



Founded in 1971 by US children's film makers and writers, Steve Mooser and Lin Oliver, the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI) is a non-profit world wide organisation with over 24,000 members and chapters in 20 countries, making it the largest international professional organisation for writers and illustrators of children's and young adult literature in the world.

SCBWI head office in Los Angeles sponsors two annual International Conferences on Writing and Illustrating for Children: one in Los Angeles, the other in New York. There are also major SCBWI regional conferences throughout the USA, in Europe and in Asia. SCBWI also partners with the Singapore Asian Festival of Children's Content (AFCC) and has a biennial stand at the Bologna Book Fair.

SCBWI Australia and New Zealand became active through the leadership of Jen McVeity who was the Regional Advisor for ten years, from 1994 to 2004. Today it is headed by author Susanne Gervay who is the Regional Advisor for SCBWI Australia East and New Zealand with its headquarters at The Hughenden Boutique Hotel in the Sydney suburb of Woollahra. SCBWI has chapters in Melbourne, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, ACT and regional areas. SCBWI Australia West covers Western Australia and Northern Territory. Assistant Regional Advisors and Illustrator Coordinators include some of Australia's much-loved authors and illustrators: Frane Lessac, Dianne Wolfer, Sarah Davis, Corinne Fenton, Sheryl Gwyther, Meg McKinlay and James Foley, to name but a few.

SCBWI is integral to the creative life of Australian and New Zealand children's writers and illustrators with events, book fairs, conferences, book launches, network opportunities regionally and across the world. The publishing industry works with and supports SCBWI in all areas.

The Hughenden hosts the Biennial International SCBWI Conference. Speakers at the SCBWI Biennial Conference have included New York best-selling author Ellen Hopkins, author Melina Marchetta, whose story *Looking for Alibrandi* became a classic feature film, the much-loved and internationally recognised author Jackie French, whose collaboration with illustrator Bruce Whately created the multi-million-selling picture book, *Diary of a Wombat*.

The Hughenden is home to a permanent exhibition of children's book artwork and illustrations by acclaimed Australian illustrators. The exhibition includes: the work of Shaun Tan, Academy Award®-winning animator of *The Lost Thing*; political cartoonist Cathy Wilcox, who illustrated the rite-of-passage *I Am Jack* book series which spear-headed anti-bullying youth literature in Australia and beyond; illustrator Sara Davis and award-winning illustrators Donna Rawlings, Terry Denton, Frane Lessac, Nina Rycroft, Sarah Davis, Carolyn Magerl, Serena Geddes, Anna Pignataro and many more.

[scbwi.org](http://scbwi.org)  
[australiaeastnz.scbwi.org/](http://australiaeastnz.scbwi.org/)

**SCBWI IS INTEGRAL  
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AND ILLUSTRATORS.**

