adding to the list and see how the scroll shapes up in the end.



Katha Gasa



10:00 - 10:30

Funny Furry Stories

Champa Saha

Our furry friends can be very naughty at times! First they get into trouble and then they want us to save them. Come, let's hear about one such really naughty furry kid!



10:30 - 11:00

Padaar, Thadaar!

Ashok Rajagopalan

Be ready for some seriously silly sounds as you join Gajapati Kulapati and Ashok in this session. (In Tamil)



11:30 - 12:00

Get, Set, Go!

Alicia Dongjoo Bang

Are you ready to play some traditional Korean games? Jump in.



12:00 - 12:30

Legends and Lore

Lanka Perera and Udeshika Perera

So you think you know all the folktales of Sri Lanka? Think again. (In Sinhala)



13:00 - 13:30

Whodunnit?

Champa Saha

Mysterious things are happening in the Varma household! Things are missing, things are turning up in funny places...and nobody knows who's doing it! Come, let's solve this interesting mystery!



13:30 - 14:00

Storytime with Shehan

Shehan Karunatilaka

Stories with many twists and turns. Some will make you laugh while others will make you think.



14:30 - 15:00

Who is that Person?

Alicia Dongjoo Bang and Champa Saha

Is there a favourite person in your life you would give all your love to?



15:00 - 15:30

Find your Friend

Canato Jimo

The lights are out and it's dark. How do you look for your friend?



Studio



10:00 - 11:00

School Projects, and Fun?

Nadishka Aloysius

Join award-winning author Nadishka Aloysius as she shares her endearing and humorous picture book, *Ayash Grows a Family Tree*, about a little boy and his loving grandmother.



11:30 - 12:30

The Neighbourhood Hero

Rukshani Weerasooriya Wijemanne

Who is a hero? What makes him one? Join Rukshani to know more.



13:00 - 14:00

Scientific Secrets of a Fruit Salad

Janaki Galappatti

Would you like to grow your own fruit salad? Join Amal and Lihini in a Green adventure.



14:30 - 15:30

Into the Dark Wild

Arefa Tehsin

Follow in the footsteps of renowned naturalist Raza H Tehsin, deep into the wilderness in the dead of night and hear the sounds carried by the wind. Are those anklet bells tinkling? Is that chattering laughter?



Auditorium



10:00 - 11:00

Villu Paatu

Lavanya Prasad

Prose, poetry, theatre and the bow as musical instruments. An engaging folk storytelling as an art form. You will go back home in awe singing the story. Join Lavanya and discover the Villu Paatu style. (In Tamil and English)



11:30 - 12:30

On Writing

Shehan Karunatilaka

So you want to be a writer? Don't know where to start? This is a good place and now is a good time.



13:00 - 14:00

The Real Jetsetters

Arefa Tehsin

Some animals that travel the world with their wings and fins and feet can put our greatest travellers to shame. Want to know more about such creatures? Join in.



14:30 - 15:30

Nova's Friend

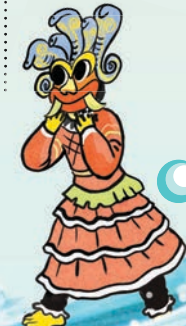
Chantal-Fleur Sandjon

Supported by Goethe Institut Nova has survived so much. Now she gets the chance to start all over again. Will she be able to embrace it? Find out in this poetic reading and performance by Chantal-Fleur Sandjon.



Don't forget to buy your favourite books from the festival bookstore, Goodreads, and have them signed at the book signing area.

NO LITTER ONLY LITERATURE



Crafty Corner

Limited to 35



Doodle Wall

Limited to 50



10:00 - 11:00

Things that Paper Can Do

Age 8-10

Nina Sabnani
Turn paper into books by cutting, folding and gluing. Join Nina to make your own tunnel book theatre or an accordion book.

11:30 - 12:30

Achoo! ACHOO! AACHOOO!!

Age 4-6

Deepa Balsavar
Who has the loudest sneeze - and the coolest mask - in the jungle?

13:00 - 14:00

Paper Caper

Age 10-12

Priya Kuriyan
Let's make some fun animal portraits with paper cut-outs!

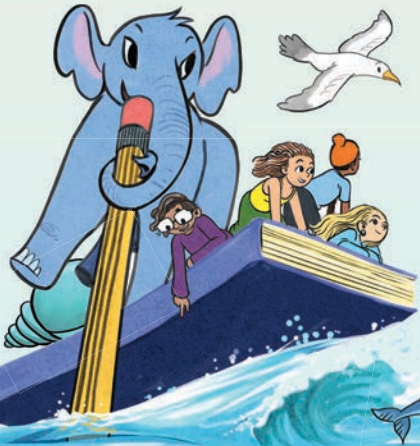


14:30 - 15:30

Flying Owls and Twirly Gigs!

Age 8-10

Deepa Balsavar
Birdy tricks and joyful sticks! Let's make toys that jump and flap. Endless joy and smiles all around.



10:00 - 11:00

Let's Grow a Forest! Canato Jimo

Age 6-8

Trunk by trunk, branch by branch, leaf by leaf. Let's make a tree that's tall, that's huge, And, one by one, let it grow into a forest.

11:30 - 12:30

Noodle Doodle Flying Poodle!

Age 8-10

Lavanya Karthik
Imagine a world where dogs could fly and birds could swim! Join author-illustrator Lavanya Karthik on a fun-filled journey into the fantastic!

13:00 - 14:00

Writing Pictures!

Age 6-8

Ashok Rajagopalan
Fill the Doodle Wall with pictures drawn simply by using letters, numbers, dots and lines. Can you?



14:30 - 15:30

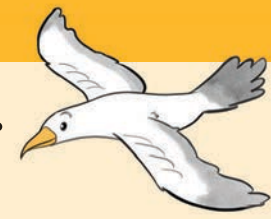
Battle of the Brushes Savio Mascarenhas and Shenuka Corea

All Ages

Two artists... one story... It's a showdown between two illustrators drawing and sketching for their lives as an unknown story is read out to them.



Festival Notes for Myself



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Don't forget to buy your favourite books from the festival bookstore, Goodreads, and have them signed at the book signing area.



ABOUT BOOKAROO



Committed to spread the joy of reading, Bookaroo Trust works with writers, illustrators, storytellers, arts councils, embassies, publishers and schools to bring good literature to children. The festival has completed 44 editions in 15 years in 16 cities.



ABOUT LPF

Founded by Bernie Anderson in 1993, La Petite Fleur (LPF) Schools offer an exemplary educational journey for children. LPF also spearheads the Bridge2Peace program, an outreach arm that extends the school's ethos of compassion and excellence to the most impoverished areas of Sri Lanka. With a curriculum rooted in life's fundamental principles, LPF nurtures students into independent, confident, and compassionate learners.

