



Minnesota Center for Book Arts
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**AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED IN
CHILDREN'S BOOK ILLUSTRATION COMPETITION;
WORK ON DISPLAY AT MINNESOTA CENTER FOR BOOK ARTS**

Minnesota Center for Book Arts and the Minnesota chapter of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (MNSCBWI) are proud to announce the winning artists featured in MCBA's current exhibition *Reflections*:

Best in Show: **Shawn McCann** (Otsego, MN)
Best in Category, Collage and Mixed Media: **Anna King** (Minneapolis, MN)
Best in Category, Digital: **Chrysa Otto** (Minneapolis, MN)
Best in Category, Painting and Drawing: **Brianna Capra** (Menomonie, WI)
Honorable Mentions were awarded to **Barbara Björnson** (New Brighton, MN),
Nina Victor Crittenden (Deephaven, MN) and **Emmeline Hall** (Mendota Heights, MN).

Inspired by the work of five award-winning poets, over three dozen artists and illustrators submitted over 40 works for *Reflections*, on display through May 3 at MCBA. Winning works were selected by a jury of three acclaimed experts in the field: author/illustrator **David LaRochelle**, author **Brian Malloy** and illustrator **Christina Rodriguez**.

Reflections is the culmination of a year-long collaboration and series of competitions. In May 2008, a MNSCBWI poetry competition cultivated five winning poems from talented local writers **Ruth Berman**, **Krisanne A. Dattir**, **Bill Herring**, **Jane Thomas Nolan** and **Jeanie Watson**. Each work on display in *Reflections* is an interpretation of one of those winning poems. *Images of the winning artworks and text of the poems are available upon request.*

"*Reflections* holds that essential quality of merging word and image in a way that enlarges the meaning of both the image and the word," says Georgia A. Greeley, competition and exhibition coordinator. "This potent partnership is the element that draws artists and writers together around the world, and fuels much of what takes place on a daily basis in the work produced in, and teaching offered at, MCBA."

Also featured in *Reflections* is a rare behind-the-scenes look at the world of children's book publishing through process materials from the University of Minnesota's Kerlan Collection, one of the world's greatest children's literature research collections. Two additional exhibits in the Open Book building explore the critical collaborative interaction of word and image in artwork pairing poetry with typography, illustration and/or photography.

WHEN: *Reflections* will be on display **March 20 – May 3, 2009**.
Coordinated programming takes place throughout the month of April; see page 2.

WHERE: Minnesota Center for Book Arts, Star Tribune Foundation gallery
at Open Book, 1011 Washington Avenue South, First Floor, Minneapolis

GALLERY HOURS: Mondays – Saturdays: 10 am to 5 pm
Tuesdays open late: 10 am to 9 pm
Sundays: 12 noon to 4 pm

COORDINATED EXHIBITIONS AND BACKGROUNDS ON p. 2

ASSOCIATED PROGRAMMING:

Presentation: *An Introduction to the Kerlan Collection*

Tuesday, April 7; 7pm

With more than 100,000 children's books as well as original manuscripts, artwork, galleys, and color proofs for more than 12,000 children's books, the Kerlan Collection at the University of Minnesota is one of the largest children's literature research collections in the world. Join Kerlan librarian Marie Harvat for an introduction to this fascinating collection and take a peek at some of its holdings. **Free and open to the public; held at MCBA.**

Free Family Day: *BROADSIDES! Pairing Poems and Prints*

Saturday, April 11; drop in 10am-1pm

Bring out the writer and artist in your kids and create a fabulous "broadside" print. Write an original poem with instructors from The Loft Literary Center, or choose an old favorite. Then join teachers in MCBA's studios to make prints to complement your text, and create a poster to take home with you! **Free and open to all ages; held at MCBA.**

The Loft Festival of Children's & Young Adult Literature and Illustration

Sat-Sun, April 18-19; 10am-5pm

This year's festival will feature workshops, readings, presentations and appearances by Walker Books for Young People publisher Emily Easton, National Book Award-winning young adult novelist Pete Hautman, International Creative Management literary agent Tina Wexler and many more award-winning authors, illustrators, editors and creative directors! A complete schedule and registration information is available on The Loft Literary Center's website, www.loft.org.

Panel Discussion: *Interaction: Word and Image*

Tuesday, April 28; 7pm

Award-winning illustrator Lauren Stringer and Milkweed Editions managing editor Jim Cihlar discuss the process of book illustration and what drives the interaction between editor, illustrator and writer. **Free and open to the public; at MCBA.**

BACKGROUND: Minnesota Center for Book Arts

As the largest and most comprehensive center of its kind in the nation, Minnesota Center for Book Arts celebrates the book as a vibrant contemporary art form that takes many shapes. From the traditional crafts of papermaking, letterpress printing and hand bookbinding to experimental artmaking and self-publishing techniques, MCBA supports the limitless creative evolution of book arts through book arts workshops and programming adults, teens, youth, families and teachers.

Through the MCBA artist cooperative, members receive independent 24-hour access to our studios and a wide range of bookbinding, papermaking and printing equipment; the opportunity to share techniques, ideas, feedback and fellowship with a community of working artists; study, teaching, and mentor opportunities; on-site storage; exhibition opportunities; and consignment opportunities in The Shop at MCBA. Other artist programs at MCBA include residencies, fellowships, year-round exhibition programming, lectures and presentations, film screenings, and studio space and equipment rental. The Shop at MCBA features artwork by over 140 consignment artists along with handmade gift items, letterpressed cards, art supplies and more. MCBA is located in the Open Book building in downtown Minneapolis, along with The Loft Literary Center, Rosalux Gallery and Milkweed Editions.

For more information, visit www.mnbookarts.org.

BACKGROUND: Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators

The Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, formed in 1971 by a group of Los Angeles based writers for children, is the only international organization to offer a variety of services to people who write, illustrate, or share a vital interest in children's literature. The SCBWI acts as a network for the exchange of knowledge between writers, illustrators, editors, publishers, agents, librarians, educators, booksellers and others involved with literature for young people. There are currently more than 19,000 members worldwide, in over 70 regions, making it the largest children's writing organization in the world. The SCBWI sponsors two annual International Conferences on Writing and Illustrating for Children as well as dozens of regional conferences and events throughout the world. It also publishes a bi-monthly newsletter, offers awards and grants for works in progress, and provides many informational publications on the art and business of writing and selling written, illustrated, and electronic material. The Minnesota chapter supports more than four hundred members throughout Minnesota.

For more information, visit www.minnesotascbwi.org.

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