

**Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators - Hawaii
Annual Conference
Saturday, February 19, 2011 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Ala Moana Hotel, Ilima Room**

Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned pro, you'll benefit from this banner program. Polish your skills and hone your talents as you plunge into the world of children's books!

Featured speakers:

- * Reka Simonsen: executive editor, Harcourt Children's Books
- * John H. Ritter: award-winning author
- * Michael Furuya: award-winning illustrator

Program:

8:30-9:00 a.m.	Registration/Welcome/Announcements
9:00-10:00 a.m.	Reka Simonsen—A Primer on Queries and Synopses
10:00-10:45 a.m.	Panel: How to Make Your Website Work for You (even in you don't have one yet...) John Ritter, Tammy Yee, Sue Wyshynski and Elizabeth Oh Moderated by Sue Cowing
10:45-11:00 a.m.	Break
11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	First Pages/First Look: Reka, John, Michael
12:15-1:45 p.m.	Lunch
2:00-3:30 p.m.	Craft Breakouts (choose one): A – John Ritter: Is Your Issue Showing? B – Michael Furuya: From Page to Stage and Beyond
3:30-4:00 p.m.	Q&A/Closing

PLUS an optional fiction workshop with John Ritter on Friday, February 18, that promises to be exciting and learning-packed. See last pages for information and registration.

Registration deadlines:

***January 18: conference and manuscript critique**

***February 11: conference alone or with workshop or portfolio critique**

*Registration after February 11: \$100 for members, \$130 for non-members; meal availability will be at the discretion of the Ala Moana Hotel.

GENERALSESSIONS

Reka Simonsen—A Primer on Queries and Synopses

You only get one chance to make a good first impression. Reka will share how authors can perfect their queries and synopses and illustrators can choose artwork that will increase the odds of getting that all-important second look.

First Pages/First Look Critiques—Reka Simonsen and John Ritter

A great first page is a must to gain the attention of an editor or agent awash in manuscripts. Our guests will share their reactions to first pages and postcards/illustrations submitted anonymously by participants. No advance sign-up needed, just bring one first page and/or one postcard or illustration to the conference; they'll be collected at registration.

To submit: first page should be double-spaced, 12-pt. type, one-inch margins. Title okay but no name. Note whether a picture book, middle grade or young adult fiction, or nonfiction.

No extra cost. Pages and postcards/illustrations are selected at random and no particular page or postcard/illustration can be guaranteed to be critiqued during the session.

How to Make Your Website Work for You (even if you don't have one yet)—Panel

Panelists John Ritter, Tammy Yee, Sue Wyshynski and Elizabeth Oh will discuss their website experiences—do's and don'ts, what they'd do differently if they knew then what they know now, and what it takes to make a website worthwhile. Audience participation welcome. Moderated by Sue Cowing.

BREAK-OUT SESSIONS

A: John Ritter—Is Your Issue Showing?

Can we explore important cultural or political themes in our books without writing yet another "problem novel" or, worse, sacrificing character and story? In his so-called "baseball novels," John Ritter successfully sneaks in issues under the radar, writing compelling stories that also get readers thinking about sides of questions they might never have considered. In this session, he'll discuss the whys and especially the hows of this subterranean way of writing, and how to know when you've gone too far.

B: Michael Furuya—From Page to "Stage" and Beyond

Writers often adapt their books to stage and screen and other media, and illustrators can also think outside the book. In this informal session, Michael will share his experiences in theater and book production and will help illustrators consider other possibilities for their work.

OPTIONAL MANUSCRIPT CRITIQUE

For critique, your registration form and manuscript must be postmarked by January 18, 2011.

Critiques will be done by Reka Simonsen, John Ritter or a Hawaii children's writing professional at assigned times on conference day. To submit a manuscript for critique, follow these guidelines:

*Format: double-spaced, 12-pt. type, one-inch margins, title/page number on all pages.

*Picture books: six-page maximum. Novels: ten pages plus one-page summary.

*No folders, binders, cardboard, plastic sheets. No artwork except for author/illustrators submitting story with dummy.

Fee (sign up on registration form, include with registration fee):

Manuscript only: Members: \$30 each Non-members: \$35 each

Manuscript/dummy (author/illustrator): Members: \$35 each Non-members: \$40 each

OPTIONAL PORTFOLIO CRITIQUE

Critiques of attendee portfolios will be done by Reka Simonsen or a Hawaii children's illustration professional at assigned times on conference day. See registration form for sign-up.

Fee: Members, \$30, Non-members: \$35

SPEAKER BIOS

Reka Simonsen is an executive editor at Harcourt Children's Books (part of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) where she edits everything from picture books to young adult novels. Before joining Harcourt, she was a senior editor at Henry Holt Books for Young Readers. Titles she has edited include *The Surrender Tree* by Margarita Engle; *Emmy and the Incredible Shrinking Rat* by Lynne Jonell; *Before John Was a Jazz Giant* by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Sean Qualls; *Hold Me Closer, Necromancer* by Lish McBride; *The Golden Dream of Carlo Chuchio* by Lloyd Alexander; *The Wager* by Donna Jo Napoli, *Glass Slipper*; *The Hollow Kingdom* trilogy by Clare Dunkle, and the *Melvin Beederman Superhero* series by Greg Trine. A native of northern California, Reka graduated from Hunter College with a dual degree in English and Art.

John H. Ritter has published five novels: *Choosing Up Sides*, *Under the Baseball Moon*, *Over the Wall*, *The Boy Who Saved Baseball*, and *The Desperado Who Stole Baseball*. Though sometimes called a "baseball novelist," he says he uses the game as a metaphor in his stories. His books have received starred reviews from *Kirkus*, *Publisher's Weekly*, *Booklist* and others, and he was awarded the Patterson Prize for Children's Literature in 2004. He has had a life-long fascination with baseball, writing, justice, the outdoors, and music—from rock to jazz to Native American flute—and all these things come through in his novels. John grew up in rural San Diego. He plays and composes on the guitar and currently enjoys working and playing in his new home on Kauai. www.johnhritter.com

Michael Furuya is a graduate of the Academy of Art College in San Francisco with a B.F.A. in Illustration. He had illustrated the award-winning children's books *How the B-52 Cockroach Learned to Fly* and *Wailana the Waterbug*, and local best-sellers *Beyond 'Ohi'a Valley: Adventures in a Hawaiian Rainforest*, *The Adventures of Cary and Harry: a Tale of Two Turtles*, and *The Christmas Gift of Aloha*. He was a cofounder with Lisa Matsumoto of Lehua, Inc., and 'Ohi'a Productions; his theater credits include puppet designer/constructor, puppeteer, scene painter, set designer/constructor, costume designer/constructor and technical director. His costume designs for *Happily Eva Afta* received a Po'okela Award.

Tammy Yee has written and/or illustrated more than two dozen children's books, including *A is for Aloha* and *The Tsunami Quilt*. She has won several awards, spoken at writers' conferences, and given numerous presentations at libraries and schools across the state. www.tammyyee.com

Sue Wyshynski toiled in the field of technology, having owned, operated and sold two virtual reality software companies, before getting into writing. She has also designed websites for herself and others. Her first YA novel, *Poser*, (Walker/Bloomsbury) was published in June. www.poserthebook.com

Elizabeth Oh lives, draws, and paints in East Honolulu with her ohana and with Juan, her loud parrot muse. Last summer she received one of three nationally-awarded scholarships to the 2010 SCBWI Conference in L.A., where she took part in Mac McCool's graphic novel workshop. www.elizabethpaints.com

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Registration

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Conference fee (includes lunch) SCBWI member: \$90 Non-member: \$120

Optional fees

Manuscript critique Manuscript with dummy (author/illustrators only)
 \$30 each – member \$40 each – member
 \$35 each – non-member \$45 each – non-member

Manuscripts for critique must be sent in with registration, postmarked by January 18.

Portfolio critique: Member: \$30 Non-member: \$35
(Bring portfolio to conference)

Total Fees _____

Break-out session choice: (see schedule for session descriptions)

- A – John Ritter: Is Your Issue Showing?
- B – Michael Furuya: From Page to "Stage" and Beyond

Lunch entrée choice:

- Sesame Chicken Breast, with choy sum and rice
- Chicken Caesar Wrap

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To register, send check payable to SCBWI-Hawaii (and manuscript, if applicable) to:
SCBWI-Hawaii
4348 Waiālae Ave., #493
Honolulu, HI 96816

Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators—Hawaii

**How to Give Your Stories Depth, Interest and Intrigue
with award-winning author/teacher John H. Ritter
(open to conference attendees)**

**Friday, February 18, 2011 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
lunch and schmooze from 12:30 – 2:30 p.m.
Paki Hale (3840 Paki Avenue—Kapiolani Park area)**

In this half-day workshop John Ritter will focus on several methods that can help writers of both novels and picture books sell their work: using the craft of storytelling to the story's advantage, using fringe characterization to gain depth and intrigue, and writing your way out of traps and trouble.

Prior to the workshop, participants will receive handouts that John will build on during the session. Attendees are asked to read at least some of his novels ahead of time. (All are available in paperback.) He suggests especially his first novel, *Choosing Up Sides*, saying "a writer's first novel is revealing and instructive [to writers] in a way none of the others are."

Learn about John at www.johnhritter.com

Registration

Name _____

Fee: ___ \$60 SCBWI member ___ \$85 non-member (space-available)

Optional lunch: ___ \$15 additional
(or BYO)

Enrollment is limited.

Registration deadline: February 11, 2011

To register, send check payable to SCBWI-Hawaii (combine with conference registration fee) to:

SCBWI-Hawaii
4348 Waialae Ave., #493
Honolulu, HI 96816