

## Our Faculty...

**Tracey Adams**, together with her husband Josh, runs Adams Literary – a boutique agency exclusively dedicated to representing children's and young adult authors and artists, including many award-winning and bestselling clients. She founded Adams Literary in 2004, after years with Writers House and McIntosh & Otis, where she was the head of the children's department. Prior to becoming an agent, she worked in the marketing and editorial departments of Greenwillow Books and Margaret K. McElderry Books. Tracey speaks frequently about her profession and the children's book industry at conferences across the country. She is a member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI), the Association of Author Representatives (AAR), and a founding member of the Women's National Book Association (WNBA) chapter in Charlotte, NC. In her free time, Tracey enjoys Taekwondo (she is currently a 2nd degree black belt), exploring the South (especially beaches), and test-marketing children's books with her two daughters.

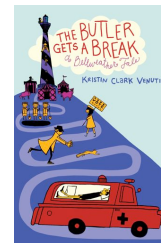
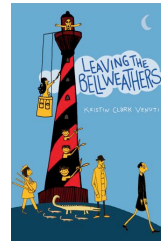
<http://adamsliterary.com>



**Nancy Conescu** is an Executive Editor at Dial Books for Young Readers, an imprint of the Penguin Young Readers Group. She is looking for high-quality commercial fiction for all ages and is especially interested in character-driven picture books, well-executed “big concept” books/series (not high fantasy), design-intensive projects, and novels that are *ultimately* hopeful. Prior to returning to Penguin where she began her career, Conescu was a Senior Editor at Little, Brown Books for Young Readers where her titles included *New York Times* bestsellers *ghostgirl* by Tonya Hurley and *Nubs: The True Story of a Mutt, a Marine & a Miracle* by Major Brian Dennis, Kirby Larson, and Mary Nethery; *The Mockingbirds* by Daisy Whitney; *School of Fear* by Gitty Daneshvari; *The Mostly True Story of Jack* by Kelly Barnhill, and *Martha Doesn't Say Sorry* written by Samantha Berger and illustrated by Bruce Whatley. Her first list at Dial includes *Remarkable* by Lizzie Foley, *A Temptation of Angels* by Michelle Zink, and *When Blue Met Egg* by Lindsay Ward.

## Our Faculty...

**LESLEY LIVINGSTON** is a writer and actress living in Toronto, Canada. She is the author of *WONDROUS STRANGE*, winner of the CLA Young Adult Book of the Year 2010, a White Pine Honour Book, and shortlisted for the Sunburst Award for Excellence in Canadian Speculative Fiction. *DARKLIGHT*, the second book in this series was shortlisted for the Indigo Teen Read Awards. The concluding volume in the trilogy, *TEMPESTUOUS*, was released in January of 2011. These books have sold to more than ten countries to date, and *WONDROUS STRANGE* has been optioned for film/TV. Her most recent novel, *ONCE EVERY NEVER*, a YA time-travel romance-adventure—the first in a planned trilogy—was released in June of 2011 and is a Quill & Quire Book of the Year. Lesley is currently working on *STARLING* the first book in a new series set in the same universe as *WONDROUS STRANGE*, scheduled to release in Fall, 2012. She also has several short stories published in various anthologies. Lesley earned a Master's Degree in English from the University of Toronto specializing in Shakespeare and Arthurian literature. <http://www.lesleylivingston.com>



**KRISTIN CLARK VENUTI** has been a children's theater producer, a Tae-Kwon-Do instructor, a scenic artist and a professional wedding-chapel witness. She's now an author and speaker. Her first book for children, *Leaving the Bellweathers* was an E.B. White Read Aloud Honor book and is available as an audio download from iTunes. LTB was followed up by a sequel, *The Butler gets a Break*. Both were published by Egmont US. Her novel in verse *Freakboy*, accepted for publication, is due out Spring 2013 and marks her Young Adult debut. Kristin lives in the Santa Cruz Mountains of California, and when she's not writing, taking nature walks or body boarding she teaches fiction workshops for both adults and children.

## ***Our Faculty...***



**Emma D. Dryden** was born and raised in New York City. She started her career in children's publishing at Viking and Random House, followed by a position with Margaret K. McElderry, whose eponymous imprint was a part of Macmillan Children's Books. After McElderry retired, Emma was made Vice President, Editorial Director of McElderry Books, and in 2005, Vice President, Publisher of Atheneum Books for Young Readers and Margaret K. McElderry Books, imprints of Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, a position she held until May 2009.

Emma's edited over five-hundred books for young readers, ranging from board books and picture books to poetry anthologies, novelties, non-fiction, middle grade fiction, and young adult/teen fiction and fantasy. As publisher, she oversaw the annual publication of over one-hundred hardcover and paperback titles. Authors and illustrators whom Emma has edited include Ellen Hopkins, Karma Wilson, Susan Cooper, Alan Katz, David Catrow, Raul Colon, Shelia P. Moses, Marjorie Priceman, Lee Bennett Hopkins, David Diaz, and Paul Zelinsky.

In March 2010, Emma launched her own editorial consulting firm, drydenbks ([www.drydenbks.com](http://www.drydenbks.com)), through which she edits children's books; consults with authors, illustrators, agents, and foreign publishers; is a creative consultant with several e-book and app publishers; is a collaborative writer; and does some of her own poetry and fiction writing, as well as keeps a blog ([www.emmaddyden.blogspot.com](http://www.emmaddyden.blogspot.com)). A highly sought-after speaker for regional and national conferences, where she often speaks about story and the digital landscape, Emma is also on the Society of Writers & Illustrators (SCBWI; [www.scbwi.org](http://www.scbwi.org)) Board of Advisors.

[www.drydenbks.com](http://www.drydenbks.com)

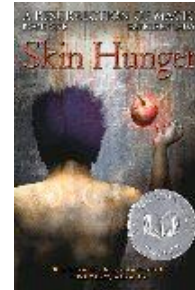
## Our Faculty...

### Keynote Speaker



**KATHLEEN DUEY** has written more than 80 books for children and young adults. Many of her titles are historical novels. Many are atypical fantasy books. She has won major awards, including a National Book Award Silver Medal.

[www.kathleenduey.com/](http://www.kathleenduey.com/)



[www.free-expressions.com/](http://www.free-expressions.com/)



**LORIN OBERWEGER** is a highly sought-after independent book editor and ghostwriter with more than twenty years experience in publishing. Her company, Free Expressions, offers writing seminars nationwide with literary agents Donald Maass and others, as well as the acclaimed Novel Crafting Retreats--intensive story development weekends for writers in all genres of fiction.

Lorin's clients have millions of books in print and have been published by imprints of HarperCollins, Random House, Penguin, and other mainstream and independent presses. They have also gained representation with some of the industry's leading literary agents.

An award-winning author, Lorin's poetry, short fiction, and articles have appeared in well over one-hundred periodicals, including THE MONTERRAT REVIEW, STORYQUARTERLY, and the bestselling anthology FRENCH QUARTER FICTION. Recently, an excerpt of her novel-in-progress, ITCH, was awarded "Best of Workshop" at Writers in Paradise, co-founded by author Dennis Lehane.

## ***Our Faculty...***



**Patti Ann Harris** is the Senior Art Director at Little, Brown Books for Young Readers where she oversees the design of the picture book list and the novelty book imprint, LB-kids. Some of the recent picture books she worked on are *You Will Be My Friend*, *The Very Fairy Princess*, *Sit-In: How Four Friends Stood Up By Sitting Down* and *Look! A Book!*. Over the years, she's had the privilege of working with many seasoned illustrators and has had much experience working with first-time picture book illustrators as well. She studied at Parsons School of Design.



*Come One Come All To The Party At The Falls!*