

CBCA MAURICE SAXBY CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM 2020

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic situation in Victoria and the difficulties that would ensue trying to formulate a decent program for the mentorees of the 2020 Program, we have had to defer it to 2021. At this stage, it is difficult to put a date on it, but as soon as we have some concrete information, we will advise the winners, the membership and also the general Children's Literature public.

In the meantime, the 'mentees' have been in contact with each other via Zoom and are forming friendships and support for each other.

Meet the WINNERS:

TRACEY DEMBO



Tracey is a Perth based writer who is passionate about igniting children's imaginations and helping our future leaders to find their own voices.

"As a Director of Playgroup WA for over four years, I believe in the importance of play and have a strong interest in children's early learning and development. This perfectly aligns with my love of children's picture books and the role they play in that process".

Tracey earned her place in the Program with two picture book texts.

SHELLEY KNOLL-MILLER



Shelley is an illustrator who has recently started writing picture book texts with a view to becoming an author-illustrator. Her submission of three picture book texts gained her place in the Program.

As an illustrator she has had cartoons published in *The Age* and Leader Newspapers and several magazines. Shelley has also worked in Community Arts Projects and Performance Festivals as well as being included in several regional exhibitions.

Shelley is the mother of three children and lives in Cudjee in Regional Victoria.

HELEN BRADWELL



Helen is a member of Writers Victoria and the Australian Society of Authors and works regularly with two other writers to workshop their YA or children's fiction. She currently teaches English to VCE level at Suzanne Cory High School in Werribee. She also writes poetry and was recently short-listed for the ACU poetry prize.

Helen studied editing in the Professional Writing and Editing course at RMIT. During this time she edited two publications for writers working in very different fields (medical publishing and fiction).

Helen's submission to the Program was a YA manuscript for the 15+ age group — part fantasy, part contemporary love story and loosely based on the old Scottish ballad "Tam Lin".

LUCIE TOWERS



Lucie is a NSW-based illustrator whose unique submission letter came to us in graphic format. She loves picture books and Middle Grade fiction, and works in a bookshop in the children's department, where she also builds her skill in storytelling.

She is very keen to refine her illustration skills and further her career in the children's literature profession.

Lucie is a committee member of the NSW Branch of the CBCA and volunteers her services to various children's activities in her area.

The Committee of the MSCDP would like to publicly thank all the readers who assisted in the process of judging the 100 plus submissions to the project.

Christine Oughtred, Ann James, Lucinda Gifford, Fiona Walker, Helen Chapman, Pam Macintyre, Stella Lees, Margaret Kett, together with the Committee – Helen Chamberlin, Pamela Horsey, Katie Flannigan, Rebecca Green, Amanda Cooper, Suzanne Thwaites and Mark Wilson.

We look forward to an exciting program with the winners some time in 2021.

Helen Chamberlin/Pamela Horsey