

Courses in Children's Book Illustration

ART 523: CHILDREN'S BOOK MEDIA (4)

Begin

Today's book publishing technology allows for huge variety in approaches to illustration. Students will be introduced to a range of historical and contemporary children's book media, and a few advanced techniques will be demonstrated to the class. Students will work on character development, composition and color design, with the aim of applying these in their medium of choice for a professional portfolio.

Prerequisites: ART 527 and ART 568.

ART 523S: STUDIO: CHILDREN'S BOOK MEDIA (2)

Begin

Studio time will place an emphasis on hands-on exposure to more advanced approaches to image making. Students will focus on their medium of choice and create three to four finished illustrations for a professional portfolio, as well as designing a professional postcard and business card showcasing their best work. *Prerequisites: ART 527S and ART 568S.*

ART 527: CREATING PICTURE BOOKS FOR CHILDREN (4)

Sanderson

The emphasis in this course will be on the importance of visual thinking in writing and illustrating for the picture book genre. Students will write three or four picture book stories of one to three pages each. Simple storyboards and/or mind-mapping will be utilized to help with the process of thinking about writing and revision. A number of the manuscripts will then be revised and polished. A 32-page book dummy will be created for one of the stories with the type placed on the page, along with sketches or art notes, with the emphasis on pacing of the story and for appropriate page turns.

ART 527S: STUDIO: CREATING PICTURE BOOKS FOR CHILDREN (2)

Sanderson

Studio time will place an emphasis on hands-on exposure to color theory and basic media skills for creating picture books for children. Both black-and-white and color media will be covered, such as pen and ink, watercolor, gouache, scratchboard, colored pencil, and an introduction to mixed media/digital techniques. Class time will include critique and discussion time.

ART 568: CHILDREN'S BOOK DRAWING FUNDAMENTALS (4)

Wolff

Drawing is the most important skill to develop in order to become a working children's book illustrator. This course will ground students in basic drawing skills as they first work on their powers of observation and the craft of drawing in light and shade. Through a variety of class exercises, the students will learn about form, value, texture, quality and styles of line, perspective, drawing architecture and interiors, drawing people, animals, nature, and landscapes. Drawing styles of a variety of published illustrators will be examined in detail.

ART 568S: STUDIO: CHILDREN'S BOOK DRAWING FUNDAMENTALS (2)

Wolff

Studio time will place an emphasis on hands-on exposure to basic and more advanced drawing techniques. Students will explore drawing in a variety of styles, using perspective, exaggeration, and learning how to develop their own "signature" style. Every class will include critique and discussion time.

ART 578: CHILDREN'S BOOK DESIGN (4)

Dulemba

This class will cover the theory and practice of 2-D design for children's book illustration, using both traditional and digital methods. The elements of successful design in a wide variety of published picture books will be examined. Students will build on the skills they have developed in the classes of Drawing and Creating Picture Books for Children in a variety of challenging exercises and assignments to solve problems of visual organization while considering the interplay of text and pictures. *Prerequisites: ART 527 and ART 568.*

ART 578S: STUDIO: CHILDREN'S BOOK DESIGN (2)

Dulemba

Studio time will place an emphasis on hands-on exposure to basic and more advanced approaches to 2-D design. Every class will include critique and discussion time, and students will be expected to participate in critiques in a constructive manner. Perry Nodelman's *Words About Pictures* will be required reading, and students will be asked to do an in-depth presentation on the design of a picture book of their

choice. *Prerequisites: ART 527S and ART 568S.*

Faculty

Mary Jane Begin, B.F.A. in Illustration, Rhode Island School of Design. An adjunct professor in the Illustration Department at the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD), she has taught there for 25 years and serves as the Internship and Professional Development Advisor. Her latest teaching venture includes on line video courses with Lynda.com: *Foundations of Color, Elements of Composition for Illustrators, Artist at Work* series and *Character Development and Design*, as well as *Color Fundamentals* and *Illustrating Characters* and *The Stories They Tell* with CreativeLive. She is an award-winning illustrator and author of picture books including *Little Mouse's Painting, A Mouse Told His Mother, The Sorcerer's Apprentice* and *Willow Buds*, tales inspired by *The Wind in the Willows*, a classic tale that she also illustrated. Her latest picture books are *My Little Pony: Under the Sparkling Sea* and *The Dragons on Dazzle Island*, published by Little Brown in collaboration with Hasbro. She lives and works in Rhode Island.

Elizabeth O. Dulemba, M.F.A. in Illustration, University of Edinburgh. She is an award-winning author/illustrator of many books including: *The 12 Days of Christmas in Georgia*; the bilingual Jack Tale adaptations *Paco and the Giant Chile Plant* and *Soap, soap, soap*; and one of the first children's book apps, *Lula's Brew*. Her first middle-grade novel, *A Bird On Water Street*, garnered her Georgia Author of the Year, Green Earth Book Award Honour, Georgia Children's Book Award Nominee, Academics' Choice Award Winner, Gold Mom's Choice Award Winner, Southern Independent Booksellers Association Okra Pick, National Book Festival Georgia Featured Title, and the Gold Moonbeam Children's Book Award Winner. Her Coloring Page Tuesdays have garnered over a million visits to her website annually and over 3,000 subscribers to her weekly newsletter featuring interviews with authors and illustrators, and her 2016 TEDX talk has had over 140,000 views. She currently resides in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Ruth Sanderson, program chair, Certificate in Children's Book Illustration. An author and illustrator, she is a graduate of the Paier College of Art. Among her many books for children are *The Enchanted Wood, Cinderella*, and *The Snow Princess*. Her book *The Golden Mare, the Firebird, and the Magic Ring* won the Texas Bluebonnet Award in 2003. She recently illustrated *The Golden Key*, a Victorian fairy tale by George MacDonald, with 47 scratchboard illustrations. Her original artwork from *The Twelve Dancing Princesses* is now in the permanent collection of the Norman Rockwell Museum. Her illustrations for *The Twelve Dancing Princesses* and *Papa Gatto* adorn our Web page and poster. She resides in Massachusetts.

Ashley Wolff, B.F.A., Rhode Island School of Design, is the author and/or illustrator of over 40 children's picture books including *Baby Beluga; Stella and Roy Go Camping; Me Baby, You Baby; Who Took the Cookies from the Cookie Jar?; Mama's Milk*, and the beloved *Miss Bindergarten* series. Her most recent books are *Baby Bear Sees Blue, Baby Bear Counts One*, and *Where Oh Where is Baby Bear?* Her books have won numerous state and national awards. She lives and works in Vermont.