

# FALL SYMPOSIUM

## October 19, 2012

### Keynote Speaker: Dr. Jeanne R. Paratore



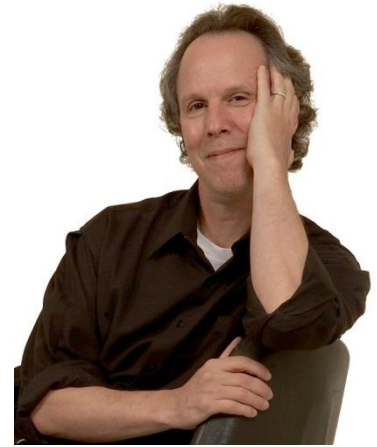
Jeanne R. Paratore is currently Professor of Education and Coordinator of the Reading Education and Literacy and Language Education Programs at Boston University. She directs the university-based reading and writing clinic that provides year-round academic support to school-aged children who are experiencing learning difficulties and she is research advisor to the Intergenerational Literacy Program, a family literacy program she founded in 1989 to support the English literacy learning of immigrant parents and their children. She is a former classroom teacher, reading specialist, and Title I director. She has conducted research and written widely on issues related to family literacy, classroom grouping practices, and interventions for struggling readers. She is also a co-author of one of the nation's leading reading programs. Dr. Paratore is currently engaged in two funded studies: one examines the effects of a combination of on-site professional development and remote coaching of uploaded video on changes in teaching practices; the other examines practices that help teachers use educational media and technology in ways that increase children's opportunities to learn. Dr. Paratore served as co-curriculum director of the award-winning children's television series, *Between the Lions*. She was recently elected to the Reading Hall of Fame and she is the recipient of the New England Reading Association's Lifetime Achievement Award and the International Reading Association's Celebrate Literacy Award. She is a former member of the International Reading Association's Board of Directors, and she is active in professional associations, presently as a member of the Board of the Literacy Research Association and chair of its Ethics Committee. She is a frequent speaker on literacy instruction and has presented at local, national, and international conferences as well as in school districts throughout the United States.

## Ed Shankman, Author

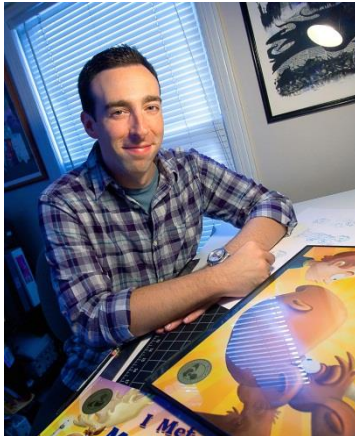
Ed Shankman's entire life has been one long creative project. He has been writing children's books since he himself was a child. He has been a performing lead guitar player and an impassioned, if imperfect, painter. He is currently making the rounds with his most cherished project, a novel called the Backstage Man that was written over a period of three decades.

Fittingly, perhaps, Ed has earned a living for most of his adult life as Creative Director at various advertising agencies, using his connection with the creative process to help others make the most of their own creative potential. Prior to entering the advertising industry, Ed spent 7 years as a welder, having mastered the trade while living on an Israeli kibbutz in the late 1970s.

Today, Ed lives in Verona, NJ, with his wife Miriam, who is the love of his life, and their two cats.



## Dave O'Neill, Illustrator



Dave O'Neill is an illustrator and graphic designer. He began drawing when he was a child and is thankful that he never stopped. With his brain firmly anchored in cartoons, video games and pop culture, he moonlights as a comedian with Out of Order, a NJ-based improv comedy troupe. Dave updates a blog featuring his illustrations when he's not designing t-shirts for his online shirt shop, Swell-bot Industries.

Throughout the years, Dave has worked with several agencies, the first of which is where he met Ed Shankman. Though he has applied his creative strengths to advertising and marketing alike, he admits that drawing children's books is the most rewarding.

Dave resides in Montclair, NJ with Melinda, the super-cool girl he married. They are the proud owners of a keyboard she won on Double Dare.

## Sydelle Pearl, Author



Sydelle Pearl is an author, storyteller, and songwriter. She often incorporates original songs that spring from the multicultural and original stories that she tells to preschool, elementary and family audiences. She also presents her original folksongs to adult audiences.

A professional storyteller for nearly twenty years, Sydelle has her Bachelor's degree in Education. She received her Master's in Library Science from Simmons College in Boston, Massachusetts and has worked as a children's librarian. She has performed in schools, libraries, and festivals. Her children's book, *Elijah's Tears: Stories for the Jewish Holidays*, illustrated by Rossitza Skortcheva, was published by Henry Holt and Company in 1996 and republished by Pelican Publishing Company in 2004. Books for

*Children of the World: The Story of Jella Lepman*, illustrated by Danlyn Iantorno, was published by Pelican in 2007. *Hope Somewhere in America: The Story of a Child, a Painting, and a President*, illustrated by Astrid Sheckels, was published by Twin Lights Publishers the spring of 2012. Her forthcoming book, *Dear Mr. Longfellow: Letters to and from the Children's Poet*, will be published by Prometheus Books in October 2012. Sydelle creates a Teacher's Guide for all of her books.

## Monica Somers, Author

Monica Somers attended Colorado State University and Quinnipiac University where she received a BS in Allied Health Services with a concentration in Animal Science. After graduating, she held the position of Veterinary Technologist with multiple organizations, interned with Jack Hanna, and attended an Exotic Animal Training and Management program. Monica eventually returned home to New Jersey to fight the sudden onset of a debilitating illness later diagnosed as RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy). While receiving treatment, she decided to pursue a Master of Education at Monmouth University. Today, Monica is a single mother and the sole owner of Adrenaline Gym in Sea Bright, NJ. Throughout her adult life, Monica was always surrounded by cats and dogs. One cat in particular, by the name of Java, inspired her to write her first book for children, *O.W.E. (One World of Equals)*, published in 2012. This book is the first of what Monica hopes will be a number of sequels exploring difficult topics with children in the safe, enchanting world of animals.



# SCHEDULE

**8:30-9:00**

**Registration and Light Refreshments**

*Anacon Hall, Rebecca Stafford Student Center*

**9:15-10:15**

**Keynote Address, Dr. Jeanne Paratore**

*Wilson Auditorium, Woodrow Wilson Hall & Auditorium*

**10:30-11:45**

**Session I: Morning Workshops**

1. How to Use Technology and Not be Used by it: Media Literacy Across the Curriculum

*Andrew Forrest and Sara Van Ness*

*Room 106, Woodrow Wilson Hall & Auditorium*

2. Enhancing Literacy through Literature Circles

*Cathleen Brenner*

*Club Dining Room, Samuel Hays Magill Commons*

3. Hope Somewhere in America: Telling Stories about African-American History and Culture using a Historical Fiction Picture Book as a Springboard

*Sydelle Pearl*

*Room 202B, Rebecca Stafford Student Center*

4. The New Kindergarten Guidelines: Learning through Play!

*Alyssa May, Jackie Rivera, and Michelle Leonardo*

*Room 104, Woodrow Wilson Hall & Auditorium*

5. Talking toward Literacy

*Bruce Preston*

*Club Rooms 107/108/109, Samuel Hays Magill Commons*

6. Using Poetry Journals in the Classroom to Teach Grammar and Language Skills

*Kara Markiewicz*

*Young Auditorium, Leon Hess Business School in Samuel E. & Mollie Bey Hall*

**12:00-12:45**

**Lunch**

**Door Prizes**

**Author Book Signings**

*Anacon Hall, Rebecca Stafford Student Center*

**1:00-2:15**

**Session II: Afternoon Workshops**

1. Utilizing IEP Modifications in the Inclusion Classroom

*Joe Vetrano*

*Club Rooms 107/108/109, Samuel Hays Magill Commons*

2. The Magic of Rhyming Picture Books: Demonstrating the power of imagination and pointing out the way to a rich inner life

*Ed Shankman and Dave O'Neill*

*Room 202C, Rebecca Stafford Student Center*

3. Comprehension Strategies for Students in Grades 3-5

*Bernard Bragen and Heather Schwarz*

*Young Auditorium, Leon Hess Business School in Samuel E. & Mollie Bey Hall*

4. Systematic Inquiry for Developing Literacy? How? With Action Research/Action Learning Processes – That's how!

*PJ Gruben, Danielle Parella, Anna Washack, DaVisha Pratt, and Shelia Baldwin*

*Room 106, Woodrow Wilson Hall & Auditorium*

5. Using Mentor Texts to Teach Writing

*Christine Grabowski*

*Club Dining Room, Samuel Hays Magill Commons*

6. Sustain-a-Literacy: Developing Responsible Readers and Writers

*Justin Soderholm*

*Room 104, Woodrow Wilson Hall & Auditorium*