

Goldsmiths
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON



PROGRAMME

Care, Community, and Hope:
Hybrid Children's and YA Literature
Conference
2024

*First Floor
Margaret McMillan Building
Goldsmiths, University of London*

WELCOME

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to our hybrid conference on Care, Community and Hope in Children's and YA Literature. As we gather together, both in-person and virtually, we recognise the unique challenges and opportunities that this moment presents.

Our world is grappling with unprecedented upheaval and uncertainty, and our own university community is undergoing a difficult period of transformation and change. In times like these, it is more important than ever to find sources of inspiration, connection, and hope. We believe that children's and young adult literature has a vital role to play in this regard.

As our call for papers noted, these stories have a remarkable capacity to engage with complex realities, foster empathy and understanding, and envision alternative futures. They invite young readers to explore diverse perspectives, tackle pressing social and environmental issues, and imagine possibilities for positive change. In doing so, they cultivate the resilience, creativity, and sense of community that we so urgently need.

Over the course of this one-day conference, we will have the opportunity to explore these themes from a range of interdisciplinary perspectives. Through plenaries, panels, workshops, posters, and informal conversations, we will explore how children's and YA literature can serve as a source of care, community and hope.

- In-person and online attendees are invited to attend as many or as few sessions as they wish, using the room information and links provided in the schedule.
- Each session includes time for attendees to ask questions. These can be added to the chat throughout a presentation or asked 'live' during the Q&A.
- All of the work presented today must only be shared with correct and ethical citation.
- You are invited to promote the conference and speakers on social media, unless told not to for specific papers and their authors.

We thank you again for joining us and look forward to all that the conference has to offer.

Best wishes,
Professor Vicky Macleroy and Dr Emily Corbett

SCHEDULE

9.30 - 10.00 BST

Conference registration for in-person attendees only

First Floor of the Margaret McMillan Building

10.00 - 10.40 BST - Keynote

Professor Vicky Macleroy and Dr Yu-chiao Chung, with students from Herz-Jesu Institut, Italy

“Walking outside with haikus, dreams, sunshine and multilingual digital storytelling”

Plenary Room or [Join Online](#)

10.50 - 11.40 BST - Panel One

Alice Penfold: “A New Reading Pedagogy – Using YA Dystopian Fantasy to Explore Identity, Gender, and Emotions”

Tânia Cerqueira: “From Fiction to Reality: Igniting Social Change Through *The Hunger Games* Trilogy”

Room A or [Join Online](#)

Josh Lacey: “‘No one is too small to make a difference’ (Greta Thunberg): How can child protagonists in children’s books hope to change the world when power is held by adults?”

Room B or [Join Online](#)

Helen Jones: “When the sun comes out: Reimagining adolescent wellbeing through the graphic novel *Sunshine*”

Workshop
In-person Only
Plenary Room

11.50 - 12.30 BST - Plenary

Sita Brahmachari

Worry Angels, Kite Spirit, and When Shadows Fall

Plenary Room or [Join Online](#)

12.30 - 1.30 BST

Lunch and an opportunity to [browse our poster presentations](#) in-person or online.

1.30 - 2.10 BST - Plenary

Karen Coats

“The Will to Power Care?: Reframing Critical Practice”

Plenary Room or [Join Online](#)

2.15 - 3.05 BST - Panel Two

Sarah Layzell: “‘The everyday kind of things’: Healthcare in Mildred D. Taylor’s Logan Family Saga”

Gabriel Duckels: “Emergency Children’s Literature: Pandemic Picturebooks as Scriptive Things”

Room A or [Join Online](#)

Devika Mehr: “Activism, Literacy, and Community Engagement: Digital Books and Readers in India”

Fabiana Fazzi : “Promoting mental health literacy in ELT through *We Were Liars* by Emily Lockart”

Room B or [Join Online](#)

3.10 - 4.00 BST - Panel Three

Mary Jeanette Moran: “Both of Them Trapped...Both of Them Saviors’: Empathy and the Ethical Ideal in Laini Taylor’s *Strange the Dreamer* and *Muse of Nightmares*”

Wesley Jacques: “Adze, Heartman, Soucouyant, Oh My!: Black Diasporic Folk Horror as Post-Colonial Care Ethic”

Room A or [Join Online](#)

Justyna Deszcz-Tryhubczak, Giuliana Fenech, Farriba Schulz, Nicky Parker, and Sandy Calleja: “Children’s Books and Young People’s Voices in Post-migrant Societies”

Diana Muela and Javier Mazo: “Redefining norms: young adult literature as catalyst for critical reflection in young readers”

Room B or [Join Online](#)

4.05 - 4.55 BST - Panel Four

Jennifer MacDonald & Erin Spring: “‘Reading-with’ to Incite Hope through Place-based Connections”

Mette Lindahl-Wise: “A web of connection and compassion: reading *October, October* with a group of young teenage girls”

Room A or [Join Online](#)

Julia Hope & Rosemary Rich: “Pacifism for Children? Depictions of Twentieth-Century War Resistance in Recent UK Middle Grade and Young Adult Literature”

Sara Shahwan: “‘Spring Walks In’: Ecopoetry as a Practice of Radical Hope for Young Migrants”

Room B or [Join Online](#)

5.00 - 5.30 BST - Plenary

Amanda K. Allen

“Where the Wild Things Were: The Children’s Literature Network (CLN) and the Hidden Community behind Midcentury Children’s Literature”

Plenary Room or [Join Online](#)

5.30 - 6.00 BST - Plenary

Michael Rosen

“Writing about an ‘us’”

Plenary Room or [Join Online](#)

6.00 - 6.30 BST - Book Launch

Emily Corbett

Launch for *In Transition: Young Adult Literature and Transgender Representation*

Room A or [Join Online](#)

This conference is supported by the Strategic Research Fund and hosted by the Children’s and YA Literature Research Forum and the Centre for Language, Culture, and Learning.