

THE KERLAN COLLECTION

Children's Literature Research Collections

WINTER 2015 NEWSLETTER | CO-SPONSORED BY THE KERLAN FRIENDS AND THE CLRC



Kerlan Friends President Update



Greetings on Behalf of the Kerlan Friends Board!

So far this winter Minnesota has not had either the snow or sustained below zero temperatures that we have had in past years. But, I've been reminded that winter isn't over yet. No matter the weather, those of us who enjoy exploring the world of children's books and the creative process still find ways to curl up with good books and also visit the Kerlan Collection where materials donated by authors and illustrators are always available.

On January 13th, Curator Lisa Von Drasek invited those attending a special Tuesday program at the Minneapolis Woman's Club to visit the Kerlan Collection and delve into the treasure found in the underground caverns in Andersen Library. Lisa was such a hit that she was invited to return on Saturday, January 24 for the annual "baby shower" given to honor and raise funds for the Visiting Nurse Association. The audience learned about the importance of reading aloud to young children and experienced what it was like hear a story read by a pro.

John Coy, author of picture books, the "4 for 4" series, and young adult novels that are guaranteed to capture and hold the attention of readers—particularly boys—has decided to resign from the Kerlan Friends Board after over ten years of service. John has always been



John Coy reading aloud Vroomaloom Zoom at Barnes and Noble in Roseville.

Kerlan Friends President Update cont. on page 2



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Contents

Kerlan Friends President Update	1
From the Curator's Desk	3
Book Club Events	3
2015 Kerlan Award	4
2015 Chase Lecture	4
Chase a Good Book	5
Young Kerlan Reviewers	5
Recent Acquisitions	6
We Remember	7
Become a Kerlan Friend	8

2014-2015 Kerlan Friends Board Members

Nancy Caffoe	Mary Rockcastle
Nancy Carlson	Mary H. Schultz
Sarah Park Dahlen	Julie Schumacher
Carolyn Gwinn	Stephen Shaskan
Maythee Kantar	Jean Stevenson
Paris Kelvakis	Katie Weiblen
Lesa Kennedy	Andrew Carre
Verla Klassen	Marek Oziewicz
Brian Nerney	

The Children's Literature Research Collection's Kerlan Collection is an internationally recognized center of research in the field of children's literature. The Collection contains original materials, including manuscripts, artwork, galleys, and color proofs for more than 18,000 children's books. These materials represent eight decades of American children's books and selected titles published in other countries. The Kerlan Collection also includes more than 110,000 children's books.

The Winter 2015 newsletter is co-sponsored by the Kerlan Friends and the CLRC.

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Kerlan Friends President Update cont. from page 1

willing to lend a hand. His personal knowledge of children's book publishing has been helpful. He has also generously donated his papers to the Kerlan Collection, so you can explore his creative process. We will miss him at board meetings but look forward to reading the books he'll now have a bit more time to write. Thank you, John!

When you are viewing a play at the Children's Theatre of Minneapolis this winter and spring, please check out the Kerlan Collection display. Materials from the collection related to the plays are regularly displayed.

Please circle Saturday, April 18 on your calendars. That is when Sharon Creech, the 2015 recipient of the Kerlan Award will be at Andersen Library. Dr. Sarah Park Dahlen and the Kerlan Award Committee are planning a gala event.

If you have not renewed your membership, please do so and then consider braving the snowy streets to experience the warmth and excitement a visit to the Kerlan Collection offers. Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to seeing you at the Kerlan Award Ceremony.

Sincerely,
Jean Stevenson
President – Kerlan Friends Board



Please Welcome our assistant curator Caitlin Marineau. She came to us from Moscow, Idaho in the midst of the Polar Vortex.



Children's Theatre Company: We continue to provide exhibits related to children's literature.

From the Curator's Desk

The Children's Literature Research Collections has been the recipient of generous donations this season. We received finished works from the estates of Barbara Knutson, Jose Aruego, and Ruth Heller this fall. We are grateful to their families for donating the artwork that exquisitely presents the best of children's book making.

I have had the good fortune this fall to have studio visits in New York City with donors Ted and Betsy Lewin.

The Atlas Powder Company, in Brooklyn, New York is the artistic home of Brian Floca, John Bemelmans Maricano, Sophie Blackwell and Sergio Ruzzio. The day I visited Sergio and Sophie were there to show me around and riffle through their bookshelves and flat files.

It is with gratitude we thank Paul Zelinsky with his gift of time, knowledge and strength as he supervised the packing and shipping of the work of Ariane Dewey and Jose Aruego.



Sophie Blackall sent this watercolor portrait of Ivy and Bean home with the curator for the collection!



Paul Zelinsky packing the Aruego/Dewey collection



Full color double-page spread from Antarctic Antics by Judy Sierra, illustrated by Jose Aruego and Ariane Dewey

**Don't forget
Book Club events
around the
Twin Cities**

<http://clubbook.org>

Club Book is a free author series that is designed to bring great writers throughout the entire metro area and suburbs. It is funded through the Legacy Amendment and is coordinated by Library Strategies, which is part of the Friends of the St. Paul Public Library.

When I want to know the book happenings around town, I follow Laurie Hertzler from the *Star Tribune* @StribBooks.



Upcoming Events

Sharon Creech Wins the Kerlan Award

Saturday, April 18, 2015 at noon. Andersen Library, Room 120.



The 2015 Kerlan Award winner, Sharon Creech

On Saturday, April 18, the Kerlan Award Committee honors author Sharon Creech at the 2015 Annual Kerlan Award Ceremony. The Award is given in recognition of singular attainments in the creation of children's literature and in appreciation of the generous donation of unique resources to the Kerlan Collection for the study of children's literature.

Sharon Creech is the author of the Newbery Medal winner *Walk Two Moons*, the Carnegie Medal winner *Ruby Holler*, and the 2002 Claudia Lewis Award, Bank Street College of Education, winner *Love That Dog*. She and her husband live in Camden, Maine. You can visit her online at www.sharoncreech.com.

The luncheon cost is \$25 for non-Kerlan Friends, and \$20 for Friends. The award acceptance will take place after the lunch, at 1:00 p.m., and is open to the public. Children are welcome to attend. Further information and reservation information will be mailed at a later date.

For more information about the Kerlan Award lunch just send your contact information to ASC-CLRC@UMN.edu and we will send the reservation link when it is posted.

2015 Chase Lecture

April 22, 2015: 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Reception: 5:30-6:15 p.m.

Andersen Library, Room 120.

Jon Scieszka was the first National Ambassador for Young People's Literature, a program sponsored by the Library of Congress Center for the Book and the Children's Book Council. His zany, somewhat subversive sense of humor is evident in such best-sellers as *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales* and *The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs*. He also has a book series and website that encourages boys to read more called Guys Read. Scieszka's new book is *Guys Read: True Stories* (HarperCollins).



2015 Chase Lecture
Jon Scieszka

This annual event is free and open to the public, and is co-sponsored by the College of Education and Human Development, Department of Curriculum & Instruction

and the Children's Literature Research Collections/Kerlan Collection, University of Minnesota. Book sales courtesy of The Red Balloon Bookshop. Children are welcome.

To RSVP, send an email with the number of attendees to: ASC-CLRC@umn.edu.

2014-2015 First Fridays

The 2014-2015 First Friday season will explore the theme of power, a force that drives, changes, reforms, and challenges society.

Come and hear stories of how materials in Archives and Special Collections document hard questions, contested spaces, and transformational moments.

April 3, 2015, noon to 1:00 p.m.

Lisa Von Drasek, Curator Children's Literature Research Collections will speak on *Children's Literature: a case for empowerment*.



Spotlight on Books: Chase a Good Book! April 10-11, 2015

Spotlight on Books is a Minnesota-based conference for adults focused on youth literature.

<http://spotlightonbooks.weebly.com/registration.html>

Location: Chase on the Lake, Walker, Minnesota

Featured Speakers: Lisa Von Drasek, Avi, Helen Frost, Jennifer Bell

The Reading/Writing Connection Friday Workshop: 1:00-4:30 p.m.

Presenter **Lisa Von Drasek** is the Curator of the Children's Literature Research Collections at the University of Minnesota. Lisa's hands-on workshop will explore the reading/writing connection, as well as Minnesota authors and the writing community. She will introduce her writing box program and feature selected manuscripts from the Kerlan Collection.

Avi is part of a family of writers extending back into the 19th century. Winner of many awards, including the 2003 Newbery award for *Crispin: The Cross of Lead* (Hyperion), two Newbery Honors, two Horn Book awards, and an O'Dell award.

Helen Frost was born in Brookings, South Dakota, the fifth of ten children. Throughout her career, writing and teaching have been inter-woven threads. She has published poetry, children's books, anthologies, and a play, as well as a book about teaching writing.

Jennifer A. Bell is an illustrator whose work can be found on greeting cards, in magazines, and in multiple children's books. Her titles include *Too Shy for Show-and-Tell* by Beth Bracken, winner of the Eric Hoffer Grand Prize in 2012.



Introducing the Kerlan Young Reviewers!

Pratt Achievers After School Program at Pratt Community School

(the program is a collaboration between the school and East Side Neighborhood Services, Inc.).



Check out "Read This Book!"

A monthly video podcast at continuum.umn.edu/category/books/



Recent Acquisitions

Author **Carolyn Marsden**, known for her multicultural chapter books, added to her existing collection by donating typescripts, proofs, and correspondence for fourteen of her titles.

Prolific writer and donor **Donna Jo Napoli** sent the CLRC typescripts for her YA novels *Storm* and *Dark Shimmer*.



Anne Moss, wife of the late radio host **Lloyd Moss**, donated his manuscripts for the Caldecott Honor book *Zin! Zin! Zin! A Violin*.

Zin! Zin! Zin! A Violin
by Lloyd Moss

Minnesota author **Margi Preus** visited the CLRC in the fall and donated manuscripts for two of her novels, including the award-winning *Heart of a Samurai*.

Longtime donor **Judith Viorst** added her manuscript for the picture book *Lulu Walks the Dogs*.

Jean Ferris donated several boxes of manuscripts for her collection.

Massachusetts-based writer **Barbara O'Connor** donated manuscripts and other materials for nine of her titles, including *How to Steal a Dog*.

Illustrator **Sophie Blackall** donated sketches and watercolors to the Kerlan during Lisa's visit to her studio.



The Baby Tree by Sophie Blackall

Author and illustrator **Bruce Hale** sent manuscripts, sketches, and books for twenty-one different titles, including works from the Chet Gecko series.



The late **Barbara Knutson's** husband donated original artwork for three titles she illustrated, including *How the Guinea Fowl Got Her Spots*.

How the Guinea Fowl Got Her Spots by Barbara Knutson

Ruth Heller's estate donated artwork, color separations, and production materials for approximately twenty of her titles.

Ted and Betsy Lewin donated several shipments of illustrations for their already extensive collections within the Kerlan.



Heat Wave by Betsy Lewin



Paper Boy by Ted Lewin



We Remember

We mourn the loss of these children's authors and illustrators who passed in the fall of 2014

Norman Bridwell, 86 (December 12th), the creator of *Clifford*, *The Big Red Dog*. He wrote about 150 Clifford books that were translated into 13 languages and sold nearly 130 million copies.

R.A. Montgomery, 78 (November 9th), author of the famous children's book series *Choose Your Own Adventure*. In an interview with *RIF Reading Planet*, Montgomery stated the following, "I'd like to go around the world and encourage writers and illustrators to write their own 'Choose Your Own Adventure' books that reflect their country's history, cultures, and traditions."



Barbara Park, 66 (November 17th), author of Junie B. Jones children's stories, Park's books sold more than 55 million copies just in North America, according to Random House.



Zilpha Keatley Snyder, 87 (October 7th), author of the Newbery Honor awarded *Egypt Game* and *Headless Cupid*. She produced nearly 50 books of mystery and suspense.



Robert D. San Souci, 68 (December 19), who wrote the story for the Disney film "Mulan" and more than 100 books for young readers—many illustrated by Jerry Pinkney.



Our new intern **Paul Mostrom** comes to the CLRC from the Library and Information Science program at St. Catherine University. He will spend the next several months processing the Aruego/Dewey donation.





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