



Workshops for CHILDREN'S WRITERS and ILLUSTRATORS

Writing from Nature

Blazing a Trail from Field Journal to Publication

Cosponsor: Roger Tory Peterson Institute of Natural History

April 18–22, 2007

- Leader:** Mark Baldwin
- Dates:** Arrive Wednesday, April 18, at 6 PM for dinner.
An optional tour of HIGHLIGHTS FOR CHILDREN® and Boyds Mills Press is available for early arrivals.
Depart Sunday, April 22 after breakfast
- Designed For:** Nature writers wanting to get out in the field, sharpen their skills in observation and writing, and receive expert critiques from publishing professionals.
- Workshop Fee:** \$895
- Limited To:** 15 participants

WORKSHOP FOCUS

This workshop includes:

- ❖ **Guided field trips with seasoned naturalists**
Immerse yourself in a pristine natural environment.
- ❖ **Instruction on keeping a field journal**
One of the foremost nature journaling teachers will show you how to use notes from the field to enliven your nature writing.
(Journals will be provided.)
- ❖ **Techniques to sharpen your powers of observation**
Learn how to see—then write about—nature with a trained eye.
- ❖ **Critique of your written work**
Get feedback from professionals on how to improve your writing.
(Participants are encouraged to send a complete manuscript or work-in-progress before the conference begins, preferably by March 30, 2007. Optional daily writing assignments may be completed in longhand.)
- ❖ **One-on-one opportunities with children's publishing experts**
Get the inside scoop on the world of children's publishing from editors and nature writers in the know.

WORKSHOP LEADER

Mark Baldwin

Principal author of the *Natural History Atlas to the Chautauqua-Allegheny Region*, Mark has devoted the past fourteen years to the development of nature education programs for the Roger Tory Peterson Institute of Natural History. As director of education, Mark works with teachers throughout the country to infuse nature studies into their curricula. He is president of the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy and vice president of the American Nature Study Society.

GUEST FACULTY

Andy Boyles (Workshop Facilitator)

A lifelong interest in science led Andy to his position as science editor at *Highlights for Children* ten years ago. From dinosaur fossils and rain forests of Madagascar to environments closer to home, Andy's encounters with the natural world and those who study it are recorded in countless interviews and articles. A member of the National Association of Science Writers, he has received numerous writing and editing awards.

Lindsay Barrett George

Lindsay was born in the West Indies and grew up in New Jersey. After her studies in the Midwest, where she majored in drawing and printmaking, Lindsay returned to the East Coast where she worked as a fine-art printer in New York City. A publishing position working as a designer in a children's book department led to her current passion of creating children's books. Her fourteenth book, *The Secret*, (Harper Collins), was published in February, 2005, and her latest, *In the Garden: Who's Been Here?* (HarperCollins) is due out in spring, 2006.

Paul Kowalczyk

Paul is a longtime forester with deep firsthand knowledge of the Pennsylvania woods. As manager of the forest surrounding home of the Founders, he directs efforts to maintain the forest as a healthy habitat for wildlife as well as a source of timber.

Ed Wesely

Ed is director of the Butterfly Barn Nature Center, which overlooks the Delaware River on the Pennsylvania shore of the Delaware River, where he rears and releases about 400 monarch butterflies each summer. Ed's environmental education background provides the foundation for his many outreach activities, including numerous publications, lectures, and guided field tours. He is currently developing a natural history Web site.

THE WORKSHOPS

Since 2000, the Highlights Foundation Workshops, now numbering eighteen or more a year, have grown not only in the variety of categories but also in the depth of the offerings.

The Foundation, a nonprofit organization, is dedicated to encouraging the careers of children's writers and illustrators by offering workshops and other types of support to talented individuals.

The workshops are designed for individuals with a passion for children's literature. Each workshop focuses on a single topic and lasts from three to seven days, with eight to fifteen participants. These intimate gatherings are led by dynamic, successful, and supportive authors and editors determined to help writers and illustrators meet their goals. Each faculty member shares his or her expertise, offers guidance, and provides one-on-one mentoring.

The Foundation strives to provide attendees with essential information in a collegial atmosphere that offers the possibility of enduring friendships and contacts.

LOCATION

All workshops are held at the home of the Founders of *Highlights for Children* in northeastern Pennsylvania. This landmark of children's literature is where, in 1946, Dr. Garry Cleveland Myers and Caroline Clark Myers assembled the first issue of the magazine in the living room of this traditional country home. Recently restored, the house retains the feeling of a simpler time. Surrounded by a 1,300-acre mixed-hardwood forest, the property is home to timid black bears, deer, and a variety of birds and other wildlife.

The workshop is located 2½ hours from New York City and approximately 45 minutes from the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport. Complimentary airport shuttle service is provided. Workshop participants stay in individual guest cabins, and sessions are held in the main house, where meals are enjoyed with other participants and the faculty. (Special dietary needs can be accommodated.) A tour of the Boyds Mills Press and *Highlights for Children* facilities is also part of each workshop.

APPLICATIONS

Applications will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis. Once you are notified of your acceptance, a deposit of \$200 is required, with the balance due prior to the beginning of the workshop. Tuition includes all workshop activities, materials, meals, and lodging. Payment plans are available.

GRADUATE CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

One to four semester units of graduate elective credit (for a one- to four-day seminar, respectively) are available through Chapman University College. There is an additional fee. Visit www.highlightsfoundation.org for complete details.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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