

Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.

- Yeats

In SLAV's sixtieth year this conference celebrates the important role school libraries play in powering, supporting and enhancing learning opportunities of all kinds in primary schools. We will explore the big picture ideas, examples of best practice, and foster discussion and interaction.

Conference Program

8.30am	Registration
9.00am	Welcome Dr Susan La Marca, SLAV Executive Officer
9.05am	Keynote Address: Literacy Communities Empowering Each Other Heather Fehring, Emerita Professor in the School of Education, in the Design & Social Context College, RMIT University
9.40am	An update from the Literacy Unit, Department of Education and Training Mark Fields, Manager, Literacy Unit Learning Teaching and Pathways Division Department of Education and Training
10.10am	Discussion Session One How do you promote the library to its community? What practical strategies can you share?
10.30am	Morning Tea, Trade Exhibition and Poster Gallery
11.00am	Powering Engagement Roland Harvey, Creator
11.45am	Discussion Session Two How do you encourage and support student voice/agency in your library?
12.05pm	SLAV Primary School Leaders Award Presentation
12.30pm	Lunch, Trade Exhibition and Poster Gallery
1.30pm	Environment Award for Children's Literature—2020's Best Nature Books Amelia Young, National Campaigns Director, the Wilderness Society
2.00pm	Discussion Session Three How are you involved in the Inquiry Process in your school?
2.15pm	Discussion Session Four Ideas for responding to the 2020 CBCA Book Week Theme – 'Curious Creatures, Wild Minds'
2.30pm	Highlights from the CBCA Younger Readers Category Judge Ruth Woolven, Librarian, Kew Primary School
3.00pm	Spotlight – 'Words have the power to empower others' Solli Raphael, Slam Poet and Social Advocate
3.25pm	Conference Close – Poster Gallery prizes

Keynote

Literacy Communities Empowering Each Other

Heather Fehring, Emerita Professor in the School of Education, in the Design & Social Context College, RMIT University.

An interactive session indicating how literacy communities working together can empower educators in the field of literacy. Heather will present information and material about the Primary English Teaching Association Australia (PETAA) and the Australian Literacy Educators' Association (ALEA). In addition, Heather will demonstrate how valuable such organisations are when working in cooperation with the School Library Association Victoria (SLAV). Working together to develop teaching and learning strategies to enhance literacy achievement through a strong connection between libraries and literacy associations can make a very positive and effective impact for students' learning within the schooling systems. Involving parents, teachers, principals, students, library and support staff is very important to demonstrate how an integrated approach to the creation of effective learning environments can be created in schools. Heather will illustrate how effective inquiry-based learning approaches can be built on strong library environments incorporating school resources and literacy associations' materials and professional development activities. Heather welcomes you to bring your questions along to this session to ensure the interactive nature of the presentation.

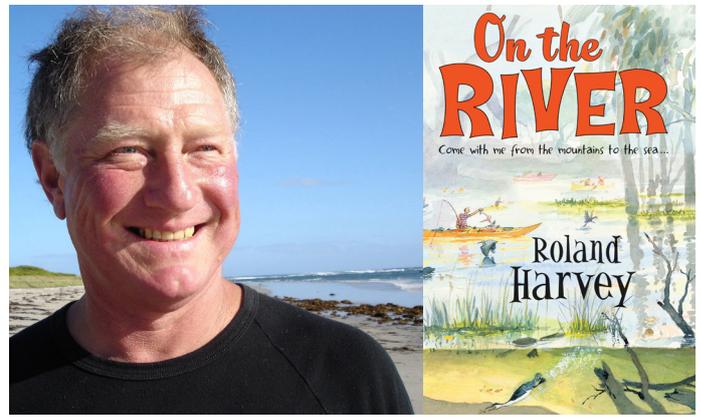
Emerita Professor Heather Fehring has held many academic and leadership positions over her career: Bachelor of Education Coordinator in the school of Education, Director of Higher Degree by Research, in the Design & Social Context College, RMIT University. Associate Professor – Assessment and Learning and the Deputy Head Research and Innovation. She has lectured in literacy courses across a range of programmes. Her teaching excellence has been acknowledged by ten teaching awards including a Carrick Citation for Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning and culminating in the RMIT VC Distinguished Teaching Award. Heather was the first female to receive this prestigious award at RMIT University.

Featured Sessions

An update from the Literacy Unit, Department of Education and Training

The Literacy Unit in the Victorian Department of Education and Training supports a range of projects and programs to support the development of literacy skills in early childhood services and schools. This presentation will highlight some of the recent work of the Unit including the Victorian Premiers Reading Challenge.

Mark Fields is the Manager of the Literacy Unit in the Learning Teaching and Pathways Division of the Department of Education and Training.



Powering Engagement

Roland Harvey will explore his body of work highlighting the inspiration, stories and purposes behind his writing and illustration work for children.

Roland Harvey is a highly respected creator with an interest in creating works that engage children with a focus on science, Australian history, philosophy, environment and self-discovery. Roland owned Five Mile Press for many years and has worked with institutions such as The Smithsonian Institute, National Australian Museum, Melbourne Museum and Australia Post. He has illustrated and written over 100 books and has given keynote addresses at international Art and Literacy conferences.

Roland's book *My Place in Space* was named an Honour Book in the Children's Book Council of Australia Book of the Year Awards, and *The Friends of Emily Culpepper* was commended in the same awards. *Burke and Wills*, part of Harvey's unique Australian history series, won the Clifton Pugh Award for illustration, and *Islands in My Garden* won the 1999 Wilderness Society Environment Award. His book, *Sick As: Bloody Moments in the History of Medicine*, was shortlisted for the 2001 Children's Book Council of Australia Eve Pownall Award for Information Books.

Roland was the recipient of the 2005 Dromkeen Medal which recognises an outstanding achievement in the advancement of Australian children's and young adult literature.

Recently Roland established a space in Fish Creek where he runs his own bookshop, gallery, and studio, and showcases his large collection of work as well as running workshops for children in Illustration.



Environment Award for Children's Literature



Environment Award for Children's Literature—2020's Best Nature Books

The Wilderness Society believes that the stories we read and enjoy as kids impact the adventures we take, the way we see and experience our landscapes, and sometimes our outlook on life. For 25 years, the Wilderness Society has celebrated nature books through the Environment Award for Children's Literature. Join Amelia Young—National Campaigns Director, the Wilderness Society—as she discusses the 2020 shortlist and does a short Q&A.

Amelia Young is based in Melbourne, she spent her life exploring Victoria's vast stretches of forest with her family, and the last two decades working with the Wilderness Society to protect them from logging and wood chipping.

Highlights from the CBCA Younger Readers Judge

This session will explore the classroom uses, connections and themes to be found amongst the books entered for consideration of the CBCA Younger Readers award for 2020. Whilst the notables and the short-listed titles may be mentioned this session aims to move beyond these titles and give an overview of the wonderful array of Australian reading experiences for young people to be found amongst the longer list.

Ruth Woolven is the Librarian at Kew Primary School in Melbourne and is the Primary School Representative on the School Library Association of Victoria (SLAV) Council. Ruth is also a member of the Children's Book Council of Australia (CBCA) Victorian Branch committee, co-ordinating the Authors in Schools program. Ruth is currently a Judge for the CBCA Book of the Year Awards in the Younger Reader category. Ruth was recently awarded a SLAV research fellowship to evaluate best practice for resourcing school libraries for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander curriculum. Ruth is passionate about connecting students to the right books, promoting reading for pleasure and advocating for library staff in school libraries.

Spotlight – 'Words have the power to empower others'

In his own words, slam poet and social advocate, Solli Raphael shines a spotlight on the concerns teenagers face today, exploring the powerful link between writing and shaping the future.

Following on from the success of *Limelight*, this new collection of poetry illuminates the social interests of Solli's generation in a thought-provoking style, including a mix of traditional poems and brand-new performance poems. It covers topics from connection to bullying and pinpoints climate change as a key concern with poems like Solli's Greenpeace collaboration piece 'Let's Make More Minutes Count!'

At 12 years of age, **Solli Raphael** was titled the youngest ever winner of the Australian Poetry Slam held at the Sydney Opera House after he performed 'Australian Air' - a poem about political wisdom, environmental awareness and the importance of social consciousness. He then rose to fame after his winning performance was viewed online over four million times in 24 hours. Now 15, Solli is a globally renowned poet and keynote speaker; having led workshops; performed and spoken at conferences, schools and universities. Additionally (and passionately), Solli is an environmental activist and humanitarian who works closely as an ambassador for four charities and organisations.

Solli's first book *Limelight*, was published in 2018 and has received accolades for its capacity to engage students in poetry, having also won a Nautilus Book Award in 2019 for best middle-grade nonfiction. Solli's second book, *Spotlight*, will be released in September 2020.



Discussion Topics

The discussion topics in the program will be conducted in table groups. Each table will have a scribe and the ideas and thoughts recorded will be collated into one document that will then be shared with all conference participants after the conference.

If you have a tool or idea that relates to one of the discussions, please bring it along to share or be prepared to speak about it to the group.

This activity celebrates the extraordinary level and experience amongst our members.

The Kids' Bookshop will be in attendance.



Poster Gallery

Registrants are invited to submit a poster for display in our poster gallery.

Posters need to explore any aspect of the primary school library. They can be about a reading program, an assessment task or book reflection activity, a digital program, a display or competition. They might be about a book club, a literature festival or an author visit or report on a survey or data you have collected – or anything else you think relevant!

The poster can be delivered in advance to us and we will ensure it is displayed in the conference poster gallery. Or, if you are attending, you can bring the poster on the day.

From 1.15pm to 1.30pm (end of the lunch break) those in attendance are asked to be in the gallery area, with their poster, to answer questions.

Posters must be no bigger than A1.

Make it informative and fun! There will be prizes!

Please send us an email to book your poster space
slav@slav.org.au